

Katz Appoints Webb to Commission

Mayor Vera Katz has announced the appointment of Noell Webb as a Commissioner to the Portland Development Commission. Webb will fill Kay Stepp's unexpired term on the PDC board.

Webb is president of Webb & Associates, Inc. and Temporary Staffing, Inc., Webb & Associates provides personnel, information management and medical transcription services throughout Oregon, Washington and California.

She is also the manager of Webb Properties, LLC. Webb Properties is developing a 39-unit mixed-use rental housing project at SW. 15th and Alder in the Goose Hollow neighborhood.

Webb, an African-American, brings a small business and en-

trepreneurial perspective to the PDC Board as well as expertise developing rental housing.

"Noell's experience in providing companies with employment resources is a perfect match with PDC's focus on nurturing existing local businesses," said Katz.

Webb is currently a member of the National Association of Temporary Services and the Urban League. Her civic involvement includes serving as board member of the Portland Planning Commission, board chair of the Northeast Community Development Corporation, and the Small Business Development Center Advisory Council. She also works with young people having volunteered with Junior Achievement and the Portland Public Schools Teen Parenting Program.



Noell Webb, brings small business experience to the Portland Development Commission

Paris called true community hero

Continued from Front

ties to a nonprofit agency. "He started that office, and operated under different mayors," said Kathleen.

His mother recalled how he "never faltered or saw things negatively ... a great man, wonderful son, beautiful friend, humanitarian, counselor and peacemaker."

The plaque read: "1997 Mayor's Spirit of Portland Award, for demonstrating a commitment to the community and making positive contributions to our city and neighborhoods."

"He lived his life fully in accord with his principles of respect and regard for all of his fellow human beings," said the event's printed program.

Other recipients included: Businesses of the Year, The Bike Gallery, PGE and the Renaissance Market; Volunteer Group/Non-Profit Organization, Outreach Ministry on Burnside; Neighborhood Office Employee, Sylvia Bogert; Best City

Employee, police officers Jim McCausland and Doug Halpin; and Neighborhood of the Year, Kenton. Volunteer awards went to Lila Estes, Don and Mary Gilbertson, Betty Hedberg, Doreen Jamison, Robert Jones, George Karlson, Mark Lakeman, Celeste Lewis, Paulette Rossi and Mark Sieber.

Officers McCausland and Halpin were cited for their work in the "Hope and Hard Work" program in North and Northeast Portland.

The Renaissance Market was applauded for being a "stabilizing factor" in a low-income/high crime rate neighborhood along Killingsworth Ave. volunteers at the non-profit neighborhood store have participated in area clean-ups.

The store's parking lot was used for community events such as National Night Out. Renaissance was also given a pat on the back for refusing to sell liquor and lottery games.

Space: The Hidden Dimension (Conclusion)

By Prof. McKinley Burt

Though we have quoted a small child to the effect that, "Space is a place where something ain't," nevertheless our real-world experience maps an urban space of increasing trauma and anxieties.

And this week in my related "Perspectives" column (page 4), I quote the bitter cultural imperatives expressed by a frustrated black neighbor who has yielded to the economic and social angst of many innercity Portland residents. Many whites have joined in the hue and cry, albeit different forums; numbers are legion.

Though ethnicity may dictate the most immediate concerns for some - viz a viz the 'land-loss-problem' detailed in the recent seminar by John A. Powell - we find the general population increasingly concerned and focused. See a key article in Sunday's paper by Gregory Nokes of the Oregonian Staff: "Growth Concern Might Be Growing." When the Utilities worry, you'd better!

In the 'near-northeast', African Americans really became concerned and agitated when a decade ago there was a pronounced increase in the number of Anglo walking tours of the ghetto, as they were referred to in the vernacular. The frequency of white 'tour groups' from urban-related classes of local col-

leges and even high schools was seen to bode ill; "They're up to something, man - the missionaries always come first."

This penetration or encroachment of one's space was seen to relate to another phenomenon, and in a not-too-nebulous fashion. Many blacks were commenting on the rapidly changing complexions of the occupants of the autos speeding down N.E. Alberta and N.E. Killingsworth - and the key North/South feeders like 17th and 18th. "A second wave of gentrifications?"

One was usually advised, "I'm not talking about all those Mercedes, Audis, Volvos and Subarus from the west hills that cruise through here between midnight and dawn. I'm talking about the 'homesteading' white folks." Interestingly, the same people point out that the recent highly publicized bust of a white female headquartered downtown revealed that the 'dirty' end of the business was conducted in the Northeast-naturally!

Meanwhile, fiercely competing news helicopters churn through our murky upper-space spying on those of us struggling to maintain the dimensions and livability of our space - though trapped in METRO'S Iron Maiden.

Some of my articles seem to have encouraged some specific intellectual ferment among several groups. After

all, some of our most useful and pragmatic survival techniques and canons were derived from such sessions, forums and debates. One must admit that alchemy came before chemistry.

Let us see where the arguments (discussions) are going; a teacher asked, "will there be a day when African Americans will be described as having lived, loved and cavorted through the same cultural and historical space as white folks?" After several nervous look-arounds, a guarded reply was "Not as long as you-know-who controls the communications industry and Hollywood."

A specific reference was made to a Oregonian feature spread that assigned specific ethnic dominance to such particular areas as communications, construction industries, the public sector (blacks), etc., these occupational spaces have been likened to those niches assigned to species of plants or animals - noting that some spaces are no longer occupied (extinctions, like dinosaurs).

Other African Americans marvel how the black actors (principal protagonists) on the stage of life now find their roles or space truly to be a "hidden dimension; quite like the black inventors of the industrial revolution.

An excellent case is that of the famous "Lewis and Clark expedition" that has received so much attention of late (The

PBS series "The Journey of the Corp of Discovery"). It is described as "the most important expedition in U.S. history." You better believe it, for President Thomas Jefferson had little real knowledge about the tens of millions of acres America acquired from France in the "Louisiana purchase." Dimensions of American space increased astronomically.

What the revisionists and the frightened academics who write American history would have you believe is that "York", the slave of Merriwether Lewis, was the only black actor in this important play. There would be no United States today had not the great Haitian general, "Toussaint L'Ouverture" consistently defeated Napoleon and his best armies.

Finally convinced that he could hold neither the French colonies in the West Indies nor those on the mainland against the rising power of black leaders and armies, Napoleon sold out to Jefferson for a pittance. But he appointed 12 black generals in all to his European Armies - not including the famed Gen. Alexander Dumas, his greatest.

"Sic transit Gloria" (how fleeting is fame). See "They Came Before The Mayflower", Lerone Bennett. And see books by famed historian, J.A. Rogers. Will blacks ever fully enjoy the space they created?

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