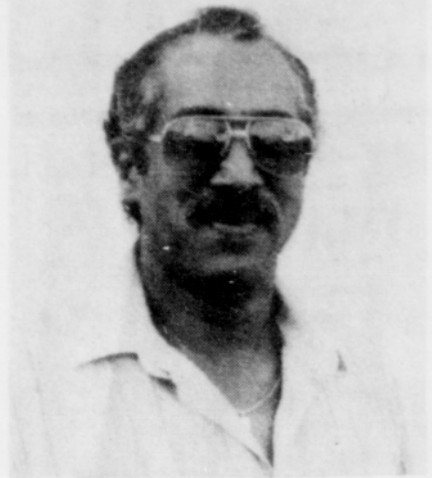


## Speak Out



by Arnold Pitre

The general consensus of the community thinking appears to be that Portland is considered to be some years behind that of other cities of comparable size in terms of economics and livability. What changes or action would you promote as a community leader to bring Portland to a more favorable position?



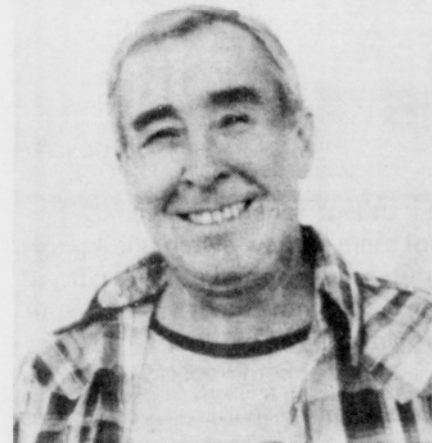
**Richard Johnson**  
Vocational Instructor

There is no instant solution, but educating our youth is vitally important. We must reach them at an early age. We must make education opportunities available to them. Parents should be instructed, informed and kept in accordance with school rules, with regard to good manners and moral behavior. Our children are our future; it is easy to teach them at an early age when they are most responsive.



**Barbara Barber**  
Housewife

The drug problem in our city is terrible. The dope dealers are selling to our babies. I would do whatever necessary to eliminate this problem. Street gangs are coming into our community from other cities, and no one seems to be doing anything about it. The street gang and drug situation seems to be prevalent in the N.E. area, where I live, and I don't like it. This city is holding itself back, due to racist attitudes. It's time for Oregonians to get real. I'm talking about all Oregonians, Black and White.



**Douglas Bryan**  
Consultant

Our tax program is not effective. Our local and state municipalities do not promote industrial growth. We are out of kilter with the rest of the West Coast. Our tax structure discourages big business and tourism in not promoted. We are not taking advantage of the main thoroughfare between California and Canada. We need to create a stimulus to get people into the medium or upper income level. We have people making minimum wage and are on welfare. That is self defeating and non-productive. I would create some tax incentives to promote business.



**Emma Gaston**  
Citizen

The drug situation is bad in our community. It affects all of us. It affects our cost of living, our livability. The die-hard drug user is usually involved in criminal activity, which in turn makes it hard for the average citizen to live comfortably in his own neighborhood. The law enforcement want more money to fight crime, and our taxes go up. There should be more emphasis put on the drug problem. If we could slow down the drug problem, other problems will be solved along with it.

### Please Drive Carefully

In 1985, almost 20 percent of all pedestrian injuries involved children under 15 years old. Oregon AAA asks motorists to drive very carefully. Remember, many youngsters are still learning the pedestrian safety rules.

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## Yes, Says Prophet

Con't from Page 1

(1) **PROJECT SEED:** A Socratic method of questioning and discovery to teach elementary students from lower social economic status background about advanced math concepts to increase adapted versions achievement and math esteem.

(2) **ACHIEVEMENT ATHLETIC MOTIVATION PROGRAM:** Assists identified student athletes at Grant, Benson, Jefferson and Roosevelt High Schools to improve achievement and self-image through individual, team and classroom activities.

(3) **DRUG AND ALCOHOL PROGRAM:** A community-wide regional drug initiative that is networking to prevent and intervene when drug problems occur.

(4) **WHITNEY YOUNG LEARNING CENTER:** Operated by the Portland Urban League with partial funding from Portland Public Schools. The program provides tutorial assistance in reading and math, counseling and advising, and social work assistance to children and families, primarily in the King, Boise, Tubman, and Vernon communities.

