

# Business and INDUSTRY

## Business Consultant Named To Board



Donnie Griffin of Northeast Portland is a new member of the State Board of Education. Gov. John Kitzhaber appointed Griffin to the seven-member board

which provides statewide leadership for public schools and community colleges.

Griffin is principal consultant for THE GRIFFIN GROUP, an organizational development firm which specializes in executive coaching and team building. Before starting the consulting firm, he was a general manager and a community affairs managing director for US West Communications.

He holds a bachelor's degree in communications from Washington State University (WSU) and a master's degree in management from Antioch University.

Griffin is a senior fellow with the American Leadership Forum of Oregon. He serves on the Board of Advisors for WSU's Vancouver Campus and is on the

President's Advisory Council at Marylhurst College. He was formerly on the Board of Directors for the Urban League of Portland and was the Advisory Board Chair for the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs.

"For the last 25 years," Griffin said, "I have directed my energies, both personal and professional, to affect change in the areas of social justice, economic viability and the promotion of healthy environments for children. I believe that every child should have the opportunity to grow and reach his or her highest potential. These were the gifts given to me by a previous generation. I feel passionately obligated to pass the torch of hope and generosity to a stronger generation than my own."

## Wal-Mart Announces Grand Opening Of New Store In Portland

Wal-Mart's newest store at Holgate Boulevard & 82nd in Portland officially opened for business on Wednesday, October 29.

Local dignitaries were on hand to assist Wal-Mart managers and associates in the ribbon-cutting ceremony that began at 8:00 a.m.

All Portland area residents were invited to join in the grand opening celebration by stopping in to shop and compare Wal-Mart's quality name brand merchandise at everyday low prices. "Our Wal-Mart associates are excited about the opening of this store and are eager to begin serv-

ing Portland area residents," said Harry Jung, Wal-Mart store manager in Portland.

"We are looking forward to becoming active members of the Portland business community."

As a part of their commitment to the community, the Portland associates will feature a \$1,000 donation to the local United Way during the grand-opening.

As well as a presentation to the Kelly House Homeless Shelter, a local non-profit organization that associates chose to raise money for, prior to the opening of the Portland Wal-Mart store.

The new Wal-Mart in Portland, which has been designed as a

one-stop family shopping center, will be open to customers from 7:00 a.m. until 11 p.m., Monday through Sunday.

The Portland Wal-Mart will feature 36 general merchandise departments, including a complete apparel department with accessories, an extensive jewelry department, a lawn and garden center, a large health and beauty department, a full line of electronics, and a pharmacy.

In addition, the Portland Wal-Mart store will also have a vision center, Tire & Lube Express, Radio Grill restaurant, and a portrait studio for customers' shopping convenience.

## Space: The Hidden Dimension

By Prof. McKinley Burt

So you thought any argument or discourse about "space" must surely be about "nothingness", or as my little six year-old neighbor used to say, "Space is a place where something ain't!" Got a quarrel with that?

Or perhaps you made a connection to something more corporeal, thanks to a media almost hysterical in its exhortations about "urban boundaries", about encroachments on precious living space, and limits on growth. Or maybe you got bogged down in Webster's Dictionary; between "interval of space or time... a limited extent in three dimension" or "the region beyond earth's atmosphere." Or "a place housing objects."

Many other interpretations have been made regarding this basic concept of nothingness; so many, in fact, I have labeled the whole set, "The Cacophony of Nowhere." But to inner-city residents who live in the middle of it all, the reality of 'space penetration' had long been evident before the arrival last week of John A. Powell, "a nationally recognized race and urban poverty

analyst."

Mr. Powell addressed a forum last week co-sponsored by the Urban League and the Coalition for a Livable Future. His main point was that Portland blacks are fast losing their urban space and the principal objects occupying it, their homes.

"Until 1980, Portland led the nation in African American homeownership - but from 1980 to 1996, the number of black homeowners dropped below the national average." There was relevant commentary on the fact that just as in other major urban cities, elderly blacks are selling their "empty nests" to whites with cash.

I have no reports that this "nationally recognized" authority on blacks and poverty had anything to say about the acres of poor folks' homes to be wiped out by further extensions of the federally subsidized 'Light Rail System'. Nor that he had time to reflect on the loss of African American real estate effected by the 'Urban Renewal-Model Cities' programs. What else might be waiting in the wings?

Many readers remember my earlier series on the bitter economic experiences of African Americans caused by those two, massive, government programs.

Under the title "Light Rail" I thoroughly explored both the obvious and the hidden agendas of what began, innocuously enough as "The Federal Highway Act" (Courtesy of Eisenhower).

Subsequently, many readers from all areas of Portland called about the dynamite little book from which I quoted extensively; "The Geography of Nowhere: the Rise and Decline of America's Man-made Landscape," James Howard Kunstler, Touchstone, 1994.

