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BY OMARI KENYATTA, J.D. WITH PERMISSION OF O.S.B.

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FAMILY LAW

- 7001 Marriage in Oregon
- 7005 Dissolution of marriage
- 7019 Who will get child custody in dissolution of marriage
- 7020 How financial support for a child or spouse is established in a marriage dissolution
- 7021 What to do if child support or spousal support (alimony) is not being paid

7028 General information about adoptions

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7056 Financial and legal responsibilities of parents for their children

7070 Restraining orders and domestic violence

7075 Foster care and termination of parental rights

REAL ESTATE

7008 Buying and selling real estate, Part I - listing agreement, earnest money agreement and closing the sale

7009 Buying and selling real estate, Part II - title insurance, deeds, mortgages and contracts

7016 Rights and duties of tenants

7017 Rights and duties of landlords

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CRIMINAL

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7023 Your rights if you are arrested, Part I

7024 Your rights if you are arrested, Part II - after the arrest

7040 Your rights to a free attorney if charged with a crime

7043 Oregon marijuana law

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MISCELLANEOUS

7022 Libel and slander

7045 Liens

7051 What is TEL-LAW?

7058 Access to public records

7064 What to do when a close relative dies

7068 Gay rights

7091 Immigration law

7093 What you should know about the American Legal System

TAXES

7011 What taxes have to be paid if someone dies

7013 Federal tax benefits for persons age 65 or older

7055 IRS audit

7077 Property tax assessment

BANKRUPTCY AND CREDIT

7015 Your rights and responsibilities when applying for credit or loans

7029 How do I take bankruptcy

7030 Can bankruptcy help me?

7044 Is there an alternative to bankruptcy?

7067 Equal credit opportunity

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7076 Chapter 13 - another type of bankruptcy

TRAFFIC

7002 Must I take a chemical breath test?

7003 Should I fight my traffic ticket?

7035 What to do in case of an automobile accident

7073 Driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUI)

7074 Driving with a suspended license

YOU AND YOUR ESTATE

7006 You will

7010 Why probate?

7011 What taxes have to be paid if someone dies?

7014 What is a trust?

7066 What is a living will?

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perspectives

The Tobacco Scare: Real Or Phony?

Some of the best reading this side of Shakespeare or Playboy magazine are the histories of the social meaning of various substances ingested or inhaled for pleasurable effects. I have finished such a book, "Tastes of Paradise" by a fellow named Wolfgang Schivelbusch (the real name of the author of this translation from the German.)

The delightful (or obnoxious) spices, stimulants and intoxicants discussed range from the various forms of alcohol, spices, chocolate and coffee to tobacco and hard drugs. As a student, I was always intrigued by those long, hard-to-pronounce German words like this fellow uses - "Genussmittel" is the term for these histories of pleasure. The author asks and answers those basic questions not posed by anyone involved in the current media frenzy over tobacco. "In what way did these substances affect the history of man?"

How is it that in the eighteenth century tobacco was primarily snuffed, whereas before that it had been smoked in a pipe and, subsequently, in cigars and cigarettes? Why, for centuries, were certain substances -- like opium and hashish -- used freely until near the end of the nineteenth century then suddenly labeled addictive drugs and prohibited? (Doctors lost billions in prescriptions.)

"Tobacco: The Dry Intoxicant," is how the author introduces the related chapter. He quotes an observer in The Netherlands (1627) whose acid opinions rival those of the House

Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health, "I cannot help but devote a few words to criticizing that new astonishing fashion that comes to our Europe from America, and which might be called a 'fog-drinking bout' which outdoes all other passions for indulgence in drink, old or new." (For a long time there was no name for what you did with tobacco and a 'high' was called "dry drunkenness".)

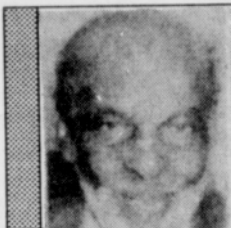
The nerve-dulling toxin, nicotine, is named for the French ambassador to Portugal, Jean Nicot, who brought tobacco to France in the 1700s. This early on, of course, the importers had not acquired the degree of sophistication necessary to adulterate the produce with the end of making it more addictive. American cigarette manufacturers have brought this technique to new heights, a recent document revealing that over a hundred ingredients are routinely added. Thirteen of these chemicals the Food and Drug Administration does not allow in foods.

