

# ASB Keeps Building Northeast

Ms. Leah Van Horton couldn't borrow the money her business needed to solidify ownership of a building or make improvements the building needed to remain an attractive location to draw business tenants. Located at 2300 NE Martin Luther King Blvd., the building's location was apparently viewed as not providing some potential lenders the right risk-reward equation.

Told by three large banks she lacked experience and a credit history, or that these banks were not engaged in making commercial real estate loans, Ms. Van Horton, a chemistry graduate of the University of Oregon, now asks herself, "Why didn't I go to American State Bank right off the bat to explain why my business needed to borrow and how I intended to repay the fund I wanted to borrow."

Fred Atiemo, an American State Bank Loan officer, worked closely with Ms. Van Horton to develop her loan request into a package he could

sell to the Bank's management. Asked why American State Bank made a loan to Ms. Van Horton when other banks had turned her down, American State's Chairman, Venerable R. Booker, replied, "It's a complex problem. Some people say it's redlining or discrimination. But the fact is that the larger banks bread and butter comes from every where but inner cities. Thus those big banks don't have a commitment to, or a stake in, inner cities or the normal business borrower who lives here or earns his living here."

"On the other hand, Mr. Booker said, "the Community Reinvestment Act Works against the smaller inner-city Black and minority banks. To meet CRA requirements, big banks must make loans in minority customers, even using unbeatable below-market rates to attract the safest, highest-profile inner city borrowers. That's one way big banks, with misguided support from the federal government, continually squeeze

inner-city minority banks. Big banks, using CRA to capture an inner-city's best prospects, forces small banks like American State to take disproportionate risks. Big banks will seldom expend the immense effort sometimes necessary to work with an inner-city small business owners to develop a bankable proposition. American State Bank is a resident of the inner city. We are deeply committed to making solid loans to the businesses and residents we share the area with."

After listening to Ms. Van Horton's plans for her business, Custom Marble Counter Tops, American State Bank understood that Ms. Van Horton's commitment to grow and improve her business paralleled ASB's drive to continually build up NE Portland.

Both want to accelerate economically profitable commercial activities in the area. Both recognize that only a prudent constant effort will bring the right kind of jobs and businesses

to NE, businesses that have an economic interest in creating new and better opportunities for themselves, their customers and their community.

Custom Marble Counter Tops, a family business begun in the early 80's provides man-made and solid-surface products primarily to residential builders. Ms. Van Horton's firm uses a chemical process to produce man-made counter tops. Solid-surface counter tops, on the other hand, refer to products like Dupont Corian, Nevamar Fountainhead, Wilson Art Gibraltar, Formica Surell, and Avonite, which Ms. Van Horton's firm purchases in block and custom cuts for builders.

The firm has supplied customers as far away as Hawaii. Custom Marble Counter Tops has worked with Marriott Residence Inns in Seattle and in the state of Idaho.

Just as ASB views each loan it makes as another productive building block for the community and its residents, Ms. Van Horton looks at the

funds she has borrowed as the initial step to help her generate revenues larger than the loan. She stated, "I will invest those excess revenues back into Custom Marble Counter Tops facilities in NE. We will improve our business, our facilities and our properties. Our goal is to be a stand-out business in NE, serving customers near and far so that we can continue to generate capital in our home base and hopefully attract other businesses to the area." These are the same objectives ASB's Mr. Booker constantly advocates.

ASB's Mr. Booker will be the first to say that ASB is a tough lender "American State Bank, because of its size, lacks the risk-taking capability of larger banks; yet the larger banks refuse to take small business risks," Mr. Booker stated. He said, "So ironically this places the full burden of community development squarely on the smallest, and only, financial institution that, in fact, serves NE Portland. That's why, above

all, ASB must remain profitable. American State Bank aims to be an example of an extremely well run business while participating to its fullest capability in the economic growth of Portland's inner city community."

