



Mrs. Frances Schoen-Newspaper Room
University of Oregon Libr
Eugene, Oregon
97403

PORTLAND OBSERVER 25¢

Volume XXI, Number 26

"The Eyes and Ears of The Community"

June 26, 1991

THIS WEEK INSIDE

Show and Tell
by Professor
McKinley Burt

PAGE 2

The Politics of Race
Threatens Black
Progress

by Ron Daniels

PAGE 2

Wilbert Lolley,
Loaves and Fishes
Volunteer

PAGE 3

Spartan Competitor
to Tour this Summer
Jude Dieudonne
Jeannis

PAGE 4

The Rhino Walk!
That Brother be
Strollin by Professor
McKinley Burt

PAGE 6

Wilson Promoted to
Assistant Vice
President by
Security Pacific
Bank



Margo B. Wilson

PAGE 8

INDEX

News	2
Religion	3
Entertainment	4
Locker Room	5
News	6
News	7
News	8
Classifieds/Sub-bids	9
Bids	10
Bids/News	11
African American	
All Stars	12

Proposed Relocation of Police Precinct Draws Mixed Reviews

STORY & PHOTO
BY DEAN CAMARDA

About 125 people attended Thursday night's community forum at the King Neighborhood Facility. A backdrop of maps, graphs and charts positioned behind them, Police Chief Tom Potters, Lt. Mark Paresi, Mayor's Assistant David Kish, architect Aaron Faegre and other officials presented plans for the proposed relocation of the Portland Police Bureau's North Precinct to a portion of the old Fred Meyer building at NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. and Killingsworth Street. The audience initially sat quietly and listened. Then it was time to hear the public. A stream of citizen's community group representatives stepped up to the microphone to voice their support for the move. They, along with several others, welcomed the police into their community, citing enhanced safety and economic renewal as the expected outcome. All signs seemed to indicate that having the police department as our new neighbors would be a win-win situation for all. That is until Walter Muhammed took his turn to speak.



Lt. Mark Paresi; Chief Tom Potter; Forum Facilitator, Charles Ford; Mayor's Assistants, David Kish and John Rodgers

"I think you need to stop," said Muhammed. "The people who are making decisions about this community don't live in it." Several people in the audience voiced their agreement as he continued. "These coalitions don't speak to our concerns because we don't belong to them. The bottom line is, they're [the police] coming in not patrolling, but controlling." From then on the forum gained momentum.

Woody Broderick stepped forward to express reservations. Broderick went so far as to accuse the police of wanting to put an occupying force in the middle of our community. There were several who agreed with Broderick's concern about what he called a "cosmetic" approach to gathering community input. "There needs to be a real grassroots community meeting," said Walter Muhammed, adding, "Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and Killingsworth is the hub of the black community. What's going to happen to the black folks that live in the area around the police?" Whether people were for or against the relocation plan, not everyone had the same reason. However, there was one common theme that resurfaced throughout the evening: the need for improved police-community relations.

Those who opposed the police precinct relocation expressed fears that tensions between the police and blacks are likely to increase. Portland Police Officer, Larry Anderson, disagreed. As a young black growing up in North-Northeast Portland, Anderson knows something about the apprehensions of some

members of the black community. "I didn't know the police at all when I was growing up. I think it's a crime that a precinct hasn't moved here before now," said Anderson, who also is the basketball program coordinator for PAL [Police Action League], a program designed to enhance the relationship between police and youth. "I don't think it's 'relationship' that is the problem. I think it's the alienation - the fact that they have been isolated from the police and the only time they deal with the police is when they have a problem or a negative situation. They don't have the opportunity because the police are not in the neighborhood to have the positive interaction. We're saying to the community, 'we don't want to be outsiders, we want to move in and become a part of your neighborhood.'"

Responding to the idea that the black community was not consulted at the grassroots level, Assistant to the Mayor, John Rogers replied, "The thing about grass is that it's all over the place. I think the city has done a good job of getting input from the entire community... black and white." It is Rogers' view that concerns about the negative impact of having a police facility in the area will be dispelled. "I

have seen nothing but clear and convincing evidence that the commitment of Chief Potter is real," said Rogers. "He's committed to community policing. I think the combination of the location of this facility and the genuine commitment of the police bureau to community policing - empowering the community to solve their own problems - those things together make this the right move at the right time."

