

Larry Holmes should retire

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Oregonian teaches in Nicaragua

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Sorry night at Starry Night

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Staff of North Portland Family Practice & Industry Clinic take a moment to chat: Linda Bingold, nurse practitioner; Lynette Bayer, office manager; Debbie Jorgensen, receptionist; Donna Krieger, receptionist; and Dr. Michael Freistat. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Doctor fights to save clinic

by Lanita Duke

Grassroot News, N.W.—The concept of primary health care opened up in the inner city in 1980 as the North Portland Medical Center. Located on Northeast Killingsworth and Vancouver Streets, the Center incorporates straight medical care, family practice, emergency walk-in, free screening for high blood pressure and diabetes, with a full laboratory and x-ray facilities.

The question facing Dr. Michael Freistat, physician and proprietor of the clinic, is: Can a practice survive financially in an area most in need of the service?

Freistat, 36, transplanted his medical practice from Southeast Portland. He said, "The federal government determined this area as a health manpower shortage area. Although the competition between physicians in Portland is high—one doctor per 600 patients—in inner North and Northeast it is one doctor per 6,000."

Freistat finds the area offering "interesting health care possibilities." The blue-collar industry combined with family care gives him a complex patient.

"What makes health care interesting is what makes a person's health care a problem. They don't get health care often enough nor do they follow through with their health care. Because of finances people just try to get by. In the meantime disease becomes more complex. We see a lot of multiple problems."

Freistat also perceived the need for an urgency center to take the load off hospital emergency rooms by offering more affordable care for the patient.

"You could go to an emergency room but it will cost you thirty percent more. The concept of urgency centers has been opening up across the country to handle industry, accidents and home emergencies. None opened up in this area because the common denominator is cash up front.

"That financial premise in this area is difficult because you have people with different economic backgrounds who require different economic approaches to get health care."

Freistat said he believed medical facilities that open up in inner Northeast and limit their welfare and medicare patients are doing the community a disservice. "They are, in fact, discriminating against the community."

Financial survivability is the issue Freistat is currently wrestling with. "The medical center took a dive in 1982 as the recession hit the area hard. I dropped ten to fifteen patients a day. People didn't know if they are still covered by their medical insurance and are going on and off the welfare roll."

As a result his loan from the Small Business Administration has not been serviced. "I had to get my mother to co-sign and she took a tremendous liability by putting her name on the line to keep the clinic open. My home is up for sale and I'm just finishing up with a di-

voice."

Freistat is also facing competitive pressure from the State's Multi-Service Center and corporate groups owning and operating urgency centers.

"Medicine at my level is undergoing a mini-revolution. It is hard to compete with these corporate groups who spend thousands on advertising. You can't market yourself and say you are better but you can market yourself and say you are available. Medicine has become a business."

Freistat also said he believed the Multi-Service Center is duplicating services he could provide for those with medical cards. "That way they could concentrate on indigent care. I can't compete with their sliding scale."

It seems as if the Hippocratic oath has been replaced with the economic theory of maximizing profits. "Because of price, access to medical care is difficult of those who are self-paying. We tried to cushion the high price of medical care by keeping our prices low."

The North Portland Medical Center offers complete medical services in attractive surroundings. "Our problem is the community—six blocks away—does not know who I am or what I do. I want people to know we have a medical walk-in center and if you have a medical problem that needs attention it can be taken care of in the community."

If the community does not use the North Portland Medical Clinic they may lose it.

Portland rally kicks off Jesse Jackson's race

A kick-off rally for the local Jesse Jackson campaign for President of the United States will be held on Saturday, December 3rd, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. The rally will be held at Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, 3138 N. Vancouver Ave.

Co-chairpersons of the recently organized Jesse Jackson for President Committee are Ronnie Hernon and Alma Hill. Treasurer is Kay Sohl; John Blank is Secretary.

Jackson's campaign is said to have the effect of "lifting the ceiling off Black aspirations." One important aspect of Jackson's "Rainbow Coalition"—the joining of Blacks, women, youth, farmers, seniors, the poor and other minorities—is its relationship to the rapidly expanding anti-Reagan front. The Jackson candidacy challenges not only Reagan but Reaganism, militarism and racism.

In addition to his effort to affect the Democratic Party Platform and to push the other Democratic Party candidates to discuss the serious issues facing the nation and the world, Jackson hopes to lead millions of minority and poor citizens to the polls for the first time. His rallies and appearances are marked by his urging the dispossessed to register and to vote.

In 1982, for the first time, Black people voted at a higher percentage than whites, expressing a deep opposition to President Reagan and his policies. Registration campaigns will add millions of Black voters, helping to defeat Reagan's allies in Congress.

In the House, there are at least 86 districts in which Black people make up 20 percent or more of the elector-

ate, and Black voters will play a major role in at least six Senate races where Republican defeats could shift the balance of power in the Senate. Also to be affected by a large Black voter turnout are numerous state and local positions.

Jackson's voter registration drive has spurred other drives among the poor and among minorities—most significantly among Chicanos. The National Coalition on Black Voter Participation plans to add two to ten million new Black voters.

The Human Service Employment Registration, Voting and Education

Campaign is unique in that it targets the millions of poor who receive government benefits such as food stamps, unemployment compensation and welfare. Government workers will volunteer to register up to five million people as they visit government offices.