"ASB searches for the kind of loans it can make to the Leah Van Hortons of Portland," says Mr. Booker. He goes on, "Aggressive and driven, entrepreneurs with a dream or a new idea for improving a product or service, those are the kinds of businesses that will build NE Portland, businesses that will help us to capture competitive capital from outside the community."

Those are the loans American State Bank's officers are looking for. They must be creditworthy. They must make good business sense. That is, they must pass all the credit tests applied by a prudent banker. With all that said, no other bank will work as hard as American State Bank to make a bona fide loan proposal bankable."

## Needless Deaths In Our Community Continue

(The Community Must Get Involved And Stop The Bloodshed)

by Calvin O.L. Henry

The recent crimes that took place at the Albina Headstart Office here in Portland, rocked the sensibility of the black community throughout the state of Oregon. It is difficult for anyone to understand why anyone would go to a place where young children are and commit such a hideous and heinous crime. This crime involved the brutal murder of Christina Clegg and the wounding of Tenicea Amos, two women who worked for Headstart, by two black men.

These two men are still at large. And the Portland Police Department is investigating this murder and following up on leads. It is believed by many blacks that these individuals are still within Portland.

The Portland Observer, in its August 4, 1993 issue, headlined this tragedy as "Community Outraged With Senseless Slaying." The Skanner reported that "The Brutal Murder Of Christina Clegg

Has Sparked Outrage Across The City Spurring A Response To The Widespread Violence In The Community."

Several Portland area black business owners and residents initiated a special reward fund which they hope will lead to the identity, arrest and conviction of the two suspects responsible for the senseless shooting of Albina Headstart employees last week.

Blacks around Oregon feel that a dragnet should be instituted throughout the black community until these killers are caught. These individuals should have no cover in the black community.

Because of injustices that are often perpetrated upon members of the black community by the white power structure, blacks have very little faith in governmental institutions and alienation toward these institutions sets in and grows. Toleration of unsafe conditions becomes the norm

and unconscious fear becomes the way of life within the community. Excuses are made for acts of wrongdoing. Injustices makes the community unwilling to assist in solving crime.

When the two black men went into the Albina Head Start Program's office and committed this crime in broad daylight, it pointed out how deep a problem alienation is in the black community. And they used handguns to commit this crime. Alienation has caused Blacks to lose control of their community.

The black community can no longer ask others to solve alone the crime in their community while they blame them for causing the problems. The soul of this community is at stake because of this hideous and heinous killing. No one should be sheltering these individuals. Now is the time for this black community to stand up.

The Portland black community must be an active part of solving this

crime. Door-to-door blitzes should be done to ferret out any possibility that someone is harboring these killers within the black community. In addition to any reward, members of the black community must take back their community and report all forms of violence.

Law enforcement agencies can not solve this crime by themselves. The expectation from law enforcement units should not be minimized because this crime occurred within the black community. This crime should not be viewed as only a Black on Black crime. It is reprehensible to think of it in that way. The total community suffers.

A number of meetings have been called to deal with the emotional aspect of this crime and to lay ground work for other group actions. All citizens want to do something. But, the black community must not allow these killers to find shelter with its community.

## U Of P Sponsors Non-Violence Leader

Nationally known theologian Rev. Emmanuel Charles McCarthy will be the featured speaker for a three-day conference titled "The Spirituality of Christian Non-violence" Sept. 17-19 at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Southwest Portland. More than 50 lay leaders and clergy from several states will participate.

McCarthy helped create PAX CHRISTI, U.S.A., an international Catholic peace organization in the early 1970s. He later helped co-found the Center for Christian Non-Violence at the University of Notre Dame. This spring McCarthy participated in the commemoration in Memphis, Tenn., in honor of the 25th anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

During his career McCarthy has worked with such world figures as Nobel peace laureate Mairead Corrigan McGuire, a founder of the Northern Ireland Peace Movement.

McGuire has praised McCarthy's retreats as a "remarkable contribution to furthering the understanding of Christian nonviolence -- so urgent a need today."

The University of Portland Campus Ministry and Peace Studies Program is co-sponsoring the retreat with the Franciscan Renewal Center and Catholic Peace Ministry in Oregon. The cost of the three-day retreat is \$80 for overnight guests and \$40 for commuters. Financial aid is available.