A modern medical writer (Kurt Pohlisch) describes the psychology of smoking in all its complexity: "The activity of smoking, is formed by an extremely rich and variable concurrence of purposeful and expressive movements... abruptly relaxes conditions of psychomotor tension; it deflects irritation, nervousness into a calming motoricity. The nervous restless hand fixes on a purpose; a cheerful mood, calm and a state of contentedness and satisfaction."

(Sounds like an 'orgasm' to me.) All that aside, we are now brought up against the fact that on an international scale, the tobacco companies are making bigger inroads than the "ARMS DEALERS." According to the New York Times News Service, "Physicians say the health implications of the tobacco boom in Asia are terrifying. An Oxford University epidemiologist has estimated the annual world-wide death toll from tobacco related illnesses will more than triple over the next two decades -- from about 3 million a year to 10 million, a fifth of them in China." Lose America, but win the world.

The forecast for Africa is not any better (nor for Harlem, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C. or any other inner-city where the tobacco giants concentrate their million dollar ad campaigns on minorities.) In my series on South Africa, I mention the fact that a black magazine featured an article on an African American Vice President in charge of marketing on the African continent for Phillip Morris. Incredibly, the tone and tenor of this presentation was "here is a role model for you, black youth. Be a pusher of this poison on your brothers and sisters, and you, too, will be provided with a Lear jet and a quarter-million yearly salary."

By the way, I quit smoking after 50 years; Voice getting too husky for T.V. That book, "Tastes of Paradise," is by Vintage, 1993. Also, remember that critical book on plants that I cited before, "Seeds of Change: Five Plants That Transformed Mankind" by Henry Hobhouse, Harper & Row 1986-87 (Sugar, Quinine, Cotton, Tea, Potato.)



By Professor Mckinley Burt

Thank You To The Black Fireman's Association

The Rotary Club of Albina celebrated its 10th Anniversary for their Peninsula Park Rose Festival Family Fun Day. This Family Fun Day was the vision of Madeline Nasbush who organized a group of other women to help with the planning. This event which features the North and Northeast area schools was attended by more than 1,200 students this year. Nine schools provided entertainment for their families and friends. Directly following The Royal Rosarian's Portland Rose Festival Junior Court Knighting and Rose Planting Ceremony. Two outstanding 8th grade students, Tunde Sobomehim from Harriet Tubman and Kinnikka Drayer from Ockley Green were knighted.

Also in attendance at the Family Fun Day were Mr. Perry, Mr. Harper and Mr. William Kendrix of the Black Firefighter Association who made available a First Aid stand in case any type of emergency presented itself. Over 1,200 students had an opportunity

to climb aboard a fire engine and talk to the firefighters about careers in the fire department. What was most important is that for the first time African-American and other students were actually able to see and talk to African-American firefighters growing up in the city of Portland. I never saw an African-American firefighter so that was a career that African-Americans were not steered towards, said Edna Mac Pittman. Now in the city of Portland, there is a total of ten African-American firefighters with only one being hired in the past five years.

We were taking names of students and adults who were interested in becoming firefighters and will follow up with providing information about the examination process and assist them through that process," said Lieutenant William Kendrix, President of the Portland Black Firefighters Association. "We've been accumu-

lating names of African-Americans so that we can provide classes to assist them with our goal being that more African-Americans have the opportunity to have a career in fire service."

"These firefighters were providing a community service, were very well received and thanked for being there," said Ms. Pittman. "We actually had two young adult women who left their names to be contacted for our services," said Lieutenant William Kendrix who has been in the forefront in the recruitment and hire of African-American firefighters. "This was just one of many community events which is a small form of community safety and education that our organization, though small with ten men, have made a commitment to be involved." Earlier this year, students from Whitaker Middle School canvassed part of the neighborhood with Lieutenant Kendrix to see if fire detectors were in homes.

