

Readers Letting Us Know They Are Out There

By Prof. McKinley Burt

Hey, I stand corrected, no problem (last week's article, "The State Of The Nation III", first paragraph). In the objective case, it is "whom" not "who". Also, I try to avoid split infinitives, dangling participles, mixed metaphors and oxymoron; and occasionally I am known to remember that in the case of a "situation contrary to fact" one is supposed to use the 'present subjective tense' ("If I were a king").

But my eighth grade English composition class was a long, long time ago, so lets go on to other things. For one thing I have been getting a lot of interesting letters lately -- a lot of them form out of state. Let's start with Mr. T.M. Rutherford. I wrote about this African American engineer several weeks ago in connection with the famed 'Howard Hughes' Flying Boat - that an affectionate media named, "The Spruce Goose" (February 15, 1995).

He opens, "...Thank you for your flattering article in the Feb. 15, issue of the Portland Observer, appearing in the column, "Portland's Black History: Lost Strayed or Stolen." Mr. Rutherford continues: "Your well-

intentioned comments about the part I played in the flight of the Hughes's flying Boat makes more of me than I deserve."

At this point I will paraphrase William Shakespeare, the famed playwright of the 17th - Century; "Me thinketh thou doth protest too much." Yes, Mr Rutherford, you may indeed deserve more acclaim that has been bestowed upon you -- in the news media or in professional journals. I speak to the incalculable benefit to our young folks that is brought about through an enhanced awareness of the great contribution to technology by African Americans.

Let us see if, in fact, Mr. Rutherford deserves every accolade we may accord him; "for the record: I was the Systems Specialist on the Hughes Flying Boat project. Since I Designed The Engine Control System, my duties on the flight was to fill in as a back up for the active flight engineer" No Sir! your light does not go under a bucket.

Our youth need the motivation and the inspiration.

And I stand corrected by the last paragraph of this gifted black engineer who graduated from Portland's

Benson High School; "At no time did I receive 'direct' orders from Hughes during the flight." Be that as it may, you were Both on board. Hundreds of millions around the world have seen movies of the famous flight, and when my update of "Black Inventors of America" comes out in late fall (along with multi-media material), millions will know of your role (forgive me for the little 'poetic license' taken in projecting a conversation between you two). I still like it (smiles).

In respect to that "Journey Down Williams Ave." I took in the pages of the Portland Observer during Black History Month, I have a letter in hand from Ms Mary Bird. I have been properly scolded (in a nice way) for letting the intervention of fifty years interfere with an accurate account of a phase of operation at "Bob Bird's Place". She and her husband Bob did in fact operate a "licensed" establishment during their ownership of "Bird's Sandwich shop." She purchased the licenses herself. She is "not asking for an apology", but I am certainly rendering one.

Thank you for your communication -- I appreciate it.

Symposium Studies Gender Myths

"Exploring Myths: Sex, Stories, Football and Feminism" suggests the topics for discussion, Sunday, April 9, through Wednesday, April 12, at the 14th Annual Gender Studies Symposium at Lewis & Clark College, 0615 S. W. Palatine Hill Road.

Through panel discussions, dance performances, lectures, workshops, an art exhibit and other special activities, issues surrounding gender will be explored. All events are free and open to the public.

"The topic of this year's Gender Studies Symposium reflects the eclectic collection of interesting papers being presented," Jane Hunter, associate professor of history, said. "It represents the diversity of feminist voices."



Anne Fausto-Sterling

Nationally recognized keynote speakers include Anne Fausto-Sterling, professor of medical science at Brown University; Jackson Katz, a former all-state high school football player and activist for preventing violence against women; and Patricia Hill Collins, professor of African-American studies at the University of Cincinnati.

"Feminism reflects many points



Patricia Hill Collins

of view," Hunter said. "Each speaker will bring something interesting to the program--Anne Fausto-Sterling will talk about science and how it is influenced by pre-conceived ideas regarding gender. Jackson Katz will discuss violence against women, a key topic in the year of the O.J. Simpson trial. And Patricia Hill Collins will focus on race as it interacts with gender."

