

# African-American Voice

OCTOBER 1999

PMB 145, 2920 S. Grand Blvd. Spokane WA 99203-2530 (509) 455-8274 rlloyd@cet.com

Volume 4 Number 5

# Spokane Symphony Welcomes You and Terrence Wilson

## Piano Soloist performing Beethoven

By ROBERT LLOYD

John Hancock, the new executive director of the Spokane Symphony has been reaching out to the African American community. He recognizes that the percentage of African Americans here are small but says this community is as important as any other segment of the community and has promised to work to diversify the offerings, audiences, support groups, and outreach programs of the symphony.

His first step has been the invitation of the gifted young African American pianist Terrence Wilson to perform Beethoven with the Symphony on October 8th. In addition to this major Opera House performance, Mr. Wilson, who appears frequently before student audiences as part of music education and outreach programs, will also be meeting with young people in the community. Born in the Bronx, he found a classical music on the radio at age 8 and discovered he could play pieces he had heard. He received his first lessons at the age of 9 at a neighborhood community school and is currently a scholarship student at the Juilliard School.

Ask your cultural diversity specialists to help young people take advantage of this opportunity. There's more to music than BET and MTV.

Let's hope Mr. Hamilton's overtures don't fall on deaf ears. Take advantage of the opportunities provided by the symphony for you and your children. Call 3256-3136 for information regarding their programs and ticket information. Group rates are available - tell them the African American Voice sent you!



# Bill Gates lowers financial barriers

## Bill and Melinda Gates Announce New Millennium Scholars Program to Bridge the Gap in Access to Higher Education

On September 16 The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced the formation of the Gates Millennium Scholars program, a 20-year plan to provide financial assistance to high-achieving minority students who are in severe financial need and otherwise would be excluded from higher education. The program will be administered by the United Negro College Fund, with the support and participation of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund and the American

Indian College Fund.

"This is a historic effort to improve the diversity of higher education," said William H. Gray, III, president and chief executive officer of The United Negro College Fund. "All of society benefits when the doors of education are opened to a group of kids who wouldn't otherwise get the chance. It's our vision to raise a new generation of leaders and we are grateful that Bill and Melinda Gates share this vision -- and are acting on it."

The program goal is to foster a generation of leaders that represent the full talents of society by providing access to higher education for minority students who have achieved academic standards and shown leader-

ship promise, but are in financial need. The program will begin in the fall of 2000 and provide financial assistance to 1,000 new students per year, over a 20-year period, with an annual investment of \$50 million. At any given point, 4,000 students per year will be Millennium Scholars.

"It is critical to America's future that we draw from the full range of talent and ability to

develop the next generation of leaders," said Bill Gates, co-founder of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. "The Millennium Scholars program is intended to ensure that we build a stronger America through improved educational opportunities."

The difficulty of financing a college education is a major challenge to many minority high

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If you already contributed thank you. If not please subscribe if you can. Code MS 99 and MS 2000 are paid up subscription M are not paid for.

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### INSIDE

Vote NO! on I 99-2	3 p
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**CONTEST**

**Leaders we have known and admired**



**Who is this man?**

Ask your parents, ask your teachers, ask a librarian, ask your community leaders. At the end of a year's issues, will you know the name of each leader?

Youth who write a short article for the history page earn \$25 if accepted for publication.

**NEW FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS**

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  - FAFB African American Club
  - Unity House  
Gonzaga University



**Eliminating Denial of Racism**

BY KAREEM WILCHER

Oh God! another meeting, another speaker, deaf ears, another disappointing dialogue with a few white citizens of Spokane about matters-of-fact on racism, its societal devastation and communal solutions. On Friday evening, September 24, The Washington State Commission for the Humanities with the City of Spokane Human Rights Office presented Finding Common Ground - Changing Spokane's Image on Race and Ethnicity at AVISTA Corporation's auditorium.

Carl Bernard Mack, guest speaker and second Vice Chair of Seattle's Chapter of the NAACP, is a resident of Auburn, Washington. Mr. Mack is a prominent 37 year old

Afro-American who is the author of Black Heritage Day One, 1993 and Black Heritage Day Two, 1996. Born in Jackson, Mississippi, he attended Mississippi State University where he received his engineering degree.



As a guest speaker in Spokane, he will tell you he does not teach nor speak toward diversity issues. However, Mr. Mack's purpose at this event was to enlighten the audience regarding America's institutional

racism through laws, court cases and current societal forces against blacks living in this country.

Carl Mack opened with many personal insights including his earlier lack of knowledge about black history. He explained he could not acknowledge his cultural deficiencies until a conversation with a white colleague who exhibited an extensive knowledge of Black history. Mr. Mack said this motivated him to learn about his own culture. He admitted it was very intimidating to discover he did not know about his own history.

As a speaker, Mr. Mack's eloquent delivery stirred many audience emotions and responses. Using examples from history and current newspapers, delivered with ener-

gy, movement and gesture, he raised the audience's level of consciousness about the contributions blacks have made in the making of America and its wealth for over 400 years. The audience also learned about America's systematic racism, racial hatred and the denial of that racism that continues today.

Carl Mack also talked about America's treatment and responsiveness to other ethnic groups in terms of reparations and apologies, the lack of an inclusive American history being taught in public schools, government representation, white privilege today, and solutions that work to eliminate denial and covert racism.

After Carl Mack's pre-

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**The Task Force on Race Relations Back in the Saddle Again**

BY KHALIL ISLAM

At 11:10 am on September 7, 1999, an excited and energetic Fr. Spitzer called the Spokane Task Force on Race Relations to order expressing thoughts on reenergizing and refocusing on the diversity that the committee should pursue. Over fifteen people, representing a variety of interests from the US Air Force to District 81, the meeting was packed.

It was back to business for the TFRR, with a full agenda, as if the group had just met last month. Although the last scheduled meeting in June did not happen, many members came with projects and were ready to report. John Clute, from the GU Law School, reported that the Articles of Incorporation had been approved and filed with Washington State and that the procedure for obtaining 501.C.3 status as a tax-exempt organization was nearing completion also. The group confirmed Vince

Lemus, Human Rights Specialist for the City of Spokane as Vice Chair of the organization.

With the Mayor's arrival and report, there was a brief discussion as to suspected overlap between missions and goals of both the TFRR and the Spokane Human Rights Commission. Several members of the committee pointed out that, although both groups have similar interests and goals, there was no need to worry about overlapping. Citing the TFRR's specific focused on race, Dan Distelhorst pointed out that the Human Rights Commission had a much broader purpose and touched on many different areas in many different ways than the TFRR was able and willing to do. Aside from that, Distelhorst pointed out the SHRC, "will not even look in this area," referring to the Community Congress on Race Relations, because of the size of the project

and the limited resources of the SHRC. When questioned as to the purpose of bringing up a conflict of interest between the SHRC and the TFRR, Mayor Talbot would not identify his purpose for starting that conversation, instead

he chose to turn the tables around and accused members of the committee of taking him out of context and blowing the comment out of proportion. Following that discussion, the Mayor left to another meeting

Hopping right into business Fr. Spitzer, speaking for both Mayor Talbot

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*The Spokane, Pullman African-American Voice*

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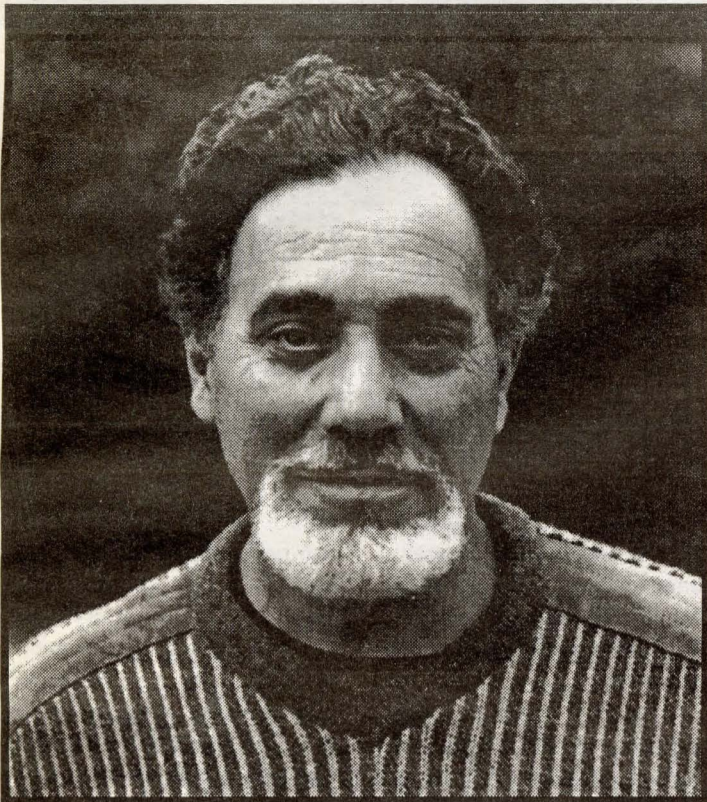
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Memorial Gathering was held on September 12, 1999

# Morrie Camhi



August 16, 1928 ~ August 27, 1999

By ROBERT LLOYD

Spokane has lost a friend it didn't even know it had. Morrie Camhi, a documentary photographer from Petaluma, California, passed away August 27, 1999. Morrie read this paper since its inception, he wrote an article for it and financially supported it. For nearly 20 years he brought exhibits on diverse populations to the area: Caesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers, Espejo: Reflections of the Mexican American, The Jews of Greece, AdVantage, the Prison Experience, and his series on artists, which included local artist Ruben Trejo. Morrie also provided workshops and lectures at Eastern Washington University, Spokane Falls Community College, 123

Arts and in the Washington State prisons.

However a list of these exhibits and activities fails to express the energy, support, understanding and humanity Morrie brought to every interaction. A staunch believer in the humanity of every person and in the ability, indeed the responsibility, of people at the grass roots to work together to change their communities for the better, these beliefs illuminated everything he did. His photographs express his intense interest in each person he met and records their response to his genuine concern.

*"We do not see things as they are... We see things as we are."*

Morrie Camhi

Continued from page 2

## Back in the Saddle Again

and himself, apologized for the past lack of attention from the co-chairs to the group. Acknowledging that both he and the Mayor had busy and demanding schedules, Fr. Spitzer made a four part commitment for the co-chairs to: 1. Attend a minimum of one meeting per quarter, no less than four meetings per year; 2. That executive and major funding decisions would be made at these four meetings. 3. The co-chairs would attend as many meetings as possible, but four would be the minimum number they would

attend; and 4. Both the Mayor and Fr. Spitzer would do all they could to get a Y2K Community Congress on Race Relations off the ground. Fr. Spitzer also commented that he was more than willing to take on tasks outside the confines of meetings, such as large fundraising and making personal contacts. "Things I can do from my phone at the airport," is how he defined these tasks. In absence of the co-chairs, Lemus will lead the TFRR. It seemed to be the general consensus of those present that he had the skills and ability to lead the group successfully as I redefined itself and prepared for a Y2K conference.

