

The Rural Tribune

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Board Delays Decision On Housing

Because of a March 3 deadline breathing down their neck, the Washington County Housing Authority has only a few days to apply for HUD Traditional Public Housing Funds. The monthly board meeting of the Housing Authority February 20 was a letdown for many concerned community members, because even with so little time left, the board put off making the decision. Many who attended expected more.

Up to now, the Housing Authority has never applied for these funds, because

they maintain a policy of not owning or managing any public housing units. This policy is based on three concerns of the Housing Authority: 1) It is important to preserve the anonymity of the clients who receive assistance from the Housing Authority, and therefore it is important to provide housing that is not obvious public housing; 2) It is desirable to avoid impacting any one area of Washington County with low-income people; 3) It is desirable to avoid taking land off the tax rolls, which would be the effect

if the Housing Authority owned Public Housing.

During the meeting, the Board directed most of its discussion to the mechanics of running a Traditional Public Housing Program, and did not make any comments or raise questions about the philosophy of non-ownership.

The Board originally made this policy as an agreement with the County Commissioners, but did not receive any community input as a part of that decision. Consequently, each time HUD invited the

Housing Authority to apply for Traditional Public Housing funds, the Housing Authority chose not to apply. This time, however, over 60 people encouraged the Board to change and apply.

Jose Bustos, present in the audience said, "This is the first time you have made these meetings public. The people of the community are all concerned and aren't afraid to speak up." He then urged the Board to "change the laws that the Commissioners adopted in 1971." To this

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Senator Packwood's Small Business Committee held hearings in Portland and Medford to discuss the need for labor during the fruit harvests. One question the two days of testimony did not help to clear up was why the domestic labor force was not taking the temporary agricultural jobs.

Foreign Labor Needs Disputed at Hearings

Farmers, legislators, farm workers and federal agencies met to discuss the need for additional labor in harvesting Oregon's fruit crops at recent Senate hearings held in Portland and Medford.

For farmers testifying before the Senate Small Business Committee, chaired by Senator Bob Packwood, the Hearings were a chance to air chronic problems in securing seasonal labor to harvest fruit, and marked the "coming out" of their boycott against the Dept. of Labor and what is known as the "H2 Certification Process". For farm workers it signaled the need to strengthen union efforts in the fields and orchards of Oregon.

The first of the two hearings was held in Portland Friday, February 10. Testimony

presented by farmers and their representatives attempted to establish three main points. First, that there is an acute shortage of temporary agricultural workers (a point that was never resolved); second, that if illegal aliens were removed from the seasonal labor force without replacement, then American agriculture would be severely crippled; and third, that the Department of Labor regulations governing the importation of foreign labor (H2 Certification Process) "are so burdensome, illogical, unreasonable and expensive that most agriculturists cannot, and will not, file applications."

Senator Packwood, the only member of the Committee taking testimony, was

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Complaints Change SED Procedures

Complaints of the Support Enforcement Division's (SED) treatment of welfare applicants have led to policy changes in the Hillsboro Branch of SED, according to Branch Manager Larry Young.

Client advocate Elena Uhing of the battered women's program, BEWARE, told the Washington County Welfare Advisory Board last month that clients have been asked embarrassing and very personal questions by workers at SED. Since that meeting January 26, other complaints have been aired with Larry Young at SED's Hillsboro Branch. Attorney Bob Stalker of Washington County Legal Services has questioned their use of lie detectors. Carol Woods, Welfare Hotline counselor, accused them of intimidating applicants with their use of tape recordings, hazy policy over a client's right to view her own records, and the practice of bringing more than one case worker into an interview. There were also complaints that interviewing applicants at SED on the same day they have applied for assistance does not allow them time to absorb the quantity of information they re-

ceive regarding their responsibilities and their rights, as well as the variety of welfare options available to them.

The Support Enforcement Division is a state agency which tracks down absent parents, most often fathers, and requires them to pay child support. The agency becomes part of the welfare process when the parent who has custody of children applies for welfare assistance through one of the state branches of Adult and Family Services. State and federal regulations require that the Adult and Family Services agency seek other sources of income for an applicant, including child support payments from the absent parent. And the custodial parent, usually the mother, is likewise required to provide information of the whereabouts of the father. In Oregon she must give that information to SED when she applies for assistance.

The difficulties arise in cases where the mother feels she has reasons for not wanting the father involved in her application for assistance. Sections of the law allow that she need not cooperate with SED if she has "good cause". In the past

the standard of good cause has been the threat of physical violence to the mother and children. New federal regulations, effective March 17 this year, add the threat of "emotional harm" to mother or children as good cause for non-cooperation with SED. The burden of proving the

father is potentially harmful remains on the mother.

If a woman refuses to cooperate with SED, but cannot prove she has good cause, her welfare grant is limited to pro-

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Padres Oponen Terminacion Del Director Paula Alvarez

Los padres no estaban de acuerdo con la decisión del la Mesa de Directores de IED, de desocupar a Paula Alvarez como director del programa de Educación de los migrantes. Durante la junta de la Mesa el 21 de Febrero en el Distrito de Educación Intermedio.

Cercas de 20 padres, ofrecieron su apoyo para Ms. Alvarez y pidieron a la Mesa las Razones por las cuales no renovaron su contrato por otro año. La mesa pospuso contestar las preguntas de los padres hasta la junta de la mesa siguiente.

Ms. Alvarez, Directora por dos años del programa titulo 1-M, que es finan-

ciado por el gobierno, recibió un aviso escrito, el 23 de enero de el Dr. William

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WCCAO
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The WCCAO monthly board meeting will be held March 8, 5:30, at the Hillsboro airport. The board will be discussing:

- 1) the 1977 audit.
- 2) application for weatherizing & RSVP funds.
- 3) personnel issues.
- 4) Housing Authority application.



FACTS & DATES



Hotline Offers Food Stamp Info

The Welfare Hotline has received a CETA grant to operate a food stamp advocacy and outreach program in Washington County.

The goal of the project is to inform food stamp recipients, potential food stamp recipients and people who are working in agencies whose clients may be eligible for food stamps of the major changes which will be implemented in the food stamp program when new legislation goes into effect in the summer of 1978.

The co-ordinators for the program are Carol Woods and Elizabeth Linder. Ms. Woods is employed through CETA and Ms. Linder is employed by Washington County Community Action Program. They will be working the Hotline, assisting people who are having problems or questions regarding food stamps or welfare.

Three outreach workers were hired through a CETA grant: Frelimo Amili, Marta Caballero and Glenna Hayes. They will be putting out a food stamp handbook this spring.

The Hotline is contacting food markets and encouraging them to run food stamp ads with their regular advertisements. Posters are being placed around the county to help people become familiar with the Hotline telephone number (648-0513).

The Hotline will provide callers with information and assistance regarding food stamps, SSI, and welfare. They will advocate for recipients' rights under the

law. They believe that unless an outreach effort is made to inform key people of the legislative food stamps change, many people will be caught in the maze of red tape that accompanies such major program changes.

Anyone who believes they may be eligible for food stamps may call the Welfare Hotline: Monday through Friday 12 - 4, 276 E. Main, in Hillsboro.

COMBIOS EN LAS ESTAMPILLAS DE COMIDA

Una gratitud de CETA ha sido dada a la Oficina de Welfare Hotline para operar un programa de defenso y outreach en el Condado de Washington.

