

Florida, Counties Settle NAACP Suit

(AP)—Florida and two of its counties have settled a federal lawsuit by civil rights groups alleging widespread voting problems during the disputed 2000 presidential election.

Hillsborough and Orange counties, and the state, were the final defendants in the case. Five other counties settled earlier.

"It's a long time coming. We're glad to finally be here," said Thomasina Williams, an attorney for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Voters had claimed in the class-action



lawsuit that they were disenfranchised during the election.

Key provisions of the settlement would create a state coordinator for election law compliance, report on future election day problems, correct mistakes in a purge of convicted felons from voting rolls and expand voter rights on provisional ballots. There were no admissions of wrongdoing.

The new coordinator would devote at least three-quarters of his or her time to looking for election problems and solutions, and to producing reports before and after elections.

McDonald's on MLK Permit Plans Appealed

The Eliot Neighborhood Association is appealing a city permit that allows McDonalds to build a restaurant with drive through service on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Ivy Street.

The neighborhood group is opposed to the plans, saying they don't mesh with long range plans for a pe-

destrian-friendly street and an existing residential environment.

Eliot representatives said they expect a large turnout to testify on the issue during a design review commission meeting on Thursday. The hearing is scheduled to begin at 5 p.m. at 1900 S.W. Fourth Ave., Room 2500.

Sam Johnson Banquet Salutes College Bound

On Saturday, Sept. 14, Highland Haven will present six local college bound high school graduates with scholarships totaling more than \$2,000 at the annual Sam Johnson Scholarship Banquet.

The fund was established in memory of the Rev. Samuel Johnson and Mr. Wilmar Elliot. They devoted many years of selfless service helping disadvantaged young people look forward to a better future.

Over the years, the scholarship funds have helped many students. Their pursuit of higher education exemplifies that suc-

cess is achievable, regardless of their circumstances or background.

Kevin Fuller of the Oregonian and Bridge Builders Male Rights of Passage organization will serve as this year's keynote speaker.

Performances are scheduled by the Highland United Church of Christ Mime Team and Step Team. Youth will also present a dramatic poem commemorating the anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy, dedicated to youth who lost parents in the World Trade Centers.

Highland Haven is a local

nonprofit agency providing students, 2nd-12th grade with year-round tutorial programs, life skills seminars, supervised sports activities, and summer camps for youth and adults emphasizing interpersonal skills, nature, and art appreciation.

The banquet will be held from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Embassy Suites at the Airport, 4500 N.E. Airport Way. Tickets are \$20 for ages 21 and under, \$30 for adults. Donations are gladly accepted if you cannot attend.

Burch Appointed to Fairness Board

Portland business owner Faye Burch-Wilson has been named to a regional fairness board for the U.S. Small Business Administration.

"I am confident that Faye Burch-Wilson will be a great asset to small business owners in the Northwest regional area and that she will play an active role in advancing regulatory fairness for all small businesses," said SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto.

The board is comprised of five members and serves as a resource and point of contact for small business owners who



Faye Burch-Wilson

feel they have experienced excessive federal regulatory enforcement and compliance actions.

"Regulatory Fairness Boards play a strategic role for small

business as advocates for fair enforcement of federal regulations," said Conrad Lee, SBA regional administrator for Oregon and Southwest Washington.

Burch-Wilson is the owner and president of F.M. Burch & Associates, Inc., a minority and woman owned business that specializes in public involvement and business development projects.

Alberta Street Fair Event Promotes Home Energy Savings

The non-profit Community Energy Project, 422 N.E. Alberta, will hold an open house during the Alberta Street Fair on Saturday, Sept. 14, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. to help get Portland residents ready for winter.

All services are provided free to the public.

People are encouraged to pre-register for weatherization workshops. Other

activities at the open house will include free lead tests, free hot dogs and snacks, games, door prizes, and a water conservation workshop.

