PORTLAND OBSERVER 25¢

Volume XX, Number 39

"The Eyes and Ears of The Community"

October 10, 1990

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THIS WEEK The Portland Observer salutes Minority Business **Enterprises with** our special annual pull-out section...ten pages of information, history, and other news applicable to Portland area Minority Business Enterprises. SEE INSIDE

Grace Collins: In the Spirit of Caring Too Much

nless a virtual miracle oc* curs by November ninth, the Grace Collins Daycare Center could be closed by the Oregon Children's Service Division for failure to meet recertification standards.

The Center has operated since the end of 1989 on temporary certification but has been unable to correct deficiencies mandated by the state agency.

C.S.D. has cited these deficiencies as an unsafe kitchen and food handling practices, unsafe toys and equipment, incomplete records and inappropriate employees.

Another CSD concern was the leadership of Mrs. Collins. "Administratively, she handled personnel matters and made decisions which led to the problems they have now," claimed one CSD employee asked to remain anonymous. "She was more suited for a convent than a daycare center." The CSD employee went on to state that at one time, the Center had 16 employees on payroll with "shaky" backgrounds, most involving theft and drugs. When questioned if any of the employees had been identified as having child abuse problems, the answer was no.

It isn't difficult to find someone who attended the Grace Collins Center during childhood. Two former employees of the Observer reflects warmly of their experiences as attendees. According to Arnold Petrie, former salesperson for the Observer, and now operations manager for handy workers, a local maintenance firm, Ms. Collins is one of the warmest, most caring and loving individuals he has ever met." She had a hug and a kiss every morning



The Collins Daycare Center faces impending termination barring a miracle.

for her children, as she called them," he recalls. "She never seemed to lose her temper." She is still referred as "Mother" Collins by almost everyone who attended her daycoare center. The Bible, a warm meal, and tender loving care was the norm for the day as all remember.

According to Ralph Davis, recently selected by the board to assume the dayto-day operations of the center, the board must share some of the blame. Davis is himself a former student of the center. The self-employed business man who recently returned to Portland after a 17year absence claims most of the concerns addressed by CSD are accurate. "But we thought we were close to an agreement with CSD to having our recertification extended, since we were

cleaning house of the questionable employees and making the necessary repairs as requested." Davis states that the board communicated with CSD in August and thought the agency was satisfied with the response from Collins Center. "The letter of September 21 took us by complete surprise which is what caused the panic with parents, staff and the community," he added.

Collins Center now operates with a budget of \$250,000 of which 40% comes from parents, 25% from U.S.D.A. and aid to dependent children and the remainder from contributions from churches, corporations and individuals. Davis was particularly elated about a \$5,000 contribution he received from Mr. R.B. Pamplin, of the R.B. Pamplin

Corp., a long time supporter of Ms. Collins, and a \$1,000 contribution from Mr. Gilbert Lamb, a former high school classmate of Ms. Collins.

CSD has extended the certification process until November 9, and has imposed the following conditions on the center:

There shall be no new intake of children into care as requested in the letter of September 21, 1990.

Write a letter to parents of all children currently attending the program and inform them that the Grace Collins Memorial Center is unlicensed. You will need to have documentation from parents in each child's file that parents were notified of the current unlicensed status of the center.

Grace Collins Memorial Center shall appoint a contact person to work with CSD Certifier Nancy Howes. CSD needs to be notified of the name of this individual by Tuesday, October 9, 1990. In cooperation with the certifier, develop a work plan for the period of Monday, October 8, 1990, to Friday, November 9, 1990 to show how requirements listed in this letter will be met. This contact person and Nancy Howes will be part of a committee. Use mutually agreed upon consultants for technical assistance regarding program planning for each age group. We believe Headstart should be contacted as a consultant for technical assistance for your preschool program. Headstart is universally accepted as a standard for preschool.

Provide CSD with a list of currently enrolled children and currently working staff for this period.

Anniversary of a Brutal Murder

n November 13, two years will have passed since an Ethiopian man, Mulugeta Seraw, was kicked and beaten to death by three Portland Skin-

At present a jury is being enpaneled to hear a 10 million dollar lawsuit brought against Tom Metzger, head of the Whit Aryan Resistance movement. The suit alleges that Metzger sent agents to Portland to recruit members of the Portland Skinhead group East Side Pride and incited them to commit violence against blacks.

Worldwide attention is being focused on this suit filed on behalf of the Seraw family by the Southern Poverty Law Center and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith

"The October trial of White Supremacist Tom Metzger will undoubtedly focus national attention on Portland. Let the message be a positive one during that time--that Portland stands united against racism."--Deni Yamauchi. Center for Democratic Renewal

Black United Fund Campaign Underway Again



BY PROFESSOR MCKINLEY BURT

t's that time of year again and Sun day the Black United Fund of Oregon launched its 1990 campaign with a "BUF Sunday, sponsored by the Albina Ministerial Alliance. The goal for Portland this year is \$200,000; BUF Sunday is a national event held in churches across the country in support of local Black United Funds.

The Black United Fund of Oregon Inc. (BUFO) is an independent fundraising and philanthropic organization, one of sixteen affiliates of the National Black United Fund. The BUFO, located in Northeast Portland, was founded in 1983 and became operational in 1986 in response to the historical underfunding and lack of management services for non-profit organizations operating in North/Northeast Portland.

The overall goal of the BUFO is to assist in the social and economic development of Oregon's Black and other disadvantaged communities by providing financial management assistance and other services to non-profit organizations whose programs help improved the quality of life for all Oregonians. Services provided by the BUFO are designed to ensure the development and retention of organization that respond to community needs.

The BUFO raises money primarily from individuals in charitable campaigns in both public and private sector workplaces. We currently participate in campaigns at the State of Oregon, City of Portland, Multnomah County, Port of Portland, Metro, Tri-Met, Housing Authority, Pacific Power and Light, IBM Corp, Paragon Cable TV, Boise Cascade Office Products Division, Pacific Development Corp, Portland Public Schools, Portland Community College, Lewis & Clark College and many others. Our campaign goals are to provide, without coercion, the greatest opportunity for employees to give, minimize disruption in the workplace and the administrative burden of the employer and to maximize charitable contributions for community needs. Last year employees contributed over \$180,000 to the Black United Fund of Oregon; this level of support clearly demonstrates that employees welcome choice in workplace giving and support the Black United Fund of Oregon's goal of community

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BUSINESS PROFILE

Kenny Carr, Construction?



Kenny Carr

BYC.BROWN&U.TUCKERJR.

enneth Carr, President of Carr Construction, has led a life characterized by success in diverse occupations. A native of Washington, D.C. Kenneth began his basketball career under the legendary Morgan Wooten at Dematha High School in Hyattsville, Maryland (1972-74). One of his teammates was NBA great Adrain Dantley, one of the finest scorers in league history. (DeMatha has also produced current NBA players Danny Ferry, Sidney Lowe, Jarrod Mustaf, and James Brown, now an announcer for CBS

sports.) After graduating from high school, Kenneth accepted a scholarship to North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C. He earned All-American/All ACC honors and played on the 1976 Olympic basketball team in Montreal which won the gold medal. Again his teammate was Adrain Dantley and other NBA stars such as Walter Davis and Phil Ford. Carr entered his name in the 1976 NBA draft while still a junior at North Carolina State and was drafted by the Los Angels Lakers (1977-78). He eventually played for the Lakers, Cleveland, Detroit, and Port-SEE CARR CONSTRUCTION PAGE 2