La finalidad del proyecto es informar a las personas que recibiere estampillas de comida, clientes potenciales de estampillas recipientes de estampillas y gente que estan trabajando en agencias cuyos clientes pueden ser elegibles para estampillas de comida, de los mayores cambios que van a ser implantados en el programa de estampillas cuando la nueva legislación este en efecto en el verano de "78".

Los coordinadores del programa son Carol Woods y Elizabeth Linder. Carol trabaja para CETA y Elizabeth trabaja para CAP. Ellas van estar trabajando el Hotline asistiendo gente que estan teniendo problemas o prequentas por lo que se refiere a las estampillas de comida o welfare.

Tres outreach trabajadores estan ocupados por una concesion de CETA. Frelimo Amili, Marta Caballero y Glenna Hayes. Ellos van estar poniendo un manual sobre estampillas de comida esta primavera.

Nosotros estamos haciendo contacto con mercados de comida y alentando a ellos que poner anuncios de estampillas de comida con sus anuncios regulares. Carteles van estar puestos alrededor de condado para ayudar a la gente a conocer mas con el numero del Hotline 648-0513.

El Hotline responde a la gente que llame con informacion y ayuda con preguntas o problemas con las estampillas de comida, SSI, welfare. Nosotros abogamos por derechos de los recipientes abajo de la ley. Es nuestra creencia que a menos que un outreach esfuerzo es hecho para informar a la gente de los cambios legislación de estampillas de comida, mucha gente se encontro han enredado con montones de papeles oficiales que siempre acompañan mayores cambios en la programa.

Nosotros queremos animar a todos low que creen que son elegibles para estampillas de comida haga una llamada al Welfare Hotline: Lunes a Viernes 12 - 4 276 E. Main, Hillsboro.

JOB OPENING

Farmworker Legal Services, needs a Bilingual experienced secretary. Salary open.

Send resume to:

Farmworker Legal Services
107 S.E. 2nd.
Hillsboro, Oregon 97123
Phone 640 - 4770

CETA Funds 90 Projects

The Multnomah-Washington CETA Consortium will fund approximately 90 new Title VI Special Projects (Public Service) in June, July, August, and September of 1978.

Any public or private nonprofit agency interested in submitting a proposal must first submit a preapplication form, which requires a detailed description of project activities and an explanation of the need for such a project. These preapplications will be reviewed for suitability and completeness of planning. Full proposal forms will be sent to agencies submitting adequate pre-applications.

The forms will be mailed to anyone requesting them from the Project Developer at CETA. Call 640-1781. Leave your name, your agency's name and address.

Deadline: The pre-application for any project that your agency wishes to begin in June or July must be returned to the Public Service Employment Program no later than Friday, April 7. The preapplication deadline for projects beginning in August or September is Friday, May 19.

Satisfactory proposals will be scheduled as soon as they are approved, so earlier applications are more likely to receive funding.

Consortium staff members are available to answer questions and to assist with project design. Call 640-1781. Ask for the project developer.

All Special Projects must:

*provide a public service, resulting in a finished product and/or a quantifiable achievement.

*be a new or special activity within

your organization, rather than a usual activity.

*be staffed by at least two people.

*last a minimum of four and a maximum of twelve months.

Funds will be available to help defray the cost of materials, supplies, and equipment. The amount approved for this purpose will not exceed seven percent of the total amount granted for wages.

Examples of Special Projects:

*School repair, renovation, retrofitting

*Building a bike path or a playground

*Producing and distributing legal self-help pamphlets

*Weatherizing homes owned and occupied by low-income people

*Health education, i.e., anti-smoking program for schools

*Establish a new organization, i.e., Food Bank or cooperative

*Mentally handicapped/retarded self-help program

*Community clean-up of low-income neighborhood

An adequate project description:

The project description should be so complete, your new employees can walk in and know what to do. In other words, plan the activities now, in detail, so that the project description reads like a job description. A general set of goals and objectives will not be acceptable. The Consortium will show preference to detailed, thoroughly thought-out proposals.

The statement of need should cite factual and numerical data, and should include supporting letters from reputable sources.

Letters to Editor

Dear Editor,

Deseamos avisarle a Ud. que el Distrito Escolar No. 15 está tratando de informar a la comunidad chicana de una vacancia en la junta escolar y posiciones en los comités de las 9 escuelas locales. Las personas de los comités escuelas locales deben residir en el area de a tender de la escuela en lo que ellos sirven. El término es por 3 años; la posición No. 5 de la junta está vacante y esto es por 4 años. El miembro de la junta tiene que ser un votante cualificado y residente del distrito por un año anteriormente a la elección.

Dosotros estaremos muy contentos enasistir cualquier persona que esté enteresada en una de estas posiciones. Las aplicaciones deben ser llenadas para el 28 de febrero de 1978 por cualquiera de esas posiciones por favor llámenos al 357-6171 si podenios serle de ayuda.

Sinceramente,
Roy R. Seeborg
Superintendente
Escuela Publica de Forest Grove
Distrito No. 15

Dear Editor,

We wish to advise you that School District No. 15 is trying to inform the Mexican-American community of a school board vacancy and positions on the 9 local school committees. Local School Committee people must reside in the attendance area of the school that they serve. The term of office is for three years. Board Position No. 5 is vacant and this is a four year term. A board member must be a qualified voter and a resident of the district for one year prior to the election.

We would be most pleased to assist any person who is interested in seeking one of these positions. Nominating petitions must be filed by February 28, 1978 for any of the above positions. Please call us at 357-6171 if we can be of any help.

Sincerely,
Roy R. Seeborg,
Superintendent
Forest Grove Public Schools
District No. 15

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Members Appointed to Welfare Advisory Board

Seven Washington County citizens began four-year terms on the county Welfare Advisory Board February 1. They replace the former seven-member board, chaired by Jerralynn Ness of Community Action. County Commissioners, who selected and appointed the new members, will select a chairperson from recommendations of the board.

Twelve people submitted applications for positions on the Welfare Advisory Board. (Notice of vacancies was published in the local media.) Ray Miller, County Commissioner, announced the seven appointments January 10.

The Welfare Advisory Board is a committee set up by the Oregon State Legislature to advise citizens and public assistance agencies about the welfare program. Receiving and reviewing information and complaints from local citizens or welfare clients is just one of the functions of the Advisory Board. They also evaluate the efficiency of the County Public Welfare Program in relation to local needs and recommend needed changes in the system.

According to state law, the only requirements for membership on the board are residence in Washington County and an interest in and knowledge of public assistance programs. The positions are unpaid. Bruce Thompson in the County Commissioners' office explained that several board members were asked to submit applications because of their particular expertise or in-depth experience with Washington County's public assistance program.

Citizens selected to serve on the board represent diverse backgrounds and varying approaches to welfare programs.

Anne Hanford, a nutritionist for the Washington County Health Department, was asked to represent health care concerns on the advisory board. Ms. Hanford works with the special supplementary food program for women, infants, and children (WIC Program). She is familiar with the welfare operations in the county—"Often, I see the same clients as the Welfare Department does."

Rev. Douglas Rose was appointed to the Advisory Board in November by the County Commissioners to serve out a former member's term. As an associate minister of the United Church of Christ in Forest Grove, he oversees education and youth programs and also serves on the board of the Frontier House, a halfway home for teenage boys. Although he was appointed to be chairman of the Welfare Advisory Board, Rev. Rose declined.

