

Rep. Margaret Carter does a good job

by Lanita Duke

GRASSROOT NEWS, N.W. — For the last decade residents in inner Northeast have received lukewarm, if not cold, representation in the legislature. State Senator Bill McCoy was, and continues to be, invisible and the least effective of all State Senators. Former Representative Wally Priestley, the liberal's liberal, was so anti-business that economic development constantly passed Northeast Portland by.

This year a new generation of politicians emerged in Northeast Portland. Representative Margaret Carter (D-18) and Mike Burton (d-17) broke out of the political constraints of liberalism by fusing economic development with a progressive social agenda.

As a Freshman representative, Carter had a very productive year. Through compromise and negotiation Carter succeeded in getting legislation passed where others had failed.

Oregon will have half its monies divested in South Africa, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday will become a state holiday and institutionalized discrimination in the selection of jurors has met a formidable opponent named Carter.

"Compromising on the divesture bill was most difficult," Carter said. "I had to get beyond myself because the bill was bigger than me. We were



able to get a bill out and although it's not as strong as I like, at least we won't have to start at ground zero next session if we want to change it." At times Carter found herself

breaking from the traditional ties of organized labor and other so-called liberal loyalties.

"I've lived long enough to know what it takes to survive. Liberalism is

fine but a majority of Black people in this country are not a part of organized labor. Who supports the masses? It's the business community," Carter noted.

With a twinkle of pride in her eyes, Carter said legislatively she balanced the liberal agenda vs. that from the conservative.

"My district will discover that I'm liberal on one end and conservative on the other. It takes that kind of imagination to represent my community. I don't want to burn bridges, but we must continue to build. My constituency are the masses. The little guy on the street must have some representation in Salem," Carter said.

The \$64 question is, will Carter run again. "At this time I don't know. I have to wait to see if my daughter goes to dental school and if I can get enough days in on my contract as a counselor at Portland Community College," answered Carter.

Throughout her campaign, various challengers inserted sexism into the campaign. Did she encounter any sexism in Salem?

"Some, but in Salem people respect you for the weight you carry. I was sent to Salem with a 85.5 mandate. All the sexism and racism I might have encountered were under the guise of ignorance," she added.

Next week: Rep. Burton.



Michael Rice, right, shows off his trophies and ribbons won for his roses. (Photo: Kris Altacher)

Local man wins award

Winning ribbons and trophies for his lovely roses has become almost routine for one rose grower in Northeast Portland. Michael Rice has exhibited lovely roses in competition with the growers of best roses for 20 years, starting in 1964. Rice does not have one of the biggest gardens around, he just has one of the best producing gardens of best roses around.

This year Rice has 125 bushes in his garden, most of them hybrid tea roses and he walked away, as usual, with ribbons and a trophy to add to his impressive collection of trophies garnered from Oregon and other rose-growing states. His "Diewelt," a yellow hybrid tea won top prizes from the Salem Rose Society's show recent-

ly teamed, in Salem, with the Pacific Northwest District of the American Rose Society. "Diewelt," with its three-blossom entry, was chosen as the "three best roses" in the whole show of hundreds of show-quality blooms. Other roses Rice grows were "Royal Highness" and "Red Devil," both of which captured prizes in exhibits this year. "Blue Nile," "Fragrant Cloud," "Honor," "Montezuma" were also prize winners.

Rice does not reveal all the techniques he employs to bring his roses to perfection for show, but he suggests keeping the soil well aerated, feeding the plants with a 20/20 balanced fertilizer and watering in the early morning.

83-year-old woman murdered

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was the one shot. Officially, reports stated that Mrs. Tate died on the way to the hospital. But a number of witnesses saw an ambulance pull away from the scene near 1 a.m. without lights.

At 11:20 the Special Emergency Response Team was deployed. After midnight they shot tear gas into the house. Their last tear gas volley was at 3 a.m. and the entire neighborhood was choked.

A man who lived behind the Tate house said whoever came out that dark back door could not fire upon police. "The police were in the trees

and hid all over. Just like the police couldn't see that person, that person couldn't see the police. It doesn't seem right that the police shot that old lady. They were protected by cover. All they had to do was wait."

Grace McKenzie, who lives on the corner, along with a number of other neighbors, wondered why the police did not apprehend Graves while he was eating dinner on the front porch. "They took a long time to do anything," McKenzie said.

But Decker said for the police, "It was damned if we do and damned if we don't."

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