

METRO Life

SECTION B

LIFE IN THE PORTLAND METROPOLITAN AREA

The Portland Observer

BETHANY KINDERGARTNERS PRESENTS RHYMES AND RHYTHMS

Hey diddle, the cat and the fiddle; Hickory dickory dock; The cow jumped over the moon; The spider sat down beside her and frightened Miss Muffet away; Jack fell down and broke his crown and Jill came tumbling after.

One-Two-Three-Four; Clap, Clap, Bang, Bang.

One-Two-Three-Four; Clank, Clank, Clang, Clang.

Stay in line; Let's use our inside voices; Kevin stand up straight; Lisa will you please stop pinching; Brandon this is not the time to be jumping; Boys and girls let's put on our best manners--Mom and Dad are here you know--So let's get on with the show!

If any of the above phrases sound familiar it is because at some point in our past history we were participating in the same scene or some scene very closely related, before we developed into what and where we are now. The scenes were the beginning of our molding to reach and attain our various goals and careers.

That flash back was sharply re-enacted as Mrs. Zetta Burton carefully guided 85 kindergartners (assisted by Mrs. Hesselgrave, Ms. Dudley and Carolyn Ritacco) in their first presentation to their Moms and Dads, family and friends and other interested on-lookers. For those 85 kindergartners it was as grand as the illustrious pomp and stances that any major high school, college or university would present, because they also have completed their term and are going on to their next

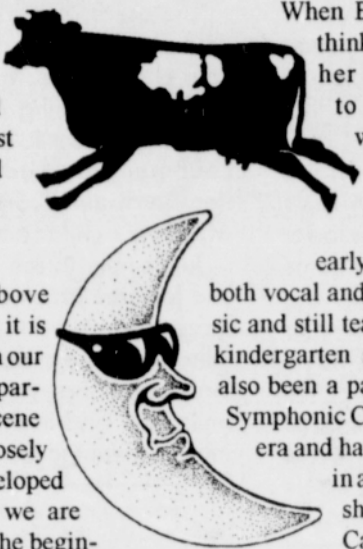
level. Helping to attain that level for 45 of those 85 was the responsibility of Mrs. Burton who has been teaching at the Bethany Elementary School in the Beaverton school district for the past seventeen years.

Burton graduated high school in California, Warner Pacific here in Portland. Did her graduate studies at PSU, USC Irvine, Pepperdine and Lewis & Clark, specializing in Early Childhood Development.

When Burton first began thinking about a career her focus was to become part of world of music.

She majored in music and minored in education early on. She has taught both vocal and instrumental music and still teaches music to her kindergarten students. She has also been a part of the Portland Symphonic Choir. She loves opera and has even participated in a few bit parts when she was teaching in California for eight years. To put in it her words she says "I took a detour back then when a job as a classroom teacher was offered to me and I took it. When you need employment, sometimes you make other choices." Over the years she has constantly upgraded her teacher skills, so that she could give her students the best, as well as adding to her own credits and accomplishments.

Burton, with a chuckle, spoke humorously as she shared, "Remember those battery tests and skills tests they gave us to see what



Mrs. Zetta Burton assists one of the Kindergarten students in preparation for their performance

career we should choose, or where we would fit best? Well, my test results said that I was good with my hands. Let me tell you, I decided right then that I was going to college because I knew I did not want to be a maid working with my hands just because

they figured that's what I could do well. My mother was a music teacher and my grandmother worked hard as a maid. She wanted more for me and I'll never forget her or put her down for what she did because she was a hard working woman, but I knew I

had to do better because of her. "I was mulling over being a social worker, but at that time (please don't date me) being a teacher was considered (especially in the minority culture) better than being a social worker. My how things have changed--thank goodness!

Burton who loves books and collects many, when asked about what prompted her interest in teaching (other than employment), she replied, "You know, I've really never thought about it." She thought for a moment and smiled and said, "I guess I really started teaching at age IX nine. I was at church one Sunday morning and there was no one to teach the little people, so they asked me to handle them. I will never forget that Sunday. I arranged those old collapsible wooden chairs for my little group. I even remember the lesson story. It was about Joseph's coat of many colors. I can still see myself saying, 'Now I want you to listen and repeat after me.'" Well students have been repeating after Burton for over thirty years.

Burton is also the longest term Kindergarten teacher at Bethany. When questioned about teaching in the suburban area as opposed to the inner city she responded, "Teaching in the outer area of Portland puts you at a disadvantage because you are unable to work with your own ethnic group. However, it does allow me to expose the suburbanites to my ethnicity."

Burton feels that in some areas there is not

enough support from the administrative side because of the structural process and communication becomes hampered. As in all schools, parents are critical before they really look into a situation. There should be more public relations between parent and teacher as opposed to parent/administrative. The flavor of school environment lends itself to students who have no respect for those who are in positions of guidance, which includes parents, teachers and administrators. Teachers are usually left alone to battle for themselves particularly when you are a minority. Burton feels that attitude of parents and students makes the marked difference for learning in any classroom.

Burton also shared, "I took some courses that pertained to the administrative end and decided that's not for me. I prefer to remain in the classroom and do hands on everyday teaching. If I decide to change, I would prefer to do something where I can be creative and direct others to follow through."