Commissioner Rules in Discrimination Cases

Labor Commissioner Mary Wendy Roberts recently handed down decisions in favor of the complainants in three discrimination cases.

The commissioner awarded \$42,000 in lost wages and \$10,000 in mental distress damages to Peter Kreck as compensation for the discrimination he suffered due to his national origin. In the matter of *Yellow Freight System, Inc.* testimony revealed that one of Kreck's supervisors made numerous negative and demeaning comments concerning his national origin (Czechoslovakian) and finally terminated him for sleeping on duty.

Kreck was a dockworker at the North Portland facility of Yellow Freight, a Kansas-based interstate freight carrier business. The day he was terminated, Kreck was ill, took a couple of aspirin, and laid down in an area behind some stacked freight where he was working to nap during his lunch hour. He did not punch out on the time clock, but intended to at the end of the day, a practice common at the dockyard. Kreck's supervisor caught him sleeping during his lunch hour. He was fired the same day for intentionally "stealing" company time. Evidence showed that while Kreck did sleep at his post, he simply failed to clock out for his lunch hour,

a practice that management regularly excused. He was the only worker ever fired for sleeping on the job; others received warnings, but were never dismissed for it. When Kreck's supervisor fired him, he was later overheard saying, "we got rid of that Czech, finally."

Roberts writes "because of that overt language directed at the complainant and because he appeared to be accorded less consideration than employees who were not foreign born, the forum finds the complainant's national origin played a key role in his on-the-job treatment and discharge."

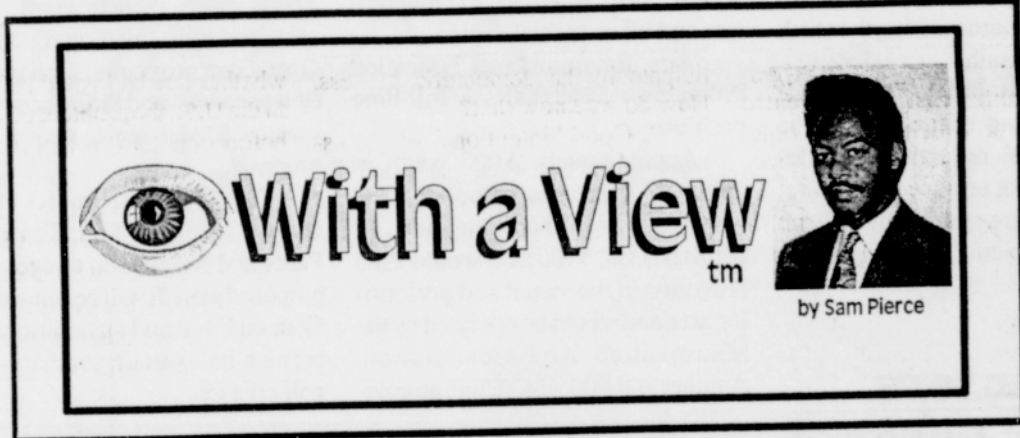
In the matter of Glenn and Nancy Arnesen, doing business as Auto Quencher, Roberts found that Edward L. Johnson, an African-American, suffered severe emotional distress when his supervisor called him a racially demeaning name and told Johnson's friend that he had low expectations of Johnson's work performance because "blacks have smaller brains than whites." Shortly thereafter, Johnson left his job at the Medford automobile service center. The commissioner ruled that the racist attitude of the supervisor created a hostile work environment and awarded Johnson \$15,000 in mental distress damages.

"Almost 45 years after the prohibition of racial discrimination in employment in Oregon... complainant was subjected to the ultimate pejorative for a black man by his white male supervisor... his anger, upset and disbelief were understandable. Then he discovered that the same supervisor was evaluating his progress based on a vicious racial stereotype."

In a sexual harassment case, a supervisor's comments and touching resulted in awards of \$30,000 in damages and over \$1,000 in lost wages to two female bartenders at the Coos Bay Moose Lodge. The commissioner found that the lodge lounge supervisor made unwelcome advances to his female employees, touched their breasts and buttocks and made comments of a sexual nature to Nancy Triplett and Charlene Moore.

She awarded Moore \$1,002 to compensate for lost wages and \$15,000 to each complainant for mental and emotional distress damages.

