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# The Portland Observer 25¢

## Public Private Partnership

Several years ago, the City of Portland, in one of the most creative use of the federal training funds, placed ten African-American males at the Wastewater Treatment Plant on Columbia Blvd. This was an affirmative strategy to integrate this city operated plant.

Recently six of these employees celebrated twenty years of employment with the city. Now, each one earns in excess of \$15.00 per hour. Except for one individual who transferred from another city bureau, these employees before their placements represented the "hard core" unemployed.

With the experiment completed, in 1978, the city again entered into a three way partnership with Portland Community College and a private employer-Wacker Siltronic, a German High-Tech company. With the City providing the leadership, funds and motivational training for potential employees, and with the college providing the skills training. Four-hundred-sixty Portland residents were placed in sixteen occupations, earning an average of \$5.50 per hour in late 1979. The Wacker payroll represented over \$1,000,000 to the local economy. The experiment/strategy worked again.

Now in 1992, Still another partnership arrangement has been developed. This partnership is between a private firm - CHZA and the City Council.

In February 1990, CHZA Associates was awarded the facilities management contract for the city's twenty-five decorative fountains.

With this successful venture with a minority firm, it was comfortable for the city council to enter into an agreement with CHZA for the First Source - a program designed to place disadvantaged residents on public works projects at the journeyman level; and the Construction Trades Intern Program - a paid work and education program for



Portland's socially and economically disadvantaged residents.

In May 1989, a demonstration was held during the construction of the Oregon Convention Center. With over \$86,000,000 being spent on this construction in the inner northeast, the Coalition of Black Men found only five African Americans in the work force.

The Portland Organizing Project, and the City and Coalition of Black Men organized a Public Works Task Force. This task force then put a program of First Source and the Construction Trades Intern Program, together and contracted with CHZA for the administration.

Mr. Bruce Watts is the program Administrator. His office is located at 2752 North Williams Ave., telephone number is 287-1041.

By October 1991, Mr. Watts had agreements for placements with four

bureaus - Environmental Services, Water, Parks and Maintenance. Currently there are seventeen trainees in the Construction Trades Intern Program. There are three each carpenters, concrete masons, electricians, landscape maintenance, two operating engineers, two general mechanics and one welder.

Interns are paid \$6.41 per hour for a forty hour work week. Each intern must attend school at least four hours per week on their own time.

With the First Source, Mr. Watts explained that eighty-six individuals have applied for the program, eighty-four were verified to be journeymen. Twenty-seven have been referred for employment and twenty have been hired.

Please call or visit the office if you are interested in either program. Next Week - Who are the journeymen and construction trades interns.

## NABCJ Portland Chapter Hosts 19th Annual Conference And Training Institute



The National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice held its annual conference and training institute in Portland. The event was organized and hosted by the local chapter members, lead by President Ralph L. Davis, Multnomah County Sheriff's Department.

The conference is being held at the Lloyd Center Red Lyon from Sunday thru Thursday July 12-16. The event started Sunday with a Bar-B-Que and Music Extravaganza at the Lloyd Center Carousel Courtyard. Many local gospel and other musical groups performed for the more than 500 criminal justice professionals and local guests. The "Portland night," a social event featuring local flavor and talent in-

cluded a "Casino Night" and a dance with entertainment from the Calvin Walker Group.

Many local and nationally known speakers and professionals conducted seminars and held discussions on a variety of relevant topics.

The chapter is seeking to expand its membership and activities in the coming year. For more information contact, Ralph L. Davis.

(Pictured Judge Levan Gordon, National President, Vera Poole Founder of the local chapter, Ralph Davis, Chapter President and Stanley Peterson, chapter member).

## L.I.F.E. Center Dedicates 25th Anniversary Mural July 16

Low Income Families Emergency (L.I.F.E.) Center members and guests dedicate a 450-square-foot, outdoor mural at 2746 NE Martin Luther King Blvd at 5:15 p.m. on July 16. The dedication kicks off the 7th annual children's clothing drive for the August 29 giveaway.

Guest speakers at the dedication include Mike Lindberg, City Commissioner in charge of the Metropolitan Arts Commission; and Don Ballinger, Senior Vice President, United Way of

the Columbia Willamette.

Portland artist Isaka Shamsud-Din spent more than 300 hours designing and painting the twelve plywood panels that are mounted on the building's two front walls. The mural includes the face of founding executive director Gertrude Crowe and it depicts the work-for-assistance program developed 25 years ago at the Center.

The clothing drive gives away three to four days of used, clean cloth-

ing and new school supplies to impoverished children in the Portland metro area.

The Low Income Families Emergency Center is a nonprofit, United Way agency that fills more than 25,000 requests for food, clothing and household items each year to impoverished people.

Parking is available behind L.I.F.E. Center's building. For more information, contact Charles Carter at 284-6878.

## Obo Addy musical troupe to perform at Urban League



Portland drummer Obo Addy and his group Okropong will present a free concert of traditional dances and songs from Africa at the Urban League of Portland's Whitney Young Educational & Cultural Center, 10 North Russell Street on Tuesday, July 21 at 7 p.m. The program is sponsored by the National Endowment of the Arts.

