



From the Capitol

Congressman Ron Wyden

Q. Congressman Wyden, although you voted for one of the tax cut proposals, you did not support the bill that eventually passed the House. Why?

A. Because the tax cut plan which passed the House doesn't give all our citizens the same opportunity to get under the tent of tax relief. Instead of spreading the benefits evenly throughout society, it gives more than 35 percent of all the benefits to just 5.6 percent of the American taxpayers. In fact, a full 10 percent of all benefit under that plan go to taxpayers who make

more than \$200,000.

At a time when we have cut the tiny \$122 per month minimum Social Security benefit for 70-year-old widows, I find this kind of tax cut unfair, if not unbelievable.

I am also concerned about what this tax cut will mean for our economy. In many ways it is like a false prophet -- promising what it cannot deliver. It is impossible for the federal government to return what it does not have. And the federal government, with its \$1 trillion debt and its \$40 billion annual operating deficit, certainly doesn't have the \$750 billion this tax

cut will cost over the next 6 years.

So where is it going to get this money? From the American public. To finance this tax cut, the government will have to issue Treasury bills at higher and higher interest rates -- thus sucking billions of dollars from the very people to whom it is "handling" the tax cut.

What that means is that the American taxpayer will not get back cash on the barrel head. He will get back glided IOUs -- IOUs that must be paid someday by the working men and women of America who got so little when so much was promised.

What this tax means is more deficit spending. Higher and higher interest rates. Higher inflation rates. Fewer and fewer jobs.

I wanted a tax cut. Be a good one. A tax cut that reduced the tax burden on middle-income working Americans, provided incentives for savings, promoted research and development by industry, assisted small business -- and still allowed us to balance the budget.

We cannot achieve those goals simply by throwing money at inflation. Regretably, that is all the tax cut passed this week will do.

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Citizen of the Week



Dr. Reginald D. Baugh is a 1981 graduate of the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor. His undergraduate work was done at the University of Iowa.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Baugh of Portland, Reginald attended West Linn High School, graduating in 1974.

He will begin his residency in Otolaryngology at the University of Michigan and afterward intends to pursue an academic career. During medical school he was a member of the Admissions Committee and the Health Professions Outreach Committee.

Dr. Baugh was recently selected as one of 50 medical students to receive the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation Merit Award. The award, which includes a \$4,000 stipend, acknowledges his academic excellence, leadership and community activities in his medical school years.

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From the Boardroom

By Gladys McCoy
Multnomah County Commissioner

The tremendous need for jobs is a major issue for Multnomah County. This is the underlying reason why the Board of County Commissioners supports County activities and programs in economic development: the creation of jobs, the start of new businesses, the expansion of existing business and industrial firms, and improvement of the kinds of things that attract and keep businesses, such as good housing and transportation.

The County's efforts in stimulating economic development are all the more needed in view of current high unemployment. For instance, Multnomah County's estimated unemployment rate in May, 1981 was 7.9 percent; that translates to an unemployed labor pool of 24,065 people, representing more than 19 percent of Oregon's unemployed labor force. In addition, it is well documented that minorities, adolescents, older workers and single parent households have unemployment rates even higher. For example, minority unemployment is at least 12 to 13 percent in North and Northeast Portland, where almost 80.5 percent of Oregon's Black people have their homes.

You can see why the jobs that come from economic development for the citizens of North and Northeast Portland creates an issue of great importance for me, for the City of Portland and for Multnomah County.

On a countywide basis, the unemployment situation is intensified by the fact that the County's

population includes 40.7 percent of all Pacific Islanders, 18.3 percent of Native Americans, 17.1 percent of Spanish origin, and 22 percent of "other" minority groups in the entire State.

Thus, the Board of County Commissioners is faced with the problems of how to facilitate the creation of jobs, encourage business activity growth and diversification, provide needed public services and facilities, encourage manpower recruitment and training programs, slow down the exodus of middle and upper middle income households and business to the more suburban communities, provide developable sites for business and industry, revitalize deteriorating neighborhoods, protect natural resource areas from urban incursion and improve income opportunities for Multnomah County residents and firms.