Another Board member, Rosie Hamilton, heard about vacancies on the Welfare Advisory Board while interviewing County Commissioners for a KUIK radio public affairs program she produced. Ms. Hamilton is a Job Developer for the adult CETA program in Washington County. Before settling in Aloha several years ago, she served on the Governor's Technical Advisory Board for Welfare in the State of Wyoming. Ms. Hamilton also participated in a low-income housing advisory council and a model city program for the city of Cheyenne, Wyoming.

"I have a deep concern for children,"

says Margaret Mumford, a former teacher in the Beaverton School District who also serves on the Board. Ms. Mumford, a resident of Cornelius, earned her master's degree in sociology and psychology from Pacific University in Forest Grove. She noted the vacancies on the Welfare Advisory Board and decided to put her training and 35 years' teaching experience to work. Ms. Mumford plans to do a lot of homework before making any conclusions about current issues in

public assistance. She says, "an open mind is crucial."

Doris Knauss, of Tigard, has always been active in volunteer work, and now serves on the Board. Last year, she led the United Way campaign in Tigard and Sherwood. A resident of Washington County for 24 years, she saw the vacancies on the Welfare Advisory Board in the newspaper and decided to continue her commitment to volunteer work. Ms. Knauss has already spent time in the Wel-

fare Office familiarizing herself with the programs. "I think the WIN program is very important," she says, and adds that she has seen the Public Assistance Program work for a close friend.

Nancy Anastasio, Director of the Translators' Bureau at Washington County Community Action, was asked by the Commissioners to submit an application to serve on the Advisory Board. Ms. Anastasio heads up a bilingual program

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SED Changes Procedures (con't.)

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visions for her children with no assistance for herself.

Complaints have arisen over SED's methods of establishing paternity of children as well as valid reasons for non-cooperation by the mother.

Larry Young first heard of these complaints when Oregonian reporter Lucille Warren walked into his office after last month's Welfare Advisory Board meeting to ask him about the accusations that were made there. He said, "I'd never even heard of the Welfare Advisory Board."

After the story came out in the Oregonian, Young scheduled a meeting with the committee set up by the Welfare Advisory Board to look into the complaints. He later had to cancel that meeting, but decided to begin talking individually to each agency which had a complaint instead of rescheduling a group meeting. At this writing he had talked with Welfare Hotline and Washington County Legal Services, but not to BEWARE. And he has ordered some changes within his office.

Young has limited the use of the lie detector test to paternity cases in which SED suspects that a client is lying. Before this change, a client was asked to submit to the polygraph test and told that if she refused there would be no adverse circumstances. Bob Stalker told Young that a client might nonetheless feel intimidated.

Another standard practice was to ask clients at the beginning of an interview, "Do you know what SED does?" Carol Woods said clients might feel they are supposed to "give the right answer." Young instructed his workers to merely explain what SED does.

Woods also told Young she has objections about a petition that applicants are required to sign at SED. The petition stated that the applicant believed the father had the ability to pay a specified amount of child support. The amount was usually written in as the amount of the welfare grant. "Sometimes," said Young, "she didn't believe he could pay that much and she wouldn't sign it."

Now a new form has been made stating that the father should pay a "reasonable amount." "The change seems to clear up the difficulty," said Ms. Woods. "I was really pleased that he was responsive."

Two SED policies were clarified after what Larry Young calls the "welfare fiasco".

Two advocates from the Welfare Hotline accompanied a client to an SED in-

terview February 13. Young was out of the office, but he had left new instructions with his staff. "I had given orders that we ask if we can tape record (an interview) if there is another witness present," he said, admitting that the witnesses he was concerned about were advocates and not other friends or relatives a client might bring to an interview. "I suspect there will be a court suit. If it's going to go to court, a tape recording is the best evidence. If they don't agree (to be tape recorded), I've given orders to equalize the number of people in the interview," by bringing in the same number of SED workers as there are advocates present.

The new policy, however, was not fully explained to the advocates and the client in the February 13 interview. The worker did ask the client if the session could be taped, stating that it was a new policy. The client was also told that if she refused, she would have to sign an affidavit saying so. The client did refuse, but was then told that the affidavit wasn't necessary after all. Later the worker called in another person to take "extensive notes" during the session. In the end there were three case workers in the room all asking questions. One of the difficulties left unresolved was whether the client had the right to look at her own file.

When Young returned, he changed his orders again to say that extra case workers were to observe in an interview, not to ask questions. He also informed his staff that clients can see their own files, and that other people wishing to see the files must have the signed consent of the client.

"I feel I have to act to protect the agency," he continued as he discussed the changes he had ordered. The new policies will also protect the applicant, he added, "and Welfare won't have to worry about the client's rights" not being met.

Nonetheless, it is still not his policy to explain his policies to the clients. When asked whether they explained the use of tape recordings to applicants, he answered, "We could." He expects the misunderstandings to be solved after he finishes his discussions with all the welfare and advocacy agencies.

The problem he has not addressed up to this point is that of the embarrassing and personal questions workers ask to establish paternity or good cause for non-cooperation. "Practically the only reason (for non-cooperation until the new law takes effect March 17) is violence," said

Young. "If the violence is documentable we will suspend the case." To document violence, applicants are asked questions which, though personal, are supposed to keep people who would lie off welfare. Young said these questions include: Where did he hit you? When did he hit you? Were there any witnesses? Does he have a criminal record? Did you report it to the police? Documentation can be provided by police reports, criminal records and witnesses' affidavits.

Other reasons accepted for not contacting the father are when an adoption of the child is planned or when the child was conceived as a result of incest or rape.

Some complaints, heard by this reporter, are of workers projecting a hostile attitude toward the client by the tone of voice or expression used during questioning. Young said he had not heard of this complaint.

"We stress that we must be sympathetic," he said. "The interpretation of being hostile—that's purely a subjective thing. I've been personally satisfied that (the workers) are (interviewing) properly."

At another point he called the worker's role that of an "adversary" and that he felt social workers at welfare agencies are less hindered by that role now that SED has taken over the task of asking these questions.

Young emphasized that the final determination of an applicant's eligibility for a grant is made by Adult and Family Services. If no documentation is available in a case, "we still send it to Welfare and say, do you want us to handle this case?" Welfare must act on SED's report. If a client cooperates, SED can use her information to contact the father and she can qualify for her grant. If a client does not cooperate with good cause, SED may still look for the father and she still qualifies for the grant. If she does not have good cause to refuse cooperation, the case is closed or she may receive support for her children only.

The Welfare Advisory Board, in the midst of orientation for its seven new members, will probably not deal with the complaints again until March. By then the problems advocates have seen in SED should be resolved. The openness achieved in the processes and discussions of the past month can be the stage for implementing and educating welfare workers and recipients in the new federal regulations which will govern SED's future policies.

Caren Caldwell

Board Delays con't.

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Lucia Peña, also in the audience, added, "If you want any information or input from us we can get it for you. We would be more than happy to do this."

Sam Leshner, Deputy Director of Housing Development of HUD, said that according to 1970 census figures, which have been updated by statistical manipulation, the elderly of Washington County were estimated to need 1293 units, their income falling below the Section 8 guidelines; families of fewer than 5 members needed 3,284 units, and families of greater than 5 members needed 596 units. He went on to say that although not all those people would apply for assistance, that was the level of need throughout the County.

James Huygens, Chairman of the Board, pointed out that Washington County was "the richest county in Oregon." Said Leshner, "That's marvelous, but you also have all those poor people who need help, too."

