

Opinion articles do not necessarily reflect or represent the views of The Portland Observer

OPINION

CANNON'S

RIB EXPRESS

(FORMERLY CHUCK HINTON'S)

Catering & Take-Out
OUR SPECIALTY:
REAL HICKORY SMOKED BAR-B-Q

- Sandwiches • Salads
- Chicken • Pork Ribs
- Beef Ribs

HOURS:
Sunday 11 am - 8 pm
Monday 11 am - 9 pm
Tuesday closed
Wed-Thurs. 11 am - 9 pm
Fri. & Sat. 11 am - 10 pm

CATERING ALL EVENTS

Try our new healthy & vegetarian menu items

*** NEW LOCATION ***
5410 N.E. 33RD 503-288-3836

HELSE'S

ON ALBERTA

\$3.95 Breakfast Specials

Served Tues-Sun From 6:30AM - 9:00AM

- Scotch Egg And 2 Russet Potato Pancakes
- Two Eggs Any Style, 2 Buttermilk Pancakes
- Sliced ham Egg And Cheese Crumpet Sandwich With Fresh Fruit
- Cheddar, Egg & Salsa Crumpet Sandwich With Fresh Fruit
- Brioche French Toast
- German Pancake
- Half Order Ham Benedict
- Two Eggs Any Style, 2 Maple Sausages & Yukon Potatoes

***Helsers Also Provides Catering, Food To Go & Boxed Lunches

Public Notice

New Government Loan Program For Seniors 62 & Older

Eliminates mortgage payments & pays you while you own & live in your home!

Benefits of New Government Reverse Mortgage Program:

- No mortgage payments
- Tax-free money
- You own your home
- Social Security, Medicare & Medicaid not affected
- No income or credit qualifications
- Use \$ any way you choose

Call me **TODAY** for more information or seminar dates.

FREE recorded Hotline:
1-(888) 208-7945 ext. 84

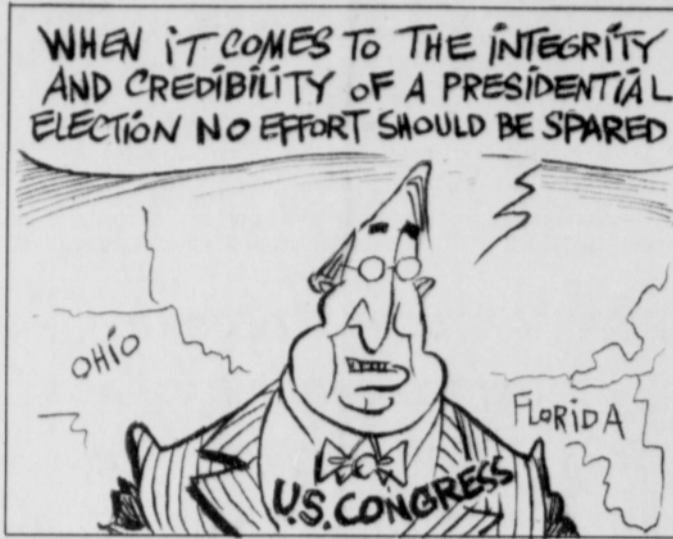
For more information on this exciting new government program, call me directly at:
TOLL-FREE: 1-(877) 723-3828 ext. 116

Web site:
www.theReverseMortgageQueen.info

Email:
quickloan@hotmail.com



Carolyn Corthell, MSW
Reverse Mortgage Specialist



We Must Talk about Moral Values

Critical social issues are framed by our faith

BY BERNICE POWELL JACKSON

Some of us who consider ourselves to be liberals or progressives have been just too quiet in the conversation about moral values.

I happen to agree with them — we need to talk about moral values and we must talk about how our faith informs who we are and what we say and do.

I believe that those of us who are Christians must take back Jesus and those of us who are people of faith must take back our ability to frame our positions on critical social issues in the context of our faith.

The Jesus I am talking about is the one who turned over the tables of the moneychangers right inside the temple. The Jesus I am talking about said at the beginning of his ministry, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor." The Jesus I am talking about said, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called the children of God."

The Jesus I am talking about said, "You have heard it said you shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." The Jesus I am talking about never said one word about homosexuality. The Jesus I am talking about ate with the sinners, the outcasts and the tax collectors. He drew to himself those who were marginalized by those in the faith — the women, the children, the lepers, the unclean.

I want to talk about the moral values of a pre-emptive strike war which we now know was based on half-truths at best and lies at worst.

