

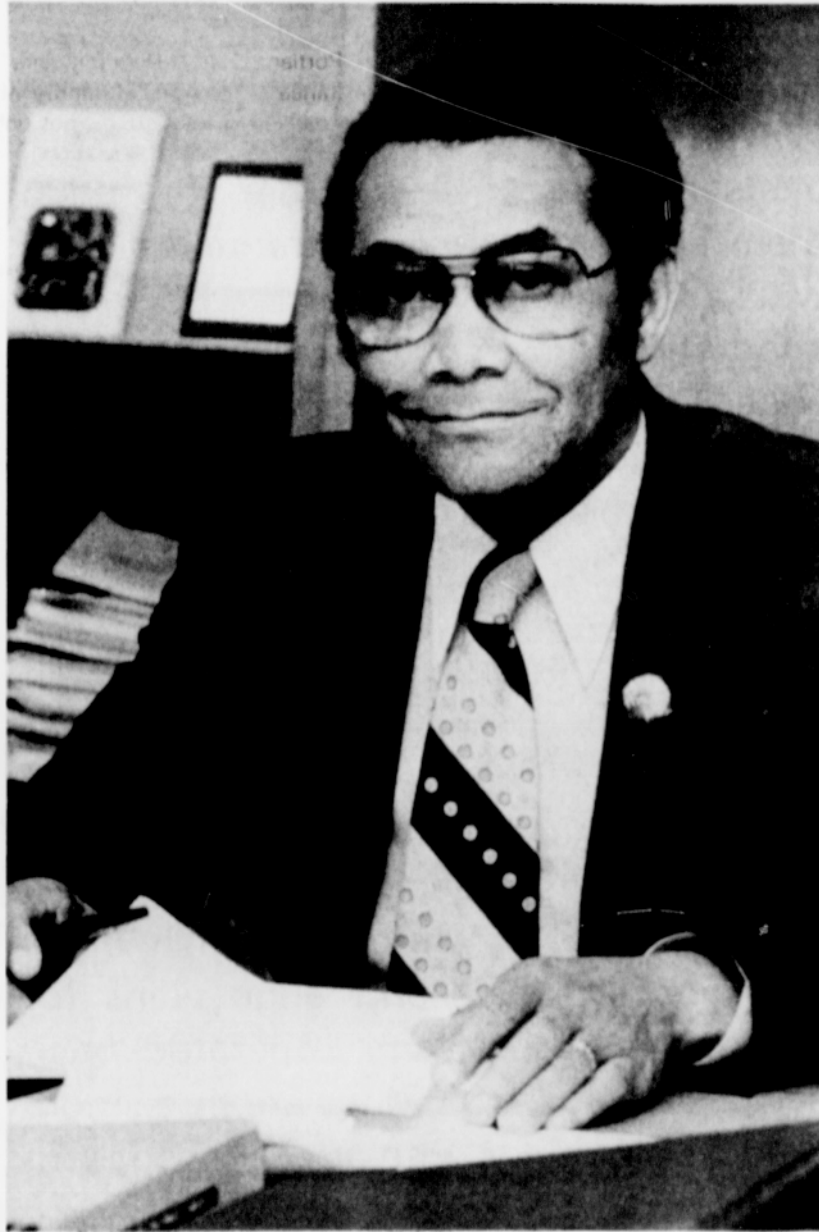
Celebrity Teach-In: Finale

The Portland Community Schools "Leaders in Action: Celebrity Teach-In" completes its program of free spring workshops with classes taught by Multnomah County Chairman Gladys McCoy and Portland Public Schools Superintendent Matthew Prophet.



Gladys McCoy: BAKING BREAD WITH GLADYS

May 13, 6:30 - 8 p.m., Portsmouth C.S., 5103 N. Willis. Gladys McCoy, original sponsor of Community Schools when she served on the Portland School Board in 1972, continues her commitment to lifelong learning. She says of her class: "We will make two kinds of bread for any occasion: One will be biscuits; the other, cornbread. We'll add some ingredients to make them interesting and fun to eat."

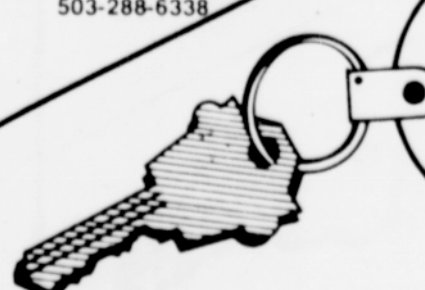


Matthew Prophet: JOBS FOR TEENS!