We would hope that Mr. Powell, "expert on race and poverty" framed his advice for African Americans within the same perspective as the author above. Mr Kunstler documented it all, the unholy combination of auto/bus manufacturers, oil companies, steel scrap exporters, highway construction firms and the urban planners based at key universities were turned loose upon our cities. They are still there Mr. Powell.

What were blacks advised to do? Emulate the Roman Emperor Hadrian who in A.D. 122 built a stone wall clear across England to protect his space from intruders? Continued next week.

## Fred Meyer Presents Zoo Valentine Poetry Contest

December 4, 1997, is the deadline for entries in the Fred Meyer Valentine Poetry Contest at Metro Washington Park Zoo. This is the 22nd year for the contest, which attracts 3-4,000 entries each year.

The contest is open to students from pre-school through grade twelve. Categories include Special Education and English as a second language. To enter the contest, students must write an original poem about a wild animal that lives in a zoo. The poet's name, address, phone, school, teacher and grade must be written on each poem. Entries must

be received by the zoo no later than the Dec. 4 deadline (postmarks are not acceptable.)

Winners will be honored at an awards program on Feb. 13, 1998. Winning poems will be published in the 1998 Anthology of Winning Poems. First, second and third place winners will receive bronze medals; all winners will receive a certificate and a copy of the book.

Judges for the contest represent local colleges and universities, Oregon State Poetry Association, Washington Poets Association, Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission,

Southwest Washington Writers, Willamette Literary Build, Mr. Hood Poets, Haiku Society of Northern California, American Pen Women, Columbia River Poets, Linn-Benton Community College, TLC Editorial Service, Twelve Poets, Calyx Books, Benton County Fair, Tablecloth Collection, Focus for Mature Learning, Marylhurst College and Evergreen High School.

Valentine Poetry Contest flyers may be obtained at the zoo, Portland and Vancouver metropolitan area schools and libraries, and schools in Columbia and Clatsop counties.

## AT&T Warns Consumers of Telephone Fraud

Switching your long-distance company without your consent

Often you don't realize that when you sign up for that promotion or contest, you are also authorizing a switch to another long-distance company.

### Defense

If an offer appears too good to be true it probably is. Tell the representative you don't want your service switched until you can review the company's written offer. Be sure to make a note of the name and telephone number of the representative in case you need to reach the company in the future. Carefully read any document before you sign it, including what appears in small print. Also, check your telephone bill periodically to make sure you still have the long-distance company you selected, or call (toll free) 1-799-555-4141 to verify your long-distance company.

Accepting long-distance charges for third-party calls

### Defense

Never accept third-party charges from anyone you don't know.

It is also important to know that a telephone company or law enforcement agency representative will not ask to charge calls to your home, and AT&T and other long-distance companies never ask their customers to help trap telephone con artists.

Consumer education is one of the most effective ways to combat telephone fraud. It is important to train all members of the family-especially the elderly and children-on how to avoid being defrauded.

## 'Skinny' on Martin Luther King Jr Blvd.

Continued from Front

city traffic officials are "not exuberant but comfortable" with 10-foot travel lanes.

State traffic engineer Dan Layden commented, "Ten-foot lanes are tight." The concern lies not so much with through travel as with cars trying to maneuver from such lanes into and out of seven-foot parking lanes. There is concern this could lead to "sideswipe" accidents, he said.

Baugh added that delivery trucks

could not park in seven-foot wide spaces.

For Bill Leigh, president of the North-Northeast Business Association, it is too much of a compromise.

In a letter to the advisory committee Leigh asked, "Why create the parking, then restrict its use...so only the brave or foolish will use it?" The proposal could also slow traffic on the street and cause congestion, he said. "Why are we endangering parking and traffic to make jay walking safer?"

Committee member Rex Burkholder

noted that the compromise might allow parking for parts of the boulevard that would not otherwise receive any.

Groner, who proposed the skinny median idea, shared some of Leigh's concerns. "Even though it's technically possible, is the street ready for this?" she said. "There are a number of fools on the road who have no regard for speed limits, pedestrians or other drivers. To succeed, this will require an attitude adjustment."

## Clinic offers dental care

Continued from Front Metro

Research to conduct a large-scale study examining successful and failed endodontic (root canal) treatment in HIV-positive persons. Previous reports have shown that dentists are more likely to extract painful teeth in HIV-positive persons rather than attempt to save them with conventional endodontic treatment. This decision is usually made due to concerns about compromised immunity interfering with healing and resolution of infection after a root canal is performed. However, our preliminary studies documented that, in fact, HIV-positive persons may be saved without any increased risk to the individual's immune status or general health.

The current study is examining the factors that predict success or failure of endodontic treatment in persons who are HIV-positive.

All HIV-positive subjects will receive endodontic treatment and blood tests at no cost and will be paid \$125 for their participation in the study. Those who participate in the study will be referred back to their regular dentists for any other needed treatment or, if they have no regular dentist, may elect to receive further, needed care at the Russell Street Clinic.

For more information contact: Melody Scheer at (503) 494-6300.

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