



Charles Ford makes motion to adopt the four points from the draft proposal prepared by MHRC. Photo by Richard J. Brown



John Blank, MHRC staff person, briefs the group on the MHRC draft proposal program of activities for task force on racial/religious violence. The draft was amended to include political violence & harassment. Photo by Richard J. Brown

## Task Force to Address Racism

by Jerry Garner

Last Wednesday, a group of about 50 people attended a forum sponsored by the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission (MHRC) to voice their concerns regarding the increase in religious and racial violence that is occurring nationwide.

During the meeting, a special task force was formed to address racial and religious violence in Multnomah County. Reymundo Martin, Director of the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission, reminded those in attendance that the Pacific Northwest has been declared a white-only homeland by the neo-Nazi hate group, the Aryan Nation. "Racism must be eradicated from our society. This isn't a perfect society by any means, but racism is present here, and we must do all we can as citizens to combat it," Martin said.

During the meeting, participants agreed on four plans in response to the growing threat of racial/religious violence and harassment. They are in the areas of education, victim support, intelligence, and advocacy.

The group said presentations should be delivered to the schools, churches and community groups on the historical, sociological and ideological sources of racial and religious violence and hate groups, and the creation of educational curricula for all school systems that address the problem of bigotry.

In addition, the group recommended the creation of a permanent task force consisting of Federal, State and local law enforcement officials, in coordination with local human rights organizations, to deal with racial violence. According to the MHRC, the Portland Police Bureau has nobody assigned to monitor incidents of racial and religious violence.

The task force and the four subcommittees, that were formed to take action in the areas of education, victim support, advocacy, and legal retribution, will meet again Feb. 19th.

Martin said another newly formed organization to fight racism, called the Northwest Coalition to Combat Religious and Racial Harassment, will meet in Portland Feb. 6th. Representatives from the states of Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Oregon and Washington will be present at that meeting.



About 50 people representing as many organizations met Wednesday, Jan. 28, to discuss a response to the increase in religious and racial violence. Photo by Richard J. Brown



## Black Awareness Week Slated

Gospel vocalist Willa Dorsey will perform from noon to 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13 in the College Center at Mt. Hood Community College as part of MHCC's Black Awareness Week, Feb. 9-13. Dorsey has had her own show on KGW-TV Channel 8 and regularly performs at Portland's Neighborfair.

As part of the week's activities, students from MHCC's music department will present different forms of black-influenced music beginning at noon on Monday, Feb. 9 in the College Center lounge. Blues, jazz and rock will be featured in the performance.

On Tuesday, Feb. 10, Pat Rosby Armstead of Praad Productions will speak on methods of black achievement in acting. She also will read from the works of Lanxon Huser and John Welton Johnson. The presentation begins at noon in the Town and Gown Room.

Wednesday, Feb. 11, a Trinidad music group, the Reggae All Stars will perform in the College Center lounge at noon.

In addition, an art exhibit honoring black heritage in America will be on display throughout the month of February in the College Center. The exhibit includes prints telling of the kings of Africa, black women in history and black contributions to the United States.

All events are free and open to the public. Black Awareness Week activities are sponsored by the MHCC Associated Students. For more information contact Ozell Hazle at 667-7260.

Black Awareness Week is part of the celebration of Community College Month.

### What Do We Do With the Kids?

The Oregon Council on Crime and Delinquency presents its February "Crime Talks" on street kids at noon on February 4, 1987 in Room C of the Portland Building, 1120 S.W. Fifth Avenue.

Panel participants are: Lisa Burk, Tri-County Youth Services Consortium and Project LUCK; Jerry Fest, Yellow Brick Road, Inc and Willamette Bridge; Barb Sussex, Outside In; and Jaci Williams, Outer East Youth Service Center. They will be discussing street youth in Portland and what services are available to these runaways and throwaway children.

The panel is open to the public. There is no admission charge. People are encouraged to bring brown bag lunches. The panel is from noon to 1:00 p.m. Coffee and tea provided.

### Stop - Look - Read

The New Partnership in Mental Health: Families, Professionals and the Patient is a workshop sponsored by Delaunay Mental Health Center on February 12, 13, 1987. The first day is a survival skills workshop for families in which current understandings of schizophrenia and its treatment are presented. Professionals will attend both days for a workshop of psychoeducational approaches to working with families. The workshop leader is Jan Larson, MSW, Director, Family Education and Support Program, the Menninger Foundation, Topeka, Kansas. For registration information, call Delaunay Mental Health Center, 285-9871. Delaunay is pleased to offer this workshop during its 25th year of serving the community.

### Enjoy Valentine "Specials" At Peninsula Park

Make something special for your special someone at Peninsula Park Community Center, 6400 N. Albina. There are options for both children and adults.

**Cupid's Touch**, for ages 4-6, Friday, February 13, 3:30 - 4:30 PM. Free Cupid's touch with Valentine's crafts and more. The fee is \$4.

**Valentine's Day Fun**, for ages 7-10, Friday, February 13, 4:30 - 5:30 PM. Create special Valentine's Day projects for mom or dad. The fee is \$4.

**Ribbon Roses**, for high school and adults, Wednesday, February 11, 6:30 - 8 PM. Make long-lasting beautiful roses—perfect for Valentine's giving—out of colorful ribbon. The fee is \$5.

### Free Clinic

A free diabetes screening clinic is being offered at Meridian Park Hospital, Tualatin. The clinic will be open from 9-9:30 a.m. on Monday, March 2.

Pre-registration is required. For additional information, contact the community education office at the hospital, 692-2656.

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