

commitment to racial and cultural diversity in a cover story in the fall *Willamette Lawyer*, published by the Willamette University College of Law in Salem.



Morris Collins, a civil rights activist and environmentalist, was a visiting law professor at Willamette last year, on leave from her tenured position at the UO. She and her husband, adjunct professor Robert Collins, decided recently to make Salem their home, rather than Eugene.

According to the article "Morris Collins believes that both Willamette University President M. Lee Pelton and Dean Symeonides have demonstrated a strong commitment to diversity and to excellence. She feels UO has lost sight of that kind of commitment. She notes that out of a faculty of more than 1,200 people at the Eugene campus, she was the only African American woman."

She is quoted as saying she feels "at home in the culture, with the whole atmosphere, from the students to the faculty to the administration and staff. Willamette has a strong commitment to achievement that really resonates with me."

Her husband has accepted a position as senior research scholar with Willamette's Public Policy Research Center. Her father was a law professor and founder of the first integrated law firm in Chicago. Her grandfather was a minister and civil rights activist. — *TJT*

TIME TO TAKE BACK YOUR RIGHT

"I will do everything in my power to restrict abortions," George W. Bush told *The Dallas Morning News* on Oct. 22, 1994. A politician who sticks to his word, President Bush has since done everything in his considerable power to restrict a woman's right to reproductive freedom. Here are only a few of his actions:

- Dec. 22, 2000: He gave the nod to John Ashcroft for U.S. attorney general. Ashcroft had defended anti-choice legislation all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court (*Planned Parenthood of Kansas City, Missouri v. Ashcroft*, 1983); signed a bill declaring that life begins at conception, and declared the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* a "day in memoriam" for aborted fetuses.

- Dec. 29, 2000: Bush selected anti-choice Gov. Tommy Thompson as secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, which oversees the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Food and Drug Administration and the Office of Population Affairs.

- Jan. 22, 2001: On his first day in office, also the 28th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, Bush restores the Reagan-era global gag rule on international family planning assistance.

There's more, including stripping contraceptive coverage from federal employees, closing the White House Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach and supporting House members who pass the "Unborn Victims of Violence Act." And more. (See *EW* 6/12/03 "Gag Ed" for what's happening in Oregon, as well.)

Despite the efforts to undermine the law, a celebration to mark the 31st anniversary of what's left of *Roe v. Wade* and to educate the community on what's happening to women's

health throughout the world will be held at 6 pm, Jan. 22 at the Wild Duck (re-opened for this event).

"Take Back the Right" will include UO Multicultural Director Carla Gary as emcee and speakers Dr. Gary LeClair, the Rev. Ann Bowersox, Sen. Floyd Prozanski and student leaders Alexandra Bullock and Amanda Mabry. Music will be performed by The Ovulators. — *AS*

WRITER BEARS WITNESS

Melissa Fay Greene, author of *Last Man Out: The Story of the Springhill Mine Disaster*, will deliver the 2004 Johnston Lecture at 4 pm, Thursday, Jan. 15 in the UO

Knight Library Browsing Room.

An award-winning journalist and author of *The Temple Bombing* and *Praying for Sheetrock*, Green has also written for *The New Yorker*, *Life*, *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*. Her work has addressed a wide range of topics including civil rights and Southern history, the HIV/AIDS global pandemic and African orphans, international adoption and family life.

Green will present her lecture on "A Writer Bearing Witness: AIDS Orphans in Africa." The event, funded through an endowment from the Richard W. Johnston Memorial Project, is free and open to the public.

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

- In our Dec. 24 feature story on Pro-Bone-O, the free veterinary clinic for pet owners who are homeless, contact information was inadvertently edited out of the story. The group can be contacted at 607-8089 or visit www.proboneo.org

- A Calendar listing last week for The Flying Karamazov Brothers benefit performance at UO Jan. 11 incorrectly stated that entry was by donation. The ticket price was actually \$15 for adults, which was stated in the advertising, but not in the Calendar. We regret any resulting confusion at the door.

Winter Sale

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