

METROPOLITAN

Serving the community in style

Grassroot News, N.W.—For the last 12 years Marian Scott has served in various positions for the Portland Development Commission. She retired last month on her 65th birthday and the *Portland Observer* reminisced with her.

"I came to the Development Commission as an assistant to the manager. And later I became a supervisor. I've worked in all the offices in metropolitan Portland and primarily in Citizens Involvement. I worked in Support Services for the projects that we funded or implicated. It was mostly housing renewal, street and park improvement. I worked with citizens and assisted in keeping records."

Prior to her employment with PDC Mrs. Scott had worked with Model Cities. "My job with Model Cities was helping to organize neighborhood associations. I would notify people about meetings and get materials to the planning committee. We did whatever we could to get citizens involved and let them know what was going on. That job was a good learning experience for me. I became a grassrooter."

Oyer the years the Portland Development Commission had run into community opposition over many of their projects, for example, the Emanuel Hospital project, the Nordstrom Warehouse, and their latest venture, the Union Avenue improvement project. Why does PDC leave such a bad taste in the mouth of the community? "Many years ago citizen participation was not a part of the process. PDC began to get blamed for many projects that it had nothing to do with." Mrs. Scott concedes, "But I've enjoyed the confidence of most people and they know that I work for PDC."

Having established a track record with many neighborhood organizations, what's on the minds of the people? "I think a lot of times people need and want help. But most of the time they lack the patience to go an make decisions. Granted it does take a long time and everyone can't be helped because of a limited budget. You know, the individuals who



MARIAN SCOTT

(Photo: Richard J. Brown)

sit through the meetings aren't even the recipients. The attitude is to get it together and give me my share. Now, this doesn't happen all the time, but this is what I've observed." She says that many neighborhood people get frustrated. "It creates a situation of them against us."

With Reaganomics holding America hostage, does Mrs. Scott perceive the Block Grant system as being effective? "Personally, no. All states are not the same. Coming from the South I feel uptight about

it. We currently have more neighborhood organizations, but reduced funds. So it's going to hurt. With the social cuts people are coming out of the woodwork wanting and needing help."

Retiring is not in Mrs. Scott's lifestyle. She plans to retain part-time employment. With hindsight and experience Mrs. Scott defines her years with PDC as enlightening. "There are some things the City just can't do. If I had not been in this program I would have never accepted that."

The changing roles of women

by Bonnie Seal

What do chicken pox, executive meetings, and role-playing have in common? They all appear in the lives of a new and rapidly growing breed of people in our society—working women, who must fill more than one role on a full-time basis.

"One re-occurring problem of women is their inability to blend their roles of wife and mother with that of employee or business executive," according to Carolyn Gaudry, vice-president of the Portland Chamber of Commerce. Gaudry spoke to a crowded workshop of the Institute of Managerial and Professional Women Wednesday night.

She is the Chamber's first female vice-president, and co-owner of a small business, Carbon Dioxide, Inc. Using herself as a role model, she drew upon personal experience as a full-time mother, business executive, and volunteer.

"A great deal of the growth in the work force in the next few years is going to be from women," according to Ms. Gaudry. "Eighty per cent of the men in America that are eligible to work are at this point working," she explained. "This is not going to change in the next fifteen years. What is going to change is the number of women who will join the

work force. In 1975, 46 per cent of the women who were eligible to work were working. This has increased by approximately one per cent with each passing year, and is expected to reach 60 per cent by 1990."

How will women manage to divide their time between jobs and families, and still maintain quality in both areas? The key to doing this is adequate preparation, according to Ms. Gaudry.

The working mother needs to be prepared for crisis, such as a child's sickness or a car that won't start. She needs to cover all bases before something happens. If your child comes down with the chicken pox at 7 a.m. on the day when you have an interview with the governor, what can you do? Have a plan ready to put into effect," she emphasized, adding that a sound back-up system should include two or three plans.

It is important to do both roles well, without sacrificing or neglecting either, she stressed. "I am a strong believer in quality rather than quantity," she explained, stating that the way a woman's time is spent with her child is more important than the amount of time she can spend, if that time is not well spent.

To assure enough time with both families and work, she suggested

that women eliminate less important activities in their lives.

A working mother is a role model for child, said Ms. Gaudry. Using her daughter Heather as an example, she explained that this can help to build the child's confidence, since seeing her mother as a career woman, she will tend to believe she, too, can have a career.

In addition to being a businesswoman and a mother, Ms. Gaudry has also been a civic leader and a volunteer. "Those who feel volunteerism is not important are missing the boat," she said, explaining that her own volunteerism with the Chamber of Commerce had done much to enhance her career.

Other topics discussed include goal-setting, the need and ability to get away from the job temporarily, and the quality and availability of child care, as well as the importance of maintaining and using connections and networking both while working and looking for work.

