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The Portland Observer changes guard

Employees acquire interest in the nineteen year old ethnic newspaper. Will change name to African American Observer to reflect its broader spectrum.



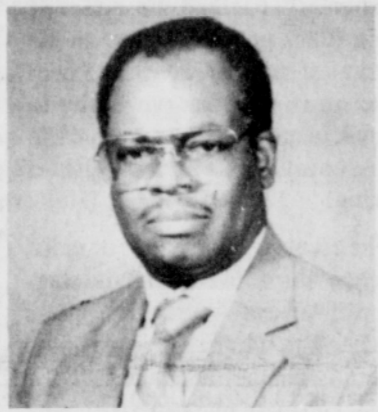
Dear Readers and Advertisers:

As we approach our 20th continuous year of successfully serving the Greater Portland Community and the entire State of Oregon, we want to pause and reflect on our past history and use it as a measure of our future.

First of all we want to thank all of the persons who made this exciting venture possible. There are the advertisers who have stuck with us through the lean years and also advertisers who came aboard recently because both groups believed in what we as a minority business enterprise were attempting to accomplish here in the Northwest. There are also our readers who not only shared what we have published with their friends and families, but who also have given us a good amount of direction as to what they would like to see published in this their community newspaper. There was also a whole host of dedicated community reporters who have expended many hours of their precious time in order to make the Portland Observer the authentic chronicle of our times. It is with respectful admi-

ration that we offer you our most sincere thanks.

Just as one watches clouds float by overhead we must be mindful of the fact that we never will see that same awesome spectacle again. Times have changed since we first embarked upon this exciting venture. An entirely new dimension has been added to our sphere of responsibility to the people whom we serve. It is in that light that we have updated and improved the manner in which we intend to serve you in the future.



A. Lee Henderson

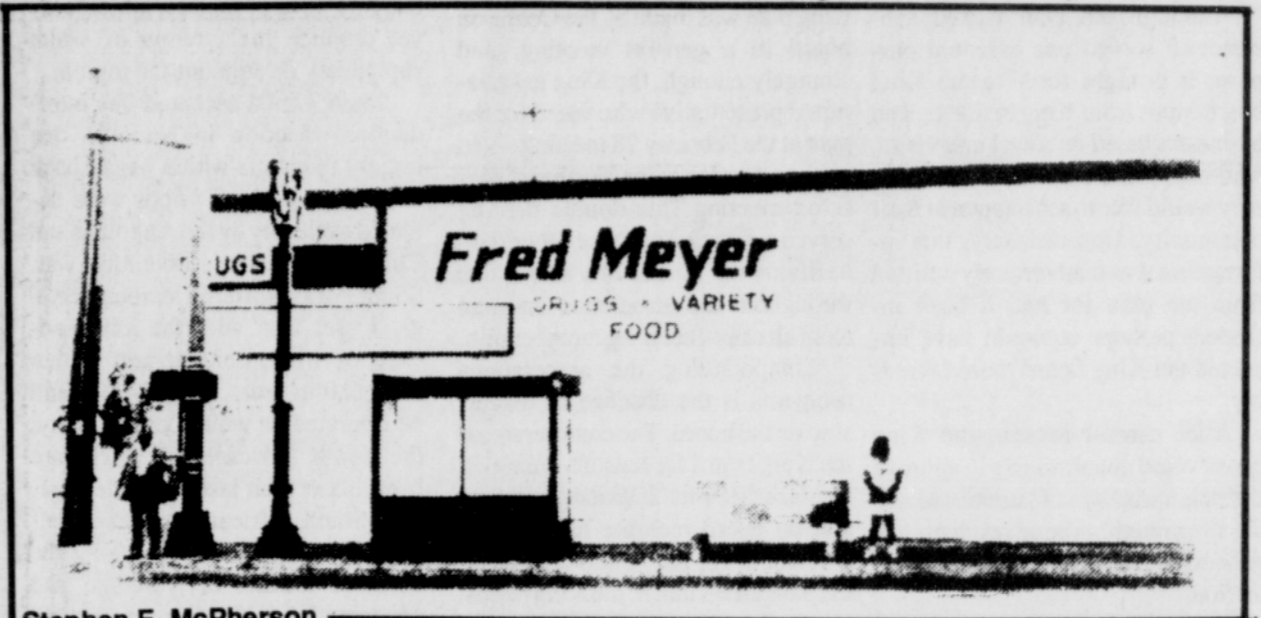
We are happy to announce that Dr. Alfred Lee Henderson, the pioneering Founder-Publisher of The Portland Observer for almost two decades, has agreed to relinquish the assets of the original company to its current employees. Dr. Henderson's many other business interests in Tennessee and California make it possible for him to continue to oversee the very demanding requirements of the expanded daily operation of such an important source of community information.

