

# OBSERVER

## Living in Greater Vancouver

The Portland Observer

### Minister Farrakhan's New Book: "A Torchlight For America" Fall Is Most Important Time To Fertilize Your Lawn

Minister Farrakhan challenges leadership to accept his help, offering several ideas for remedying America's social, educational, economic and racial problems in A Torchlight For America, his first-ever book.

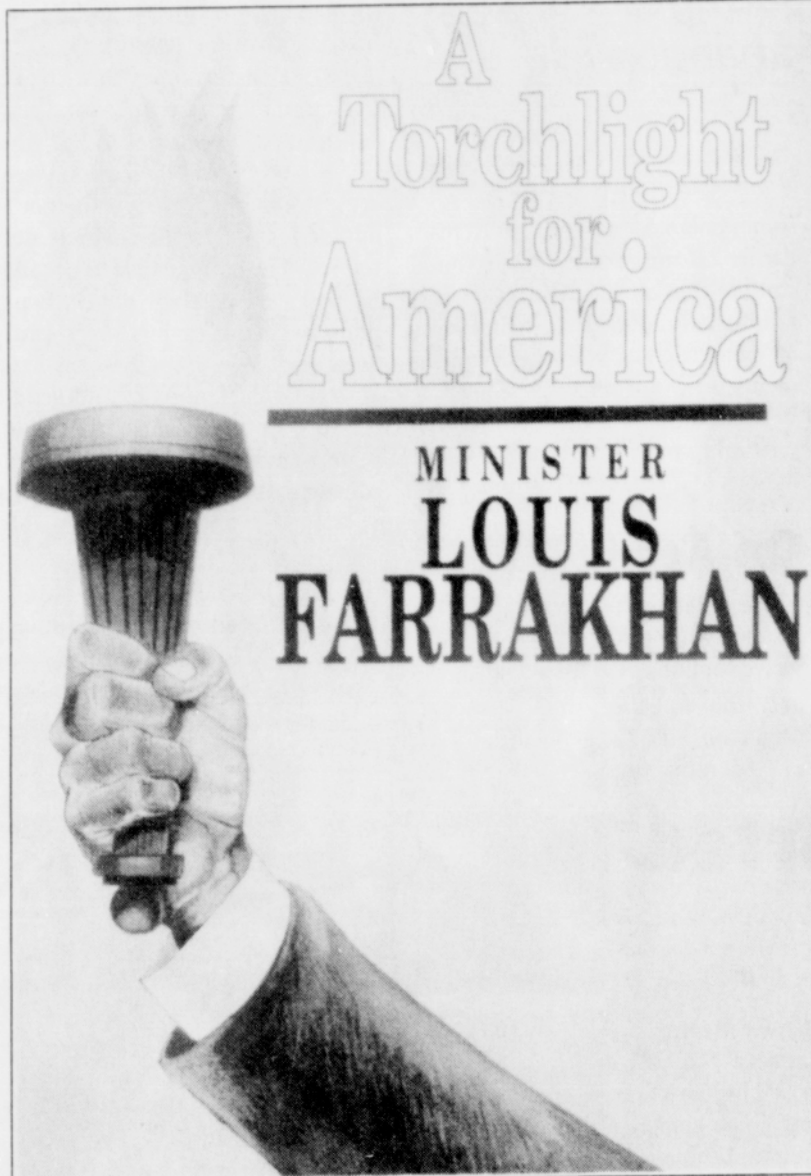
The Minister cites a "spiritual disease" as the underlying source of America's woes. As such, he calls for an unprecedented convening of spiritual leadership from all faiths and races to meet with President Clinton and government leaders toward the aim of developing programs for building the values and moral backbone of America, and for improving race relations.

Expanding on themes from the '92 presidential election, Minister Farrakhan writes, "Mr. Clinton's biggest charge will be to rebuild America's economy. He's young, he's highly intelligent and he's adventurous...and he's in trouble."

"The American people want the elected officials to work together and solve this country's problems. Partisan politics must die if America is to live," writes Farrakhan.

While speaking to the whole of America, the book encourages self help measures among black people.

"Black leadership must champion the strategy of turning within to do for self. Meaning, we must teach our people to use our talent, time and money, and pool our re-



sources educationally and financially, to address our troubles. Whatever America decides to do,

our actions cannot be dependent on the actions of a benevolent, white, former slave-master," writes

Farrakhan.

Personal responsibility is a prevailing theme throughout the book. To quicken a "self-help" mentality among the masses, the Minister calls for the leadership in the art and entertainment to spearhead a cultural revolution.

Leaving no stone unturned, he proposes a set of diet and exercise recommendations and proposes subsidized use of TV programming for educating people about the harmful effects of their lifestyle, medical treatments and foods that we eat.

"While I support a reasonable universal health-care coverage plan, making America healthy must become the personal responsibility of each citizen, and not the responsibility of government, except in those cases where preventive care is not adequate," writes Farrakhan.

"Farrakhan's formulas emphasize the Nation of Islam's experience in educating black children, rehabilitating black prisoners, ridding black communities of drug dealers, and rebuilding respect for self--the essential prerequisite for individuals determined to maintain the struggle against the racism that burdens our lives and, unless curbed, will destroy this country," said Derrick Bell, Ph.D., author of Faces at the Bottom of the Well: The Permanence of Racism.

