

Local Editor Fought for Education

Beatrice Morrow Cannady was a pioneer of African-American education in Oregon.

A tireless civil rights activist, she also disseminated information about the history of African-Americans through lectures, writings, and her own personal lending library.

Cannady persuaded the Portland Board of Education to teach African-American history in area high schools and played an instrumental role in the desegregation of schools in Vernonia and Longview. She also edited Portland's leading African-American newspaper, "The Advocate," and was a founding member of the Portland chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In 1926 she helped repeal Oregon's notorious "black laws," which prohibited the settlement of African Americans in the state and denied voting rights to people of color.

She died in 1974 at the age of 84.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Beatrice Morrow Cannady edited Portland's African-American newspaper "The Advocate," and was a founding member of the Portland chapter of the NAACP.

"Superbugs" are New Health Threat

By Dr. MEL KOHN



Earlier this month, my wife and I experienced the anxiety and fear that most parents never want to go through. Our eight-year-old daughter was taken by ambulance to the hospital for an emergency appendectomy. Like most parents in this situation, we were grateful for the great skill and care of the doctors and nurses who helped our daughter.

And, we were thankful that the bacteria causing my daughter's illness weren't antibiotic-resistant "superbugs."

Antibiotic resistant bacteria have been dubbed "superbugs" because they are extremely hard to treat. They call for longer treatments with stronger, more expensive and potentially more danger-

ous medications. These bacterial infections require extended hospitalization and can cause disability or even death.

Overuse of antibiotics is the primary way that superbugs get created. As antibiotics kill susceptible bacteria, this leaves more room and nutrients for powerful, resistant bacteria to grow. They multiply and

cause of meningitis, pneumonia and ear infections, were resistant to penicillin. And here's another truth: only 24 percent of Oregonians know about the danger of antibiotic resistance, according to a recent telephone survey conducted by the Oregon Department of Human Services.

What can we do to stop the

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-Dr. Mel Kohn, Oregon Dept. of Human Services

soon take over.

While this may sound like science fiction, the unfortunate truth is that superbugs are already here. A 2001 study of illnesses in the Portland area found that 20 percent of infections caused by Streptococcus pneumoniae, the leading

spread of superbugs? Health care providers are half the answer. Several years ago, public health officials began an effort to discourage health practitioners from prescribing antibiotics for coughs, colds

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Fighting Tobacco

State tackles smoking disparities by minorities

Oregon has joined a national effort to break the disparities in smoking among minority communities and lessen the tobacco industry's grasp on minority populations.

A state survey by the Tobacco Prevention and Education Project found a high prevalence of tobacco use among African Americans, Native Americans, 18-24 year olds, some Asian/Pacific Islander groups, low socioeconomic groups and the gay community.

Studies also showed that tobacco companies aggressively target minority, disadvantaged

and young populations. In addition, limited resources are spent on tobacco prevention programs among communities with health disparities.

The Oregon Health Department aims to reduce tobacco use by implementing prevention programs for those most at risk.

The Federal Centers for Disease Control sponsored effort provides training and financial support necessary to create a strategic plan to identify and eliminate the disparities.

Research indicates that sweeping changes in attitudes against tobacco use have been woven into our social fabric over the last 20 years. Oregon officials estimate that the latest efforts against smoking will save 1,800 lives and \$450 million in health care costs.

Get the word out.
Get tested.
Get treated.
Stay healthy.

SYPHILIS HIV
GONORRHEA
HEPATITIS

STD Clinic
503-988-3700

HIV Community Test Site
503-988-3775

426 SW Stark St., 6th Floor
Downtown Portland

Call for an appointment
Limited walk-ins
Sliding-scale fee
No one turned away for inability to pay

Multnomah County Health Department

"I HAVE A DREAM ..."

Martin Luther King, Jr.
Delivered in front of the Lincoln Memorial
August 28, 1963

Don't let the tobacco industry cloud your dreams.

The tobacco industry spends more than \$100 million annually in Oregon to market its deadly products.

The industry targets all Oregonians ... especially young people and many minority communities.

In Oregon, 27 percent of adult African-Americans smoke. The Hispanic rate is 18 percent; Asian/Pacific Islander smoking rate is 14 percent; and 44 percent of adult American Indians smoke.

Protect yourself, your loved ones and your community.

DECLARE FREEDOM
from
TOBACCO

Call the Oregon Tobacco Quit Line.
1-877-270-STOP