Immediately following that discussion, the TFRR approved a Y2K Community Congress on Race Relations to be held on the campus of Gonzaga University in the spring of the year 2000. Citing the short time span that the committee has to prepare the next conference, plans were made to dive in at the next TFRR meeting, on September 14, and start laying the foundation for a successful program.

*People interested in participating in the CCRR 2000 planning should contact either Fr. Spitzer's office at Gonzaga University or the Human Rights Office with the City of Spokane.*

# Vote NO! on I 99-2

## And the Fight Wages On - Spokane's Battle for Equal Rights

By Khalil Islam

They call them special rights. The right to have a job. The right to have a place to live. The right to eat in public. Many of these rights are what we have grown up with and are rights we consider sacred. We often quote the "founding fathers" (note: none of them were related to me) when we discuss the reasons why these rights are so important. After all, "All MEN were created equal", right?

But God forbid that we grant those rights to people who we consider to be just a little bit different. This seems to be a problem here in good ol' Spokane. Some people seem to think they speak for God and that God hates all people not like them. Sexually speaking, of course. To be specific

there are those in Spokane who believe that if you are gay or lesbian... or even perceived to be gay or lesbian you are undeserving of even the most basic pieces of the American dream.

At a recent Spokane Human Rights Commission meeting Penny Lancaster, one of the leaders in the movement to deny basic human rights to gay and lesbian people said that the Human Rights Ordinance is an issue of discernment and not an issue of discrimination. When I close my eyes at night and let my imagination flow, I can just hear those same words being used to deny people of color the same rights Ms. Lancaster would deny gay and lesbian people. After all, it wasn't that long ago that we had whites only restrooms and drinking fountains. There are still places, even in Spokane, with invisible barriers and

invisible whites only signs. Relying on an ideology based on fear and hate, people fighting against equal rights for all say that being gay or lesbian is a choice. While I would tend to disagree, as I do not know anyone who would knowingly chose to be gay or lesbian and also accept the consequences that go along with such a decision. Even if it is a choice, haters of equal rights lose the wind from their sails when they label their campaign as an issue of discernment vs. discrimination as they discriminate in the so-called discernments they allow and those they do not.

The decision to marry is a matter of discernment. Yet we would grant the same special rights to people who chose to marry without question. As we would do with people who chose one faith over

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Bidding a fond farewell to the "old" House of Charity

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## Spokane Task Force on Race Relations

### VISION:

Our vision is "Spokane's Commitment to Action for Racial Equity".

### MISSION:

The Spokane Task Force on Race Relations works towards the improvement of race relations and the elimination of racial injustice in the greater Spokane Community.

### TFRR SOCIAL CHANGE STRATEGIES

#### 1. EDUCATION:

- Finish products and process started at the 1998 CCRR.

- Support and endorse other's efforts (e.g. community cultural calendar).

- Improve the resource packet and keep it up to date.

- Conduct a 3rd Community Congress on Race Relations.

#### 2. LEADERSHIP

- Develop a system to encourage/support businesses and organizations that adopted/adopt the action statement.

- Continue the efforts to leverage community and organizational leaders that came out of the "Reality Check".

#### 3. EXAMPLE:

- Conduct regular awareness training for ourselves (e.g. on "white privilege").

- Model the behaviors we advocate.

#### 4. FUNDRAISING:

- Figure out how to raise money for our efforts.

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# Arts and Culture

## Spokane Gets Jah Message!

*The revolution is still alive, and the youth, them have to know that.*

Ziggy Marley

By BEA LACKAFF

Bob Marley left us at 36 in 1981. But rejoice - his children played here in Spokane at the Masonic Temple in early September 1999!

Bob Marley was more than a musician and songwriter. The infectious reggae beat from Jamaica carried lyrics based on unwavering spiritual commitment. A voice of con-

science reminding us that our hearts should be ever open in respect and gratitude to God, and that we are One Family, and all have a right to have enough to take care of our families, to see our children grow up. This message emanating from a heavy cloud of marijuana smoke still settled deep in our hearts because it rang of truth.

The show starts to an enthusiastic welcome ...but it's SO LOUD! (Bob, I'm doing this for you, buddy, to say thanks for all you

gave us!) A handful of variously dreaded young men wearing military camouflage gear, with red-yellow-green Rasta epaulets are stomping and frolicking around the stage, taking turns delivering Jamaican Hip-Hop, with a DJ, electric bass and drums. One fellow, wearing a huge jacket and sweating earnestly waves a red-yellow-green banner, constantly inspiring us with well, enthusiasm. If it looked militant and angry to the random Shriner who peeked in from the hallways, believe me it was pure fun from up in front.

Taking the lead is an endearing young man with a golden face that shimmers with familiarity; he looks so much like one seen in a thousand photographs, this HAS to be Ziggy! I shoot two rolls of film, I want to be sure I get that dear face. I'm in the front row, I get a smile just for me. It's so loud I can't understand one word. To my amazement, the crowd sings back responses to some of the rapping. How do they know? The energetic pace keeps up for the whole set.



Stephen Marley

Photos by Bea Lackaff

Between sets I hang in the backstage hallway, ears ringing, hoping for a Marley sighting. "It's about the Spirit, isn't it? I ask the man with the banner. Dazzling smile, "Yes, about joy, about happiness!" Then a parade of Jamaicans, including bright-eyed, eager children. Spokane's own Raggs greets old friends: "Yes, Yes, Yes!" "Respect, Respect, Respect!"

Two young women that have already attended a dozen shows, following the Melody Makers across the county, "because the Energy is so good" gently explain to me that The Melody Makers haven't even played yet. The first set was Ghetto Youth, and "Ziggy" is actually Stephen!

The Melody Makers play the second set. It's fun, it's reggae, it's loud, new and fresh. Trap set, congas, miscellaneous percussion, keyboard, bass, 3 guitars, 3 Marley women singers, Stephen vocal and guitar, and the real Ziggy, singing. Some of Dad's songs too: Higher Vibration, I Shot the Sheriff, We're Jammin'.

The entire floor is crowded with dancing people, and half the balcony too. Verily, the spirit of Bob must be upon us, for a smoke heavy with earthy fragrance perme-

ates everywhere. Anyone not fully in the spirit of the evening has long since been driven out by the decibels; the mood is very happy. Bob Marley brought us a great gift and now he's gone. But rejoice! His principles, and love of music remain with us in his lively, talented offspring who have their own voices now in their own time.

And then a surprise! Out come about six kids, from maybe four to seven years old. They bust moves, they dance, a boy about seven punctuates a long rap line; a little girl spouting tiny braids leads the cheering crowd in call and response. Another child, encouraged by Cedella, plays the nyabingi heart-beat drum. Their young parents are shining with love and pride and laughter. Then the kids are gone backstage, as quickly as they appeared.

After two encores the crowd lets the Melody Makers go. The energy fed our spirits, and reminds us, "That is something our father wants," Stephen explains, "for us to be together in all things. Togetherness is an example we want to set, so that people can see: Together we can achieve anything, as a people."

(See [www.melodymakers.com](http://www.melodymakers.com))

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If you are or know of an African American female of high school or college age who would be interested in hearing the Pulitzer prize winning poet, actress, director, and writer whose determination to overcome the adversities of her childhood helped make her a woman of powerful spirit as well as accomplishments, this article is for you. The candidate should write a letter to the African American Voice explaining why they would like to hear Dr. Angelou, who will be speaking at the YWCA Women of Achievement Benefit Luncheon November 15 at the Spokane Convention Center. Tickets are \$100 for this fund raiser luncheon, but anonymous donors would like to make it possible for a young woman to attend. Your letter should be received by October 28 at PMB 145, 2920 S. Grand Blvd., Spokane 99203. The winner will be notified

# EVENTS

**Finding Common Ground**  
Sept 24 - Nov 6 See story  
pages 2 & 5

**Bias Crimes Awareness Week**  
Oct 4 - 10 See story page 15

**Walking The Talk of Respect: Five Days of Action**  
October 10-14 See story  
page 15

**Civic Theatre**  
Oct 1 - 30 1776  
Oct 10 Thurs 7 pm. Inherit  
the Wind reading Firth J.  
Chew Studio Theatre  
Oct 29 - Nov 20  
Mere Mortals  
Call 325-2507.

**Bearing Witness: Contemporary Works by African American Women Artists**  
Thurs Oct 10 Washington  
State Univ Museum of Art.  
509-335-1910.

**Two Views of Internment**  
John Newman and Roger  
Shimomura

Oct 1 - 29 Chase Gallery at  
City Hall 808 W Spokane  
Falls Blvd.

**Ted Hutchinson as Paul Robison**  
Oct 6 Wed Noon Eastern  
Washington Univ.  
Showalter Aud. Cheney

**Northwest African-American Ballet**  
Oct 8 Fri 6:30 - 8:30 pm  
Spokane Falls Comm.  
College Music Bldg #15  
Free.

**Unity in the Community**  
Oct 8 Fri 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.  
Spokane Comm. College,  
Lair Student Union Bldg.  
Regis. \$20. 533-3032.

**Maasai Batik Workshop**  
Oct. 9 Sat 9 am - 3 pm  
Presentation and demon-  
stration by Sironka.  
Whitworth College Fine  
Arts Bldg.

**Paul Taylor Dance Company**  
Oct 19 Tues 7:30 pm Beasley

Coliseum, Washington State  
Univ. Ticket information  
509-335-1514.

**Just Among Friends NO on Discrimination Benefit**  
Oct 20 Wed. 7 pm Musical  
Review at the MET. Tickets  
\$20 at the MET 835-2638  
and Hot Flash 838-3011.

**Suzanne Westenhoefer, Comedian**  
NO On Discrimination  
Benefit  
Oct 23 Sat 8 pm Spokane  
Falls Comm. College. \$18,  
\$16 in advance at NO Office  
111 S. Cedar. Call 747-4646.