Door prizes include switch plate thermometers, lead tests, and water conservation devices.

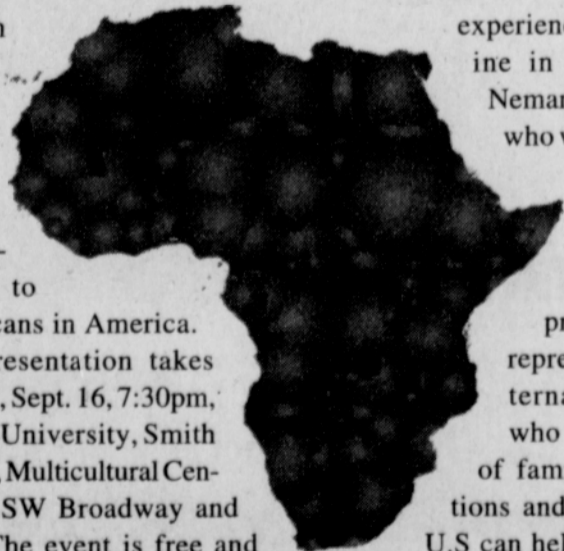
For more information, please contact Amber Spradlin at 503-284-6827 or e-mail at cepinfo@communityenergyproject.org.

PSU Hosts African Forum

The African Forum presents, "Understanding Famine in Africa," the first in a series of discussions pertinent to Africa and Africans in America.

The panel presentation takes place on Monday, Sept. 16, 7:30pm, at Portland State University, Smith Memorial Center, Multicultural Center, Room 228, SW Broadway and Montgomery. The event is free and open to the public.

The panel consists of Kenyi Laila, from the Sudan, who will speak on the



experience of an earlier famine in the Sudan; Appel Nemarundwe of Zimbabwe who will speak on the current turmoil in his native land and some of the history leading up to the present crisis; and a representative of the International Red Cross who will discuss the role of famine relief organizations and how people in the U.S. can help.

The moderator will relate the discussions to the needs of the entire region.

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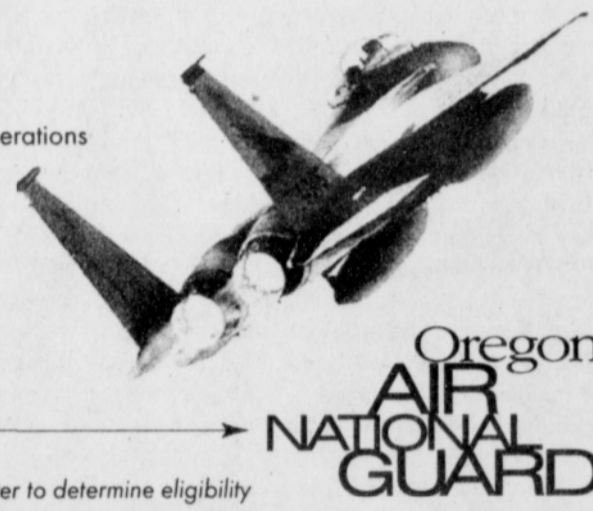
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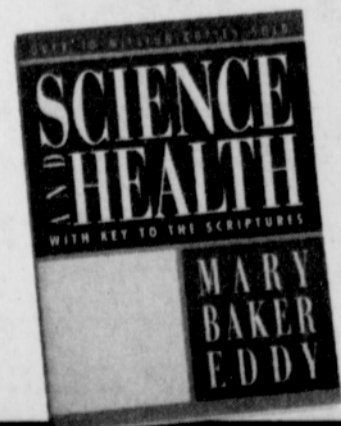
"It can seem impossible-being a young, single mother and a student trying to put myself through school. Whenever it seems like too much, I read *Science and Health*. The book taught me that there are no limits. That you don't have to be bound by outside opinion. It helps me find the spiritual solutions that I can't find anywhere else."

- P. LESESNE, DIVERSITY TRAINER

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