Leshner explained that this particular allocation was intended to increase the low-rent housing stock; therefore, it was for new construction of 70 two, three, and four bedroom Traditional Public Housing units in Washington County. He further stated that Traditional Public Housing was an important program for a Housing Authority to run. This is because it is particularly suited for serving the needs of large families, whereas Section 8 and Section 23 (which are the only two programs Washington County's Housing Authority presently runs) are unable to serve them effectively. This is because it

Housing Authority could scatter these dwellings throughout the County, raising an issue of particular concern to the Board, and one of the reasons for the existence of their non-ownership policy. Leshner replied, "I would hope you wouldn't put all your low-rent duplexes in one area. HUD would turn down any 70-unit complexes."

Later in the meeting, Berta Delman, in the audience, said that about four years ago she approached the Housing Authority to put some public housing into an area of Beaverton. "It would have been a perfect place for low-rent housing because it would have been put in an area of high-income people, and would have made the community more mixed." However, the Housing Authority told her at the time, that they had to be invited into an area; that they couldn't just "go in without an invitation." (This is because they chose not to bring Traditional Public Housing into the area). Ms. Delman called such a policy "unusual and non-assertive" for a Housing Authority to have.

It appears to many in the community that it would be almost impossible to impact any area with low-income people through Public Housing because the funding is for "scattered, small units" and HUD would not allow any Housing Authority to concentrate all the units in one area. In fact, some of Washington County is already impacted with high-income people, and could use a little mixture, such as could be provided by careful planning of scattered public housing units. In addition, such units spread out



Seated left background and right foreground are commissioners Miller Duris and Ray Miller. Both attended the Housing Authority meeting to feel out community needs.

is difficult to find existing rental units of sufficient size at a price the Housing Authority can afford to subsidize. On the other hand, newly constructed Traditional Public Housing units can be arranged in a "dorm" fashion, in which all the male children sleep in one large bedroom, all the female children sleep in a second large bedroom, and the parents, in a third, smaller bedroom.

Leshner also said that the money was intended for detached and semidetached dwellings, and could be duplexes. 35 new duplexes (70 units) could be built with the money available, and would be ready for occupancy approximately 15 months after application.

One member of the Board asked if the

over the County, would have a very low profile in the communities they were built in, and would preserve the anonymity of the people receiving assistance, which was a concern of the Housing Authority when they made the non-ownership policy. According to Connie Bustos, of Oregon Rural Opportunities, many low-income people would not care if people knew they received such assistance, so anonymity may be of more concern to the Housing Authority than many of its clients.

Ms. Delman also pointed out that "80 per cent of the people of Oregon are priced out of housing. The philosophy of the Board is unrealistic in light of this. We don't want to become just a bedroom



From left to right, Lucy Cable, Director of this county's Housing Authority, Bill Duncan, Legal representative, and Leslie Fanning, Board member, listen while Sam Leshner, HUD representative, explains the Traditional Public Housing Program.

community. Instead of being known as the highest income, most selfish community, we should encourage all kinds of people to live here. As it is, Portland is housing Washington County's poor. We should take this responsibility."

Gordon Molitor, Director of Community Action, also present in the audience, spoke about the Board's policy, answering its concern about removing property from the tax rolls. He said that presently, much low-rent housing is being converted into commercial uses, and is being zoned for higher taxation. Meanwhile, the stock of available low-rent housing is steadily decreasing. If land is owned by the Housing Authority, it may have the effect of counteracting the current trend of increasing the tax base at the expense of badly needed low-rent housing. He further stated that Housing Authorities do pay the governing body some amount of money in lieu of taxes, but that the amount they pay is not based on land value. He pointed out that Washington County has a severe housing shortage, which the Housing Authority could help alleviate by implementing their present programs with Traditional Public Housing units. He pointed to statistics gathered by Washington County Community Action,

whose advocate program received 325 requests for housing assistance in the last 8 months. In addition, the agency's Emergency Shelter House provided temporary shelter for 233 people, all who needed housing during that same period of time.

Some members of the community also used the opportunity to voice other concerns about the Housing Authority, such as why it takes so long to be helped once a person gets on the waiting list. One woman stated that she has been waiting for four years, and needs help badly. Another member of the audience stated that people will express their concerns at these meetings to help the Board know what changes need to be made. Since very few people have ever attended these meetings, it would appear communication between the Housing Authority and the community has been rare and badly needed.

The Board listened to these concerns and then decided that they would meet again of February 27 to decide on whether to apply for the available HUD funds, or whether to maintain their policy of non-ownership.

This meeting will be held at the Housing Authority office at 8:00 p.m., Monday, February 27, at 245 S.E. 2nd, Hillsboro.

Annette Bromberg

Hearing Set to Probe Needs of Abused Women

Legal protection of battered women will be discussed at a public hearing sponsored by the Oregon Governor's Commission on Women's Rights March 6, at the Hillsboro Library from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Discussion of legal problems experienced by battered women will center on HB 2438. This law, effective since October 1977, provides a woman with a restraining order against a man who has physically abused her. (Although it is largely aimed at protecting women, the law allows men and women both to obtain restraining orders against a person of the opposite sex.)

Two problems have yet to be solved by HB 2438. One is that police must have "probable cause to arrest" a man even when a woman has a restraining

order against him. That "probable cause" has not been adequately defined and police have shown reluctance to make arrests in cases of domestic violence.

Secondly, even when an arrest is made, police may only hold a man for a short time, sometimes as little as half an hour.

The need for shelter homes and women's advocacy programs will also be discussed at the hearing.

The panel hearing the testimony will consist of the Governor's Commission on Women's Rights, Children's Services Division, Legal Aid, Washington County District Attorney Ray Robinett, Washington County Sheriff Warren Barnes, and BEWARE (Battered Women's Resource Center).

Similar hearings are being held around the state.

Seeking Homes Through Housing Authority

It is a well-known fact that the Washington County Housing Authority has a long waiting list; in fact it is 450 names long, and can take 3 months to a year once a person gets on it to be called.

In light of that, it seems strange that the Housing Authority would want to make the list even longer, but that is what they are attempting to do. They have hired a counselor, whose first job is to inform and encourage senior citizens to take advantage of the rental subsidy programs, and to put themselves on the Housing Authority's waiting list. According to Lucy Cable, Director of the Housing Authority, since the counselor has been contacting the Seniors in the community, she has seen a rise in the numbers of people on the waiting list.

About 1/3 of the list is duplication, Ms. Cable explains, because people apply for both of the Housing Authority's Section 8 and Section 23 programs. The breakdown of the Section 23 portion of the waiting list is given below, and reflects the general trends of need:

- 80 people waiting for 1 bdrm. units
- 151 people waiting for 2 bdrm. units
- 65 people waiting for 3 bdrm. units
- 35 people waiting for 4 bdrm. units
- 10 people waiting for 5 bdrm. units

According to Ms. Cable, most of the people waiting for one bedroom units are senior citizens.

Even so, with all these people on the waiting list, there are still many available "certificates" which haven't been given to clients yet. Ms. Cable said that as of February 10, they had 23 one bedroom, and 12 two bedroom "certificates" which HUD had contracted to them last May, but which had not been given to clients yet. Added to that are most of a new group of 137 certificates which were allocated in December, intended for 1, 2, 3 and 4 bedroom units.

The reason it takes so long to give out the allocations when so many people are waiting for them are complex. According to Ms. Cable, although there are many available certificates, it would be physically impossible to start the verification process on everyone who could benefit by them at the same time. Also, the rental housing market would not support everyone looking at the same time.