Forty-eight per cent of all jobs come from group and personal contacts, and on the management level it is as high as 80 per cent, according to Alice Armstrong, director of the Institute for Managerial and Professional Women, who sponsored the session.

Seminar explains financial plan

A seminar on basic financial planning will be presented at the King Neighborhood Facility, 4815 NE 7th, room 142 on Tuesday, February 2, at 7:30 p.m. The seminar will be repeated every Tuesday through March 30.

The seminar will be free of charge and open to the public. It will cover such topics as: the financial risks of life we all must face; controlling your financial future; your savings

account in Baltimore, Maryland; flexibility to meet and beat change; understanding inflation and its effects; tax deferred and tax saving techniques; I.R.A. and your financial independence; the role of life insurance in basic financial planning; the basic forms of life insurance and their comparative costs; alternative growth opportunities; what your investments need to earn just to break even; the characteristics of a good

investment. The seminar will be conducted by Cliff Campbell, an executive in the financial services field. Campbell suggests that "no matter what your age or how much or how little money you are making, it is a necessity, in our ever changing economy, to be well informed to effectively plan your future for financial survival and success. This seminar will assist you in achieving your personal financial objectives."

Organizations support Eliot site

The Black community remains united in its choice of the Eliot building as a permanent site for the new Harriet Tubman Middle School. Eliot was the site selected by the School Board in April of 1980.

Lucius Hicks, President of the Portland Branch, NAACP, said when the issue came up two years ago the Board discussed the need for a K-8 school and a middle school to prevent the scattering of children over the district. "Our opinion has not changed. We still need a middle school and we have issued statements and positions that the school be located at Eliot. We still stand by this position."

As for Boise, "We are not in favor of Boise being dismantled or connected. We consider this to be the final assault on the Black community. It is the final blow to dismantle the options—if Boise goes they will have dismantled all of our schools."

"It is all political and I don't want to see people duped into taking an ill-advised position. If they can't bring themselves to select Eliot, then I think they should allow Prophet to tackle this as his first major challenge rather than inheriting a major problem."

Hicks said the Board's task should be two-fold—to establish the middle school at Eliot and to upgrade Boise by strengthening the leadership and the program.

Norm Monroe, Assistant Director of the Urban League of Portland, told the *Observer* that in its January 20, 1982, meeting the Urban League Board of Directors again endorsed the Eliot site. "After two years the Board is no closer to implementation. We—the Urban League Board and Executive Director Freddie Pettit believe the School Board is not being direct and up-front with the North/Northeast Community. Any delay will mean that there will be no

permanent home for Tubman Middle School."

Monroe said he hopes the School Board will proceed immediately according to its past commitment on the decision.

James Loving, long-time participant in Boise neighborhood organization, said he opposes the establishment of Tubman in the Boise building primarily because the Boise community has maintained the desire for a K-8 grade school. "That is our position; it hasn't changed. I don't feel that we should change our position just to accommodate the School Board's problem."

The logistical objections now being raised against the Eliot site were discussed from the beginning and no new information has surfaced that should deter the Board from their original decision, he said.

"I think the School Board and all those sub-planning committees are injecting controversy to churn and keep the community in a turmoil. The Board should get on with the business of educating our kids and get out of the business of stirring up controversy."

Ronnie Herndon, co-chairman of the Black United Front, said the Boise proposal seems to be the same old policy of dispersal of Black children promoted by former superintendent Blanchard. "The kindergarten through fifth grade students at Boise would surely have to go out of the neighborhood because there is not room for them in the neighborhood schools."

The community organizations originally supported Eliot because there are only between 40 and 50 neighborhood children there and the rest are bussed in. They could go back to their neighborhood schools.

"This talk of dollars and cents is upsetting. How do you measure the lives of families that are disrupted;



Sporting a Black United Front "Now is The Time" button on his lapel during the Monday night School Board meeting, board member Steve Buel supported the Eliot site for Tubman Middle School.

how do you measure the cost to mothers who cannot participate in PTA and other parent activities and children who cannot be involved in sports and after-school activities; how do you measure the cost to families that are split, with their children going to different schools? How do you put a price tag on people's lives?"

Dr. Fenwick proposed Jefferson High School last year, Boise this year—and perhaps he will turn to the Education Service Center next year, Herndon predicted.



THIS SALE IS WHITE HOT.

It's all these phones, all at savings up to 23% during our White Sale, now til Feb. 7. Come get 'em while they're hot.

Phone Center Store

Downtown—208 S.W. Fifth • Mall 205 • Clackamas Town Center • 1237 Lloyd Center • Jantzen Beach Center.

Visa and Master Card accepted

Phone Center Store, Inc. 1982. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A. © 1982, The Phone Center Store, Inc.