**Family -A-Fair**  
H. Stephen Glenn  
Oct 22 Fri 7 pm Lecture:  
Strategies for working  
with violent behavior in  
youth. \$7  
Oct 23 Sat 9 - 11 am  
Workshop: Raising self-  
reliant children. \$10  
Oct 23 Sat 1 - 3 pm  
Workshop: Developing  
capable students. \$10  
Oct 23-24 Sat 10 am - 6 pm,

Sun Noon - 5 pm. Pacific  
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exhibits. Entertainment.  
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**Philippine Dance Troupe & String Band**  
Oct 23 Sat 7 pm Masonic  
Temple \$8, \$12. 325-SEAT

**Diversity Job Fair**  
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tive employees.  
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Comm. College Lair  
Student Union Bldg. 459-  
4106.

**Edward J. Olmos - Dialogues**  
Oct 27 Wed 7:30 pm Eastern  
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Showalter Aud. Cheney

**NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet**  
Nov. 6 Sat Spokane  
Community College.  
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## New Contest for Young Readers

Is there good news in the future? Will your life, or the lives of others improve? Will your family, community, or opportunities be better than today? We want to know what you think about the future.

The African American Voice (A.A.V.) is pleased to announce a new contest for young readers. All you have to do is write a paper telling why you are looking forward to the future and send it to the A.A.V. before the closing dates and you could win CASH!

Entries must be received by the A.A.V. before December 1, 1999.

Age is determined by entrant's age on December 1, 1999.

There will be four age groups, with a \$25 cash award for the winner in each group. The papers should be the following lengths.

Age	Length
9 - 10	200 - 300 words
1 - 12	300 - 350 words
3 - 14	350 - 400 words
15 - 16	400 - 450 words

All entries must include your NAME, ADDRESS, and DATE of BIRTH.

Mail entries to:  
Future Contest  
African American Voice  
PMB 145 2920 S. Grand  
Spokane, WA 99203-2530

Judging will be done by A.A.V. staff, based upon content and not on spelling or grammar, and all decisions are final.

All entries become the property of the A.A.V. and the writers and their parents/guardians agree that the A.A.V. is allowed to publish the winning entries in exchange for the cash awards they receive and that A.A.V. may also edit the entries as necessary to insure readability

Continued from page 2

## Denying racism

sensation there was a lively discussion between a vocal panel of members of the Task Force on Race Relations and the audience, some of whom were still in denial.

This event was the kick-off in a series of five presentations up coming in Spokane in an effort to "Find Common Ground", to educate, elevate and eliminate racism in Spokane by giving audiences an opportunity to examine their own attitudes toward these issues

while being exposed to a different cultural experience.

Program 2  
Prejudice Reduction  
Northwest African American Ballet  
Friday Oct 8, 7:30-9:00 pm  
Spokane Falls Community College Music Bldg #15  
3410 W Ft. Wright Dr.

Program 3  
Effective Reconciliation  
Talking Drums  
Friday Oct 15, 5:30 - 7:30 pm  
Spokane Transit Assoc.  
STA Plaza, Downtown  
701 W Riverside

Program 4\*  
Breaking the Cycle of Hate  
Film: American History X  
Sat & Sun Oct 23 & 24,  
9:30 am - 12:30 pm  
Garland Theatre  
924 W Garland

Program 5\*  
Moving Toward the Future  
John Gray and Assoc.  
A Human Psychodrama  
Saturday Nov 6, 3 - 6 pm  
Spokane Convention Center  
Conference Theatre  
334 W Spokane Falls Blvd

\*Programs 4 & 5 will include facilitated audience dialogue on the program theme.

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# Editorial

For over three years we at the African American Voice have done everything imaginable to support African American ministers and to provide a vehicle that they could use to disseminate information on their works and the works of their ministry in battling social injustices in the Spokane community. We have asked them in person, we have written them letters and we have sent diplomats, but to no avail. It took Eileen Thomas tabling a motion to place the three monkeys postcard on the agenda (with the promise of a future meeting to discuss the issue) to elicit the enthusiasm necessary for the ministers to provide an article for the paper.

The Inter-denominational Ministers Fellowship Union insisted on taking the AAV up on its promise to provide a voice for



all segments of the African American community. I wish they could have used this energy to fight for issues such as NO! 200, The Spokane Human Rights Ordinance, and support the Task Force on Race Relations.

President Thomas declined to comment until after the scheduled meeting with the pastor's alliance takes

place.

The Ministers Fellowship Union has not supported the NAACP since the election of President Thomas. Sometimes my brothers put more energy into creating the appearance of working for civil rights than in the actual work to empower African Americans.

Robert Lloyd

# Opinion

## Blacks and sports

BY ROBERT WILLIAMSON JR.

Recently, I watched the sports news and there was a football coach talking about his team. He stated that he and his coaching staff love for the kids to go out and have fun. I have heard this statement used by many coaches. You are most likely to hear this statement used when the football team has a winning record. I started to think about sports and some of the impacts that it has had on Black people.

I am a Black man who was born in a time when Blacks were beginning to break the color barriers that existed in sports. Today, Blacks dominate the major sports that are watched and enjoyed by many Americans. On one hand it's very good that we are allowed to make a living playing sports. What's bad is when a kid's total focus is on earning a living playing sports. Many of our kids who have good athletic skills reach the collegiate level to play football with-

out a fundamental education and values that it takes to survive in our society.

How often do you pick up the paper and read where our youth are being arrested on campus for stealing things. Most of us would think "Why is a kid that's got a football or basketball scholarship willing to jeopardize the scholarship by committing a petty crime?" Several years ago a standout professional football player revealed that he could not read. Within the last year a coach resigned after the season was over because there were accusations made that he had ordered some faculty member to write assignments for his basketball players. The players that were implicated in this scandal were not allowed to play in what might have been the biggest game in their lives.

What happens to all of those athletes that do not make it to the professional level but played at the college level for four or more years? My guess is that they have the same fate as the player who made it but was not educated to invest his money. I am sure you have heard that the chances of a kid making it in professional sports is about the same as winning the lottery. The chances are greater for them to become doctors or lawyers, just to name a few of the better paying professions.

Parents need to focus on convincing their children to get all they can get from education. Our chances of dominating the field of education was strengthened with the money Bill Gates has donated to give children of color a shot at a college education without being an athlete.

Finally, back to the coaches and coaching staff that like to see the kids go out and have fun. Sports is a big business at the collegiate level, and I believe that all of the coaches, especially the ones making \$450,000 a year, should have more of an obligation to our children than just being the football coach. I think they should be responsible for identifying and addressing some of the needs of the kids who have been pushed to this level because of their athletic ability and nothing more. And then if we do not want to dump it all on the coaches let's challenge the universities who are getting these lucrative television contracts, so we can watch our kids go out and have fun.

Keep in mind that you will only be able to watch your kid have fun on television if the school has a winning record.

# Hear No • See No • Speak No Evil



Propaganda or Political Graphic

Racism? If You Relate Us to Monkeys.

Comment on apathy: Let someone else do it

## LETTER

September 17, 1999

Ms. Eileen Thomas  
NAACP President  
Spokane, WA 99223

Dear Ms. Thomas

It saddens us to write such a letter to one of our community leaders in the Greater Spokane Area. Nevertheless, Ms. Thomas, your reaction in a television interview to David Bray's offensive and tasteless campaign literature, whether intentional or unintentional, questions the real purpose of the Spokane chapter of the National Association

for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Taking lightly or disregarding racial overtones are not embraced by the NAACP and must not be practiced or tolerated by this association's membership or leadership. Your laughter and down playing of the perceived racial attack by David Bray this past Monday night on KXLY Channel 4 News were clearly inappropriate and a disgrace to all of us who continue to fight for civil rights in our city.

Moreover, we must not allow any politician to hide behind the NAACP banner in his or her quest to win public office. Nothing is wrong with

David Bray carrying an NAACP card and holding office in this organization, but when it is used to demoralize and dehumanize people, we all must draw the line and say 'not so and enough is enough'.

Ms. Thomas, when you were elected president of the NAACP, we accepted the wishes of the membership and vowed to support the organization under your administration. However, we will not support anything that is wrong. We feel your action this past week was wrong and needs immediate correction. Let us sit down and discuss how we might be able to help each other to understand

where we are headed in terms of human rights for the citizens of Spokane.

We continue to support what the NAACP stands for and know without a doubt you do the same. Let us continue to uphold this banner with pride and dignity by challenging wrong and celebrating progress.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact our president, Rev. Eugene Singleton at 535-6926 to plan a meeting regarding this matter.

Sincerely,  
Eugene Singleton  
cc African American Voice  
after NAACP meeting 9/20/99

We do not see things as they are...  
We see things as we are

# The African American Voice Supports

City Council Position #1  
Roberta Greene

The African American Voice is in support of human rights for all.

Vote NO on Initiative 99-2

The African American Voice believes that we should pay for governmental services such as roads, and transportation for the disabled.

Vote NO on Initiative 695

## LETTERS

The Editor welcomes letters. You can respond to articles or write about any topic of your concern. You can also call and dictate a letter. If we are not in, you can narrate your letter in our voice mail. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for language, content and space.

Write to: The Editor, *The African-American Voice*, PMB 145, 2920 S. Grand Blvd., Spokane, WA 99203-2530. Please include your name and day time phone number for verification.

### Publishers:

It was a pleasure to re-acquaint myself with so many of my new friends in Liberty Park during the recent Unity in the Community celebration. As I told you, I traveled to Spokane specifically to attend and support that function. I consider it important to stress publicly and repeatedly the need for increased cultural awareness in Spokane County. I look forward to attending the event in the fall of 2000.

I have not, until now, taken the opportunity to specifically thank you for having made available your editorial staff to me and, by extension, the Spokane Police Department. The police chief should continue to periodically attend editorial board meetings. It is only by maintaining a continuous dialogue between the government and its constituency that the community can work through problems and challenges. As you know, we've disagreed on a number of substantive issues. However, airing these in meetings and in print has afforded us the ventilation of differing yet informed views. I'm pleased that we've confronted such disagreements in a professional, non-confrontation manner, which respected

the points of view of all parties.

I appreciate the many kind gestures received from all communities in Spokane County, including those of the minority community, following my resignation from the SPD. It was heartening to know that I enjoyed such great support from so many quarters, considering that such support from my employer was so appalling absent. I'm further honored that you saw fit demonstrate that support by chronicling my departure from City service in your June 1999 issue.

During May and June I received many phone calls, letters, e-mail messages and other good will gestures that I've been answering since. I was quite busy at that time and regret I hadn't corresponded to you earlier; here are my belated thanks to you and your publication.

I pledge to continue visible involvement in issues facing our minority populations. Such involvement may take the form of public service or perhaps populations. Such involvement may take the form of public service or perhaps community activism. Absent some unforeseen event I'll be back in Spokane in October and will contact you then.