Also, according to Ms. Cable, even with the backlog of 450 names, processing the forms and placing a client takes a long time, sometimes up to 3 months for a single placement.

The waiting list is only the beginning. It only reflects the people who have applied; after this initial application, they must also be interviewed, verified, and certified. Much of this processing time is taken by checking on referrals; then, when a certificate is finally given, the client has to be briefed on how to look for suitable units.

When they find a place, the owner and family has to inspect it to see that it complies with Housing Authority regulations. Then, the Housing Authority contacts the owner, and the client has to provide additional documents—a lease between the family and the owner of the unit, a contract between the owner and the Housing Authority; finally, the Housing Authority inspects the place, and the family can move in. All this must happen before the certificate expires, 120 days after it is given to the client. It takes an understanding landlord to comply with such red tape and delay when it would be easier, and faster to rent it without bothering with the Housing Authority.

It should also be remembered that a client must find a place that is in very good shape for comparatively little money; for instance, in order to meet Housing Authority and HUD regulation guidelines, a family looking for a 3 bedroom unit would have to find one for under \$234, plus an additional small allowance for utilities.

These guidelines are unrealistically low in relation to today's rental rates. According to the Apartment Data Center, a rental referral agency, the average rent being asked for a 3 bedroom unit in Beaverton is \$275, excluding utilities. In Hillsboro, 3 bedroom units rent for \$250 to \$260, not including utilities. When asked if there were ever places

of that size for \$234 including some utilities, the receptionist said it was rare.

With such difficulty in processing the forms and finding the units, it is not surprising that the Housing Authority needs a large backlog form which to draw, because, as Ms. Cable states, "many people change their minds once we call them." Why? For some, the sheer difficulty in finding a place cheap enough, in good enough condition to meet HUD and Housing Authority standards is discouraging. For others, the time it takes to be called after initial application is too long to wait.

According to Lucy Cabel, once a person gets on the waiting list, it can take 90 days to over a year to be called in for an interview. According to Verla Fuller, CSD caseworker, some of her clients have had to wait as long as two years. Probably in the intervening time, a person needing housing would have to turn to another resource, and give up on the Housing Authority. Another possible reason people may change their minds is that the amount of red tape, (forms, interviews, inspections, etc.) is just too overwhelming and time consuming. As Ms. Fuller stated, "it seems to me they are very involved in filling out forms and making payments when they could be doing so much more. I don't consider them (the Housing Authority) to be a good resource for my clients, especially those with large families."

From looking at the Housing Authority's long waiting list, it is obvious that there is a great shortage in low-rent housing. One of the ways that the Housing Authority could provide more units for low-income people in Washington County would be to own and manage Traditional Public Housing units, which HUD periodically offers to fund. Up to this time, Washington County Housing Authority has not applied for any of these available funds because of its traditional policy of not owning or managing any low-income housing units. Recently the purpose of this policy has been questioned by concerned members of the community. On February 20 at the Super Steer Restaurant in Hillsboro, the Housing Authority monthly board meeting met and discussed whether the policy should be changed, to better meet the need for low rent housing.

Annette Bromberg

ABA Requests Judiciary Take Aggressive Housing Approach

The U.S. judiciary should take a more aggressive approach to bringing about nondiscriminatory housing, the American Bar Association (ABA) advocated recently.

The recommendation, along with a host of charges about the way judicial and other officials act to block fair housing, was included in a 619-page report released by the ABA last week.

After a 3-year study, the ABA found that "opportunities for decent living accommodations in decent environments, freedom from legally imposed discrimination based on income, and access to employment and educational opportunities are fundamental values that must be given equal consideration with values related to private property rights and municipal self-determination in making land-use decisions." A number of restrictions "have helped make the cost of new housing prohibitive for over half the population," according to the report.

The organization said that since legislative bodies at the state and national level do not have a good record in endorsing fair housing policies, it is up to the judiciary to take up the slack. But instead, "In the last 50 years, there has been a strong judicial bias against those attacking land-use regulations,"

the report argues, charging that this has resulted in "purposefully exclusionary (municipal) land-use policies."

Such policies include:

a) Requirements that new homes must be a certain size, thus discriminating against people who can only afford to construct small homes. This is "the most direct and effective exclusionary tool," said the report.

b) Prohibiting the use of mobile homes, a relatively inexpensive housing form.

c) Restricting the building of multi-family dwellings. These restrictions have increasingly become the target of court battles, such as in Westchester County, N.Y. These laws, the ABA contended, rule out "the most realistic opportunity for housing persons of low and moderate incomes."

In the New York City metropolitan area, for example, the ABA found that 99.2 percent of the land available for building homes has been restricted to single-family dwellings. Similar situations exist in Connecticut and other areas.

The organization also cited administrative delays and other zoning practices with having discriminatory effects: "Delays, the imposition of arbitrary development demands in exchange for

local permits and other local practices can also be used for exclusionary ends," the report charged.

The ABA urged that when making decisions about land use, the courts look at more than the rights of private property owners and the rights of local government to regulate property use. It also recommended that state and federal governments become more active in broadening housing opportunities.

from the *Guardian*

COURT BACKS COMPANIES

A federal appeals court recently stripped individual workers of the right to refuse unsafe work.

The decision strikes down provisions of the 1970 Occupational Safety and Health Act under which the Labor Department forbid reprisal against a worker who "with no reasonable alternative, refuses in good faith" to do an unsafe job.

In a 2-1 decision the appeals court asserted that workers have no such right. Instead they must follow complaint procedures and then ask a federal court to enjoin a company from assigning a particular worker to an unsafe job. Even if there is imminent dan-

ger the worker must go through the procedures, which under optimum conditions take at least a week.

The decision stemmed from a case involving Jimmy Simpson, a Dallas, Tex., ironworker. Simpson's job was connecting steel beams on the structural skeleton of skyscrapers. While working on a large project 150 feet above the ground, the winds became so high that he and his crew feared being blown off the structure. The crews had no safety lines. Feeling he was in imminent danger, Simpson came off the scaffolding. When his foreman demanded he go back up and continue work, he refused. He was fired. *Guardian*

Parents Oppose Termination of Migrant Education Head

Parents questioned the decision of the IED Board of Directors to fire Paula Alvarez as director the Migrant Education Program during the board meeting February 21 at the Intermediate Education District.

About 20 parents, offered support for Ms. Alvarez and asked the Board to give their reasons for not renewing her contract for another year. The Board postponed answering the parents' questions until the next board meeting.

Ms. Alvarez, director of the federally-funded Title I-M program for two years, received written notice January 23 from Dr. William Proppe, Superintendent of the Washington County IED, that her contract will not be renewed. Her present contract runs out in June.

The Board made the decision unanimously January 17.

Juan Bautista, asking the Board for an explanation, was told that the Board could not deal with the matter at that time because they needed to review it. Bautista agreed to contact Dr. Proppe the following day to raise his questions.

The Board agreed to answer the questions at the next meeting March 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Discussion of the future of the I-M program was also shelved until the next meeting.

Lucia Peña, one of the parents, asked the Board to discuss the non-renewal of Ms. Alvarez' contract at that time "because that decision has already been made."

Earlier Ms. Peña had stated, "We want reasons. Parents who have children in the program are very upset that Mrs. Alvarez will not be rehired. She works well with them. She visits their homes."

Dr. Proppe explained that state law requires the employee to submit a letter requesting the reasons for non-renewal of her contract.

"Her letter is now being reviewed," he said. "Later if requested there will be a public meeting. We knew this was going to be a difficult procedure and we have consulted our attorney all the way."

