

Where are the JOBS?

Continued from front page

BY BILL COUNCIL

the region and in particular in and near N./N.E. Portland to metropolitan area levels is our goal.

Business Growth And Development

Employment training and placement ultimately depend on the existence of family wage jobs, both in the community and nearby. The overall health of the community is also based upon local ownership of small businesses. Therefore business growth and development will be addressed as part of this strategy.

Youth Employment

Black teenage unemployment rate is two, and often three times higher than white teenage unemployment. This is unacceptable and must be reversed. These young people must be able to have early successful experiences in the world of work. We will resolve the immediate and long term reasons that have led to this intolerably high unemployment rate in Portland and reduce it to no higher than metropolitan levels.

General Strategy

Our efforts will have a major impact on the quality of life for a community that can no longer be neglected. We will collectively, community and business, concentrate our best minds and resource on solving these prob-

lems. We have set unusually high goals, the neighborhoods, the people and Portland deserve no less.

Employers who wish to participate in the program with the N/NE Employment and Business Development Action Plan are requested to call Ms. Becky Black at the King Center, 287-0823.

The Northeast Rescue Plan Action Committee (NERPAC) is an association of grass roots organizations that work together to place youth in year round, permanent jobs in the public and private sector. The organization had its origins at the juvenile facility with Mr. Loenzo Poe and others working with youth at risk in the community. The organization's expressed purpose is to work with youth who are "affected by gangs". The organization serves between 200 and 300 youth. Both the City of Portland and Multnomah county has provided resources to this group. In fact, Commissioner Gretchen Kafoury is presenting a proposal to the Council on June 8, 1992 for \$200,000 to support this organization. While discussing this article with Ms. Alandria Taylor, Employment Services Coordinator at the Donald E Long Juvenile Hall, she indicated that she has a waiting list of

over 70 youth. Interested employers should call Jana McClellan, 248-3460. The Urban League of Portland, a traditional organization in the area and national is involved in job solicitation and placement of youth. Mr. Tony Ross, youth Employment Manager, stated that an employer who had called him about a month ago to inform him that because of budget restraints, the employer could not participate this year, only to call him back recently to say that this employer would participate. Maybe more employers will see the import of participating in this summer youth employment. Mr. Ross and members of the staff will be soliciting jobs for the summer, you may call Tony at the Urban League, 280-2600.

The Portland Private Industry Council (PIC) is the local organization that receives its money from the Federal government to provide training and employment for youth and adults. Over the years there has been decreasing funds, said Ms. Marnella Bingham, Youth Services Manager. With monies from the federal government and the City of Portland serves only 765 of the most in need youth in the community. At least 40% of these positions are youths in the year round program. The Private Industry Council funds the Youth Employment Institute at 1704 NE 26th St. the telephone number is 280-1058.

Experts, business leaders and politicians are busy attempting to find a solution to this major problem. Commissioner Earl Blumenaur issued this statement.

"Recent events in Los Angeles have caused us all to re-examine our employment and economic development efforts here in Portland. There is a high price to pay when we fail as a community to achieve social and economic justice.

In the past few years, in the City

we've made it a priority in funding jobs programs to serve youth at risk and link up employment with education and other support services in the community in order to break the cycle of poverty and vio-

its that can make all the difference later in life. I strongly support the efforts of community groups like the Urban League and the Black United Front and business leaders to place kids in jobs in private busi-

good for the community.

We're also being creative. Instead of relying on temporary agencies or consultants that traditionally provide short-term public works labor, we're turning to community-based groups. Just this month the Bureau of Traffic Management awarded \$3,500 in work to the House of Umoja that will provide 6 to 8 jobs.