It is this Jesus, and the God who requires us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God, who informs my positions on tax cuts for the wealthy in a nation where one in every five children lives in poverty. It is this God who makes me ask what is wrong with us when tens of thousands of people die every day from starvation and the United Nations estimates that \$13 billion allocated above cur-

rent spending levels would mean that everyone in the world (including Americans) would have basic food and health care. At the same time, Americans and Europeans spend \$17 billion on food for their pets every year.

I do want to talk about moral values. I want to talk about the moral values of a pre-emptive strike war which we now know was based on half-truths at best and lies at worst. I want to talk about the more than 1,000 Americans who have been killed in that war, and the 10,000 who have come back home injured, and the tens of thousands who will return with significant mental conditions. I want to talk about the tens of thousands of Iraqi women and children — civilians all — who have been killed since the beginning of this war.

I do want to talk about integrity and truth and honesty and fairness. I do want to talk about democracy and freedom and justice for all.

Moral values is about how we live life together in the 21st century, understanding that as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "The moral arc of the universe is long, but it bends towards justice."

Bernice Powell Jackson is executive minister for Justice and Witness Ministries of the United Church of Christ.

Bush's Failing Record on Civil Rights

BY JUDGE GREG MATHIS

Federal enforcement of civil rights laws have dropped sharply even as the level of complaints increased. According to a study by Syracuse University, the Justice Department recommended



prosecution in one-third less cases than it did five years ago.

While the University did not site any conclusive reasons for the drop in prosecution, one must look to the major difference in America since

1999: the administration and policies of George W. Bush.

The drop in prosecutions has nothing to do with an improvement in racial relations. On the contrary, an FBI report stated that racial prejudice (usually directed towards African Americans) was the primary motivating factor in more than half

of 2003's 7,400 (reported) hate crimes.


A key reason for the decline in civil rights law enforcement is the burgeoning climate of hate and fear that has permeated the country for the past four years. I find it suspect that as George W. Bush sought the African-American vote, African-American victims of racially motivated hate crimes and civil rights violations have faced increased suffering.

When hate crime reports increase and the first line method of dealing with them decreases, there's a problem.

Beyond the problem, however, lies a coming crisis. The Justice Department was not founded to be selective in what it prosecutes. It is there to act as the nations' police force. It is the stopgap measure that protects citizens against crime, oppression and societal wrong. When the Justice Department fails or refuses to do its job, citizens become disenfranchised, crime increases and the system fails. A system that chooses to fail some of us, fails all of us.

The question now becomes what is George W. Bush and his new Attorney General going to choose to do: fix the problem or continue to fail?

Judge Greg Mathis is chairman of the Rainbow PUSH-Excel Board and a national board member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.



THE SPINAL COLUMN™

An ongoing series of questions and answers about America's natural healing profession.


Part 27. Chiropractic VS Migraines: Saying goodbye to the most menacing of headaches

Q: Can anything be done for migraines? I've had them for the last 20 years and I sincerely can't take it much longer.

A: I had a patient once ask the same question. Her concern, however, was that Chiropractic might hurt. After becoming a patient, she began to make progress. Slowly but surely the nauseating effects of the migraine were leaving her. One day, relaxed and without pain, she said to me "I can't believe that I waited 20 years for this!"

That's one comment I'll never forget! The story had a happy, but isn't it sad that it had such an unfortunate beginning. So many suffer for so long with their pain. They literally waste years of their lives, waiting, thinking that it is just a temporary condition. Life itself is a temporary condition. We are all here for only a while. Why waste one precious moment, let alone years suffering needlessly? Find your freedom through good health NOW... naturally. Find your freedom through Chiropractic...and make each day count. Isn't it time you stepped up to safe, effective Chiropractic?

Flowers' Chiropractic Office
2124 N.E. Hancock Street, Portland, Oregon 97212
Phone: (503) 287-5504



COME ONE COME ALL YOUTH ITS TIME FOR A CHANGE!!

Youth Anti Gang - Outreach Ministry

Presents: 5th Annual No More Violence Can't we all, just get along?

Featuring:
A Moment of Silence For All Youth

When: Sunday Dec. 12

Where: Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church 4009 N. Missouri Avenue

Time: 3:30 PM

Spoken Word: Rev. Johnasen L. Pack
Director: Rev. Charles E. McCleoud
Pastor: Johnny Pack IV Pastor

Where is the love?