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Candidates For Chair Address Forum

by Jerry Garner

Gladys McCoy and Glenn Otto, the two candidates for Chairman of Multnomah County Board of Commissioners, addressed a forum attended by 35 people last Saturday at the First AME Zion Church, 109 North Skidmore. The forum was sponsored by the Oregon Assembly For Black Affairs.

The Oregon Assembly For Black Affairs is a non-profit, statewide corporation committed to improving the status of Blacks in Oregon. It was founded on April 9, 1977, and is registered with the Oregon Corporation Commission. Although nonpartisan, the organization is political and places a major emphasis on building a better Oregon for the Black community.

Each candidate was given 10 minutes to address the meeting. During the ten minutes, each candidate was asked, if elected, how she or he will involve Blacks in economic development in Multnomah County; address the issues and conditions of African-Americans in Multnomah County; and whether

Blacks will be members of her or his immediate staff.

Otto said that he believes that one way to reduce the unemployment among African-Americans in Multnomah County is to get them into apprenticeship programs in plumbing, carpentry, construction, and painting. He said it's vital that Black community leaders stress the importance of a high school education to

Blacks. "In order to be accepted into these programs, one must have a high school education." Therefore, he encourages Black community leaders to stress the importance of a high school diploma to Black youths.

Otto said the county doesn't have an economic development plan and that the community colleges are doing more in the area of economic development than Multnomah County. He said, as county chair, he would work with the colleges in developing a solid economic development program in the county. Otto said he is committed to having a staff in his administration that is representative of the county. "Not only will there be qualified Blacks on my staff, there are other minorities besides Blacks who are out there."

McCoy said that not only would she support apprenticeship programs, she would also make sure those trainees get the opportunity to practice their craft once they graduate. "There should be a strong affirmative action program to ensure that African-Americans get a fair share of the jobs that are generated."

McCoy said the county doesn't have jurisdiction over economic development in Northeast Portland. "This is the responsibility of the city of Portland. However, as county chair, I will facilitate the cooperation and coordination with the different governmental bodies to create new businesses throughout all



(L) Glenn Otto and (R) Gladys McCoy, candidates for Chairperson of Multnomah County Board of Commissioners, get together fol-

lowing a forum sponsored by the Oregon Assembly For Black Affairs. Calvin Henry (C), OABA president, joins them.

Photo by Richard J. Brown

areas of Multnomah County."

She said this can be done by offering businesses incentives such as

deferring taxes, prepared land, sewers, streets, etc. "This is why businesses have been locating in Clark County; because they have

these incentives," McCoy said.

McCoy said she would also focus her attention on small businesses, saying that 85 percent of all new

business is in the small business category.

McCoy said Blacks will also be on her immediate staff.

140,000 People Killed From Trauma Neglect



Dr. Donald Trunkey, chairman of Surgery at the OHSU, will speak on "Trauma: The Neglected Epidemic" at the first Marquam Hill Lecture on Wednesday, October 1 at 8:00 p.m. at the OHSU Auditorium. A noted trauma authority, Trunkey will address the trauma crisis in American and the development of Oregon's trauma system.

Trauma kills more people under the age of 34 in Oregon than heart disease, cancer, AIDS and all other diseases combined.

Dr. Donald Trunkey, chairman of the Department of Surgery at the Oregon Health Sciences University, will discuss "Trauma: The Neglected Epidemic" at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, October 1 at the OHSU Auditorium.

Trunkey, a nationally recognized trauma authority, says that while the State Legislature has recognized Oregon's trauma epidemic, many people still do not understand the size and complexity of the trauma crisis in this country. Last year, for example, trauma killed 140,000 Americans and permanently disabled at least twice that number. Trauma costs the United States more than \$200 million a day. Trauma is particularly tragic because its victims often die or are permanently disabled, needlessly.

Studies have consistently shown that trauma systems save lives. Even with this evidence, however, the medical community has not fully em-

braced the need for a statewide trauma system. "Many hospitals still believe they can handle everything," says Trunkey. "Unfortunately, that's just not the case. Trauma patients have a higher survival rate when they are treated by specialists who deal with trauma every day."

