

# Introducing:



Norma J. Scott Standard Insurance Co. Portland, Oregon



Judge Mercedes F. Deiz Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge Deiz is Oregon's only African-American female Judge.



## NEWS MAKERS OF THE WEEK

The concept of self-reliance has governed Marie Edwards most of her life. Passed on to her by her mother and reinforced by her sister B. J., Marie had embarked upon no less than two business ventures by the time she was eight years old - selling cookies and helping a local business merchant keep his shop clean.

"Mother always told us that we could do anything we set out to do. She also stressed the importance of hard work, determination and consistency," Marie recalled. "So, it was not unusual for me to see someone doing something and to think that I could also do it."

Come September 1988, Marie will witness the rewards of her labor when "Attitudes of Portland," a Full Service Salon and Art Gallery, 1525 S.W. Park Avenue (South Park Square Building) has its Grand Opening. Containing 2200 square feet of space, the salon will offer full service - total hair care, facial techniques, manicurists/pedicurists and a art gallery, of mixed media art, that will occupy 600 square feet of space. Marie will be the salon's operator. Her business associate is Mr. Robert Wright.

The opening of the salon and art gallery fulfills a long time dream. "Since the first time I visited my sister B. J.'s salon, years ago, I knew that I wanted to be in this business. B. J. would introduce me to the different chemicals, as well as the business end. After I obtained my license, I began

working for various salons as both a manager and a practioner. Eventually, B. J. and I went to Europe to study and practice. And by the time I returned, I was ready to open my own business," she said with a smile. "B. J. remained in Europe."

Marie opened her own salon in the basement of her home where it remained for 5-1/2 years. Once her clientele had outgrown the original space, Marie set her sights on acquiring space that would compliment an art gallery. And after four tries to obtain a lease at four different locations, Attitudes of Portland' became a reality. Explaining the concept of the art gallery, Marie said, "artists, young and old, will have the opportunity to display their talents in our gallery. We will encourage artists from throughout the City and the community to submit their work to us. Once we start the exhibit, we will sponsor an exhibit once-a-month."

Marie talked about the support she has received from Portlanders. "When I think about all of the people who've supported us, I am overwhelmed by appreciation: Skip, Shelia Marcus, Whips & Waves, my sister B. J., my mother, my daughter Qianna, DeWange Mann, Diann Hill, Robert Wright and a host of others. My special thanks to all of the clients who've supported me during these years. It is because of them that 'Attitudes of Portland' will be successful."

As Marie talked about her clients and supporters, tears flowed from her eyes. "My mother always taught us that anyone can achieve anything they want to achieve regardless of race or color, if they have determination, work hard and set goals. I am a living example, and this is the message I want to share with others," she said softly.

Congratulations Marie. The Portland Observer is proud to salute you as one of our "News Makers of the Week." We wish 'Attitudes of Portland' much success.

#### Dr. E. Paul Williams Vice President Educational Services at



### ROLE MODEL OF THE WEEK

#### Anna Street



Anna Street is a 1968 graduate of Tongue Point Job Corps Center. She is currently employed as a Commissioner's Assistant to City Commissioner Dick Bogle. "My experiences in government have taught me not only how to be a good public servant but how to be a good Christian servant as well," says Street.

The size of a person is not determined by their status in life, nor how high they can sit or go; but how much they are willing to give and how far down they are willing to reach to help someone else.

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Anna Street

There is a special joy in giving, a joy in reaping what one sows. Anna Street exemplifies this philosophy in her daily life by breaking new ground to make it easier for others to follow.

Anna is liaison to the Office of Neighborhood Associations. Past liaison responsibilities have included the Bureau of Personnel Services, the Economic Development Trust Fund, Purchasing (Minority and Female Procurement Programs) and the Commissioner's Forum. Most of her career experience has been in the area of Personnel — Affirmative Action, Recruiting, Interviewing, Labor and Employee Relations and Public Relations. "I enjoy building linkages, resolving problems and making decisions" says Street, "I've been blessed to form some wonderful associations and develop some broad perspectives on the role of government today.

In May 1967 she graduated from Western High School in Las Vegas, Nevada, where her mother, Winnie Williams, four sisters and a brother still live. Street has come a long way on her own.

Comming from a family in poverty, she entered Tongue Point Job Corps Center for Women to study Business and Clerical Occupations. She completed her courses in only 9 short months and went to work for Philco-Ford as a PBX Operator and Typing Instructor on Center. After a year, she resigned to further her education. In 1969 she went on to attend Portland State University for four years.

"I knew that if I tried I might fail," Street says, "but that if I didn't try, I was sure to fail." Street had dreams and those dreams gave her hope. "Poverty itself is hard. But poverty without hope is deadly."

Anna sees many of our youth in this very predicament today.

"Someone cared enough to help me get past myself so that I could get past other obstacles in my life, and I'm very grateful that they pushed me to motivate me — without pushing me out the door," Street says. "My mentors helped me to develop a positive outlook on life and I used to tell myself it was luck. But being older and wiser now, I know that there is no such thing as luck. Luck is opportunity meeting up with preparation."

As a result of those experiences, Anna says she always focuses on returning some of that goodness that others have given to her.

"Thanks to all of those wonderful people," Anna says with enthusiasm, "black and white, I emerged as a winner!"

