

The Portland Observer 25¢

METRO *Life*



OBSERVING *Vancouver*

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Russian Blast Spreads Radiation

A tank of radioactive waste exploded and burned at a weapons plant in Siberian, contaminating 2,500 acres and exposing firefighters to radiation. This was the single worst accident since the Chernobyl catastrophe.

IRS Giving A Break To The Tax Payer

The IRS is giving late filing tax payers a break. Anyone who requests an extension by the deadline, April 15th and are not able to pay all the tax owed at that time will have until August 15th to file their returns, without the failure to pay penalty of 5%.

Firebombing Defendants Convicted

A Salem jury freed Yolanda Cotton, but found Leon Tucker and Phillip Wilson guilty of felony murder, assault, arson and racial intimidation. The white defendants threw two firebombs in to the residence of Brian Mock, and Hattie Mae Cohens who were a mixed couple.

Marian Anderson Has Sung Her Last Song

Contralto Marian Anderson died at age 96 here in Portland, Oregon. Known for her famous voice and her civil rights involvement, Anderson died of congestive heart failure. She was the aunt of our own James DePriest, director of the Oregon Symphony.

GM Asked To Recall GM Pickups

Federal auto safety regulators asked GM to recall 4.7 million pickups that are supposed to be a fire hazard because of the location of the gas tank. The automaker contends that a study by federal regulators shows that their findings are inaccurate.

Rodney King Trial Causes Fear

At this printing the jury is still out. Residents of Los Angeles have been purchasing firearms, and the law officers are gearing themselves the worst. Nobody wants a repeat of what happened last year.

NATO Warplanes Guard The Bosnian Skies

NATO warplanes are guarding the Bosnia skies to enforce the no fly zone against the rebel Serbs. The American, French and Dutch pilots launched an "Operation Deny Flight". This is NATO's first mission outside the perimeters of its member nations.

Clinton Potpourri

Mario Cuomo asks not to be nominated for the supreme court; first lady's father dies after stroke; sends 1.52 trillion budget to Congress; Congress looks dimly at proposed investment tax credit; critics don't like the anti-drug budget; cuts to national parks and wilderness cause environmentalists to cry foul; Clinton charges Republicans are threatening children's health (immunizations)

Commissioner Gladys McCoy Succumbs To Cancer

Surrounded by her family, Gladys McCoy passed away on Easter Sunday after a lengthy illness

Gladys McCoy was elected in 1986 to preside over Multnomah County as the County Chair. In this role, McCoy administered the government as the County Executive and was Chair of the five-member Board of County Commissioners.

McCoy was born in Atlanta, Georgia. She attended Talladega College in Alabama and earned a bachelor's degree in Sociology with a minor in Economics. In the early 1950's, she moved to Oregon where she met and married William McCoy. Seven children were born to this union.

In 1967, McCoy received a Master's degree in Social Work (MSW) from Portland State University. In 1969 she received her ACSW (Academy of Certified Social Workers) certificate in Mental Health.

In 1967, McCoy directed social services for Project Head Start in the Vancouver school system. The excellent results she achieved in that position prompted friends and associates to encourage her to enter her first race for public office. In 1970, she was elected to the Portland School board where she served two four year terms. During 1970-1974, she also taught undergraduate Sociology and Social Work courses at several area schools including Clark College, Pacific University, Portland Community college and a term at International College of Cayman Isle, British, West Indies.

In 1975, McCoy accepted a three year appointment from the Governor as State of Oregon Ombudsman. In 1978, she was elected for a four year term as Multnomah County Commissioner—the first black to serve in this capacity. She won re-election to this post in 1982. In 1984, she gave her seat on the County Board to run for Portland City Council. She lost that bid but two years later mounted a successful campaign, winning the 1986 election for Multnomah County Chair. McCoy was re-elected to a second term as Multnomah County Chair in November 1990.



McCoy was active on boards and councils on a local, state and national level. She consistently participated in all levels of continuing education. In 1987, she attended the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University; in 1988 she participated in an extensive Oregon State Emergency Management workshop; in 1989 she attended a disaster seminar for heads of government at the

Emergency Management Contemporary Issues Program in Maryland; in 1990 she participated in an international Moral Re-arming Consultation in Caux, Switzerland and also began her tenure as a Board member of the National Association of Counties.