Alan Chertok

### Dear Editor:

I've sent you these notes praying to God that you can help me and countless others. This is no longer just a race, it is a human rights thing and multicultural thing. This is my cry for help. I'm a Black man that tried to

make it on my own the wrong way. I'm in prison because of drugs -selling and using them. I blame no one but myself.

Now I ask for help. I pray that someone there can take these notes and turn them into something. I'm not a writer, only of songs, so there are many

misspelled words and punctuation is way off. But what I'm trying to get through is that I'm ready to become a positive part of the community again but it has turned its back. I have also faced the fact that I can't do anything without God so I praise God everyday.

I have been in and out of jail for the past 15 years here in Spokane. It finally ended in prison time, from the summer of 97 to 99. I went to the Brownstone Work Release downtown Spokane from July 23, 98 to January 99. Out for a month, being that I'm a recovering drug addict, I tried to take charge of my life again. Which did not work out because I had nowhere stable to go. I had a job, but I had problems because I had spent so much time with people telling me what to do. I quit, and went back to living on these mean streets of

Spokane. So I ended up back in jail for a violation. They sent me back to Brownstone. I stayed I think a week and a half. I could not find a job and I had gotten back on drugs.

I told everyone from the jail staff and my counselor to my probation officer that I needed help but all they could tell me is "You need to sign up for drug treatment." That man was rarely there. So I ended up back in Airway Heights Correctional Center for 180 days for escape from work release. I was supposed to get out Oct. 6, 1999 but now they have sent back to Spokane County Jail to face a felony charge for the same thing, which could have me facing 2 - 5 years! The thing is that Spokane does have a better job market now for ex-offenders, but they have nothing as far as housing other than the Union Gospel Mission on Trent - which since I have this escape and recent drug use I was denied community placement there. That is discrimination to me!

The fact is that I have got my head together, faced my drug problem, gone to 12 weeks of drug treatment, and am trying to find inpatient treatment in a program that will help me find a place to stay for free until I can get a job, but I can't get out of prison if I can't give them an address.

They call this community placement, which means community harassment for who have done their time and want to go on with their lives. It is not fair for those who want to put their past behind them. They come to your job, your house and go through your things, somewhat like they do to you in prison. You have to be in the house at 10 pm until I think 5 or 7 am and they could call you at any time to make sure you are there. It's like legalized stalking because some probation officer sits outside your house or apartment to watch you. Well, some people may say if you're not doing nothing you have nothing to worry about! Wrong! I did my time, that was my punishment.

The Department of Corrections (DOC) in Spokane has no program for

people like me. I'm 33 years old and will work. I am a cook or dishwasher, have a broadcasting degree I got here in Spokane, I've been a disk jockey since I was 13 years old. Know this: I am willing to talk to these gang bangers and the want-to-be gang bangers so they do not end up like me.

It is a shame that I have to pay to get out of prison. I have no money for an apartment that is in a safe neighborhood, and if I did they would not want me there because of my record for being in the drug world! If I was a sex offender or homosexual with HIV/AIDS they have all kinds of programs. Now, I have nothing against these people,

that's between them and God. The only places that I could afford if I had the money are in downtown Spokane and are the biggest dope houses in the city!!!

I just need a chance and so do many others. I am calling on the churches and the African American community and the NAACP!!! and the housing authority of Spokane. I need some kind of half way house like Oxford (that takes \$450) to share a room with two or four men. After coming out of prison with DOC probation on your back too doesn't help. Now, I've heard there are some half way houses downtown but who are they? They say at Airway Heights to see your counselor, but if you do they say they don't know. These are ex-officers who have become case workers.

Now even if you do work in prison if you aren't going to be there past 6 months it takes two months to get a job. Some people still have jobs. Some people are forced to work in the kitchen for 90 days then you find out after 90 days is up you can't quit unless you are released to another job. You are paid \$50 a month, that's 30 cents an hour, 35 if you are a cook. You are not allowed to make over \$55 a month so they take days from you. There is no over time. The pay period ends the first of every month but you have to wait 17 to 20 days to get paid. There is no saving unless you have someone sending you money (I don't yet). Everything costs. By the time pay day comes at Airway Heights you owe them postage from writing people to send you money which they can't send you, then phone calling them when you first got there. Your family needs the money to take care of your kids and the bills. I know a lot of people may be saying he or she did the crime, yeah but you end up paying for it some how! I came to prison as my punishment, not to be punished then have to pay to get out with nowhere to go.

Antonio M. Moss

Airway Heights Correctional Center  
A CLOSED MOUTH DON'T GET FED

### This is a Reality Check:

If the tribe is there with me I can make it.  
Without my tribe I went to the outcast and became the problem  
Because your back was turned.  
I call myself now pimp, player, banger, hustler.  
I pick up a dope sack and a gun.  
Now I'm on the run,  
Wreaking havoc on society.  
And they still haven't learned  
That every day a new Black warrior is born.

# Violence doesn't solve anything

By JIM RHODES

Recently I returned to my adopted home town of Oroville, California. Now, Oroville is a typical small town of approximately 27,000 with an average of 7,000 African Americans who are remnants from building the Oroville dam.

When I left for college in 1968, the local African Americans had their own personal park which was utilized for Saturday picnics, ball games, barbecues, and just a general place to gather and have fun after church on Sundays. The general drinking crowd would always give ground to the church people on Sundays. The park was located just within the Black neighborhood and was convenient for all. There was however a small problem - the "park" was the large playground for the elementary school which was predominantly attended by white students. Now, after 10 years the city council met and voted to erect a 15 foot fence around the playground.

Needless to say, Black people were very unhappy

when the city crews began working on the fence, but the smartest route to take was to visit city hall and voice concerns.

The African American community sent five delegates as spokesmen to city hall and voiced their concerns to leave the playground unfenced.

These delegates were two college professors, one local pastor, one city councilwoman from another city, and the local (and only) Black sheriff's deputy.

After five attempts in a span of one year, the delegation hadn't even gotten to first base. The city council pointed out that the school yard was only to be used for playground purposes, and the city did not have money to build a park for the people. If the Black community wanted a park they could travel across town to the main park. In addition, this cross-town park had more and better police protection.

The delegation pointed out the playground had never been vandalized, littered, or misused in any

way, plus, police had never been called for any unruly behavior for 10 years. In addition the playground was within walking distance to accommodate the elderly who had no means of transportation. City hall didn't budge!

After three more months of frustration the Black community gave a two week notice to meet and prepare to march on city hall. Meanwhile someone had contacted Rev. Jesse Jackson about the proposed march and asked could Jackson show up.

Now whether we want to believe it or not, there are spies walking among us who tell city hall our every move.

The spies told city hall there would be a meeting but no one was sure at this time what would be the result, or what the African Americans would do.

Enter the wino, prostitute, pimp, and a dope addict.

Without the knowledge of the Black community, these four people took it upon themselves to

approach city hall at the next meeting, and the story goes like this:

They told the council Black people were tired of waiting for the council to give them justice. They were tired of paying taxes and not receiving something as minimal as a recreation spot.

They went on to say that Black people were gathering to march, not just on city hall, but on the whole town, and if need be, burn the whole d... place down. The pimp explained that he knew the local police, sheriff's department, California Highway Patrol, and maybe even the National Guard would be there to stop this but, the wino said, they would try and burn as much as possible before they were stopped, and they all were willing to go to jail for what they believed in.

Two days before the big meeting, the city had bulldozers clearing land.

When I arrived in Oroville I took my family to visit the old playground and saw the fence. I was really broken-hearted until someone told me we had another spot now. After telling me where it was I went there and couldn't believe my eyes - a new

park!

And not on the border, but directly in the Black neighborhood. I won't explain here all the things within the park, but I can say it's nicer than the old playground.

When I look at this true story I can't help but think of the African American community in Spokane. What is common, or uncommon between Spokane and Oroville? How long will the people lay down and "take it" before someone gets fed up with intellectually dealing with the governing forces?

However long, I don't advocate violence because I have always been taught that violence doesn't solve anything. Nor would I expect Spokane to take this route. But I must admit that I am a bit confused as to how is it that a wino, prostitute, pimp and drug addict can get something done, that professors and council members (all highly educated) can't get to first base.

I know it can't be violence, remember violence doesn't solve anything.

Maybe someone out there will write the editor and explain this to me.

## BUILDING COALITIONS

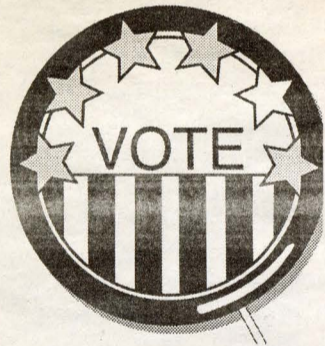
### Spokane Inland Northwest African American/Jewish Coalition for Justice

#### Mission Statement

The Spokane-Inland Northwest African American/Jewish Coalition for Justice (AA/JCJ) works to promote economic justice,

combat hate crimes, and develop goodwill and mutual cooperation between the members of both communities in order to build a more equitable and just society.

The first meeting of this organization was held recently. Contact the African American Voice if you are interested in being involved.



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## Virtual job fair for Black colleges

In the last issue we reported on an African American employment web site, EmployUs.com. This month we turn to Black Voices, an online community and job recruitment service for Blacks that is holding its first-ever job fair until October 15 at its Website, <http://www.blackvoices.com>

The event, which began September 15, gives students at more than 100 historically black colleges a chance to link with recruiters from over 1,000 companies, reports Editor & Publisher magazine.

The job fair is being organized, in part, to raise money for the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund and the Tom Joyner Foundation, which provide scholarships to students attending historically black colleges.

For a \$2,900 fee,

employers were able to post job listings and company profiles on the site and use a resume database. Students and graduates of predominantly Black colleges use the site to post their resumes and inquire about jobs.

Company recruiters, while agreeing that an online job fair that targets minorities is a positive step, expressed concerns about the price tag.

"I don't know that news organizations are going to pay this to get in touch with the Black colleges that we already have access to," says Jeff Rivers, associate editor for recruitment at The Hartford (Conn.) Courant and a graduate of Hampton University.

Others expressed concerns about whether enough students have proper access to the web in order to participate.

# Domestic terrorism sweeps America - white supremacy's deadly mercenaries

*From the Fall Issue of the Northwest Beacon - A Publication of the Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment*

For more than a year, white supremacists have declared "open season" on minority communities and human rights activists around the country. The latest attack in Los Angeles wounded five individuals and left one person dead. This is the most recent terrorist incident involving a member of the white supremacist movement. Sadly, it is just the latest terrorist act in a movement that seems to be sweeping our nation.