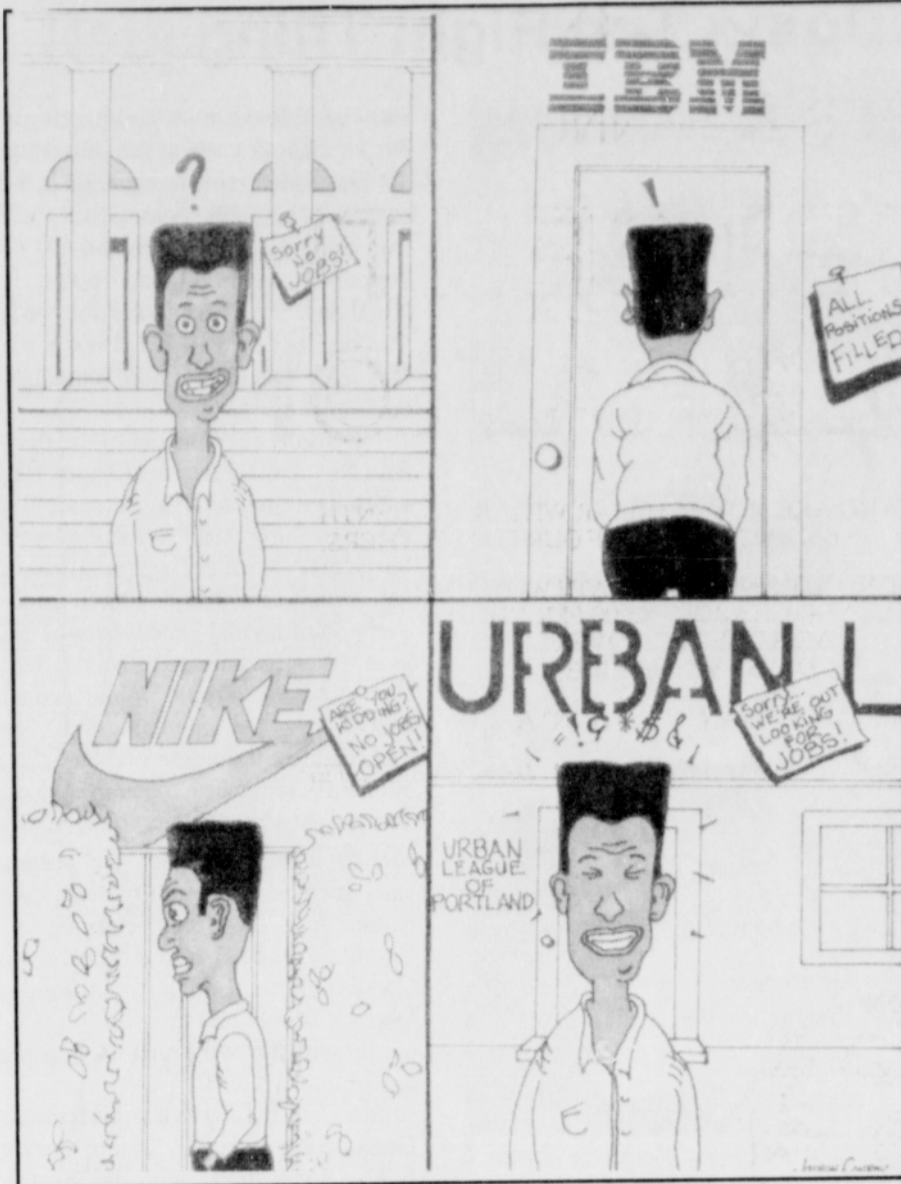
But we need to do more. Congress needs pressure to finish work on its summer jobs bill. This would bring badly needed funds to Portland and Oregon. In the meantime, we have to continue to find ways to create greater employment opportunities for young people and adults. It's a community effort that cannot fail."

In discussions with the many experts generally and Ms. Marnella Bingham in particular, it is agreed that a youth employed will cost approximately \$1500.00.

There is currently legislation being debated that might bring approximately \$2 million to the Portland area. Ms. Terry Anderson, of Commissioner's Kafoury office and other officials have had strategy meetings and do have a tentative plan when and if this money is made available.

However, given the federal money and all the local resources being expended presently, there is still a need for more than 2500 jobs. It is very doubtful that we can reach this goal but if every employer in this area will take a critical look at this problem, it can be done. We have to want to solve the problem.

The Portland Observer would like to encourage each and every employer to go the extra mile and let's do a BLAZING job for our youth this summer.



lence. But we can't underestimate the importance of summer jobs for kids. A good summer job provides self-respect and teaches work hab-

nesses this summer. I'll be working with my bureaus and the rest of City Council on an effort to hire youth within city agencies to do real and meaningful work that is

A SPECIAL THANKS TO JOSEPH CONROY FOR THIS EXCELLENT ILLUSTRATION!