Observing

Sewage Spill Prompts Closure Of Leverich Park

A sewage spill near Leverich Park has prompted Vancouver city officials to temporarily close the park until contamination falls to safe levels, according to Don Lawry, water/sewer maintenance superintendent.

The contamination resulted from vandalism which caused a sewage spill above the park on the evening of March 19. Debris clogged the line, causing a back-up which spilled and estimated 1,800 gallons of sewage.

The sewage flowed down Leverich Park Way, contaminating the park's playground and picnic area.

City utility officials responded immediately to the incident. The contaminated area was fenced off and treated with a chlorine spray and lime. Warning signs were also erected. The state Department of Ecology was consulted and soil samples sent to the Southwest Washington Health District for testing.

The city is now awaiting results of a second test.

The decision to close the entire park -- with barricades at all entrances -- was taken on March 29. "We regret this inconvenience to park users," Lawry notes. "However, the park is heavily used during spring break. We are closing it as a public safety measure."

To prevent future vandalism, locking lids have since been installed on all manhole covers in the area.

Report On Water Quality

Vancouver has mailed the Vancouver City Flyer newsletter, including the annual Water Quality Report, to 69,322 residences, businesses and customers in the city's service area.

This was the largest mailing the city has ever completed, and it reflects steady growth of addresses in the city's urban service area.

The spring issue includes news and updates on key city projects, activities and services.

It also includes a four-page section of extensive information on the content of the city water supply, plus information about test results and the rigorous testing procedures which are in place.

This is the first of six issues

authorized by the Vancouver City Council to be produced in the city's 1995/96 biennium.

The Vancouver City Flyer is in its tenth year of publication. It is produced in-house by city staff under the direction of City Manager John Fischbach. Editor is Marilyn Westlake. Staff writer and photographer is Richard Nardine.

Neighborhood Grants Awarded

The City of Vancouver announced today that two neighborhoods have been awarded grants to help with neighborhood projects. Grant applications were submitted by neighborhood association through the city's Neighborhood Matching Grant program.

The Lincoln neighborhood received funding for a family-style dance entitled "Spring Fever". The neighborhood will use funds raised to sponsor additional events that benefit youth and neighborhood beautification projects.

The Shumway neighborhood

received full funding of a \$900 grant to train crime watch volunteers in mediation, fire, first aid, earthquake preparedness and other safety training. The training will involve the entire family and will culminate in a "Safety Celebration" for the entire neighborhood.

Karate For Kids

Children 5 to 12 can learn basic karate techniques through the Vancouver Parks and Recreation power Kids class. Power Kids combines karate techniques with an emphasis on self-defense and common sense awareness.

Classes meet Mondays, April 10 through May 15 at Bagley Community Center, 4100 Plomondon. Beginners meet at 6 p.m., advanced classes meet at 7 p.m. A second session is scheduled May 22 through July 10. Register at Bagley Center. The cost is \$36, (\$32 city residents). For more information call 696-8006.

Neighbors Tapped To Attend Conference

Vancouver City Manager John F. Fischbach announced the names of two city residents selected to represent Vancouver neighborhoods at this year's Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA) Conference. The conference will be in Birmingham, Alabama in May.

The representatives are Polly Hohnbaum of the West Minnehaha Neighborhood and Gene Reed of the Meadow Homes Neighborhood. "They will bring back ideas, presented by national

speakers, representatives and activists from neighborhoods throughout the United States, on how to make Vancouver neighborhoods more livable," says Carol Hansen of the city's Office of Neighborhoods. "They will also have the opportunity to share Vancouver's neighborhood programs with other conference attendees."

The local delegates will work with the city to coordinate the conference held in October.



The Glass Depot auto glass distribution center in Portland received two 1994 "Awards of Excellence" from Apogee Enterprises of Minneapolis, Minn. Apogee is a leader in the fabrication, installation and distribution of glass and aluminum for the construction, automotive and consumer markets.

Lawyers Think Simpson Will Be Freed

The consensus among criminal defense lawyers is that O.J. Simpson, who is on trial for the murder of his wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ron Goldman, will probably walk out of the Los Angeles courtroom a free man.