Buford Furrow, a member of the Aryan Nations, confessed to the killing of a United States Postal Carrier because he

was "non-white", and the wounding of three children, a teenager and an adult at a Los Angeles Jewish Community Center. Furrow served as a security guard at the Aryan Nations compound in Northern Idaho.

The Aryan Nations was founded in the 1970s when Richard Butler, formerly of Southern California, moved his organizations to Northern Idaho. In the 1980s, Butler declared the Northwest an Aryan homeland. Over the last several years, members and associates of the Aryan Nations have been linked to the hate motivated murder of an African immigrant in Colorado, bank robberies, and bombings and a triple murder in Arkansas.

The Aryan Nations



embraces a pseudo-religious philosophy called Christian Identity which teaches that Jews are the "spawn of Satan" and that people of color are "sub-human." The Aryan Nations received national attention when members of a terrorist cell named The Order were arrested for the murder of Denver Jewish talk show host Alan Berg. The leader of The Order, Robert Matthews, died in a 35 hour standoff with the FBI, in 1984, on Whidbey Island, Washington.

Confessed murderer Buford Furrow was married to Robert Matthews'

widow, Debbie, in an unrecorded marriage performed by Richard Butler. Furrows terrorist activities are part of a wave of recent violent hate crimes which include:

- A 16 year-old male was arrested in Emory, Texas for the death of an African American man. The victim was tied to a tree and set on fire. The suspect is believed to be affiliated with a white supremacist organization called the Day Walkers;

- A member of the World Church of the Creator, Benjamin Smith went on a shooting spree in Illinois and Indiana over the 4th of July weekend targeting African-Americans, Asians, and Jews, killing two and wounding nine others; and

- Adherents of

Christian Identity, Matthew and Tyler Williams are charged with the murder of a gay couple in Northern California, and suspected in the arsons of three Jewish Synagogues. The brothers have been linked to a number of Christian Identity churches in Washington, California, and Idaho. According to friends, Matthew Williams was an admirer of Pete Peters, a Colorado pastor and leader in the Christian Identity movement, who preaches that Jews control the government, the media, the film industry and are involved in a worldwide conspiracy. Peters also teaches that the Bible calls for death sentences for gays, lesbians, and people who support them.

## From our boys to our men, ...how to "dismantle" the violence

BY ISAAC ROMANO  
MS EARLY CHILDHOOD  
EDUCATION

Visible are the countless acts of violence by boys and men in today's society. From the mass-killings by a distraught "stock trader" in Atlanta, an anti-Semitic "Jew hater" in Los Angeles, and the killings of young people at a prayer service by a man in "mental turmoil" in Texas, ...to the ongoing violence in our schools.

We often hear authorities say "youth violence" has gotten more violent. What they should be saying is "male" youth violence has gotten more violent. The vast majority of the perpetrators are boys and men in our society. Harvard psychologist and researcher William Pollack describes boys as having "remarkably fragile self-esteem, and that the rates of both depression and suicide in boys are frighteningly on the rise." So it is no wonder we see anger, rage ... irrational acts by our boys and men.

Adding to this concern, here in Spokane and throughout the Inland Northwest is the high proportion of families who live with financial pressures, often leading to stress. Stress from family



financial pressures can often lead to physical and emotional abuse of children in the home. William Pollack has studied the effects of stress on our young boys. Research by Pollack indicates that boys often are unable to talk about their problems with someone, nor are they likely to go to somebody and have a shoulder to cry on as needed, ... after all, peer pressure and humiliation reinforce the idea that, "big boys don't cry."

Additionally, the work of University of Minnesota researcher, biochemist William Frey II has established that the pituitary hormone ACTH comes out in human tears. ACTH is considered one of the best indicators of stress in the body. After a good cry there appears to be a chemical balance in the body. People who cry

often say they feel better after a good cry, ...they feel restored. They feel less stressed. This fact was established in Dr. William Frey's research.

So, our boys and our men get a "double whammy" due to peer pressure and feelings of "isolation" and "criticism." They often can't talk about their problems, nor have a good cry as needed. Keep in mind the common thread here, ...all the boys and men who committed mass-killings in the recent past exhibited feelings of "isolation."

No wonder we see these growing acts of violence and self-destructive behaviors in our boys and our men. Combine this with the male fascination with guns and you have a dangerous combination, ...volatile in our community as well. I take the neces-

sary stand to protect our children and our communities, and say, "Take the toys from the boys, kick the gun habit." We in the Inland Northwest and around the country must gain the political advantage to wrestle-away this "gun-fascination" from our boys and our men, ...for all of our sake.

I am a parenting instructor and consultant here in Spokane. My work with adults is to train them in methods that help reestablish the young child's (ages 18 months to 6 years of age) sense of connection and joy, ...returning to the child the internal feeling that "life is good." This is the prescription for our young children that exhibit behavior problems, ...including our boys. My work with young children has established this to be the antidote to a child's internal feelings of isolation and criticism, and their subse-

quent acting out.

To our nations' psychologists, psychiatrists and pediatricians I say, we must turn away from the current medical model of drugging countless millions of our children, and "bribing" our children with behavior modification, ...these approaches have proven inadequate and often heap further stress on our young children.

I encourage all of us to provide a home atmosphere and therapeutic solutions that allow our children to talk about their problems and to know they have someone they can go to and have a good cry as needed.

Let's turn this around for our boys and for our communities.

Isaac Romano is the director of the RIDAC Early Childhood Intervention Recovery Program in Spokane.



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**Other Gates Philanthropic Programs**

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation places a major focus on helping to improve people's lives through health and learning. Led by William H. Gates, Sr. and Patty Stonesifer, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is located in Seattle, Wash. In addition to the Gates Millennium Scholars Program, significant Foundation projects include: the Bill and Melinda Gates Children's Vaccine Program, a \$100 million commitment to speed the delivery of lifesaving vaccines to children in developing countries; the Maternal Mortality Reduction Program, a \$50 million commitment to prevent pregnancy-related deaths of women in developing countries; and the Gates Library Initiative, a major effort to help close the 'digital divide' by bringing Internet access to libraries in the poorest communities in Canada and the United States. More information can be found at: [www.gatesfoundation.org](http://www.gatesfoundation.org).

Continued from page 1

**Gates Scholars**

school graduates. Numerous high-achieving students often find the financial costs associated with college make it hard to enroll, and difficult to complete an undergraduate or post-graduate degree.

"With this program we will reduce the financial obstacles that prevent many deserving students from fulfilling their potential," said Foundation co-founder Melinda Gates. "If we can ease the financial strains many students encounter, hopefully they can focus their full efforts on academic pursuits."

Scholarships will be offered every year through the completion of the student's program of undergraduate study. Awards will be renewed annually

and Scholars will be expected to maintain a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.0 or better.

Students pursuing advanced degrees in math, science, engineering, education and library science will receive continual financial support for post-graduate studies.

**The Gates Center for Technology Access**

The Gates Center for Technology Access (GCTA) is dedicated to ensuring that no one becomes "information disenfranchised." GCTA works to establish access to information technology resources in communities throughout the United States through partnerships with libraries, schools, and community organizations.

By empowering public

institutions to provide their citizens access to information technology, GCTA helps build infrastructures for self-sustaining computer systems in the communities that need them most. As the ability to use computers and manage digital information becomes increasingly crucial for success in education and careers, GCTA's hope is that communities with limited access to technology can work toward a point where poverty ceases to limit opportunity.

For more information visit the website

<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/GCTA>

or contact:

Gates Center for Technology Access

1551 Eastlake Avenue E.

Seattle, WA 98102

(206) 709-3300

Fax: (206) 709-3310

**Gates Millennium Scholarship Fund Application Process:**

- High school teachers and administrators will nominate low-income students with outstanding leadership and academic qualities
- The United Negro College Fund will review all applications with the assistance of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund and the American Indian College Fund
- The Gates Millennium Scholarship Fund will provide scholarships that cover the "last dollar of aid," or all financial need not covered by other funding sources.

For More Information Contact:

1-877-690-GMSP

Check the internet

For complete information on the Gates Millennium Scholars program, visit

<http://www.gmsp.org>.

Additional information is also available through the United Negro College Fund

(<http://www.uncf.org>),

the American Indian College Fund (<http://collegefund.org>), and the National Hispanic Scholarship Fund

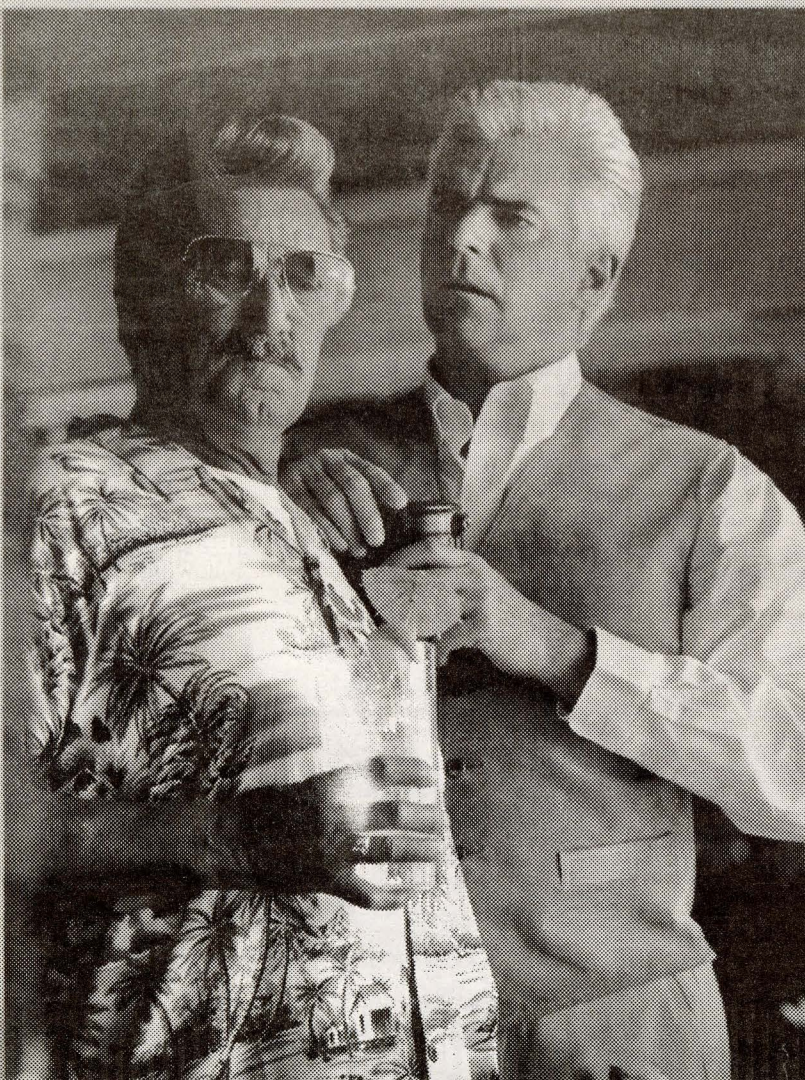
(<http://www.hsf.net>).