When Charles Jordan was appointed as Portland City Commissioner in 1974, Street joined him at City Hall. Jordan resigned and was succeeded by Dick Bogle, and Anna has remained as a key member of his staff since January, 1985. However, Street says she is not finished. Although she has made some strides, she feels she still has a long way to go. Religion is a natural part of Anna's life, and she is active in the Open Book Bible Study Group and is a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church. When questioned about her future goals by those who have mentored her through the years, she tells them to be patient. "God is not through with me yet," Street ads. "When my foundation is sturdy, I can always focus on helping others - and those are the times I find that I am happiest." For four years, Anna has served as the Region X Representative for the National Job Corps Alumni Association. Past Board appointments and memberships include OMSI, the Junior League of Portland, Albertina Kerr Center for Children and the Reading Tree, to name a few. A humble, gracious lady, Anna is the recipient of many local and national awards and recognitions including the NJCAA Presidential Award for outstanding contributions, nomination to the Job Corps Hall of Fame, NAACP Youth Award and the AMA Certificate of Appreciation for contributions to its Teen Parent Program. Her goal is to pursue a career in business or work at the management level in government or private industry where "she can make a difference." Eventually Street would like to direct a job corps center. Anna Street not only is an excellent role model for youth, but a wonderful example of what it means to be an exemplary human being. Keep up the good work, Anna.

Teletha Benjamin Educator For more than 30 years, Mrs. Benjamin has served the African-American community in the areas of education and social service. Hats off to you sister Benjamin!

**Rose Marie Davis** 

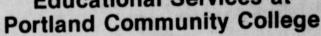
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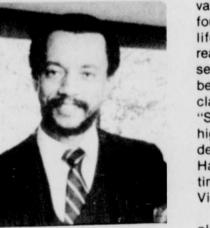
**Marie Edwards** 

Dr. E. Paul Williams, vice president for educational services at Portland Community College, will replace Dr. Jessica Bailey as executive dean of the PCC Sylvania Campus in Southwest Portland.

Bailey has resigned the position, effective August 15, to accept a Bush Foundation fellowship next year at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Williams joined the college staff in 1981. Previous to that, he was an administrator and instructor at several California community colleges. He earned a bachelor's degree in anthropology from the University of Arizona; master's from the University of Wisconsin; and doctorate in higher education administration from the University of California at Berkeley.

# Will The Real Ron Herndon Stand Up



Ron Herndon by Professor McKinley Burt

Oregonian Columnist Phil Stanford asks, "Will The Real Ron Herndon Stand Up?" (Wednesday, 8/3/88) The Answer From The Black Community Is That "He Always Has, And He Always Will! And Therein May Lie A Problem — For Some Folk.

Those who indicate a difficulty in perceiving 'THE REAL RON HERNDON' may be representative of those who have had equal difficulty in recognizing THE REAL McCOY (Automatic Lubricator) and other Black inno-

vators who have had such a profound impact on our quality of life — Probably for the same reasons. I am reminded of my segregated sixth-grade class of a better educational era, where a class play opened with the line, "Saxon from yonder mountain high, we mark thee send with delighted eye." Well the Battle of Hastings has been over for sometime (1066 A.D.), but the 'Saxon Viewpoint' is still with us.

When the establishment is placed under fire over a long period of time — quite deservedly — and especially by a committed Black leader, Black America has learned to expect at some point either a bold or subtle denigration of that person, or some measure of less-than-divine retribution. Today, we find this process as a consistent, nationwide phenomenon, well-documented by the Congressional Black Caucus.

Let us pay close attention here. Mr. Stanford goes back a full six years to cite the relevant position statements of "four Black organizations and his allegedly-ephemeral Ron Herndon, at a time when they mounted a definitive opposition to the tone and tenor of an Oregonian series on "The Rise of Yough Gangs." Had the columnist gone back 'another' six years — to 1976 — he would have found the same complainants, and their very same anticipation of a tragic deterioration of the community, if specific (and available) remedies were not applied.

Belatedly, the establishment has discovered that the Ronnie Herndons, and Black leadership in general, were right the first time. Look no farther than page two of this Monday's Oregonian for a litany of solutions to the problems of that "endangered species," the Black male: "More role models and support systems - Structured education and job tracks - Reorganization of th welfare system-Black businesses - affordable housing." This is exactly what 'local' Black leadership was saying back 'then'; where was the nit-picking establishment when the community needed adequate and timely assistance in all of these areas?

We may ask the 'Saxons from yonder mountain high' JUST HOW TALL MUST ONE STAND TO BE SEEN?

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### **OBSERVER'S COMMENTARY**

#### **NEW PHILOSOPHY**

The Portland Observer is in the process of implementing programs that will not only reflect the community's achievements and progress, but will also document as much as possible, in any given week, the history of African-Americans.

Historically and traditionally, African-American newspapers have served as community resources, family resources, etc. When it comes to the documentation of our history.

As reflected in our changing format, the **Portland Observer** will document births, marriages, deaths, accomplishments, family reunions, news, views, etc. We realize the importance of documenting and leaving behind, for our children and future historians, as much of our history as possible.

In concert with this philosophy, we encourage our readers, subscribers and supporters, to send us news from your part of the city, state and community. Try to accompany this information with black and white photographs. All photographs (unless requested) will become the property of the **Portland Observer**. They will (after being used) be stored in our files.

For more information about this format, please call 288-0033 and ask for the News Desk.

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