David Chesnoff, a noted criminal trial lawyer in Las Vegas, whose views generally reflect those of his peers, told Parade magazine columnist Walter Scott, "I think that all trails, especially lengthy trials, really are decided during jury selection."

Governor Faces Challenges Of Community

Continued from front

He used last year's anti-homosexual initiative by the Oregon Citizens Alliance as an example of a movement which puts a wedge into diversity.

"This country was incredibly diverse from the very beginning and diversity should be used as a building block not as a stumbling block and never as a weapon and the OCA kind of attitude is not the way to build a community," he said.

Kitzhaber has skillfully repackaged the Democratic agenda, toned

down the "liberal leanings" and now draws considerable sympathy from both Democrats and Republicans.

How he faces the political, social and economic challenges ahead will determine his political fate and the fate of his party in Oregon.

But Kitzhaber's disarming receptivity and ambitions are well tucked into the vestiges of political maneuvering and seem beyond the reach of his opponents.

This and many more invisible political strategies may keep this shining Democrat in power as long as he would like to practice politics.

Introducing more people to envy.

A. Ready/\$1,000/Quinto/Roy Aaron Goldin/\$2,500/Scratch/La Center Alan McRobert/\$657/Lotto/Bothell Alexander Popuiz/\$1,000/Quinto/Renton Allan Avery/\$1,000/Quinto/Scratch/Seattle An Le/\$644/Lotto/Canas Arthur Garcia/\$1,000/Quinto/Silverdale Barbara Nelson/\$665/Lotto/Sumner Barbara Ross/\$4,000/Scratch/Blaine Ben Burgi/\$1,000/Quinto/Raymond Beverly Dunuv/\$1,000/Quinto/Copalis Beach Brian Bremmeyer/\$8 Million/Lotto/Enumclaw Brian Crisafulli/\$606/Lotto/Langley Carl Dusek/\$606/Lotto/Stamwood Carlo Cabatac/\$1,001/Quinto/Federal Way Cary Carson/\$500,000/Quinto/Everett Charles Duncan/\$647/Lotto/Chimacum	Charles Medlock/\$617/Lotto/Tukwila Charlie Bryant/\$1,000/Quinto/Granite Falls Chris Ernst/\$606/Lotto/Oak Harbor Clarence Sorenson/\$1,000/Quinto/Spanaway Clifford Hisecock/\$617/Lotto/La Conner Daniel Neely/\$1,000/Scratch/Vancouver Danny Widens/\$609/Lotto/Graham Darryl Hansen/\$1,001/Quinto/Port Orchard David Morse/\$657/Lotto/Grapeview David Post/\$2,100/Scratch/Elma Dean Loan/\$834/Lotto/Pife Deanna Baker/\$1,000/Quinto/Buckley Diana Young/\$606/Lotto/Longview Donald Ender/\$10,000/Scratch/Tacoma Dwayne Blackney/\$10,000/Scratch/Snohomish Edwin Jess/\$612/Lotto/Edmonds Eileen Duket/\$1,000/Quinto/Seabeck Elmo Sage/dahl/\$837/Lotto/Issaquah	Erik Hayes/\$1,000/Keno/Federal Way Evans Larson/\$1,000/Quinto/Iwaco Frances Heitzman/\$665/Lotto/Tumwater Frank Hovey/\$609/Lotto/Auburn Freddy Hartwig/\$1,000/Quinto/Arlington Gabriel Sanchez/\$1,000/Quinto/Rochester Gail Goetz/\$1,000/Quinto/Gold Bar Gail Burkholder/\$200,000/Quinto/Tacoma Gary Huethke/\$657/Lotto/Brush Prairie Gerald Jones/\$1,000/Quinto/Mill Creek Greg Blanchard/\$1,000/Quinto/Port Angeles Gregory Carpenter/\$609/Lotto/Mount Vernon Greta Kenner/\$644/Lotto/Tenino H. J. Miller/\$1,000/Quinto/Redmond Harold Jensen/\$1,000/Quinto/Chehalis Horace Reavis/\$644/Lotto/Montesano Jack Klumb/\$1,000/Quinto/Ocean Shores Jack Sweeney/\$1,000/Quinto/Gig Harbor
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