**NO! on Discrimination Rally**

Saturday October 9 10 am

Meet at NO on Discrimination Office 111 S. Cedar

SO, J.J.—WHO HAS THE  
**BETTER PIT CREW:**  
A NASCAR DRIVER OR AN STA BUS DRIVER?



"Sure, I realize those speedway boys can change a tire and duct-tape a fender in record time. But let's be candid: it's one little car! They don't have to worry about a fleet of buses like your STA does. Now that's a crew who really knows a thing or two about attention to detail and quality. But I do wish the STA would take a fashion tip from those folks at NASCAR—their brightly-colored jumpsuits are a real treat for the eyes."



visit on: with permission to remain until: 25 OCT 2000

## Building Community

In a community such as Spokane where the African American population is dispersed throughout the city, it is important to build a sense of community. One of the first criterion for developing a community is to know its members. With the encouragement of President Bill Robinson of Whitworth College and

the assistance of Professor Virginia White and her feature writing class, the African American Voice will publish profiles of community members each month.

Stephanie Nobles-Beans, Ken Beason, Deborah Brown, Nathaniel Greene, Roberta Greene, La'Brenda Hill, Leslie McAuley, Rodney McAuley, V. Anne Smith, Peggie Troutt, Gail Vails, Jann Williams, Jim Williams, Wallace Williams.

# Wallace Williams

By MIKE SCHOCK

When Wallace Williams strolls the halls of Rogers High School, he



Wallace & Adrian Williams

feels at home. For this principal, home sweet home always meant books, dusty chalkboards, and old metal lockers.

"Where I lived, school was the only place to really go," said Williams.

Williams grew up in Bakersfield, CA, raised in a poor, single parent home. As the oldest child, he found himself taking on unexpected adult roles as a teenager.

"Growing up, my mother worked two jobs which made me become a

second parent."

Williams, like many children in the community, turned to school as a safe house to escape the bitter reality of life. There, he was involved in every athletic team and spent hours tutoring the younger students who required extra help.

"I would stay at school all day and be involved in every school related affair that I could. I really enjoyed it," Williams said.

Today, those hours of school experience have paid off. Williams, principal of Rogers, currently is the only African American principal of the 12 area high schools.

Williams credits his high school history teacher, Mrs. Schumacher, for having the single greatest impact on his life, both in and out of the classroom.

"I remember her pulling me aside one day and talking about all my achievements. She built me up and showed me my

future," said Williams.

To others, his future consisted of a pigskin. Williams, who stands 6'4" and weighs nearly 400 pounds, was a star lineman with Washington State University. His massive size and ability enabled him to go on to a short professional career with the San Diego Chargers.

Williams continues to use that same dominating size and ability at school, much like he did on the field. Now, instead of using his size as a wrecking ball, he uses it as a recognizable source for a good pat on the back, for his students.

"Mr. Williams is the biggest and nicest principal I have ever had," said Staci Schock, a Rogers sophomore.

Williams sees his life in Spokane as a "Fantasy Island." With wife Adrian by his side since college, Williams is preparing to send his last child off to college. Stephanie, his oldest, currently is a junior at the University of Washington. Jeremy, a football former star at Ferris High, followed his fathers footsteps and signed a scholarship to

play football at WSU starting in the 1999-2000 academic year.

"The most important part of my life is my family. They are involved in everything that I do. I've tried to provide a good family atmosphere, something I never had," he said.

The right atmosphere is big to Williams, in school as well as in the Spokane community. He realizes that race will always be on the forefront, so he stresses bonding together, especially at the

school.

"We need to get past the skin color like Dr. Martin Luther King said, and start accepting groups," stressed Williams.

As the 21st century approaches, Williams hopes human quality will not always be judged by skin but by merits.

This type of passion echoes throughout the school as Williams continues to make it a safe house for him as well as his students.

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Matthew 5:6

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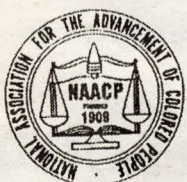
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# NAACP

Office : 709 E Desmet, Spokane WA  
(509) 323-6368

Regular meetings are 7pm on the 3rd Monday of each month.

### East Central Community Center

500 S. Stone Street Spokane WA

For Information Contact : President Eileen Thomas

## NEED HELP .....

The Legal Redress Committee  
of the Spokane Chapter of the NAACP  
wants to help you if you have been a victim of harassment  
and would like to file a complaint, complaint forms  
can be picked up at the following locations

### East Central Community Center

500 South Stone St.

### Northeast Community Center

4001 N. Cook St.

### West Central Community Center

1603 W. Belt St.

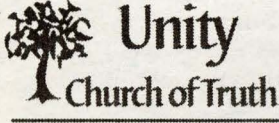
**Martin Luther King Jr.  
Family Outreach Center**  
845 S. Sherman St.

### Spokane Community College

Assist. to the Vice President  
of Student Services  
Administration Building #15  
1810 N. Greene St.

### Spokane Falls Community College


Rich Tucker, Student  
Funded Services  
Student Union Building #17  
3410 Ft. George Wright Dr.



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Wednesday Programs at 7:00 pm

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# How Will You Vote?

BY MAXINE PASCHALL

The second of November is fast approaching but how informed are you on I-695? I know it is just one of the initiatives on the ballot. However, it could be one of the most important for the residents of Washington state. Petitioners around the state gathered more than 500,000 signatures, making I-695 the second most popular petition in state history.

As voters we should be as informed as possible about the issues we vote on in each election, I believe. So over the last month, I obtained information on Initiative 695 from newspaper articles, radio, television, and advertising. In my quest for information I found out that I-695 will accomplish two things: (1) repeal the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax (MVET), replacing it with a flat \$30 license tab fee and (2) require a vote of the people on virtually any new

or increased state or local government charges.

The first part of I-695 is very appealing if you do not understand how the MVET is distributed and what services are provided to the citizen in this state. The MVET, has been a major source of government income in Washington since 1937. We do not have a state income tax like some of the other states that charge a flat motor vehicle excise tax fee. The MVET would normally generate approximately \$1.5 billion in revenue for the 1999-2001 biennium for our state, and approximately 75% of that money is slated for transportation projects, including those for which funds were allocated under Referendum Bill No. 49, approved by the voters last year. Passing I-695 is the same as making R-49 dead in the water.

In the second part of this initiative, the voter-approval requirement is extremely broad. The

vagueness in this part of the initiative appears to cover virtually any payment to state or local governments. These payments include charges for photocopies, dog licenses, permit fees, utilities, regulatory fees, bus and ferry fares, park use fees, camping permits, green fees at public golf courses, solid waste tipping fees, landing fees at municipal airports, tolls, emergency medical services, local improvement assessments, services from public hospitals, and taxes, etc., to mention only a few. This initiative expressly excludes only higher education tuition and fines (or similar charges) from the voter-approval requirements.

In effect if I-695 passes it will reduce state and local revenues that support transportation, public health and criminal justice departments across the state. Major revenue reduction of approximately \$1.1 bil-

Continued on page 20

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- We serve the greater Spokane/Eastern Washington/North Idaho area.
- Eastern's BSW program is recognized as the premiere program for rural regional practice.
- We offer a wide range of internships in Northwest social service agencies.

For complete BASW Program information call Betsy Knox, Admissions Secretary, at (509) 359-6485.



# \$1000 For School

With the support of Jim Williams, former president of Spokane Community College and the Community Colleges of Spokane Foundation, The African American Voice is opening a trainee position to a community college student who has strengths and interests in the field of journalism or writing. The internship, which would be available to students registering full time for Winter and Spring Quarters with the Community Colleges of Spokane, would pay community college tuition expenses for that quarter.

The student selected would serve as college

editor and reporter. It presents a great opportunity to work for social justice and to be involved in the African American community.

The intern would commit to:

Wednesday of the month until the following Monday when the paper goes to the printer.

5. Attend the monthly AAV meetings the Saturday or Sunday after the paper comes out.

6. The intern's work would be evaluated quarterly by the publisher and staff.

To apply, send a letter to the African American Voice describing why you want to work for the African American Voice, and give two references. Send the letter and references to the AAV, PMB 145, 2920 S. Grand Blvd. Spokane 99203. You will then receive an application.


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# Call To Boycott the Alderbrook Inn -- Christa Conference Center

A racist incident in Kitsap County has prompted the Bainbridge Unity Coalition to call for a boycott of the Alderbrook Inn Retreat Center owned by Crista Ministries. A staff person employed by the Alderbrook Inn taunted

an interracial couple and their two adopted Korean children with the racial slur "Gooks." Earlier in the afternoon patrons who came to the pool area left upon seeing the mixed racial family. The family endured unfriendly stares the whole day but when

the husband (who is white) was not with his family, he was treated with smiles and kind words. Later in the evening hostile treatment of the interracial family grew worse.

While having dinner at the resort restaurant, the father noticed that the family was being stared at in an extremely hostile manner by two other patrons in a way that made it very clear that they were not welcome.

After hearing an employee use a racial slur, the father asked for the manager, explained what had happened, and though they had paid for moorage, informed the manager that they were leaving due to the hateful glares and racial slur. He also told him they would not be paying for dinner. The restaurant manager informed the father it was impossible that harassment could occur and told the man "I'll pray for you."

At no time did the Alderbrook staff or management offer an apology for the incident or the unwelcome treatment. After the family left the Alderbrook Inn the management called the Sheriff's department and pressed charges against the couple.

*If you or your organization are interested in learning more about the Alderbrook Boycott contact the Bainbridge Unity Coalition at 206-842-8381*

## Recruiting and hiring minority students

*Students looking for jobs, employers doing recruiting, and teachers who might be contacted by them may be interested in this description of the proper way to handle "Referral of Minority Candidates" from "A Faculty Guide to Ethical and Legal Standards in Student Hiring" published by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE).*

Most employers have diversity objectives in their college relations programs. Accordingly, they will make a special effort to identify and attract minority candidates. You will probably be asked for help in accomplishing this task.