"That shows the Board is not too sure of its position," said Ms. Peña.

Hispanicos Producen Periodico Bilingüe

Informa, a bilingual newspaper run on shoestring resources in Northeast Portland is netting interest from both Anglo and Spanish-speaking groups throughout Oregon. The monthly tabloid began as editor Jesus Carcasses brainstormed for ways to expand COSSPO's (Committee of Spanish-Speaking People of Oregon) services and "give the young generation the idea that they have the right to be proud of their culture."

Carcasses had been working with the CETA-funded COSSPO office since its formation in April of 1977. COSSPO has seven full-time bilingual people working as an outreach and information exchange among the different Portland Hispanic groups. Five of the COSSPO staff lend their time to the newspaper and not one of them had any previous journalistic experience. Carcasses recalls that once they had decided to do a paper, "I just went out and bought every newspaper on the stands and from there we went to work."

The first edition of *Informa* was published last October. Staffer Blanche Sommer says that their ads and articles generate many phone calls to their office, which in turn helps COSSPO stay in better contact with the Hispanic communities. Governmental agencies are placing notices with them and contacts have developed in places like Salem, Vancouver and LaGrande.

Informa has a press run of 3000 each month and is mailed to the COSSPO

membership, cultural and neighborhood centers, schools and governmental entities. The staff got half of its mailing list by arduously taking down all the Spanish surnames in the phonebook. They report that this method has only "goofed" once and now the next step is to reach those people who do not have telephones. Another goal is to have volunteers contribute articles to *Informa* in order to give the staff more time for its other duties. Editor Carcasses wants the paper to present "another spectrum for both the Anglo and Hispanic communities, to help them see the diversity within themselves and get a true picture, not the bureaucratic concept of their situations." By pointing out the problems among distinct ethnic groups Carcasses hopes that Mexican-Americans, Cubans, Peruvians and all other Hispanic peoples in Oregon will better understand each other. He says it is also important for the Anglo Community to know that these groups "have similar backgrounds, yet are different."

The *Informa* staff can be reached at 238-0605 or by stopping by the COSSPO office, located in the Southeast Neighborhood Center, 3534 S.E. Main in Portland. They would like more names for their mailing list and urge anyone to submit articles, translations or letters.

by Kay Hummel

Oponen Terminacion (con't.)

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Proppe, Superintendente del IED del condado de Washington, que su contrato no sería renovado, su presente contrato se vence en Junio.

La Mesa hizo su decisión con todos en favor el 17 de Enero.

Juan Bautista, pidiendo una explicación fue informado que la mesa no podía atender el problema porque en este momento la mesa no podía revisarlo. Bautista, consintio en ponerse en contacto con Dr. Proppe al día siguiente para presentar su preguntas. La Mesa se puso de acuerdo en contestar la preguntas en la otra junta el 14 de marzo a las 7:30 pm.

La discusión sobre el futuro del programa I-M también se supendio hasta la proxima junta.

Lucia Peña una de las madres, le pidio

a la Mesa que discutieran porque no habian renovado el contrato de Ms. Alvarez a esa hora "proque esa decisión ya ha sido hecha."

Un poco mas temprano, Ms. Peña habia dicho, "Queremos razones los Padres que tiene niños en el programa estan muy disgustados que Ms. Alvarez no va a seguir en su trabajo. Ella trabaja bien con ellos. Ella visita sus hogares."

Dr. Proppe explico que la ley del estado requiere que el empleado presente una carta pidiendo las razones por las cuales no se les renueva su contrato.

"Su carta esta siendo revisada," el dijo. "Mas adelante, si lo piden, habra una junta pública. Nosotros sabiamos que iba a ser un proceso dificil por eso consultamos a nuestro abogado en todo el caso."

"Eso nos enseña que ellos no estan muy seguros de su posición" dice Ms. Peña.

Welfare Advisory Board con't.

continued from page 3

which helps people to deal with public agencies in their native language. She hopes to address welfare issues from the viewpoint of non-English speaking citizens. Studying in South America, Ms. Anastasio earned her bachelor's degree in education and later, a master's degree in mathematics.

The seventh member of the new Advisory Board is Margo Holley of Hillsboro. Ms. Holley has been interested in the Welfare Advisory Board for a long time. She began attending its meetings last year and was appointed an ex officio member about six months ago.

"I was waiting to get appointed," she said. "There were several of us that were anxious to get on the board."

Ms. Holley applied for a position last fall when two positions became vacant. The Board of Commissioners filled those temporary positions at that time and surprised Holley by appointing her in January with no further application.

Ms. Holley spent five months during the past year counselling clients at the Welfare Hotline, a welfare referral service in Hillsboro. She is currently serving on the School Fees Committee of the Advisory Board. This committee is seeking ways to inform parents that children cannot be kept out of classes because of an inability to pay class fees.

The seven new members prepared for their first meeting February 23. Rev. Rose and Ms. Holley received permission to sit in on several "client intakes" at the Welfare Department. "The system is very complicated because of the number of programs we have," says Bonnie Caton, Manager of the Public Welfare Division in Washington County. "It takes a while to become familiar with the rules, procedures, and programs." Ms. Caton considers herself "a consultant" to the Advisory Board and attends their meetings. She is preparing a packet of introductory information for Board members.

The Advisory Board deals mainly with the welfare program as a whole rather than individual cases. For example, the previous committee researched the apparent lack of response of the medical community to welfare clients. Just recently, it drafted a statement about the termination of welfare-funded abortions.

Citizens wishing to add their concerns to the Advisory Board agenda may contact the County Commissioners' Office, any Board member, the Welfare Hotline, Community Action, or attend the monthly meetings personally. The Board meets every fourth Thursday in the month, from noon to 2 p.m. in the Public Welfare Office in Hillsboro.

Catherine Strong



Jesus Carcasses and Blanche Sommer discuss layout of Informa.

Foreign Labor (con't.)

continued from page 1

sympathetic to the farmers need. He, as everyone had, agreed that fruit growers were experiencing a shortage of labor during the harvest season. He was particularly aware of problems growers have had with the DOL and H2 Certification. He cited examples and situations in eastern states where certification to import labor became so difficult that farmers were forced to court battles against DOL to get the labor they needed.

However, when it came to resolving the issue of why the shortage existed Senator Packwood drew a blank. No one presenting testimony could describe to the Senator's satisfaction why the domestic labor force, as large as it is in Oregon, would not fill in and take the temporary agricultural jobs. Growers claimed that the pay scale during the six week harvest season was often as high as \$4 an hour. And that job orders were placed at the local employment office well in advance of their need. Yet they still would come up empty handed when the work orders came due.

Gil Bazan, Director of Oregon Rural Opportunities, representing the interests of Oregon farm workers responded by saying, "The only way the question can be resolved is through collective bargaining, sitting down and discussing the details of employment to the satisfaction of the employer and the employee. Until then, he added, "you will never know what keeps the workers away from the fields." This testimony, given to the committee at the Medford hearing, was collaborated by similar statements presented in Portland. In addition, growers were challenged as to the extent of their recruitment efforts. Anita Guajardo suggested a closer working relationship between farmers and farm worker organizations in addition to state employment agencies as a way to improve recruiting practices.

Ironically, the only tool at hand to investigate the problem is the Department of Labor's H2 Certification Process. A process which was established by Congress in 1965 as a means to supplement domestic labor in agriculture and forestry. A process which fruit growers despise, and are currently boycotting.