McCoy was the recipient of numerous honors, prizes and awards which included Oregon Mother of the Year, the Oregon As-

Some of McCoy's accomplishments as County Chair included stabilizing County funding and achieving the highest County bond rating ever; improving and reorganizing Assessment & Taxation; setting higher Affirmative Action goals with successful results; expanding citizens involvement and participation; increasing minority participation on County boards and commissions.

sembly for Black Affairs Political Development Award, The Chisholm Award and the Central City Concern Community Award to name a few.

In 1989, McCoy established a model program which provides human and justice services in the Columbia Villa Housing project located in North Portland. Social service agencies are now present in the neighborhood. This has resulted in increased job referrals, reduced vulnerability of at risk youth, and the provision of recreational and educational opportunities for residents. This model will be replicated in other neighborhoods to revitalize living conditions, enhance the potential of citizens, and substantially reduce the presence of drugs and gang-related crime within Multnomah County.

Some of McCoy's accomplishments as County Chair included stabilizing County funding and achieving the highest County bond rating ever; improving and reorganizing Assessment & Taxation; setting higher Affirmative Action goals with successful results; expanding citizens involvement and participation; increasing minority participation on County boards and commissions; and creating a Campaign Management Council which oversees charitable fund raising campaigns on County premises, insuring that guidelines and standards are followed and that employees, who wish to contribute to charities through payroll deduction or otherwise are given a range of choices. Portland's 11th annual celebration of the Black Womens' Gathering will feature a luncheon in honor of Multnomah County Commission Chair Woman, Gladys McCoy on May 8, 1993; 12:00 noon at the Salvation Army Center, 5353 N. Williams Ave. Sponsors of this tribute to Gladys McCoy are: Black Womens' Gathering, Imani Womens' Project, Representative Margaret Carter, Representative Avel Gordly, The Urban League Guild, The Walker Institute, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Links, Inc. and Black Womens' Political Congress.

Les Femmes Presents... "Growing To Become Men And Women...Phenomenally"



Melissa Busby

Les Femmes has trained 29 high school seniors for adulthood and is prepared to present them in their 42nd Annual Debutante and Cavalier Ball in June.

Les Femmes exists to improve the lives of



Aubre' Dickson

African-American youth, while preparing them for life after high school. Students are encouraged to join the organization as young as the sixth grade, although most join while freshmen or sophomores in high school. All



Cassandra Mitchell

students in the program are required to maintain good grades, perform community service and adhere to a strict code of ethics.

As a reward for successfully completing these tasks each participant is challenged at a

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private "Rites of Passage", then presented at the formal ball after graduating from high school.

Each week through June, Les Femmes and the Portland Observer will feature three young people who were chosen as 1993 debutantes and cavaliers. This week meet Melissa Busby (West Linn High School), Aubre' Dickson (Benson High School) and Cassandra Mitchell (Evergreen High School) who will share with why they are "chosen".

Busby—"As a prospective debutante I have given Les Femmes my openness, ability to work with everyone and a sense of humor. I set goals at the beginning to become a debutante. Since then I have matured by listening to speakers at our monthly meetings. I have also learned responsibility by attending community service projects. I am thankful for the new friends I have acquired. I feel Les Femmes has given me a push in the right direction for the next stage in my life. Also

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MetroLife

"Proposed Budget Emphasizes Security Innovative Service"

As Tri-Met enters the first year of Westside MAX Construction, the Light Rail Construction Fund provides 38 new positions. Funds are also available for engineering work.

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Sports

"Portland Trail Blazers' Buck Williams Teams Up With National Kidney Foundation"

The leading causes of Kidney failure are high blood pressure and diabetes... "We want everyone to learn to have blood pressure checked regularly", says Williams

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Entertainment

"Boys Choir Of Harlem"

On tour for the fourth consecutive year commemorating their 25th anniversary. 250 members ranging in ages from 8 to 18 years old

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Observing Vancouver

"Vancouver unveils 10-year Annexation Plan For Urban Area"

If the entire area detailed in the ten year plan is annexed, Vancouver would grow from the states ninth to fourth largest city

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