

METRO *Life*

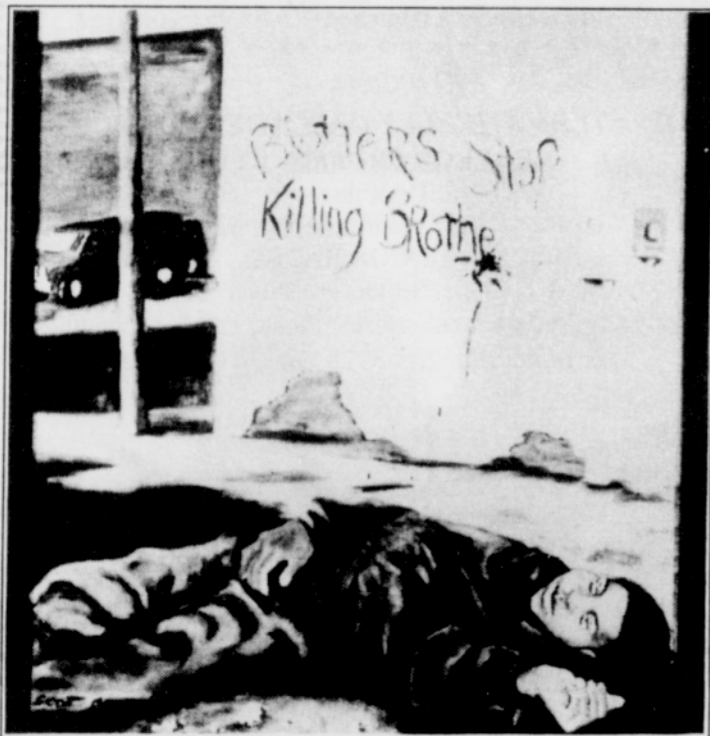
LIFE IN THE PORTLAND METROPOLITAN AREA

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Brothers Please Stop Killing Brothers

IN MY OPINION, THE AFRICAN AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY OF NORTHEAST PORTLAND HAS SHOWN A CAPACITY FOR CARING AND ACTING TOGETHER, THAT FEW EITHER INSIDE OR OUTSIDE OF OUR COMMUNITY HAVE GIVEN US CREDIT FOR.



Very quietly a project has developed over recent weeks which I would like to share, not because of my involvement in the story but because if I don't tell it, no one will. The telling is important to the success of the project.

A while back there was a line of graffiti on the wall of a building at the corner of Alberta and M.L. King Jr. Blvd. ("Brother's Please Stop Killing Brothers"). This inspired a painting which, while grim in subject was powerful in its message. I wondered how I might get young people who are at risk for gangs and drugs an opportunity to see the image and think about their lives.

Finally I came up with the idea of having ten Black owned businesses in the community buy shares in this piece and then donate the work on behalf of the

community to the Portland School District for circulation to schools affected by gang violence, as well as those who are not. (We know this problem spreads like cancer).

Accompanying the artwork is a framed certificate explaining the purpose of the exhibit and listing the contributors. The purpose of the certificate is not one of pride on the part of those who give but a part of the message. That message being that people in your own community, people who may actually know you, care about you, your life and your future. These donations I might add are not tax deductible, so we know they come from the heart.

Thanks to the following businesses who purchased the artwork: American State Bank; CH2A & Associates; Cleo Lillian Social Club; E & M Sentry Market; Jenkins Auto Repair; Mitchell's Woodlawn Cleaners; Moore's Auto Detail; My Brother's Bar-B-Que; R.D. Sevier & Son; The Portland Observer

Special thanks to: Laverne Hampton of First Interstate Bank; Shades Of Color Art Gallery; Alcena Boozer, Jefferson High School Principal for being the first to express a willingness to show the work; Lou Frederick of the Public Information Department, who accepted the painting on behalf of Portland Schools indicated to me that the work will be available to any teachers or principals who request it.

We as parents should encourage those entrusted with our children's education to examine any avenue by which we can halt the frightening spiral of violence that plagues our young.

Minority Contractors Breaks Grounds At \$262 Million Oregon Arena Project

BY PROMISE KING

MINORITY CONTRACTORS HANDLING SOME CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS FOR OREGON ARENA PROJECT ARE BREAKING NEW GROUNDS AND PROVING NUTS FOR NUTS THAT GIVEN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY THEY COULD EXCEL IN THIS BUSINESS.

The Oregon Arena Corporation (OAC) senior project manager, Bob Collier told a press Conference recently that "It's interesting they (minority contractors) are doing a good job. We are glad of their performance."

OAC senior vice-president Marshall Glickman was also pleased with the job executed so far "A lot of people have had to work extra hard to make these goals a reality while still paying attention to budget and timeline, and that includes subcontractors" Glickman observed.

Reasons given for not contracting heavy construction jobs to minority businesses has been that they lack the resources to meet the expected time frame. But so far, minority contractors have been able to grab about 36 percent out of the 66 percent of the subcontracting bids secured so far. This work amounts to \$28 million.

It is expected that this is a job-well-done. Kudos will serve as beef up resume for the disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) for future participation in big construction bids.

The Drake/Turner Joint Venture and the OAC had established contracting polices to pave way for MBE, WBE and ESB for participation in subcontracting and purchasing activities in the on-going OAC projects.

This partnership has yielded a commendable participation by MBE, WBE and ESB according to Mr. Collier.



Ron Herndon and Lou Boston

Our minimum target is 25% to disadvantaged business enterprises which breaks down to 10% minority business enterprise (MBE), 5% women-owned business enterprise (WBE) and 10% emerging small business (EMB). "We are attempting to change a lot of attitudes about the way construction projects in this area should be handled."