It is the intention of the new, locally owned corporation to modernize and expand our already successful computer graphics. We will also endeavor to increase our local and national news coverage while at the same time modernizing the presentation of our advertising copy. With such a new look it is quite logical to expect a new name to emerge. A new logo is in now the preliminary design process. One of our very famous local artists will be its creator. Beginning with Volume 19, Number 40, our new name will be the AFRICAN AMERICAN OBSERVER which we think more effectively describes our proud heritage and our compelling mission. In order for us to make a statement that underscores these important changes, a special Minority Business Enterprise section will be included with our inaugural publication. At this time we invite you to place your advertising order with us. Fifty per cent of the profits derived from this issue will be dedicated to the youths of this community for college scholarships in the sciences and communications; guest speakers for role modeling, and an all city youth conference to be announced in a special "White Paper." We do hope that you will be able to join us in this important endeavor for our community and our nation. Thank you for your past support and we look forward with pleasure to serving you better in the future. With your help we will retain our leadership position in the area of mass communication.

Very sincerely,
The Management

Robert Blume expounds on vision for Walnut Park

Capital Development Corporation executive considers use of the newly acquired property with a view to meeting the needs and desires of the lower Northeast. The African American Observer will host a town hall meeting to air community views



Stephen E. McPherson

The continuing saga of the Urban League's former Walnut Park facility took a turn toward a brighter future this week. Robert Blume, one of the principals in the Capital Development Company of Lacey, Washington who purchased the property made known his intention to develop that site with a sensitivity to the needs and will of the community.

At the time the Urban League announced the sale of the property, Mr. Blume was not available to answer questions at a hastily called press conference. This week he spoke at length with the Portland Observer. He re-iterated the fact that his company was exploring several possibilities for the use of the property. One idea proffered had been similar to the one first proposed by the Wyant Corporation of Salem. It had been their intention to build an urban mall which would house not only a national super market but also a number of ancillary facilities commensurate with the needs of the community it served. Mr. Blume also feels that a food outlet is a very viable idea. He too had considered the possibility of establishing a mall like structure which could expand to include some of the property adjacent to the present site.

Previously he had also toyed with the idea of converting the structure for use by a federal or state office function. This later idea is one that has not been received very well in the lower Northeast sector of the City of Roses. Many community leaders have expressed the opinion that any use attached to the property should be one that generated revenue for the immediate area especially with a view to cashing in on the convention trade which is expected to commence sometime next year.

In that regard, Mr. Blume stated that he would be meeting some time soon with the Portland Development Commission in order to explore some of the options open for such an endeavor. It will be remembered that at the time Corno Foods announced its intention to supplant the old Fred Meyer Food Store, The PDC had offered substantial financial support. Corno, however, was not able to generate all of the capital needed to shore-up the exchange for a successful conclusion.

The idea that Mr. Blume finds most attractive is that of a membership mall. Such an arrangement generates its initial capital by having its investors pool their capital together in

order to take advantage of the power of volume purchases. They then offer their products to the public at a reduced or discounted price. Such an arrangement would be particularly attractive to the lower Northeast sector.