Police Chief, Tom Potter, made his intentions clear. "We are here to serve the community, build positive relationships, and be accountable to you."

It's too bad we can't fast-forward to get a glimpse at how the proposed relocation will work out. It's also too bad we can't rewind to hear what the man for whom the street was named, Martin Luther King, Jr., might have to say about the issue. We can't do either. But it might be possible to put the project on pause if enough people are convinced that is what should happen. Unless those who oppose the relocation act soon, and speak loud enough, the march toward relocation will remain on play.

Editor's Note: If you would like to express your view about the proposed precinct move, drop us a note and we will publish the collective responses. Send or deliver your comments to: The Portland Observer, 4747 NE MLK Jr., Blvd. Portland, Oregon 97211. Please limit your submission to 250 words.

Coast Industries Names Grimes Vice President

Herman Grimes has been promoted to the position of Vice President and Director of Government Contracts by Coast Industries, Inc. (dba Coast Janitorial Service and Empire Security Service). Grimes will be responsible for the marketing and contract management departments of the Government Contracts Division. He currently oversees and manages contracts in Oregon, California, Texas and Tennessee in addition to conducting marketing operations nationwide.

Grimes has prior business and management experience as an accountant, auditor, controller and consultant. He is a part-time faculty member at Portland Community College and instructor in the Small Business Development Program through PCC.

He is also Treasurer of the Downtown Portland Kiwanis Club and a member of the Loan Committee for the Oregon Association of Minority Entre-



Herman Grimes

preneurs. Coast Industries is a wholly minority-owned company active in government contracting, commercial building maintenance and commercial security services.

North/Northeast Economic Development Alliance And City Of Portland To Hold Public Hearings On Albina Community Plan

The North/Northeast Economic Development Alliance and the City of Portland Bureau of Planning will be cohosting a series of public workshops on the Discussion Draft Albina Community Plan. Residents, property and business owners, and other interested parties are encouraged to participate in these hearings.

The Albina Community Plan is a revitalization plan for inner North and inner Northeast Portland. The process began in July, 1989 and workshops and other outreach activities were held from February to July of 1990. Presently, meetings are ongoing with neighborhood associations. This plan reaches beyond the traditional issues addressed by land use plans and includes social and educational issues which lie at the root of many of the problems experienced by this section of Portland.

The residents and businesses of the Albina Community Plan Study Area are concerned about land use, jobs, business growth, transportation, historic preservation, housing, urban design and economic development. Specific problems in the areas of public safety, education, and family services have been identified. The Discussion Draft Albina Community Plan, contains a broad range of policies and

action which require the cooperation and participation of a large number of private and public organizations and neighborhood groups.

The Albina Community Plan consists of a District-wide Plan and neighborhood plans for Sabin, Kenton, Piedmont, Boise, Irvington, Woodlawn, Eliot, Arbor Lodge, and King. Additionally, neighborhood plans for Humboldt and Concordia will be completed this summer. The District Plan contains goals and objectives, policies and specific code amendments. The goals and policies are broad statements which are intended to establish the direction of social, economic and physical developments in the district, while objectives more specifically identify projects which are to be accomplished in this effort. Each policy area also contains action items which are tasks designed to achieve each objective. Two land use alternatives are included in the Discussion Draft. These alternatives are intended to contrast choices that the district faces and no specific alternative has been selected. The final plan will contain elements of both alternatives and new provision suggested during the Discussion Draft review period. For information contact Mike Hayakawa at 796-7748.

Local Citizens Appointed As Ombudsmen

Hal Andrews, Jeri Szilagyi and Louise Troop were recently appointed by Meredith Cote, the long Term Care Ombudsman for the State of Oregon, to serve as Ombudsmen Representatives. All assigned to local adult foster care homes and will serve as advocates for the residents of adult foster care homes in the Multnomah county area, helping to ensure they receive the best possible care.

The Office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman is a program of the State of Oregon, dedicated to protecting the rights, safety and dignity of the residents of nursing homes, residential care facilities and adult foster care homes. The next training will begin on August 12 in Portland. Call 1-800-522-2602 for more information on becoming a Certified Ombudsman, or to report a concern about a facility.

**Congratulations
to the African
American
Academic All
Stars!**

See content on page 12

SPECIAL "HEALTH" EDITION, JULY 10