The senior project manager, added that "Commitment to aggressive affirmative action strategies has been a priority since the inception of this project."

Figures of participation by minority contractors churned out by OAC and Drake/Turner though shows disparity against disadvantaged business enterprise was fine with

Ron Herndon, chairperson of the N/NE Economic Development Alliance, Inc. because, "Oregon Arena Corporations results in terms of DBE participation and employment for N/NE Portland residents surpasses any prior projects in terms of it's consistency."

Herndon said N/NE Development Alliance Inc will continue to work with OAC and Drake/Turner until the best is achieved. "Project management has been very willing to accept suggestions and implement changes", Herndon admitted.

The OAC and Drake/Turner had hired Lou Boston of Boston Training and Marketing Group an EEO consultant to identify area's of minority participation in the project.

Community Relations Specialist Selection

DIANE LINN, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS, ANNOUNCED THAT MS. ANN KOHLER HAS BEEN SELECTED AS COMMUNITY RELATIONS SPECIALIST.

Ms. Kohler brings a wealth of background and skills to ONA. She has worked as a management consultant specializing in organizational development and training for the past 6 years. Her 15 years experience in working with and for various human service groups includes ten years with the YWCA. She provided interim staff leadership for Southeast Uplift during a transition period for that agency, and several other coalition offices have benefitted from her training and facilitating services. Additionally, Ann has worked directly with several City of Portland Bureaus to accomplish specific tasks, including exploration of the future relationship between the City of Portland and 32 Business District Associations.

In her new position, Ms. Kohler will serve as project manager for three major priority areas within ONA: information and referral services, outreach coordination and training. She comes well equipped to set up and successfully manage the systems necessary to provide these services.

"We have discussed the importance of these priority areas since I arrived in October - now it's time to start implementation so ONA can serve the public, neighborhoods and city bureaus better. Ann is the person who I believe can start showing real progress in these areas in the coming months. She understands the neighborhoods, citizen participation and the city. We look forward to her joining the ONA team." Diane Linn, ONA Director, Said.

Ann Kohler will join the City of Portland between April 18 April 25, 1994



Margo Bryant

as product marketing manager for Bank of America Oregon's Residential Real Estate division for the past two years. Prior to that, she was a product manager for Security Pacific Bank in Portland.

A marketing graduate of Memphis State University, Wilson is a board member of Habitat for Humanity and the Oregon Association of Urban Bankers. She also serves on the marketing outreach committee for the Portland Housing Center.

Bank of America Oregon is the state's third largest bank, with 89 branches and assets of \$3 billion. It is a subsidiary of BankAmerica Corporation, the nation's second largest banking company.

Bank Appoints Neighborhood Development Officer, Establishes \$60,000 Downpayment Fund

BANK OF AMERICA OREGON ANNOUNCED TWO ACTIONS TO HELP INCREASE HOME OWNERSHIP IN NORTH AND NORTHEAST PORTLAND.

The bank appointed 16-year banking veteran Margo Bryant to the newly created position of Neighborhood Development Officer and established a \$60,000 downpayment assistance fund for lower-income home buyers in North and Northeast Portland.

"We're reaching out to people who are interested in living in North and Northeast Portland to help them realize the dream of home ownership," said Bryant, who will be based at Bank of America's Lloyd Center branch.

As part of its commitment, Bank of America has earmarked \$60,000 to help lower-income home buyers with down payments and closing costs. Eligible home buyers can receive grants of up to \$3,000 to purchase homes in targeted neighborhoods of North and Northeast Portland.

The downpayment assistance fund was created by Bank of America using proceeds from a Federal Home Loan Bank grant. The program is only available through Bank of America. For more information, contact the Portland Housing Center at 282-7744.

In addition to helping allocate the downpayment grants, Bryant will work with community-based organizations such as the Portland Housing Center and Northeast Community Development Corporation to assist potential home buyers secure financing.

Bryant, an assistant vice president, served

The Louisiana Social Club Held Their Annual Pre Easter Party



Easter Bunny-T.C., Hosts- Janet DuBoise, Arlene Jones, Clyde DuBoise and Emma Gaston, President Louise L. Waters.

The Louisiana Social Club held their annual pre Easter Party at The Texas Annex, 200 or more children attended the party, furnished by the local members.

Black United Front, Hope & Hard Work Campaign Partner With Tri-Met

THE BLACK UNITED FRONT/HOPE & HARD WORK CAMPAIGN (BUF/HHWC) WAS RECOGNIZED AT THE PORTLAND POLICE CHIEF FORUM FOR HELPING TRI-MET MAKE BUS RIDING SAFER AND MORE PLEASANT.

Tri-Met representatives formally thanked North Portland resident, photographer and activist Richard Brown for the BUF/HHWC partnership and ideas in developing, writing and designing a new poster to encourage appropriate behavior on Tri-Met buses.

Tri-Met has launched an organized effort to work at a grassroots level with the community to make the general atmosphere on the bus as safe and comfortable as possible for customers. The new bus posters proposed by the BUF/HHWC is one of the first programs to emerge from this outreach effort. Members of the group had suggested that posters explaining bus riding rules would

remind passengers of appropriate activity and behavior and could eliminate or reduce reckless behavior.

In response, Tri-Met produced "channel cards" which will be installed in all buses this spring. With a bright pink burst reading "We're all on this bus together," the cards are intended to communicated specific rules and good citizenship like keep the bus looking good, no yelling, swearing or fighting, and keep feet off of the seats. Richard Brown said at the Chief's Forum today that kids need to be given clear messages on expectations of acceptable behavior. The channel cards are intended to clarify the difference between acceptable versus anti-social behavior. "When I was a youngster, just one look from an adult was enough to let me know I was doing something wrong, and I needed to back

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