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It may sound crazy, but lawns do grow underground during the dormant period, and that's why it's so important to feed a lawn in autumn. As a general rule, feed a lawn about a month before it goes dormant. That's a tip from the Professional Lawn Care Association of America (PLCAA) on how to maintain a healthy, luxuriant lawn.

"It's true-grass growth slows down in autumn so that more energy is put into storing food in the root zone," said Bob Tracinski, certified master gardener and consumer information manager for John Deere, a member of PLCAA. "The roots will continue to grow even during very cold weather. The root system will thicken to provide a dense, healthier lawn in spring.

Although fertilizer is called

"food" in conversation, it really isn't the kind of food that lawns can use. Fertilizer provides nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and certain key elements like iron. The root takes these nutrients, plus air and water, from the soil and sends them up to the green grass blades. Sunlight helps turn them into sugars. The sugars are then stored in the root system to power root development during the dormant period, and to give the lawn a quick greenup in spring.

Nitrogen is needed for leaf growth and a healthy green color. Phosphorus promotes healthy root development. Potassium, or potash, helps turfgrasses resist disease.

PLCAA is a national trade association representing about 1,000 lawn care companies in the United States and Canada.

#### Urban Growth Plans On Display At Mall

A large mural display of alternative growth management plans for the Vancouver Urban Area is showing until Sept. 19 at Vancouver Mall.

The wall outside the Meier & Frank store on the second deck is filled with information about growth options developed by a partnership of city and county planners, and incorporating initial public comment.

The display features maps of proposed urban and rural area bound-

aries, background information in an set video program which explains the public process for growth management planning and public comment cards.

The public is encouraged to visit the display and comment on the plans. The display was produced jointly by the City of Vancouver and Clark County. Vancouver Mall donated the wall space.

### West One Bank Opens New Loan Center In Vancouver

West One Bank is expanding its customer accessibility by opening a new Loan Office in Vancouver.

Susan Johnston, a Vice President with West One, has been named Manager of this new office. Johnston is responsible for developing both commercial and consumer loans. She has been with West One since 1986 and has been in the financial services industry for 27 years. She is a graduate of the Northwest Intermediate

Banking School and the Pacific Coast Bank School.

The new Vancouver Loan office specializes in commercial and consumer lending. It has been opened to serve the needs of West One's customers in Vancouver and Clark County.

"We have an established customer base in this community," Johnston said. "This is our opportunity to serve those customers even

better and develop new customers as this economy continues to grow."

West One Bank, founded in 1867, is a subsidiary of West One Bancorp, a multi-state regional bank holding company headquartered in Boise, Idaho. With assets of \$7.4 billion and more than 200 offices, West One offers a full range of financial and investment services to customers in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Utah.

### Public Forum On City's Water Set For Well Field #1, Waterworks Park

A community forum on the condition of the City of Vancouver's water supply from Well Field #1 is set for Wednesday, Sept. 22, 7pm, at Clark College, Foster Auditorium, 1800 E. McLoughlin.

Well Field #1 is the largest production well field in the city water system; providing half the city's water supply. Testing required by federal drinking water regulations has found contamination

by several chlorinated solvents. Concentrations vary in the various wells, and the city supplies acceptable water by pumping from selected wells. City water has always met EPA drinking water standards.

The EPA has placed Well Field #1 on the Superfund list, and is conducting monitoring activities. The city has addressed this urgent problem by building and operating several treatment towers to remove

the contamination. The city is also investigating the source and extent of the contamination as well as a less expensive remedial action.

The forum is sponsored by the City of Vancouver and Clark County Hazardous Waste Citizens' Task Force.

John Ostrowski, City of Vancouver director of public works, and water division staff will lead the discussion. All interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

### Vancouver City Council To Use A Trial Plan On Schedule

The complexity and increased volume of workshop issues facing the Vancouver City Council have caused the seven member body to change its long-standing schedule for conducting the public's business.

Beginning Monday, Aug. 23, the council initiated a three-month trial plan to meet every Monday in workshop sessions from 4 to 6 pm, and to conduct the council session at 7 pm, followed by more workshop sessions up till 9 pm. The trial schedule includes a dinner break from 6 to 7 pm.

Previously, council conducted workshops and then met in regular session at 7pm on the first and third Mondays of each month; they met at 6pm for an abbreviated consent agenda

meeting on the second and fourth Monday. (The consent agenda meetings are conducted to deal with routine items such as bill payments and award of contracts. There are usually no meetings if there is a fifth Monday in the month.)

A wide variety of issues--including growth management, transportation, economic development and other municipal concerns--influenced the decision to extend council hours.

During workshops, items needing in-depth explanation and discussion are introduced and reviewed. Council also hears from city boards and commissions and outside agencies. No formal action is undertaken during a workshop. They are open to

the public, but no comment is taken.

Meeting agendas and staff reports are available for review the Friday before each council meeting at Vancouver City Hall. Materials are also available at the council meeting.

Council meetings are conducted in Council Chambers on the first floor of Vancouver City Hall, 210 E. 13th St. Meetings are televised live on CVTV cable channel 47. Vancouver's mayor is Bruce E. Hagensen. Councilmembers include Rose F. Besserman, Royce E. Pollard, Linda Horowitz, Pat Jollota, Michael R. Wilson and Dan Tonkovich. The city manager is John R. Fischbach.

## Let's Discuss Why West One Checking Is The Best Around. Over A Cup Of The Best Coffee.

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