The NACE Principles document endorses compliance with EEO guidelines and adherence to affirmative action principles by both college and staffing professionals. It is illegal to discriminate against protected groups. It is considered appropriate for career center practitioners to inform members of protected groups about employment opportunities, especially in areas where minorities are underrepresented. Similarly, employers are encouraged to inform minority populations of special activities, e.g., information sessions or career fairs that have been developed to help achieve an employer's affirmative action goals. You can participate in all of these activities.

While it is lawful and ethical for you to assist employers in reaching out to minority groups, it is inappropriate for you to identify only minority individuals who might fit the needs of an organization. You have an obligation to provide a "fair" system, i.e., one where all students have access to infor-

mation about career opportunities.

### A Suggested Course of Action

If you receive a request for minority candidate referrals, you can make announcements in class, post signs in your department, notify minority students' organizations (e.g., societies of Black, female, or Hispanic engineers), pass the request on to the career center, and encourage the employer to contact the career center directly. You can also refer the employer to your college's minority student advisory office (if one exists). That office may be authorized to provide a full list of the members of a requested population.

## Blacks and Latinos Unite!

By JOSE S. GUTIERREZ JR.

Black and Latino leaders, led by the Rev. Jesse Jackson, founder and president of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition. The signing of the agreement launched the annual Rainbow/PUSH convention.

The August 3rd announcement was made to unify Blacks and Latinos around issues such as voting and education.

"We hope to create an alliance to work together on some of the issues that are signifi-

cant to our communities," said the Rev. Jesse Jackson, founder and president of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition. The signing of the agreement launched the annual Rainbow/PUSH convention.

Announcing the signing of the agreement at a news conference, Jackson was joined by Raul Alarcon Jr., President of the Spanish Broadcasting System. The meeting was meant to unite and mobilize the Latino and Black communities on various social and polit-

ical issues according to Alarcon and Jackson. Amongst the issues are immigration, the census 2000, redistricting and health care.

Others who signed the agreement included leaders of the League of United Latin American Citizens, the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the National Hispanic Leadership Council and the Chicago Urban League. The newly formed alliance has yet to announce any specific ventures in the Black and Latino communities.

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### LINKS Holiday Gala

Mark your calendars for the LINKS Holiday Gala to be held at the Shilo Inn on November 27th.



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# Something You Can Do If You Will

## You can meet the buyers

**Government and big business buyers reach out to small business sellers**

Area businesses are invited to Meet the Buyers at Partnering: A Procurement Conference and Trade Show. It is scheduled for October 13, 8 am to 4 pm at the Spokane Ag Trade Center. This program is a day long conference and trade show designed to explore and expand partnerships among businesses, large and small. Attendees will have the opportunity to network and market with local, state, and federal agencies and other major purchasers.

In a normal trade show setting, the buyers will walk the trade show floor. At this trade show, the tables are turned and the Buyers (big business and government agencies) are the exhibitors. The Sellers speak to the exhibitors about buying their products and services. Attendees may also request "one on one meetings" with specific purchasers. Those meetings will be scheduled outside of the exhibit area.

The conference keynote speaker is Sylvia Palms, Vice President of Supplier Diversity for US West in Denver. Her topic, "Electronic Commerce - Just Do It," discusses the trend for large corporations and government agencies to require bidding and proposals to be accomplished over the internet. Those that do not yet require internet bidding are heading in that direction. Ms. Palms will discuss how US West chooses their vendors and works with them. Her goals are to build a balance of integrated minority and women businesses enterprises (M/WBE) suppliers and majority suppliers, to increase M/WBE in business participation, and to change perceptions of minority and women owned firms both internally and externally.

Workshops will be provided addressing electronic commerce, working with government agencies, and how to

write successful bids.

This event is co-sponsored by the Spokane Area Chamber of Commerce. For further information, call Sho Works, Inc. at (509) 838-8755.

**Be Energetic Not Apathetic**

## Volunteers Needed

The Martin Luther King Family Outreach Center has many programs that are offered to the community. In order to help keep these programs successful, the Center needs the help of volunteers to assist them. Volunteers are needed for the following programs:

- Food Bank (two Wednesdays per month from 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM)
- Thanksgiving and Christmas Adopt A Family (Schedules and tasks vary)
- Christmas Tree of Sharing (Schedules and tasks vary)

They also need the help of Adopters for their holiday programs to help serve families in the Spokane area.

If interested, please contact Athena Cleveland at the Martin Luther King Family Outreach Center at 455-8722.

## Movin' and Shakin'

Hey! Are you in high school? Would you like to learn how to be a real mover and shaker? You know, someone who really makes things happen? There are openings on the Teen Advisory Counsel (TAC). These people guide and direct many community activities such as the Chase Youth Awards, Kids Day in Riverfront Park, BOBFest (our battle of the bands contest), Skateboard parks, "To Make a Difference Contest" and many other important activities. Once

selected to be on the Counsel, you'll actually advise the elected officials in the city and county on these and many other issues. Also, job shadowing is an added benefit. Pick someone and follow them around for a while to see if you like the kind of work they do, how they do it, and what it takes to get that kind of job. You just have to have enough gumption to get down to City Hall, 6th Floor Youth Dept. for an application. Call 625-6054 for more details! Deadline Oct. 8th.

## NO on Discrimination Opens Campaign Office

Want to know more about how to help defeat the attack on Spokane's Human Rights Ordinance? NO on Discrimination has opened an office downtown at 111 S. Cedar.

"Pro-discrimination forces want to legalize discrimination against one group of people. They've put Initiative 99-2 on the November ballot to change Spokane's Human

Rights Ordinance to remove protection from discrimination on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation," said Leslie Farris of NO on Discrimination. "It's wrong to legalize discrimination against any group of people. Spokane needs more good jobs, and legalizing discrimination would keep good jobs away. Also, because of the

presence of the Aryan Nations and other hate groups, the Inland Northwest has an undeserved image of being intolerant. Legalizing discriminations against any one group of people would only reinforce that negative image of our area. We are urging voters to vote NO on discrimination, to protect the ordinance as it stands."

Call Liz Moore at 747-4646 for more information.

## NAACP Spokane Chapter News

### Entry testing for police officers

Acting Chief Bragdon of the Spokane Police Department is advocating with the Civil Service Commission for continu-

ous testing rather than testing every two years to aid in recruitment of minority and retired military people. Write the Civil Service Commission in support of this change.

### Guns in the courthouse

It was voted to oppose the proposal by Spokane County Sheriff Sterk that certain delegated people be allowed to carry a firearm in the courthouse.

## Race Relations Task Force Meetings

Meeting schedule, as received from Jacinta Connell with Gonzaga University. Her telephone number is 323-6102 should you have questions.

Held first Tuesday of the month at 11:00 am - 1:00 pm.

Tuesday  
Library  
09/07/99

Tuesday  
Library  
12/07/99

Tuesday  
Library  
03/07/00

Tuesday  
Library  
06/06/00

Tuesday  
Riverbend  
10/05/99

Tuesday  
Library  
01/04/00

Tuesday  
Library  
04/04/00

Tuesday  
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Tuesday  
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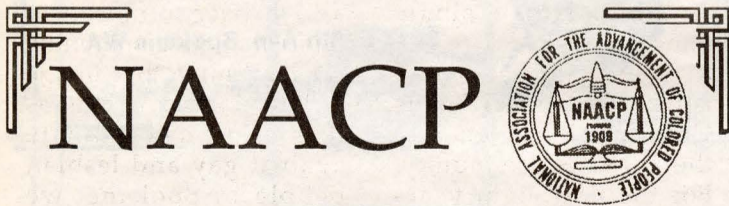
Tuesday  
Riverbend  
05/02/00

Maureen Rieckers  
Human Rights Office  
625-6266

## Dr. Charles Taylor on TV

Dr. Charles Taylor, chancellor of the Community Colleges of Spokane will participate in a televised interactive town hall meeting to be aired on Oct. 7 at 7 p.m. on KSPS TV Channel 7. The panel, which will include career planning specialists and area businessman Gary Lawton, of Lawton Printing will focus on how students, parents, educators, businesses and taxpayers can work together to prepare for the workplace of the future.

Viewers at home can call in to the program with specific questions.



# NAACP

1999

## Annual Freedom Banquet

90

Years of Making Democracy Work

November 6 th

Spokane

Community College

1810 N. Greene Street, Spokane, Washington

For more information call (509) 467-9793

# Something More You Can Do

## BIAS CRIME AWARENESS WEEK OCTOBER 4 - 10

### What is it?

The Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment (NWC), along with several human rights organizations, has established the first full week of every October as Bias Crimes Awareness Week.

### Why?

The purpose of the week is to raise awareness about bias crimes throughout the Pacific Northwest and to highlight and promote effective strategies and efforts to counter them. It is imperative that residents, organizations, and leaders throughout our region support efforts to say "no" to bigotry and "yes" to human rights for all

## Walk to 'Stop the Hatred'

Churches Against Racism is sponsoring a walk from Temple Beth Shalom, 1322 E. 30th to St. John's Cathedral on 10th Avenue at 4:30 pm on Sunday October 10. Anyone interested in participating should gather at the Temple at 4:30 pm.

The walk is scheduled to coincide with a national vigil organized by the Fellowship of Reconciliation and the Interfaith Alliance, who

ecumenical groups promoting justice and non-violence. Organization throughout the country will be praying to end hate-related violence. Following the march in Spokane, a 24-hour vigil will begin at St. John's.

The Churches Against Racism is a broad-based coalition of Catholic, Protestant, African American and Evangelical Christian churches throughout Spokane.

## Walking The Talk of Respect:

### Five Days of Action

#### October 10-14

The following events are sponsored by Churches Against Racism, and Gonzaga University and take place at Gonzaga unless otherwise indicated. Call 323-6648 for more information.

#### Sunday Oct 10:

Walk Against Hate  
4 pm - 6:30 pm Gather at DeSmet Circle

Participate in a solemn walk from Temple Beth Shalom (beginning at 4:30 pm) to St. John's Cathedral in a peaceful demonstration of community strength. This event is organized by the Churches Against Racism.

#### Monday Oct 11:

No on Discrimination at GU  
10 am - 2 pm Crosby Student Center

Help protect Spokane's Human Rights Ordinance by registering to vote in the up coming

Continued from page 3

#### No on Discrimination

another, even if that faith might be considered an abomination (or one of many fancy terms used to describe things that scare the hell out of people who believe in God). But they chose to pick on gay and lesbian people. It's easier. They can convince even the most liberal lover of justice, with the right twist of words, that these "homosexuals" are trying to recruit them and their children. And they have lots of money anyhow, right?