"Workers are entitled to a discrimination and harassment free workplace," said Roberts. "The issue here is respect. The law does not allow the workplace to become a hostile environment for employees because of their race, national origin or sex."



Profiles In Leadership... cont'd: City Commissioner Gretchen Kafoury

This writer has known Commissioner Kafoury for about seven years and the best word that I know to describe her is "tenacious"! I think it's Federal Express whose slogan declares that "if it absolutely has to get there overnight, then call Federal Express." Well, that slogan pretty much sums up Gretchen Kafoury; if it absolutely has to get done, then give it to Gretchen!

Because the City Council was buried with the city's budget matters, it was difficult for us to get together. Nevertheless, I left her my home number, and indicative of the personable human being that she is, she cut her restful stay on the coast a bit short to call me at home -- the weekend mind you!

According to Com. Kafoury the purpose of Leadership is to "mobilize and inspire." Kafoury considers leadership that mobilizes and inspires as "empowering leadership." This kind of leadership does not seek recognition for the sake of ego or populace, but rather this kind of leadership is "a little bit noble." To Gretchen Kafoury leadership that mobilizes, inspires, empowers and is a bit noble forces one to commit to a cause that is outside of self and seeks the betterment of others.

Commissioner Kafoury's style is bottom line product, not politics. Kafoury has very few equals in the area of product. Her political career has spanned several years, and in her

quest "to get the job done," she has left a long line of accomplishments in her political wake.

While Kafoury is reluctant to toot her own horn, there are others who are eager to do it for her. "Without Gretchen's help my family wouldn't be in our house," said Kathryn Kester, a southeast Portland homeowner.

Kafoury has proven that government can do more with less. She believes quality affordable housing is the best investment a city can make to improve neighborhoods. And a drive through inner northeast Portland these days is all it takes to experience that improvement. It would take more pages than this article will allow to share all of Gretchen's accomplishments. But the following are some of the more spectacular ones:

1. A \$1,000,000 investment by the city leveraged \$11,000,000 in private lending to rescue 352 homes from bankruptcy court.

2. A \$10,000 investment by the city leveraged \$800,000 in private financing for a Down Payment Fund to help low-income families to become homeowners.

3. Developing 1,700 affordable housing units in Portland neighborhoods.

During the seventies when what was termed by "Time" magazine as "white flight" from the American cities, many though that inner North/Northeast Portland as doomed for

failure. But through the black middle class who to their credit refused to leave, and the leadership of persons such as Com. Gretchen Kafoury, who by the way remained as well, our community is coming back with a vengeance. Yes, we have yet to rid ourselves of all the problems. Crime and violence must still be number one on our list of priorities. There are still badly needed social service programs for our youth; in particular, a residential drug and alcohol/mental health facility. Nevertheless, because of leadership we are well on our way. Thanks to individuals like Representative Margaret Carter and City Commissioner Gretchen Kafoury.

In closing, surely Dr. Deming would be proud of the Leadership displayed by both Representative Margaret Carter and City Commissioner Gretchen Kafoury. But more importantly, Portland and the state of Oregon is a better place because of their leadership. And I am confident that they will be around for many more years "exacting the standard" and providing leadership that is "a little bit noble."

Sam Pierce is a freelance writer whose column appears bi-monthly. His work is in the process of syndication. He can be reached at (503) 281-9741.

'Children' Finding Missing Fathers In Record Numbers

(NU) - Every year, a growing number of missing fathers are being sought, but not by former wives or federal agencies looking for child support.

Instead, a new breed of "adult children" has emerged in the '90s with one goal -- to find the fathers who have been missing, sometimes for decades. Many of these reunions, even after 20 to 30 years, are positive, happy ones.

According to Steve Shultz, president of Seekers of the Lost, the main reason more fathers aren't searching for their children is they have been led to believe their children will resent them for not "being there." While there is some resentment, the overriding need is for a reunion, Shultz said.

For more information, contact Seekers of the Lost, Dept. NU, P.O.

Box 84040, Vancouver, WA 98684, or call 1-800-669-8016.

Say You Saw It In... The Portland Observer