

County Justice System Continues Improvements

Response to the Special Grand Jury Report
January 8, 1988

Multnomah County extends its gratitude to the seven persons who served to well on the Special Grand Jury on Correctional Facilities which produced its report December 30, 1987.

The Grand Jury focused its attention on one issue which Multnomah County shares with other urban counties, crime. And it dealt with one of the solutions counties provide to address that issue, jails. The responsibility of elected officials, however, extends beyond the narrow focus of the Grand Jury. We must also be concerned with tax levels, crime prevention and relations with other governments, particularly the State of Oregon.

"Good Programs"

I note that the Grand Jury was "impressed with the general condition of the facilities." Referring to work release and other non-jail programs, the Grand Jury also said, "there are a number of good programs throughout the county." Taken together, these two points emphasize that Multnomah County is doing an effective job with the available resources.

I agree with the Grand Jury that Multnomah County should provide more jail space. Corrections is a top priority at Multnomah County, receiving more attention from the Board of County Commissioners than any other issue.

Available Resources Applied

Multnomah County has applied as much of the local tax dollar as it can toward jails and justice services. Voters recently approved an additional \$14.1 million toward more jail space. Taxpayers have made it clear that they want limits on government spending. Multnomah County officials are right now working on the best way to establish and operate the most economical jail possible.

The Multnomah County Charter gives the Sheriff, an independently elected official, the authority for "administration of all county jails and correctional institutions." Therefore, it is appropriate for the Sheriff to address the administrative issues raised by the Grand Jury such as the need for reviewing various functions within the institutions.

Jails Not the Only Solution

It is also important to remember that jail is not the only solution to crime. Even the Grand Jury, which advocates an expensive jail construction program, acknowledges "perhaps we cannot build ourselves out of our present situation." We can't. That is why the county must make sure to support those services which prevent crime and improve the quality of life for all. Those services include juvenile counseling, health clinics, well baby programs, mental health programs and drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs.

The true long-range solution to jail overcrowding is not simply to lock up more and more of our citizens after they have harmed victims. Rather, we should make sure to provide the full range of government programs — justice services and human services — so that people do not commit crimes in the first place.

State Responsibility

Finally, I want to emphasize the responsibility of the state in providing adequate prison facilities for dangerous felons. Much of the local jail problem we face is caused by a shortage of state prison space. The State of Oregon has already appropriated funds to build more jail space. County officials are actively participating in the process to locate a new state facility in this region.

Gladys McCoy, Multnomah County Chair

Toll-Free Numbers for Taxpayer Assistance

SALEM — The Oregon Department of Revenue will be providing toll-free numbers for taxpayer assistance during the upcoming tax filing season. The toll-free numbers will be available only from January 4, 1988, to April 30, 1988. Taxpayers who have questions about Oregon taxes may call Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

The toll-free numbers are: from Portland, 243-2833; from Salem, 371-2244; elsewhere in Oregon, 1-800-356-4222.

From outside of Oregon, call Salem (503) 371-2244 at all times. Calls from outside the state are not toll-free.

After April 30, call Salem 1-371-2244. There will be no toll-free numbers after April 30.

Oregon State Elks Scholarship Program

The Elks Scholarship program is open to all high school seniors. They are judged on the basis of scholarship, leadership, and financial need. Scholarships range up to

\$5000.00 a year for four years are possible. Application's are available from your high school guidance counselors or the Elks Lodge in your jurisdiction. The deadline for acceptance of applications is January 20, 1988. Last year over \$260,000.00 was given for scholarships in Oregon by the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Public Accountants to Award \$1,000 and \$500 Scholarships

Oregon students who plan careers in accounting are invited to apply for scholarships to be awarded next spring by the Oregon Association of Public Accountants Scholarship Foundation, according to Raymond, A. Cass, Albany, Foundation chairman.

Cass said both \$500 and \$1000 grants will be made. Scholarships will go to accounting students who are qualified residents of the State of Oregon and who are enrolled or plan to enroll in an Oregon college, community college or university.

Scholarship application forms are available from high school counseling offices and college and community college financial aid offices, or may be obtained by writing to Cass at P.O. Box 1806, Albany, OR 97321, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Applications must be returned to him by April 1, 1988. Names of successful applicants will be announced by June 1, 1988.

Award winners are selected on a basis of financial need, scholastic achievement, personal qualifications and professional promise. The Oregon Association of Public Accountants initiated the awards program in 1981 and since then has granted approximately \$40,000 in scholarships.

Members of the Scholarship Foundation board also include Robert Boden, Portland; Alberta Cass, Albany; Gail DeLozier, Hillsboro; and Robert Gordon, Bend.

Women's Crisis Line Volunteer Training Available

The Portland Women's Crisis Line (PWCL) is pleased to announce openings for its Winter Volunteer Direct Service Worker training.

The PWCL is a feminist organization serving communities throughout Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties and committed to ending violence against women and children through:

- The maintenance of a 24-hour telephone hotline to provide support, service, and education about their options to women in the event of rape, battering, incest or sexual harassment;
- The endorsement and support of related programs intended to prevent the crimes of rape, battering, incest and sexual harassment; and
- The provision of an education program for the community at large on the problems of domestic and sexual violence.

Volunteer positions are available in all aspects of Crisis Line work. No experience is necessary, however only a limited number of spaces are available for the training.

Practicum students are also welcome to apply, credit is available for this work.

Interested women should call 232-9751 during business hours to receive a job description and interview appointment.