Of even greater interest is the fact that Mr. Blume, although representing a group of profit seeking developers, is keenly interested in exploring the desires and needs of the community he serves prior to arriving at a decision that would be of mutual benefit to both groups of parties. To this end he will visit Portland some time soon in order to explore not only what is feasible for that site, but also to listen to the voice of the people. Within the very near future the African American Observer, formerly known as the Portland Observer under its new management will host such a community town hall in which Mr. Blume and his associates will be present to listen and to answer questions. It is the intention of the Capital Development Corporation to make the Walnut Park facility the flagship of their initial economic development effort in the Portland area. We are quite fortunate that it will begin here in the lower Northeast sector of the City of Roses.

Mrs. Nina Jackson, senior of the week

After 54 years in Portland octogenarian still very active. Contends that there is no delinquent child but bad parents

by Jimi Johnson

A typical day for Mrs. Nina Jackson who is in her mid 80's begins in the early morning hours just after sunrise. She starts by taking a short walk around her modest home as she prepares to tend her garden and do yard work. "This keeps me busy and is good exercise" says Mrs. Jackson.



usually went to the husbands in the Union to pay dues and take care of one another when in need. Many times visiting African-American dignitaries where hosted at the homes of auxiliary members and their families.

Mrs. Jackson, a retired civil service worker from the Post Office and widow since 1952, has received numerous awards and certificates for her community and social work in Portland from the 40's throughout the 70's. One such award was commendation from then Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt for her volunteer work with the U.S.O. service Personnel during World War II.

In 1977, Nina Jackson formed the Senior Citizens Railroad Auxiliary Club where seniors can get together and socialize and share concerns. This club is still active today.

A member of the Eastern Star for a number of years as well as an active member of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, Nina Jackson is still very energetic and always willing to share her opinion, or give some good advice.

With reference to delinquent children, Mrs. Jackson replied, "There are no delinquent children, just delinquent parents....If parents would take more time with their children, things would be better".

Mrs. Jackson credits her longevity to the basic principles of life. She says "do good and help others, that gives you strength and makes you want to live on". "I've had a happy life", stated Mrs. Jackson.

Longevity also may run in the Jackson family as her mother Susie B. Francis lived to be 107 years old.

Nina Jackson has been blessed with one daughter, Aquilla Byrnes of East Port Maine, 3 grand children, 16 great grand children and one great great grand child.

The Portland Observer salutes Mrs. Nina Jackson for her contributions to our community as our senior of the week.

Kemp Announces \$2.5 Million for President Management of Public Housing

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Jack Kemp announced today that thirty-five public housing resident groups have been awarded \$2.5 million in management training grants to help public housing residents manage their housing communities.

Secretary Kemp announced the awards in Chicago, at a rededication ceremony at Rockwell Gardens, a public housing development.

"Tenant groups who learn to manage their own communities are powerful instruments in the fight against poverty in urban communities," said Secretary Kemp, "because they have begun to take control of their neighborhoods and their families' future. We in the Department will give 100% to help resident management groups reach their full potential."

Coming next week:

The African American Observer

Watch for it!
October 5, 1989

Congressman Fautleroy Scores Big At NAACP Anniversary Affairs



Democratic Congressman Walter Fautleroy, (L) Wash., D.C. is shown above with Mr. & Mrs. Waverly Davis, of Portland, Oregon while appearing at the 75th anniversary dinner of the Portland chapter of the NAACP. Before a packed house, Congressman Fautleroy, who is also a Baptist minister, delivered a mind enriching presentation on the state of corporate greed in America, as well as other issues which affect African Americans, the poor, the homeless, and the unemployed.

Rate for Past Due Property Taxes to Increase

The Department of revenue announces that the interest rate on delinquent property taxes paid on or after October 3, 1989 will be calculated at the new rate of 16 percent (1-1/3 percent per month). The new rate will apply for the interest that accrues from July 16, 1989 to the date of payment.

The interest rate on any delinquent taxes paid before October 3, 1989 will remain at the current rate of 12 percent (1 percent per month).

The increase in interest does not

apply to interest accumulated before July 16, 1989. For example, if a taxpayer has delinquent property taxes for the 1987-88 tax year and does not pay the tax before October 3, 1989, the interest charge on the outstanding amount before July 16, 1989 is at 12 percent. The interest charged for the period beginning July 16, 1989 will be at 16 percent.

The interest rate increase is one provision of a measure passed by the 1989 legislature.