The school chief was boastful of the African American drop-out rate today as compared to years past. "Five years ago the drop-out rate for African Americans in Portland Public Schools was 45%. Today it is less than 24%. Only Asians do better," he stated.

"Closing the achievement gap is a matter of the highest priority in Portland's public schools and is mandated on all levels," he asserted. "But I must reiterate: The responsibility does not rest with the School District alone; there must be well organized and cooperative efforts between business, parents and governments alike."

The Superintendent added that Mr. Herndon must have misinterpreted the 1.95 GPA statistic. "First of all, the GPA was not for middle and high school students, but only for high school students grade 9 through 12 as of the end of the second quarter of the 1985-86 school year. African American seniors at the end of the 1986-87 school year had a GPA of 2.19," he stated.

The Superintendent offered as encouraging signs of optimism a recently published roster of more than 400 African American students in the Portland School District with GPA's of 3.0 or better. "Hopefully, that should respond to our critics' assertions that we are in a holding pattern," he stated.

## No, Says Herndon

Con't from Page 1

District's expectations, Ron continued.

According to Asa Hilliard, chief desegregation consultant to the Portland School District, the Portland Public School District has gained "solid national recognition" for completing the African American documents. "There are at least five national Black organizations that have endorsed the Portland Public Schools' multi-ethnic curriculum," Hilliard claims. All the district needs to do is offer a high quality teacher training program so the curriculum can be implemented, he stated.

When asked to identify some of the reasons for the failure of the programs to address minority educational needs, Herndon points to "a lack of direction at the top." He claims there is no individual in charge of developing strategy. Subsequently, the programs being developed lack substance and clarity; and they do not meet the criteria recommended by DMAC and the national consultants.

While acknowledging that no one person was in charge of developing a "clear cut" strategy for closing the achievement gap, the schools' chief stated, "It was a district-wide responsibility of the 'highest priority'."

Dr. Prophet praised the quality of some of DMAC's recommendations but stated the District was not obligated to follow all recommendations made by any committee.

## Let's Go to the Zoo

Zoo Hours

9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Winter hours begin Oct. 25: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Oct 3

Recycling Awareness Day, Washington Park Zoo, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Activities, games and skits for all ages. Meet Mr. Trash, Mr. Cardboard, Cool Can and Woody Owl.

Oct. 31

Pumpkin Party, Washington Park Zoo. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free with regular admission. By following a Halloween zoo map each child will receive a treat at "trick and treat" stations around the zoo.

## Red Cross Babysitting Class Scheduled

Want to become a Certified Red Cross Babysitter? Girls and boys 11 years and older have an opportunity to learn how to plan for a babysitting job, take responsibility for children, prevent accidents, know first aid, in an 8-hour Babysitting course.

The classes will be held at Alameda Community School, 2732 NE Fremont, on Wednesdays, October 7, 14, 21, 28, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 per student. Scholarships are available. Call 284-1686 to register.

## "When I'm In Charge" Offered at Red Cross

This award winning two-hour class for children in grades 3-5 prepares them for situations that may occur when they are home alone. Class includes role playing, safe responses to phone calls, visitors at the door, selecting positive after-school time activities and much more. Fee: \$6. Call Red Cross at 284-1234, x176 for dates, times, and to register.

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## "Powerball" Parental Warning "Powerballs" Packed in General Mills' Cheerios

Please be advised that if you have purchased packages of Cheerios containing a free rubber "powerball," this toy should be kept away from children approximately three years of age or under, or should be discarded.

The ball, which is similar to other balls sold in retail outlets, is non-toxic and comes sealed in heavy plastic that cannot easily be opened by children. The ball meets all federal safety standards and exceeds the minimum size standard for toys for children under three.

However, General Mills has learned that the ball, if placed in the mouth, represents a choking hazard for infants and toddlers.

General Mills has voluntarily halted shipments and has taken steps to remove Cheerios packages containing the "powerball" from grocery store shelves. Cheerios cereal continues to be available in packages not containing the "powerball."

Consumers with questions on this parental warning may contact General Mills at 1-800-325-1144 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Central Daylight Time.

## DOES COLD WATER MAKE YOU HOT?



Call PGE 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We can help make your electric water heater problems go away quickly and easily. • Repair advice over the phone. • Qualified repair service response within an hour. • Installation of a new extended-warranty, high-efficiency water heater by a participating dealer. On approved credit, we'll even provide 100% financing with nothing down and low monthly payments on your electric bill. The PGE Hot Water Help Line. There's no easier way to keep your cool when cold water makes you hot.

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