Training classes are scheduled to begin January 24, 1988.

The PWCL is an equal opportunity employer. Survivors of violence and women of colors are particularly encouraged to apply.

Multnomah County Library to Host Small Business Workshop

Wondering how to sell your made-in-Oregon products to federal, state, county or city governments?

Want to bid on the \$550 million that is expected to be spent in the Pacific Northwest by federal, state and local government agencies in 1988?

Then plan to attend the next small business conference "You Can Sell To Government," on Thursday, Jan. 21 at the Multnomah County Library, 801 S.W. Tenth, Portland. Registration for the all-day workshop begins at 8 a.m. with the first session planned to begin promptly at 8:30 a.m.

The workshop, which is sponsored by the Library, the Small Business Administration and the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), will include step-by-step instruction in techniques and methods of selling to the government. Instructors Al and Frances Lede will also be available for individual consulting.

Representatives from federal, state, county and city purchasing departments will also be available at the workshop. Those expected include: U.S. General Services Administration; Department of the Interior-Fish and Wildlife Service; U.S. Department of Transportation; U.S.D.A. Forest Service; Bonneville Power Administration; U.S. Corps of Engineers; U.S. Naval

Supply Center (Bremerton, Washington); U.S. Airforce Base-McChord Field; Oregon National Guard and Oregon Air National Guard; Oregon State Department of General Services; Multnomah County Purchasing; and Portland Purchasing.

Registration for the Jan. 21 workshop is \$35 per person, which includes lunch and materials. Registration at the door is \$40 but conference organizers suggest pre-registration because previous workshops have filled quickly.

To register, send \$35 to SBA-SCORE, Federal Building, Room 676, 1220 Third Ave., Portland, Oregon, 97204-2882.

"Teach Your Children Well" Addresses Sensitive Topic of Children and AIDS

Julius "Dr. J" Erving hosts "For Kids' Sake" Special

AIDS — it's not an easy subject to discuss with your kids because it involves sex. But it also involves life and death — and what your children don't know about AIDS literally can kill them.

In a one-hour FOR KIDS' SAKE special airing Wednesday, January 20, 7:00-8:00 p.m., KPTV will give parents and children an opportunity to explore this sensitive topic together.

Hosted by basketball great Julius Erving with reports from Health and Science Editor Max Gomez, TEACH YOUR CHILDREN WELL is both a primer on the AIDS crisis for teens and pre-teens and an attempt to protect a generation that, for the most part, has not yet been touched by the AIDS virus.

While the program will profile young people coping with the disease, its emphasis is on education for the majority who can still avoid contracting it. Teens themselves help present the information, including actresses Tracey and Missy Gold. Tracey is best known for her current role in the network sitcom "Growing Pains"; Missy starred in the hit TV comedy series "Benson".

Parents contributing to the program include actor Mike Farrell of "Mash", who discusses the responsibility of parents in educating their children about AIDS, and Dr. Art Ulene, medical correspondent for NBC's "Today" show, who provides more specific advice that parents can pass along to their kids.

Why all this attention to the younger generation's understanding of AIDS? "The transmission of this disease by the sharing of I.V. drug needles and sexual contact is running unchecked through our society," Host (and parent) Julius Erving says. "Unless parents do something and do it soon, AIDS could become the 'Vietnam' for a whole generation."

"My career in professional basketball taught me that the best offense is a good defense. The same rule applies to the battle against AIDS. If we're going to beat this disease, we must come out strong in the first period and lead all the way." The good news, Erving adds, is that there is hope.

"Teach Your Children Well" was

written and produced by Derek Muirden of KYW-TV in Philadelphia. A year in the making, the program was shot on location in Philadelphia, in New York (where a candid classroom discussion in a Bronx public school was taped), San Francisco, Minnesota and the wine country of Northern California where residents of "Starcross," a small Catholic lay monastery, care for infants afflicted with AIDS.

Max Gomez served as writer/associate producer of the special; Lisa Nee was writer/executive producer; Suzanne Hansberry, associate producer; camera and editing performed by Bill Williams with sound by Craig Ruxton.

KPTV acknowledges the support of True Value Hardware and Dairy Queen in its "For Kids' Sake" campaign.

FACTS ABOUT CHILDREN AND AIDS

- AIDS, the familiar term for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, strips the body of its ability to resist life-threatening diseases.
- Teenagers and younger children are not immune to the virus. For that reason, an understanding

of the facts about AIDS is vital.

- Since January 1, 1987 nearly 15,000 new cases of AIDS in adults and adolescents have been reported to the U.S. Center for Disease Control. Of that total, 830 are people under the age of 19.

- Anyone who is sexually active can acquire or transmit the AIDS virus through unprotected sexual contact. Direct blood-to-blood transfer (such as the sharing of hypodermic needles by drug users) is the other major known means of spreading the AIDS virus.

- School activities and other casual contact pose no threat, according to medical authorities. Attending classes, shaking hands, sneezing, coughing, eating in school cafeterias and swimming in public pools can be done without risk of getting AIDS.

- There is no cure for AIDS at this time. Therefore, although educating young people about AIDS, how it is spread and how it can be avoided is a relatively new (and sometimes uncomfortable) responsibility for parents, it is one we dare not neglect.

Teach Your Children Well.



Are you prepared to answer your children's questions about AIDS? Learning more is our only hope for a safe and healthy future.



HOST: JULIUS ERVING




Wednesday
Jan. 20th
7:00 p.m.

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They'll Tell You All About It