

# COMMUNITY FORUM

## Woodlawn School Train Students To Help Their Peers Solve Their Own Conflicts



Ms. Ada Reed and students improve conflict resolution skills.

Do you remember the time when you cried, made a sad face or remained silent for hours when mom said that you couldn't have candy before dinner? And if you asked "why", you may gotten a response something like this "Boy don't question me and do what I say." Or maybe you asked why and remembered your mother explaining her reason as to why she chose to make certain decisions, while allowing you the opportunity to talk about your feeling regarding the situation.

Different people have different feelings. Unfortunately there are some who have never had an opportunity to learn skills in proper communication. Because of lack of communication, conflicts often arise. Husband and wives, children and parents, teachers and students and students and peers have conflicts from time to time. Conflicts are common to everyone but does everyone know how to resolve them?

Twenty-five fourth and fifth grade students from Woodlawn School have received 15 hours of training, designed to build skills in active listening, problem solving, critical thinking, teamwork, assertiveness, open communication and the conflict management process.

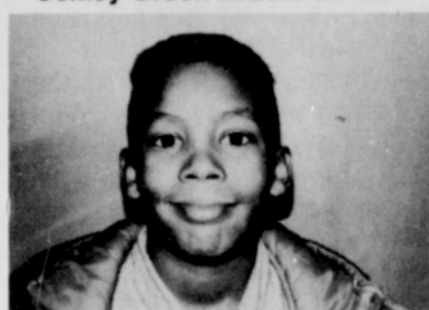
The students have been selected by their teachers and classmates, based on character, attitude and important leadership skills. Conflict managers monitor the playground, cafeteria or hallway in pairs and help other students resolve their conflicts through a prescribed process of active listening and problem solving techniques.

Ada Jackson Reed, the school's community agent, has coordinated the program to enable Woodlawn elementary students to improve their communication, problem solving and conflict resolutionskills. Her goal is to improve the social and learning environment of the school while decreasing hostility, violence and anti-social behaviors.

## Saluting ...



Jeff Reed  
6th Grade  
Ockley Green Middle School



Andre Baker  
7th Grade  
Ockley Green Middle School



Chris Shandy  
7th Grade  
Ockley Green Middle School

## Martin Luther King Tumbling Team



The Martin Luther King Tumbling Team is starting its twelfth season under the direction of Cheryl Richey. This year's edition is comprised of students ranging in age from five to eleven years old.

Only one out of every ten trying out make the team which is some thirty strong. They must meet athletic requirements and sign a contract to maintain a high level of behavioral and academic standards to remain an active member.

There is also a pre-team of 30 students just waiting for a chance to move up to the main team. The team performs at various functions throughout the Northwest including such notable activities as half-time entertainment at the Trailblazer Games.

## Payne Appointed Community Security Liaison For Tri-Met

Dennis G. Payne has been appointed Tri-Met's Community Security Liaison, filling a new post that was created to strengthen Tri-Met's role in addressing the problems of community crime spilling onto the transit system.

"Tri-Met needs to be a full partner in community efforts to fight crime. Dennis Payne will strengthen that partnership. He brings with him a wealth of contacts and expertise. Dennis has an established reputation and strong ties to the community," said Tri-Met General Manager James E. Cowen.

Payne, 40, who is a member of the North-Northeast Youth Gang Task Force, formerly served as street crime prevention organizer for the City of Portland's Office of Neighborhood Associations and as a crime prevention specialist for the Northeast Neighborhood Office.

In his new post, Payne will:

- Act as Tri-Met's contact with

community organizations, official crime prevention agencies, Portland Public Schools and others.

- Coordinate Tri-Met's participation in Governor Goldschmidt's Youth Agenda initiatives.

- Track progress on security initiatives among Tri-Met's various departments, working particularly closely with bus drivers, transit police, and Tri-Met top management.

Payne's position is part of a \$620,000 package of security investments approved by the Tri-Met Board of Directors last summer. Other investments include additional police presence, special employee training, a passenger intercom system on MAX trains, phones at MAX stations, video surveillance testing, and emergency identification equipment for buses.