Obo Addy was born in Ghana, West Africa, where he learned the traditional

drumming of the Ga culture as well as Western Pop music. Since moving to Portland in 1979, Addy has been an active promoter of African culture, both as a teacher and band leader.

His Okropong group performs traditional music and dance accompanied by a wide variety of African percussion instruments. The colorful costumes, complex rhythms and spirited dances transport the audience to another world.

## Northeast Coalition Of Neighborhoods, Inc.

Ms. Marsha Palmer has been hired as the Crime Prevention Coordinator for the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods, Inc., effective June 22, 1992. Ms. Palmer replaces Ms. Sharon McCormack, who is now the Crime Prevention Coordinator with the Office

of Neighborhood Associations, City of Portland.

Ms. Palmer has previously worked in the Crime Prevention Office at Southeast Uplift and was the Crime Prevention Coordinator for the Southwest Neighborhood Office.

Summer is here, watch out for children!!

## PSU New Student Orientation

Incoming freshmen and transfer students are invited to the Portland State University Orientation to be held August 1 through 8.

Those attending will receive advising regarding their academic pursuits and course requirements. They'll learn about student support services, student organizations, and special programs such as the University Honors Program, the Returning Women's Mentor Program, ROTC and the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). Participants will be introduced to PSU's easy Touchtone Registration System. Tours of campus will be available and staff, administrators, faculty, student advisers and current students will be on hand to answer questions.

"Through this orientation, we hope to make the transition to Portland State as easy as possible," says Mary Jo Rutten

of the Academic Support Center.

Freshmen who have been admitted to PSU for fall term 1992 are invited to participate in activities specifically geared to them Saturday, August 1; Monday, August 3; or Wednesday August 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; or Thursday, August 6, from 5 to 9:30 p.m. Transfer students who have been admitted to PSU are invited to attend Tuesday, August 3, from 5 to 9:30 p.m.; or Friday, August 7; or Saturday, August 8 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Activities will be centralized on the third floor of Smith Memorial Center, 1825 SW Broadway.

There is a \$15 fee to attend these orientation activities. For information, contact Mary Jo Rutten, 725-4005. The PSU Orientation is sponsored by the Academic Support Center and the Office of Student Affairs.

## Mayor Clark Receives Portlandia Award

On Thursday, Mayor Clark received the prestigious Portlandia Award at the annual appreciation breakfast sponsored by the Portland/Oregon Visitors Association (POVA), Sho Dozonom, Outgoing Past President of POVA, and President of CEO of Azumano Travel made the presentation.

The Portlandia Award honors Mayor Clark's contributions as a "...Charismatic ambassador for Portland, his continuous support of the region's visitor industry, and his leadership in initiating the construction of the Oregon Convention Center." In his remarks to the audience, Mr. Dozonom listed some of the awards the City of Portland has received during Mayor Clark's tenure, including several for excellence in financial management and livability.

Mayor Clark was also named a lifetime member of POVA by Charles Ahlers, Executive Director of POVA, who read a proclamation listing a number of Mayor Clark's unique contributions to the City. The proclamation recognized that Mayor Clark has traveled thousands of miles, greeted hundreds of convention planners, kept his campaign promise to build the Oregon Convention Center, promoted Portland as a world-class convention and visitor destination, and through it all been accessible to all the citizens of Portland.

The Annual Appreciation Breakfast was held in the Convention Center Ballroom. It seemed fitting to honor Mayor Clark for his contributions to tourism and marketing the region in the facility he was so instrumental in building.

## Portland Housing Center Celebrates First Year Anniversary

Commissioner Gretchen Kafoury will join Portland residents who received home buying assistance at a press conference on Wednesday, July 15, at 1:00 p.m. at 2755 NE Broadway to celebrate the accomplishments of the Portland Housing Center's first year of operation and to announce upcoming plans for the future.

The Portland Housing Center, a program of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, opened in July, 1991 to provide information, education and counseling services relating to both home ownership and rental housing opportunities. The services are intended for lower income households of all cultures and backgrounds, with the geographic focus on North, Northeast and Southeast Portland.

With funding support from local lenders, foundations and government, the Portland Housing center has provided home ownership counseling, homebuying classes and information

and referral services to over 1000 residents during the past year.

"The Housing Center is a public-private partnership that's really working," Kafoury said. "We're seeing a definite increase in the number of low and moderate income homebuyers in Portland's inner city neighborhoods. The Center is playing a major role in encouraging home ownership and promoting neighborhood stability and pride."

The Housing Center is also sponsoring a HOME BUYING FAIR and CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL on Saturday, July 18th from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Redeemer Lutheran Church at NE 20th and Killingsworth. "The fair will be a great time for people thinking about buying a house to meet with lenders in an informal setting," said Peg Malloy, Program Director for the Portland Housing Center. For more information on this event and other Housing Center services, call 282-7744.

## Cathedral Park Jazz

July 18th & 19th Under the St. Johns Bridge in North Portland

Outdoor free concert features many musicians and styles of music.