The following is a listing of CETA and County manpower activities and ongoing programs in economic development:

- The Multnomah-Washington Private Industry Council to recruit and train CETA eligible people for jobs in the private sector;
- The Oregon Industrial Revenue Bond Program to assist business and industry to expand or locate in Multnomah County;
- Funding of no-interest loans for housing rehabilitation for low and moderate income homeowners;
- Construction of the Airport Way East industrial arterial, a program in which construction, engineering and other firms can

request CETA-funded training for both new employees or employees who need new job skills;

• Co-sponsoring of a Region-wide Labor Force Market Study (to be released in early August) that assesses both the vocational training needs of households and the local labor force needs of business and industry, including North and Northeast Portland; this is the first time that an effort has been made to look at the point of view of both households and businesses; the Study includes a survey of 13,000 individuals in households and businesses; the Study includes a survey of 13,000 individuals in households throughout Multnomah County, in terms of who are the job-seekers and how they see their needs; the Study looks at the problems and incentives for underemployed people to use training opportunities through CETA or at community colleges; it also asks business and industry employers why they do not always hire people trained by CETA or community colleges so that the training centers can pinpoint problems and offer better market packages; the market study is also gathering up-to-date information on profiles of Multnomah County households for minorities in general, single parents, handicapped, unemployed, discouraged and unemployed, veterans, lower income and the employed to come up with the most realistic programs that meet the needs of these households;

• Developing sanitary sewer programs for fast-growing East county to serve both existing and

new homes, plus business and industrial firms, so that growth will not be slowed by disease and water pollution;

• Construction of the Light Rail System in the unincorporated areas, where the County is responsible, that translates into construction jobs, jobs resulting from commercial development around the Light Rail passenger stations and jobs that are accessible from efficient public transportation to and from Portland and East County because office and warehouse development is inevitable; Light Rail will pull both ends of the County much closer together, expanding job opportunities over a greater area.

While the outlook for Multnomah County is good, much will depend upon the actions at the State and Federal levels to facilitate economic recovery. Ultimately, the private sector is the job and income generator. With growth and expansion in the market place, needed jobs, income, goods and services will be available. The benefits from private sector development and wise use of governmental regulations and programs will provide more jobs, broaden our tax base, support the provision of public facilities and services, enhance our urban communities and preserve our rural areas.

Helping to produce jobs is vitally important to me and the Board of County Commissioners. If you need more information about economic development in Multnomah County, please call my office at 248-5219.



An Open Letter

By Ron Still
Chief of Police

One of the purposes of my writing an article for local newspapers is to provide the citizens of Portland with a better understanding of it's Police Bureau. It is my belief that through understanding, trust and confidence is established.

It is important to me, as well as all employees of the Police Bureau, that citizens have faith in our ability to serve the city.

We attempt to use techniques that are successful and cost effective. We make changes when the need becomes evident. One area that needed an alternate method to the patrol car was the city parks.

A way to respond to these needs was to form the Mounted Patrol Unit. Two officers and a Sergeant were initially assigned to the project. It's initial goal was to reduce the number of stranger-to-stranger crimes in the South Park Blocks. The crime rate there was high. We needed new ideas to stop the crimes and the Mounted Patrol Unit was one way we approached the problem.

The unit first worked in July, 1979. During the next three months, they were responsible for a 93 percent reduction in the crime rate in the South Park Blocks.

It was during these three months that the unit had to prove itself effective. As you can see, the results were impressive. Based on the initial months activity, the Mounted Unit was funded for full-time operation.

The unit consisted of one Sergeant, five Patrol Officers, and one civilian employee to assist in horse facility management and horse training. During the fiscal year 1980-81, the Mounted Unit was deployed in downtown Portland with primary responsibility to the "Old Town" area. An evaluation was completed which identified a 63 percent reduction in street crime in the "Old Town" area during the specific time the Mounted Unit was working.

During December, 1980, the transit supervisor contacted the Unit and requested Mounted Police in the Bus Mall to reduce the rowdy and disorderly conduct. The Mounted Unit's time was divided between "Old Town" and the Bus Mall. As a result, the calls for service in the Bus Mall went from eight (8) calls per week to one (1) call in a month.

College aid available

Several kinds of financial aid are still available for the fall term at Mt. Hood Community College, according to Carl Rawe, financial aid director for the college.

"We still are awarding basic grants, Oregon state need grants, and guaranteed student loans to qualified students," Rawe said.

The application process takes about four to six weeks. Interested students should contact the MHCC financial aid office now. Fall term classes begin Monday, September

In April, 1981, the Mounted Unit reverted to City-wide operations at the request of the individual Precincts. The Mounted Unit was dispatched to Mt. Tabor Park, Kelley Point Park, Washington Park, the Neighborfair and the Rose Festival Fun Center along with many other large crowd activities.

The Mounted Patrol Unit is an effective enforcement tool and has proven very popular with the citizens of Portland.

If you have comments or questions regarding the Portland Police Bureau, send them to me through the Public Information Office, 222 S.W. Pine, Portland, Oregon 97204. I will not be able to respond in my open letters to each and every concern, but will select those which will assist in improving communications and relations with the community.

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"We also have selected scholarships, including recognition awards, available throughout," Rawe added.

Qualified students must enroll for at least six credit hours in a college curriculum leading to an associate degree or certificate to be considered for financial aid.

For more information contact the MHCC Financial Aid Office at 667-7262 or stop by the office on the Gresham campus.

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