Burton says, "Anyone who is planning a career in teaching must really enjoy children, be willing to give 110% of your time and effort. You must be dedicated. You cannot be in it for the dollars. If this is your dream, then reach for the sky!"

Burton who is the head PE and Music teacher for all Kindergarten classes at Bethany and responsible for her own classes, lives in SW Portland with her husband Buford Burton, who is with a major transportation company here in Portland.

Portland Man Receives Guide Dog



Photo courtesy of Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc.: Jerry Pryne of Portland is shown at the campus of Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc., with "Jesse," a Yellow Labrador Retriever Guide Dog.

Mr. Jerry Pryne of Portland graduated last Saturday with a Yellow Labrador Retriever Guide Dog named "Jesse" at his side. The duo completed a month of intensive training at Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc., in San Rafael, Calif. Graduation for the class of 16 took place on Saturday, May 22, 1993, at the 11-acre campus, located 20 miles north of San Francisco.

Jerry, a professional piano tuner, is looking forward to introducing his new accomplice to his clients. Other members of the Pryne family are his wife Terri and their 4-year-old daughter Savanna. Jerry joins the 33 graduates of the Guide Dog program leading active lives in Portland.

Graduates of the Guide Dog pro-

gram are visited in their homes by instructors on a yearly basis to assess progress. Keith Laber is the Pacific Northwest Field Representative who acts as a liaison between area 4-H puppy raisers, graduates and applicants and the organization's central campus in San Rafael.

Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc., has produced over 7,000 trained guides for graduates across the United States and Canada since 1942. These services are provided free of charge. The organization is supported entirely by private donations.

For more information about Guide Dogs, phone or write: Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc., P.O. Box 151200, San Rafael, Calif., 94915, (415) 499-4000.

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More Wading Pool Monitors Needed

Application Deadline Extended to June 15

Children in your neighborhood are counting on you to help them have a safe, fun place to play this summer. Portland Parks and Recreation needs more volunteers to monitor the children at neighborhood wading pools. Hours are flexible--weekdays, evenings, weekends. Training will be provided. Volunteers are asked to commit to one 5-hour shift per week (which can be split by two people). The bottom line is that if volunteers do not step forward many wading pools will not open at all this summer. To help fill this need, we are extending our deadline for applications until June 15.

The following wading pools depend totally on volunteers.

North Portland	Lair Hill	Southeast Portland
Arbor Lodge	Northeast portland	Berekeley
McKenna	Fernhill	Clinton
Northgate	Glenhaven	Harrison
Pier	Normandale	Kenilworth
Southwest Portland	Oregon	Powell
	Wellington	

These wading pools need volunteers especially during early evening hours and weekends.

North Portland	St. Johns	Essex
Columbia	Unthank	Laurelhurst
Farragut	Southeast Portland	Lents
Kenton	Brooklyn	Mt Scott
Overlook	Col. Summers	Westmoreland
Peninsula	Creston	Woodstock

This fun program could be a boon to you and your neighbors when the sidewalks start sizzlin'! Call the Wading Pool Volunteer Program at Portland Parks and Recreation 823-5121. The new application deadline is June 15.

Spelling Bee

Operation E.A.S.Y., a tutoring and counseling program for youth in Northeast Portland, will conduct its 1st Semi Annual Spelling Bee between teams from Irvington and Vernon Early Childhood Education Centers. The winning team will receive \$50.00 for a group celebration. Each student in the program will be given words to study before hand. Then will have several opportunities to win points for their team; no one will be eliminated for misspelling. This will give all students an incentive to learn the words. The event will take place on June 3rd at 4pm at Vernon's Multipurpose Room (2044 NE Killingsworth). The Public is invited to come observe and cheer the students in this academic team challenge.

PORTLAND OBSERVER
"The Eyes and Ears of the Community"
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Rocco Washington
15 Years Old
Love Dad and Family

Board Asked To Approve East Asian Language Programs Visit OIT Metro Center

The Oregon State of Higher Education met on Friday, May 28 at Metro Center of the Oregon Institute of Technology. Committees of the Board met and toured the Metro Center.

The Board received a request from the University of Oregon to establish new graduate programs leading to the M.A. and Ph.D degrees in the languages, literatures, and cultures of East Asia, with emphasis on China and Japan.

Two important factors in development of the proposed graduate programs are the University's Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, created in 1988 and the Osamitsu Yamada Center for Language, Learning and Teaching, created through the generosity of Mr. Osamitsu Yamada, a Japanese businessman, whose \$300,000 grant made the Center possible.

In other business, the Board will be asked to approve a request by

Eastern Oregon State College to offer a teaching endorsement in early childhood education and to authorize the University of Oregon to purchase a building near the campus. The Board will also be asked to authorize staff to proceed with plans to implement a new financial information system.

The Board will receive several information items including a quarterly report on investments, quarterly audit report, status of the Western Undergraduate Exchange, and a grievance filed at the University of Oregon.

The Board will also receive reports on school reform projects underway at Oregon Institute of Technology and Oregon State University.

The Oregon State System of Higher Education (OSSHE) is composed of eight colleges and universities established to provide educational services to Oregonians.