According to Trunkey, there are several obstacles to improving the system of trauma care in this country. First, more needs to be done with prevention. Trunkey says that about 40 percent of all trauma cases could be prevented by getting drunk drivers off the road, enacting handgun control legislation, requiring the use of motorcycle helmets and passive or mandatory restraints for automobiles. Trunkey says these tough social issues could have a big impact on the incidence of trauma. This is particularly true in the United States where the trauma death rate for teenagers and young adults is about 50 percent higher than in any other western country.

Another problem is delivery of health care to trauma patients. The Portland metropolitan area has addressed part of the problem with the establishment of a 911 system. Even so, says Trunkey, that's just the tip of the iceberg. Trunkey says there should be a hospital that has in-house, 24 hours a day, the necessary medical staff to care for critically injured trauma patients. Trunkey likens it to the concept of a firehouse. "Taxpayers pay to have firefighters available in-house, 24 hours a day, to save their property; the same should be true for treating trauma."

Rehabilitation is another problem. Trunkey says that only one out of every 10 critically injured Americans later gets into a rehabilitation program. "Of all the people who are currently receiving long term institutional care for injuries, three-fourths could be deinstitutionalized at one-tenth the cost. People who don't go to rehabilitation centers rarely become taxpayers; they become tax receivers."

"People almost accept trauma as part of their lives," Trunkey says. "When almost 50,000 American soldiers lost their lives in Vietnam over an 11-year period, the American public was rightly upset and concerned. Yet, during that same period, we lost about 530,000 lives in automobile accidents. There was no comparable outrage or concern. It's time for the public to be more informed about the trauma crisis in this country."

Trunkey, president-elect of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, is chairman of the Committee on Trauma for the American College of Surgeons and vice chairman of the American Board of Surgery.

Before coming to the OHSU in April 1986, Trunkey was instrumental in developing the trauma center at San Francisco General Hospital and served as vice chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of California at San Francisco.

Trunkey's trauma research is primarily directed towards the study of shock, particularly at the cellular level. He is interested in learning more about how cells and cell functions change following injury. Additional studies concern resuscitation following shock and the identification of immune deficiencies in the body following shock insult and thermal injury.

As a consultant in the development of numerous other trauma centers throughout the country, Trunkey works regularly with such agencies and organizations as NASA, the U.S. Army, the National Academy of Sciences and the American Burn Association.

Trunkey has written or collaborated on nearly 70 journal articles, 60 book chapters and five books, including Current Therapy of Trauma 1984-85 and Surgical Clinics of North America: Symposium on Trauma. His work with professional publications includes a role as consulting editor for the Journal of Surgery and editorial board positions with the Archives of Surgery, Surgery and Journal of Pre-hospital Care.

The lecture by Trunkey is the first of six in the annual Marquam Hill Lecture Series. All lectures are free and open to the public. Ample free parking is available near the OHSU Auditorium.

For more information about Trunkey's lecture, or the Marquam Hill Lecture Series, please call 225-8231.



Carla Davis and Aleem Shabazz

Photo by Richard J. Brown

NEHRC Offers Health Information

by Jerry Garner

In an effort to provide health service information to citizens living in North/Northeast Portland, Northeast Health Resource Center (NHRC) was created. "We provide referral services such as health counseling, doctor referrals, seniors' information, and information on pregnancy, venereal diseases, and cancer," said Aleem Abdul Shabazz, President of NEHRC.

Besides this, NEHRC provides health care information to the public. NEHRC's goal is to establish an alliance with local agencies, such as the Heart and Kidney Foundation and the Cancer Society, to gather health information to better serve the community and to form health centers at local schools.

NEHRC has been in operation

since 1985. Besides Shabazz and his administrative assistant Carla Davis, the center is staffed by three volunteers in the health care field.

Shabazz said there is a need for a grass-roots medical information center in the North/Northeast area. "Preventative health care must take precedence over all other types of health care. To prevent a disease is much more cost effective to a family than the high cost from a major illness."

He said funds available for health care throughout the county is declining as a direct result of the Graham-Rudmann Bill, therefore, making it essential that individuals practice preventative health care. NEHRC provides preventative health care information by networking with local health care agencies.