Making it clear that the conditions were inherited by the DOL from the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Jess C. Ramaker from the DOL briefly explained the actions required to support a petition for the admission of an alien to perform certain temporary service or labor: 1) either a certification from the Secretary of Labor or his designated representative stating that qualified persons in the U.S. are not available and that the employment of the beneficiary will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of workers in the United States similarly employed, or 2) a notice that such a certification cannot be made..." He added, "Thus, a positive showing of the lack of availability of U.S. workers must be made before the Secretary of Labor can certify that there is a shortage of U.S. workers. A job offer serving as a basis for such a finding should also contain reasonable terms and conditions

of employment to support a determination that the employment of alien workers will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of similarly employed U.S. workers. The procedures under which the program operates are designed to insure that these conditions are met."

Growers in Hood River are so opposed to the procedures of the program that their legal representative, Gary Lockwood, described the DOL by saying, "It appears that the DOL has misinterpreted its role to one of proscription rather than implementation."

Specifically Hood River Shippers and Growers wish to eliminate or modify 8 points: 1) Require the DOL to identify and correlate domestic workers with available jobs. (That is to require the DOL, not the farmers, to find the qualified domestic labor force. This would place the burden of proof on the DOL and minimize the recruiting requirements now placed on the farmer by the H2 process.) 2) Eliminate the adverse effective wages. (The adverse effective wage is a minimum wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor based on similar pay and work done by domestic laborers, to insure that foreign labor is not being used as a cheap labor force thereby adversely affecting the domestic labor force. This particular category also included piece work rates which must equal the minimum hourly rate.) 3) Make the processing time for the H2 applications reasonable. (602.10, The Certification Process states that applications should be filed at the local State Employment office in sufficient time to allow the DOL 60 days to determine the availability of domestic workers, in addition to the time necessary for the employer to secure foreign workers by the date needed.) 4) Eliminate or modify those sections of the regulations which do not effectively serve to protect the employment of qualified domestics. (Any cut in regulations to protect the rights of qualified domestics would simply reduce the size of "qualified" domestics.) 5) Modify the guarantee provisions to allow averaging for the period of employment - not on a weekly basis. (The guarantee provisions refer to the workers receiving a guarantee of at least 3/4 of the workdays of the total period during which the work contract and all extension thereof are in effect. If the worker, during such period, is afforded less employment than required under this provision, the worker shall be paid the amount which he would have earned had he in fact worked.) 6) Amend 32 USCA 1258 to allow initial certification for the H2 program to begin within the U.S., even though the workers may have entered the country illegally. This should be restricted to initial application and for a designated period of not more than one year. 7) Update the law on "adjustment of status" - 32 USCA 1259 - from June 30, 1948 to January 1, 1970. This would allow permanent immigration status for those who have remained in the U.S. prior to January 1, 1970 and are otherwise qualified. (Both numbers six and seven, would serve first to allow the

The Rural Tribune

farmers to tap into the existing illegal alien work force sufficient to harvest their fruit, and second it would enlarge the market of qualified workers to the farmers.) 8) Do not grant amnesty or other status to other illegal entrants, except through the H2 Certification Program; as set forth in paragraph 7 above. (This would secure knowledgeable returning labor force to the farmers.)

Hood River Growers and Shippers representative, Gary Lockwood, concluded, "If we are sincere about wanting to serve unemployment, protect qualified American workers, and to provide American agriculture with its needed workers, a

modified and realistic H2 Program will serve to allow us to attain those goals."

Farm workers on the other hand, see any ease of restrictions and regulations governing importation of foreign labor as a threat to collective bargaining and improved labor conditions. Arturo Cortez from the Centro Cultural in Cornelius, Oregon summed up their feelings by saying, "I feel I must mobilize any and all resources at my disposal to oppose attempts to import a foreign labor force. It is time for the U.S. government to begin respecting the rights of its resident farm workers and to stop exploiting foreign labor."

Don Patch



Medford area farmers are shown here during their presentations to Senator Packwood's Small Business Committee.

Spanish Group Produces Bilingual Newspaper

Informa, un periódico bilingüe que depende en recursos escasos del noreste Portland está ganando interés de los grupos anglo e hispanicos de Oregon. El periódico mensual se nació cuando el editor Jesús Carcasses estaba buscando los medios para extender los servicios de COSSPO (el comité de personas de habla española) y "dar a los jovenes la idea de que ellos mismos tienen el derecho de preciarse de su cultura."

Carcasses había estado trabajando con la oficina de COSSPO que recibe fondos de CETA desde que se formó COSSPO en abril de 1977. COSSPO tiene siete personas bilingües quienes trabajan como consejeros y que dan un intercambio de información entre los grupos hispanicos de Portland. Cinco de los de COSSPO prestan sus esfuerzos al periódico y ninguno de ellos tenía cualquiera experiencia previa en el campo del periodismo. Sr. Carcasses se acuerde de que después de su decisión a formar un periódico, "Fui a todas las esquinas para comprar cada periódico de Portland y así comencemos a trabajar."

La primera edición de *Informa* fue publicado en octubre pasado. Trabajadora Blanche Sommer dice que sus avisos y artículos producen muchas llamadas telefónicas a su oficina, lo que ayuda COSSPO en su contacto con las comunidades hispanicas. Las agencias del gobierno están poniendo avisos con *Informa* y contactos se han desarrollado en sitios como Salem, Vancouver y LaGrande.

Informa publica 3000 copias cada mes y está mandado por correo a los miem-

bro de COSSPO, a los centros culturales y "neighborhoods," a las escuelas y a las entidades del gobierno. El personal del periódico cogió la mitad de los nombres para el correo por el uso de los apellidos españoles de la guía telefónica. Dicen que se metó sólo resultó en una equivocación y que actualmente su meta es mandar el periódico a las personas que no tienen teléfonos. Una otra meta es tener la contribución de artículos por voluntarios a *Informa* para que el personal tenga más tiempo para sus otras obligaciones con COSSPO. El editor Carcasses quiere que el periódico presente "un otro imagen para ambas las comunidades Americanas y Hispánicas para que ellos puedan ver la diversidad entre sí y tener la verdadera idea, no el concepto burocrático de sus situaciones." En recoger los problemas entre los distintos grupos étnicos Sr. Carcasses espera que los Mexicanos, Cubanos, Peruanos y todas las gentes Hispánicas de Oregon se entiendan mejor. Dice que también es importante que la comunidad "Anglo" sepa que estos grupos "tienen fondos similares, pero son diferentes."

El personal de *Informa* puede ser llamado al número 238-0605 o por una visita a la oficina de COSSPO, lo que está ubicado en el "Southeast Neighborhood Center," 3534 S.E. Main en Portland. COSSPO quiere más nombres para su lista del periódico y urge que cualquiera persona escriba artículos, traducciones o cartas al periódico.

translated by Kay Hummel

Cooperative Playschool: New Child Care Concept

Babysitting—or child care provision—is one of the lowest paid, lowest prestige, and hardest jobs around. It is an invisible, unrecognized profession which receives little or no support from the community. Says Pat Hale, of the Beaverton Cooperative Playschool, "These providers (as they are known) work for 69 cents an hour. Would you work for that?" But paid so little, they are entrusted with our children during their most formative years. The caregivers have a big job and have received little or no training or support from the community until recently.

To help provide this support, the Beaverton Playschool was started three years ago as a model program funded by Templeton Foundation. It was, and is, one of the only programs of its kind in the country.