May 13, 7 - 8 P.M., Ockley Green C.S., 6031 N. Montana. What is Portland Public Schools doing to help Portland teenagers find work? Come and hear Matt Prophet talk about employment programs now available as well as some that are planned to improve job opportunities. Find out how you (if you're aged 14-18) or your kids can benefit from these efforts.

The Portland Community Schools program is a cooperative effort of Portland Public Schools and Portland Parks and Recreation.

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Church Coalition Pushes For 'Drug House Ordinance' Against Mounting Opposition by Landlord Associations

The Portland Organizing Project will support ratification of the new "Specified Crimes Property" abatement ordinance—known as the "Drug House Ordinance"—with over 150 people at the City Council hearing scheduled this Thursday, April 30th, 2:00 P.M. Representatives of the Portland Organizing Project, a 14 member city wide coalition of churches, will be testifying in favor of the ordinance from approximately 2:15 to 2:45 P.M. The coalition of churches supports the ordinance because of the overwhelming number of drug houses in Portland neighborhoods. On March 31st, at a meeting attended by 200 people, the Project secured a commitment from Mayor Clark and Commissioner Bogle to introduce and support the ordinance within the month of April.

Passage of the "drug house" ordinance is not expected to proceed without resistance. The Board of Realtors, the Homebuilders Association and the Landlord's Association are actively organizing to delay the vote on the ordinance, and is pushing for a task force to further study the ordinance. In addition, the bill has been revised, apparently in response to pressure from landlord associations. "There is strong opposition to the bill," says Merv Barteaux, of St. Peter Parish in Southeast Portland, "from various landlord interests. It is very clear to us that the effort to delay the vote is actually intended to 'kill' the ordinance in committee. The associations have already delayed the vote for a month, and had special meetings with the Mayor's Staff and the City Attorney's Office to amend the ordinance. Asking for further delay is a thinly veiled attempt to make sure this never

comes up for a vote."

Representatives of the Project will oppose delaying the vote on the ordinance as well as the revisions, which allow more discretionary enforcement of the ordinance and levying of fines. "A good lawyer would have a field day," says John Villaume, St. Andrew Parish in Northeast Portland. "Research the Project has done with the City Attorney's Office in Los Angeles indicates that 75-80% of the cases are resolved before going to court. Only the most corrupt landowners will likely be taken to court by the city; the majority, the good landlords, will comply as soon as they get the notice. Making the fines and enforcement more discretionary sends a message to unethical landlords that the city is not as serious as they could be about enforcement."

"Delaying the vote on this ordinance is completely unacceptable," explains Chris Kresek of St. Peter Parish. "Drug dealing is poisoning our communities and our children. These huge landlord associations should welcome the opportunity to help clean up our city. It is in their interest to provide safe places and neighborhoods where families and people can live. If they oppose it, it calls into question how responsible they are."

Rev. Harold Kurtz, President of the Portland Organizing Project and Pastor of Kenton Presbyterian in North Portland added, "There is no guarantee that this ordinance will be passed, but we will be sending a strong message to city government that we are behind this and any initiative to help bring crime under control."

Coalition To Target Black Voters

The National Coalition on Black Voter Participation, Inc., a non-profit, non-partisan, tax-exempt membership organization, recently held its annual Operation Big Vote Convenors Seminar in Washington, D.C.

Robert Phillips, Co-Convenor with Judy Knawls Boyer, attended the seminar representing the Oregon Operation Big Vote Project.

Mr. Phillips indicated that "the National Coalition Seminar brought together more than thirty participants from across the country representing Pennsylvania, Texas, South Carolina, Michigan, Illinois, Mississippi, Oklahoma, California, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Arkansas, and Alabama



Robert Phillips, Operation Big Vote convenor; Gracia Hillman, Executive Director of National Coalition on Black Voter Participation.

for the purpose of sharing and developing strategy for increasing black voter registration, turnout and participation in preparation for the 1988 elections."

During the seminar, Eddie Williams, the Chairman of the National Coalition, indicated that "Black Americans must continue to be motivated to register and vote." That Blacks must work together to become full and equal partners in the fundamental process of citizen participation.

Gracia Hillman, the Executive Director of the Coalition, informed the Convenors that Operation Big Vote coalitions were active in twenty-nine states during 1986, registering and mobilizing thousands of black voters to participate in the elections.

Additionally, Ms. Hillman stated that, "A more progressive agenda is in

the making for this country, and it cannot and will not be developed or implemented without the active involvement of blacks. Black Americans have made the point that employment opportunities, including training, and economic development, health care, education and the cost of living will be at the top of our agenda in 1988."

Mr. Phillips stated that, "The skills gained from attending this national seminar will assist the Oregon Operation Big Vote Coalition in its networking, voter education and strategic planning activities."

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