After The Cross

BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

Each Easter we celebrate the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We sing songs, such as: Christ Arose, He Live, It is Finished and Jesus Keeps Me Near the Cross.

Now--it is times like these that cause our hearts to linger at the foot of the cross. That cruel, cruel cross where my Lord bled, suffered and died. But--I am so happy that he rose from the darkness of the grave. I oft time wonder where we would be if Christ had not gotten up as he said.

You can be assured of one thing that's for certain....Nineteen ninety-two would never have gotten here. Why? Because--the Almighty God would have become so through with man that he would have settled for listening to the bees and the deer as opposed to allowing man another chance to gum-up the world...again.

Time-after-time after time-after-time as we review the history of mankind, through the Bible, God has destroyed and restored in hopes that man would get the message and straighten-up and fly right...but, each time man started over, he managed to mess up.

When Jesus came into the world, that was God's way of starting us all over again without destroying the whole

earth. So what did God do? He sent Jesus to destroy sin.

Sin is the root of all evil deeds. When Jesus rose, he destroyed the root; but, there are still some little plants, in the world, which are trying to keep up confusion even though the main root base has been destroyed. Even though the life span is short, the destruction and the return of these suckers (weeds) can and will kill....if you let them. But--"Hallelujah!" Every spring and all through the summer months, we fight weeds. We plant beautiful gardens and the weeds have a totally different agenda. They don't accept the order of the planter; so the weed goes in there and gets among the beauty and the order with clutter, confusion, selfishness and the intent to kill. Jesus Christ is the brand o f weed killer that you need today. go to the nearest scripture and get you a gallon of this concentrated, powerful agent, called "Jesus". He is tried and true. He will never fail. He promised that he would deliver you from the snare of the fowler. And--he will! The instructions say that you must use this powerful agent "full strength". Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

The resurrection is such a powerful happening. When you consider all the benefits to man following the cross and

the grave, you can't help trembling with excitement. Christ said, "Fear not; I am the first and the last; I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."

[Rev. 1:18]

All ye who are in the world and are not hearing God's call, take heed! Christ is coming back! Get ready!

As long as you have life, in your bodies, God is giving you chance after chance to get-right with God. The scriptures say that "...We must work the works of him that sent us, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." [St. John 9:4]

The day is life and night is death. When death cometh, you cannot ask for salvation. You can't go out and witness to that sister or brother or to that friend or to that mother or father. When death comes. Each awakening day, thank God for life! Praise the Lord!

I am so glad that Christ rose. I heard a speaker say, "We read books every day; but, when we read the Holy Scripture, this is the only Book that we read and the author is sitting right there helping us to understand each word, each line."

Christ is alive! Yes, he is alive forevermore!

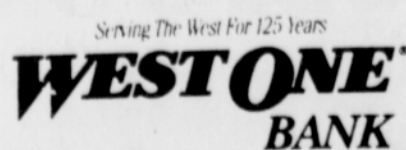


Bariba engraved calabash design

TWO SMART REASONS TO OPEN A HOME EQUITY LINE OF CREDIT.

1. 8.99% APR.
2. NO SET-UP FEES.

Whether it's a new family room, an Explorer A/T, or a week in Cancun, your desires can be achieved with the help of a low-rate, no-set-up-fee home equity line of credit. With it, comes the convenience of an ongoing availability of funds. As well as some highly attractive tax advantages. Find out more. Come into West One Bank today, or call 248-6688.



*Consult your tax advisor. Current APR of 8.99% on lines from \$5,000 to \$24,999. Lower rates available on lines over \$25,000. Rates may vary. Not to exceed 18%. Annual fee waived for first year. \$20 per year thereafter. Property insurance may be required. Member FDIC.



PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE **SKILLS CENTER**

Can Make a Big Difference In Your Future!



Francin Strickland recently completed the PCC Skills Center Business Technology Program. Now she works as a clerk typist for the Bureau of Indian Health Services in downtown Portland.

The job market is excellent for clerical workers with good word processing, analytical and keyboarding skills.

Discover how Skills Training Programs, Adult Basic Education, General Educational Development (GED) and Professional Development classes can help you create your future!

240-5341

**PCC SKILLS CENTER
739 NORTH KILLINGSWORTH STREET**

PCC is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Institution and is approved for veterans' training.

"Take Charge of Your Future"