## Veteran's Release From Liability On Their GI Home Loans

TO: All Program Participants

1. Veterans who obtain VA-guaranteed home loans agree to remain personally liable on the loan and to indemnify VA against any loss resulting from a transferee owner's default and subsequent payment of a claim under Loan Guaranty by the Veterans Administration. A veteran would remain liable until such time as:

- a. The loan is paid in full; or
- b. The veteran requests and receives a release of liability from the VA.

2. Veterans are advised of the requirement that they obtain a release from the VA in order to be relieved of liability on the loan on several occasions prior to, during and after loan closing. However, this advice is not always considered several years later when the veteran sells his or her home with the purchaser taking title subject to the loan agreement.

3. In order to remind veterans of the need to obtain a release of liability from the VA, we would appreciate your assistance in distributing VA Pamphlet 26-68-1, Revised, Selling Your GI Home?, to veterans who are considering selling their homes. For loan holders, please provide veterans with this pamphlet whenever assumption statements are issued.

4. A copy of VA Pamphlet 26-68-1, Revised is enclosed. The pamphlet may be ordered by calling (503) 221-2520, our Publications Office.

Santa Clause will give out 1001 new gift-wrapped toys to children from North Portland at The Salvation Army's Moore Street Community Center at 5430 N. Williams Avenue on Friday, December 16, 1988, at 7:00 p.m.

The Army's brass band will then lead the children in singing Christmas carols. More than 50 volunteers will help Santa distribute the presents and special treats.

The toys will include stuffed dinosaurs, Masters of the Universe dolls and watches.

"The parents are always thankful when you do something for their children that perhaps they can't do themselves," says Captain Doug Tollerud, commanding officer of the Moore Street Center.

## Resolution Run For New Year's Day

Hundreds of runners will be celebrating the New Year and exercising their 1989 fitness resolution by participating in the 10th annual Resolution Run on Sunday, January 1, 1989. The run is a benefit for the American Red Cross.

The Resolution Run, which begins at 8:45 a.m., features an 8K competitive roadrace, a 2-mile fun run and a 4-mile non-competitive walk. All events begin at Waterfront Park on Southwest Front Avenue and Ash Street.

The entry fee is \$5.00. Registration forms are available at most Portland area athletic stores. Participants may also register the day of the event.

**PDC PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**Commission Meeting**

Date: December 14, 1988  
Place: The Portland Bldg., 11th Floor  
1120 SW Fifth Avenue  
Portland, OR  
Time: 9:30 a.m.

Commission meetings are open to the public. Complete agendas are available at PDC. Call 796-5300.

PDC is the City of Portland's urban renewal and economic development agency.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT**

**The Association of Oregon Black Lawyers and the National Association of Black Accountants** are sponsoring their 7th Annual Ebony And Ivory Scholarship Dance. The dance will be held on December 10, 1988 at the Viscourt Hotel, 1441 NE Second, Portland, OR from 9:00 PM - 1:00 AM.

**Live Music by Calvin Walker and The Answer For Ticket Information, Call 285-9925**

**Ebony & Ivory Attire Suggested**

## Senior of The Week



Mrs. Vastie Manning

Mrs. Vastie Manning, 75 years "young" moved to Portland in 1948 with her husband John from Sulligent, Alabama. John Manning worked as a Maitre'd for the Sheraton Hotel until his death in 1973.

Mrs. Manning, who says she never plans to marry again, spends a lot of her spare time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Sunday dinners after church with her family is a regular occurrence in the Manning household.

When Vastie Manning is not visiting with her six grandchildren an nine great grandchildren, she could be found volunteering her time at the Piedmont Senior Citizens Center. There she assist other seniors as well as participate in creative art projects and attend field trips while encouraging her peers to think positively.

Mrs. Manning, who has never been to a doctor in her life, says that "God has been good to me because I keep faith in him". "I tell young people to believe in God and do the things that's right and they'll be blessed".

Mrs. Vastie Manning is truly blessed with a spirit of love and compassion and we salute this beautiful senior!

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Nate Hartley - General Manager

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