Since its original funds ran out in November, 1977, the Playschool had to reorganize. Renamed the Beaverton Cooperative Playschool, it now operates its program for two days a week under the West Tuality Childrise Program, supported largely by United Way, CETA, Oregon Community Foundation, and private contributions.

The Childrise Program is a multifaceted support mechanism for local childcare providers; its intent is to enrich the experiences of children in the care of providers, and to give providers what they need.

When parents are looking for a provider for their children they may call West Tuality Childrise Program for a referral to one of the providers in their program. Providers looking for support services also call the Childrise Program. Both parents and providers pay an initial fee of \$7.50, which gives them access to a whole package of available services.

An information and referral service informs parents of the types of child care which are available. A child care coordination service connects parents up with providers. In addition, educational workshops, an orientation packet, and a monthly newsletter provide avenues of education, training, and communication. A lending library of books, toys, cribs,

and other equipment for child care is

Participants in the program find it a beneficial experience for both child care providers and children alike. Says Pat Hale, of the Cooperative, "These providers are professionals, and we treat them like professionals. With the classroom experience, they can improve on their skills, and get a chance to work with larger groups of children." Providers also find they can give more individual attention to the younger children in their care who don't participate in the playschool while the older children are away.

The Children who participate in the Cooperative get an enriched and varied experience. Their experience provides an

also available. To provide a go-between for providers and parents who have trouble making payments, a collection agency referral service eases the difficult situation. Finally, the Cooperative Playschool in Beaverton is available for children and providers in that area.

What makes the Cooperative Playschool unique is that providers and the children they care for are given classroom experience. The Cooperative Playschool has a permanent core staff of two; seven local child care providers bring a total of 17 3-to-5-year olds to participate for the two mornings a week that it operates. Each provider, in exchange, works there one morning a month to assist the core staff.

easy transition step before they enter kindergarten, which can otherwise sometimes be shocking to children who have never related with a larger peer group before.

The program is considered to be such a success that a similar program has been started by the Childrise Program in Forest Grove. The concept is the same, the only difference being that in addition to the pool of child care providers assisting in the playschool, community volunteers also help.

Pat Hale sums up the program as "a different animal" which works beautifully to give providers the support they need to do a difficult job well.

Annette Bromberg

Dick Gregory to Speak at Environmental Expo

The Northwest has long given much attention to the environment, and recently we have served as an important example for the country as we seek solutions to critical energy shortages, growing pollution and abuse of our resources.

Now the Whole Earth Environmental Exposition '78 will be happening in Portland and will be introducing many innovative and exciting ways in which we are progressing toward solving these problems. A reverence for the earth and its resources and corresponding changes in technology, services and lifestyle will be the focus of the show.

Expo '78, to be held at the Memorial Coliseum on March 24, 25, and 26, will give the public an opportunity to see what's new in shelter, gardening and small farming, energy use, transportation, recreation, and health care. Products exhibited will include solar appliances, food dryers, greenhouses, composting toilets, rototillers, and nutritious food. Jet Speed Industries will show their new, intermediate level planting machinery that will represent a breakthrough for

small farms and large gardens. Rodale Press will bring its Energy Cycle and Mechanical Mule gardening aide. *Co Evolution Quarterly*, *New Age Magazine*, Nova Energy Systems, and Recreation Ecology Conservation of U.S., Inc. are just a few of the 150 commercial exhibitors who will be there.

Education is an important aspect of the Expo and numerous speakers, workshops and films have been scheduled throughout the three days. "The New Victory Garden" is the title of five mini-classes on growing vegetables for home use and will include Peter Chan; author of *Better Vegetable Gardens the Chinese Way* speaking on the raised-bed method of gardening; Glen and Kathleen Simmons speaking on "Soils and Life" and "Harvest and Living"; and additional workshops on solar greenhouses and composting. Oregon and Washington State extension agents will present several workshops for small farmers. Other speakers will include Dr. Mark Tager on holistic health, Lee Johnson on wind energy, Matt Greenslade on wood stove safety, Bill Day on choosing your wood heater, and several others. Nationally known speakers will include Ernest Callenbach, author of *Ecotopia*, and Dick Gregory.

In addition over 50 interested groups including Greenpeace, Portland Recycling Team, Oregon Environmental Council and OMSI will be there with displays, information, slides and other presentations.

Show organizers are also seeking out popular local and regional talent. Dr. Corn's Bluegrass Remedy will play five sets, and Seattle's Dumi and the Minanzi Marimba Ensemble will play traditional and contemporary African music. Portland's Dancers' Workshop will present "Dance Alive"; and Stonesoup Theatre will offer puppets, dancers, musicians, actors and mimes in plays and skits emphasizing sound dietary and health habits. Admission will be \$2.50 per day. Senior citizens and children 12 and under will be admitted free of charge. For further information write P.O. Box 4047, Portland 97208 or call 227-2959.

Necesidades de Mujeres Abusadas

Protección legal de las mujeres asaltadas será discutido en una audiencia pública financiada por la comisión del gobernador de Oregon sobre los derechos de las Mujeres el 6 de Marzo en la biblioteca de Hillsboro de las 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm.

Discusión de los problemas legales experimentados de pro las mujeres asaltadas será centrado en HB 2438. Esta ley, que ha estado en efecto desde Octubre de 1977, provee a una mujer con un juicio de amparo contra un hombre que la ha golpeado. (Aunque esta ley es principalmente para proteger las mujeres, esta ley también permite que un hombre puede poner un juicio de amparo contra una mujer, así que esta ley permite ambos sexos que pongan un juicio de amparo contra una persona del otro sexo.

Dos problemas todavía no han sido resueltos por HB 2438. Uno es que la policía debe de tener "causas razonables para arestar" a un hombre aunque la mujer tiene un juicio de amparo contra el hombre. Eso de "causa razonable" todavía no ha sido aclarado suficientemente y la policía tiene aversión de arestar personas en casos de violencia domestica.

En segundo lugar, aunque un aresto es hecho, la policía nomas pueden detener la persona por un tiempo muy corto, a veces no mas una media hora.

La necesidad para hogares de refugio y programas de abogacia para mujeres también será discutido en la audiencia.

La junta que va a escuchar el testimonio va a consistir de la comisión del Gobierno Sobre los derechos de las mujeres, la división de Servicios para Niños, ayuda Legal, Abogado del distrito del condado de Washington Ray Robinett, funcionario jefe del condado Warren Barnes y "BEWARE" (Centro de recurso de Mujeres golpeadas.)

Audiencias similares seran hechas en todo el estado.

Head Start to Receive Funds

Washington County Head Start has been unofficially notified that it will be funded to serve 50 additional children starting in the fall of 1978. As a result, 110 low-income and special needs children will be provided services to meet social, medical, dental, educational, emotional, and nutritional needs. The program also works closely with the families to provide for their social and educational needs and parents serve on many committees and the policy council, which is the governing body.

At present the center is located at the Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church at 17625 N.W. Cornell Rd. in Beaverton and includes three classes. Children from Aloha, Beaverton, Tigard, Hillsboro and Forest Grove attend

sessions Tuesday through Friday two weeks out of three and have home instruction and field trips during the third week.

The approximately \$100,000 in new monies to the county must be matched by \$25,000 in community-provided services and donations. At least half of that is earned through volunteer time given by the program parents and family members but donated space, materials for playground and renovations have often been received from the community.

Program director, Nancy Gann, is interested in hearing from community people who have questions or would like to set up community meetings to find out more about the program. She can be reached at 648-6646.