Herb Cawthorne will be master of ceremonies for the rally and members of the committee will speak. Ken Berry and friends will provide gospel music.

Volunteers and funds for the Oregon campaign will be solicited.



Portland rally will seek support, volunteers and funds for Jesse Jackson's campaign for the Democratic nomination for president. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Surinam foils new coup attempt

The government of Surinam, a small nation on the northeast coast of South America, reported that it had put down an attempted coup. Ten people were charged with stirring unrest and setting a government radio station, office buildings and a warehouse on fire.

The arrests came as Surinam—a nation of 300,000 people of African, Meztizo, East Indian, Indonesian, and Dutch heritage—celebrated the eighth anniversary of its independence from the Netherlands.

This is the third reported attempt to overthrow the leftist government since the 1980 coup by young army officers overthrew the post-colonial government.

Lt. Colonel Desi Bouterse said the first attempt to overthrow his government came on December 8, 1982. The fifteen persons who were arrested for participation in this attempt were subsequently killed, reportedly in an escape attempt. Bouterse later said they had been plotting with the CIA. At that time the U.S. and the Netherlands cut off all aid to Surinam.

In May of 1983, U.S. officials admitted there had been a plan to overthrow the Surinam government but since it had been dropped following Congressional objectives. The purpose reportedly was, as in the case of Grenada, to eliminate the possibility of the U.S.S.R. or

Cuba using Surinam as a "base." The second coup attempt took place on January 30, 1983.

Following the invasion of Grenada by the U.S. Bouterse requested that Cuban advisers and embassy personnel leave the country to remove the excuse for a similar invasion of Surinam.

The most recent coup attempt, on November 29th, was reported to be led by the Council for the Liberation of Surinam, a group of exiles in the Netherlands, led by former president Henk Chin A. Sen. Sen served as Prime Minister after the 1980 military coup but was ousted in 1982. He moved first to the U.S. and then to the Netherlands.

Greensboro civil rights suit maintains federal, state collusion

The Greensboro Civil Rights Fund has received the endorsement of the Congressional Black Caucus for the massive federal civil rights suit brought by widows and survivors of the November 3, 1979 Greensboro Massacre. Hearings on the suit will begin in December.

The endorsement by the group of 21 Black Congressmen is added to a list of more than 100 other supporting groups and prominent individuals. The American Civil Liberties Union, the National Council of Churches, Operation PUSH, the Presbyterian Church, the National Lawyers Guild, entertainers Ed Asner, Harry Belafonte and Pete Seeger, are among the endorsers of the Greensboro Civil Rights Suit.

That suit demands \$48 million real and punitive damages from Klansmen, Nazis, officials of the Greensboro police, Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, FBI, Justice Department and North Carolina Bureau of Investigation. The 88 defendants are charged with violating and conspiring to violate the civil rights of Communist Workers Party labor organizers and community activists who were killed and injured at an anti-Klan demonstration in Greensboro, North Carolina on November 3, 1979. The suit claims that local and federal officials used their offices to violate the civil rights of the demonstrators. They conspired with Klansmen and Nazis in that attack, they unlawfully arrested dem-

onstrators, and they concealed and manipulated evidence after the fact.

The claims are based on media reports, trial testimony and official admissions that two agents participated in planning and organization by the Klan and Nazi groups. Klansman/informant Edward Dawson recruited, organized, and led Klansmen while in the pay of Greensboro police and while reporting to the FBI. Federal BATF agent Bernard Butkovich participated in key Nazi planning meetings prior to November 3 while working undercover with them. Police, who had guaranteed protection to the anti-Klan demonstrators, surveilled and followed the attackers that morning but did nothing to stop the shootings. Not coincidentally, according to the suit, CWP labor organizers who were murdered had been under FBI investigation the week before they were killed.

On December 3 lawyers for the Civil Rights Fund will enter federal district court in Durham, North Carolina, to argue against motions to dismiss the suit filed by the federal Justice Department, the State of North Carolina, and the City of Greensboro.

The government previously successfully stopped the discovery (court supervised investigation) process in the suit, which Civil Rights Fund lawyers project will ultimately reveal the full extent and character of the multi-agency involvement in

the murders.

Among its arguments for dismissing the suit, the Justice Department claims that federal officials with knowledge of an impending crime have not duty to stop the crime or warn the victims. Moreover, according to the Justice Department, federal officials are not subject to suit under the civil rights laws.

Lawyers for the Greensboro Civil Rights Fund believe that the December 3 hearing will result in the denial of the government's motions to dismiss the case. According to Washington-based attorney Dan Sheehan, "Having reviewed the grounds set forth by the Justice Department in support of the demand that the Civil Rights Suit be dismissed, and

being aware of the solid reputation of Judge Frank Mehridge as a competent and well-informed jurist, we are confident that the motions to dismiss will be readily denied by the court. Therefore, we will stand ready to accept the guidance of the court in proceeding with the civil discovery in this case in the manner which is most compatible with the effective prosecution of the federal criminal indictment and with any additional criminal investigation of government activities which may be undertaken by a special prosecutor being considered by the Court of Appeals in Washington."

In January the criminal trial of nine Klansmen and Nazis will begin (Please turn to page 6 column 1)