The University of Portland is Oregon's Catholic University and has been closely affiliated for 90 years with the Congregation of Holy Cross, Notre Dame, Ind. The University is one of the largest, private higher education institutions in the Pacific Northwest. It is the only school in Oregon to offer a College of Arts & Sciences, a Graduate School, and accredited schools of Business, Education, Engineering and Nursing.

Continued From Front

### No More Free Insurance

Starting Sunday, August 8, 1993, motorist cited for driving without proof of insurance will be towed at the motorists' expense. Motorist are reminded to carry with them in their vehicle at all times the following;

- 1) Current Drivers License;
  - 2) Registration to the vehicle; and
  - 3) Proof of Liability Insurance.
- Motorist who have questions about what is considered sufficient proof of liability insurance are urged to contact their insurance agent.

*Birth Announcement*  
Baby Boy  
*Jaylen Taylor Wright*  
Born July 27, 1993  
To: Jon Mitchell  
and Sharri Wright  
7 lbs. 11 oz. 21"  
*No brothers or sisters*

"O taste and see..."

Psalm 34:8

A Gospel Concert and Barbecue  
on the North Portland Bible College grounds  
at North Vancouver Ave., and Alberta St.

Saturday, August 21, 12 noon to 5 p.m.

Suggested donation: \$5.00 for the  
NPBC Building Fund

North Portland Bible College has an eleven-year track record of providing accessible, affordable, life-changing Bible education. It is an inter-church, community-based Bible college, which has purchased an entire city block, including two houses to be renovated for classrooms, library, and office space. We hope you will come and enjoy good food and great music, while you support this strategic effort to equip leaders for the Lord in N/NE Portland.

For further information:

Dean Michael Lindsey, 288-2919  
North Portland Bible College, P.O. Box 11437, Portland, OR, 97211

## "HOW TO GET WHAT EVERYONE ELSE HAS"

a Financial Services Workshop

Why does it seem so easy for other people and not for you? Come let minority financial services professionals help you understand how to use Banking, Insurance and other financial services to *Get What Everyone Else Has*.

Saturday, August 14, 1993  
Portland Community College  
Cascade Campus, Cascade Hall  
705 N. Killingsworth

Topics for the FREE Workshop include:

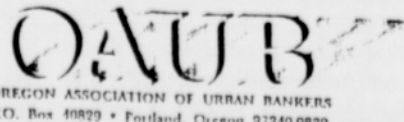
- \$ THE BENEFITS OF USING A BANK
- \$ GOOD CREDIT— HOW TO GET IT AND HOW TO KEEP IT
- \$ HOW TO SAVE FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW
- \$ HOW TO PLAN FOR OLD AGE AND THE HEREAFTER
- \$ UNDERSTANDING THE HOME BUYING PROCESS
- \$ WORKING THROUGH THE SMALL BUSINESS LOAN PROCESS

Workshop Schedule:

- 8:00am— Registration and Refreshments
- 8:45am— Keynote Speaker, "Building Your Assets"
- 9:45am-12:00pm— Workshop Sessions
- 12:00pm-3:00pm— Financial Counseling and Information

\* Free Refreshments \* Free Lunch \* Free Childcare for ages 3 to 10 \* Door Prizes \*

Presented By:



For More Information, contact:  
M. Bryant—697-2533

O.A.U.B. is an association of minority professionals in the financial services industry. The Portland chapter is an affiliate of the National Association of Urban Bankers, which represents over 2,000 minority bankers in over 40 chapters throughout the United States. Local companies represented include: American State Bank, Bank of America, First Interstate Bank, Key Bank of Oregon, Portland Development Commission, State Farm Insurance and U.S. Bank.



# MR. BOBBY BLUE BLAND

THURSDAY, SEPT. 9, 1993

Doors Open at 6:30  
Show: 8:00 - Midnight

MASONIC TEMPLE  
1120 S.W. 10th