Equal rights, not special rights. That's what the Spokane Human Rights Ordinance was about when it was drafted, what it was about while it was being fine tuned, and what it is about as law in the City of Spokane. Nobody has been granted "special rights." Nobody has been guaranteed a job. A place to live. Access to unearned privileges. To say that gay and lesbian people (and let's not forget, people who may be perceived as being gay or lesbian) have been given special rights is absurd. What has been given is peace of mind. The peace of mind that comes with knowing that if you are blatantly discriminated against in the

November election. Come and learn about what is going on in Spokane to protect human rights. There will be a speaker at noon speaking about how we can build community and preserve identity.

#### Tuesday Oct 12:

Candle Light Vigil  
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm The Wall

This event will commemorate those who are and have been persecuted, lest we should forget. This solemn event will be a chance to reflect in prayer and peace in the hope of a greater faith in justice.

#### Wednesday Oct 13:

Can I Be Religious and Opposed to Discrimination?  
7 pm - 9 pm Crosby Main Floor

This will be a panel discussion with various Campus Religious Leaders and community members on how to fight injustice

from within a religious context. Hopefully, highlighting that religion can be asset in fighting injustice and discrimination.

#### Thursday Oct 14:

GU's Commitment to Social Justice: What Are We Doing?

7 pm - 9 pm Crosby Main Floor Coffee House

Fr. Robert Spitzer addresses how Gonzaga is working for justice through action. He will also explain Gonzaga's progress thus far. Fr. Spitzer will entertain questions from the audience.

#### THE WALL:

*In the hopes of bringing light into our community and sharing our lives, we encourage everyone to write on the wall and share stories and feelings.*

wage jobs to the Greater Spokane community. We cannot do that if we make discrimination legal. What kind of company wants to locate itself in a community known to support discrimination?

It's time we realized our image as a result of the intolerance that dwells in our community. With the Aryan Nations less than two hours away from Spokane, we have an undeserved image as a hotbed for hatred and intolerance. When we allow discrimination to flourish in our community, we legitimize that image of intolerance. As long as it is ok to discriminate against gay and lesbian people in Spokane, we legitimize the telling of racist jokes and the continued marginalization of our communities of color.

The message is loud and clear regardless of how we disguise it. We are either a community that welcomes all, or we welcome only those who can fit a certain set of criteria. I chose Spokane as my community because I saw, and still see, its potential to be a community that is welcoming to all.

On my behalf and that of the African American Voice, please vote NO! on discrimination, vote no on Initiative 99-2!

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### NO! on Discrimination Community Meeting

Monday October 25 at 7 pm

Update on the campaign, get involved. Call Liz at 747-4646.

## Every month is **Black History Month**

# What is to be done with the Blacks?

Gen. Butler's four hundred Negroes who, fleeing to him, are now safe from the brutality of their masters, in Fort Monroe, are declared contraband of war by the highest governmental authority, greatly to the satisfaction of the country, and unquestionably to the infinite disgust of the taskmasters.

These few Negroes are easily cared for and cheaply fed; they fill a place in the military economy of the garrison, and are doubly welcome; but when their number increases to twenty, thirty, or forty thousand, as it will be within a month, and when women and children, as well as men, seek safety under the guns of the place-what will be done? They cannot be permitted to starve; they cannot, being contraband and freemen, be driven back to their masters; they cannot be properly employed in the work that they are fitted to do-what then is to be their fate?

Here is a problem that must be solved. The New York Times is of the opinion that they must be settled on the soil that the rebels may leave; but that would be only to leave them to re-enslavement as

soon as the protecting hand of Government is withdrawn. They cannot be put in unoccupied territory; we have none fit for their peculiar industry, and, if we had, the cost of their removal and sustenance until they became self-sustaining would draw too heavily upon the National purse. They cannot be brought North, because in our present excess of labor, there is no place they could fill without crowding the loyal white men out. We do not want to arm them for the fight, because there's would be a war of revenge and extermination, which even their wrongs would not justify us in undertaking.

We have a solution: All South Carolinians and Floridians say that no white man can work in the States, which they represent, and live. The fact may be as they tell it. We take them at their word, and, in believing in the divinity of labor, lay down the rule, that where the White man cannot work, the white man has no business to be. If the blacks only can cultivate the soil, to them it belongs. Would it be too sever

a punishment of treason to clear the traitors out of South Carolina, and reduce the State to the condition of a territory or colony, under the care of the Federal power, and fill it with these blacks, the disposal of whom is now the matter of dispute.

Doubtless the men to be dispossessed would believe that they are savagely treated; but between the death that their crimes merit, and the exemption of punishment they hope to enjoy, this expatriation would gladly be accepted as a compromise.

South Carolina has always been powerless for good in the body politic. Her people are, some of them too ignorant to appreciate and preserve the blessings of Republican institutions, the others, who control the masses are confessed aristocrats who hate and despise the restraints of popular rule. Beaten, they will not readily submit. Forced to give up the

notions that have made them the traitors they are. They would hatch new conspiracies on other bases, by which the Republic might be destroyed. What better than to strike at the root of evil, and make the vengeance signal and terrible- a warning to conspirators for all future time. After South Carolina comes Florida. She adds ingratitude and folly to malignity and disloyalty, and her fate should be not a whit less memorable than that which the mother of all serpents merits.

We do not at this time seriously recommend the policy, which we mark out. The quick conquest of the rebels, and the establishment of the authority of the government over the States that have denied their allegiance, may spare us the horrors of a general revolt now threatened; but we look at the whole matter with an eye to the possibilities of the future. If war continues one year or

more, "What shall we do with the slaves?" will, despite all our protestations that they are not to be molested in the possession of their owners, become the question of the day. If any plan for the disposal of them is better than that we suggest, let it be elaborated.

"Let us raze Charleston and sow the place where it stood with salt!" has been the cry from the first. Enlarging the field of operations to the uttermost bounds of the State, we accept the proposition with the modification which what we have said will suggest. First, clear the land and sow it with blacks. That's the plan toward which matters are tending. If then, at the end of the war, Charleston is a black port, and the State is an African colony, let none be surprised.

*Transcribed by Jeremy Snyder, Furman University, from the Chicago, Illinois, Tribune, 5 June 1861.*

## Massacre survivor to speak on El Salvador

Marcos Galvez Aleman a young Salvadoran organizer and teacher will talk about his experiences in the rebuilding of El Salvador at a public presentation following a 6:30 potluck Tuesday, October 5, at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane, according to a press release from PJALS, The Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane.

Marcos is a survivor of the infamous Lempa River Massacre of 1981. He was 11 years old when forced to flee his home with thousands of others in the face of a massive Salvadoran military operation to depopulate the area. He swam the river to Honduras as hundreds

of Salvadoran refugees were shot by Salvadoran troops on one side and Honduran military forces on the other. He lived in refugee camps in Honduras until 1992.

By the time he returned to a repopulation community in El Salvador, he was a community leader. He is on the national board for the Rural Community Development Association of El Salvador in charge of community organizing. The organization works on economic and human rights issues.

Mr. Aleman will speak in Spanish. There will be a Spanish to English translator. The presentation is free and open to the public.

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There are some additional program requirements. For complete details, call your Washington Trust Home Loan Center at 353-HOME.

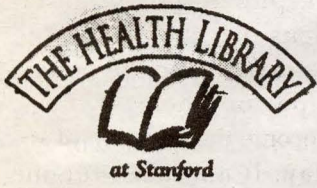


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# HEALTH

## Get it Down and Keep It Down



Among the disparities in health between African Americans and the rest of the population is increased incidence (one in three is affected) of heart disease, and high blood pressure. High blood pressure, also called hypertension, is a primary risk factor for heart disease, stroke and kidney disease. Because it has no symptoms, and can go undetected until it has done serious damage to the heart, kidneys or brain, high blood pressure has been called "the silent killer."

In their book, *The High Blood Pressure Book, How to Get it Down and Keep It Down*, authors Stephen P. Fortman MD, and Prudence E. Breitrose, MA, describe blood pressure, healthy and otherwise: "This is the way blood pressure is supposed to work: As your heart pushes blood through the arteries, the

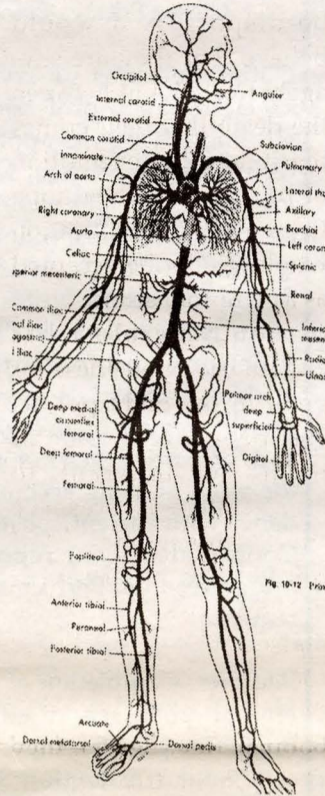
blood is constantly under pressure, much as water in a garden hose is under pressure when you turn it on. The pressure changes hundreds of times a day as different parts of the body make new demands for the oxygen and nutrients carried in the blood. The heart may pump harder, and the blood vessels expand or contract to direct blood to the parts of the body that need it.

For example, if your legs are working hard to carry you up a hill, pressure will rise as your heart beats more strongly to supply that oxygen. The same thing can happen if you are under stress and your body prepares itself for action. When you calm down or stop exercising - if all is well - pressures return to normal.

Unfortunately, it doesn't always work this way. If you have high blood pressure, the pressure stays up all the time at a level that is higher than it should be. That means the little arteries in your body are not opening wide enough to let the blood flow through them freely. As a result, blood backs up, and there's pressure all the way back to your heart. The pressure pushes hard against the walls of the arteries, much as water will push against the walls of a garden hose if you partially cover the end of it with your thumb. And this can cause damage."

The High Blood Pressure Book is a useful resource if you have been diagnosed with high blood

pressure. First, it explains clearly what the implications of unchecked hypertension are - the kinds of long-term damage your body sustains when hypertension goes undiagnosed or untreated, and how the risks of stroke



and heart attack increase. And for the uninitiated, the authors do a good job of explaining how blood pressure is measured, and the differences between ideal, normal, borderline and high blood pressure. They also provide a clear explanation of how to use a blood pressure cuff at home, which is an important part of managing hypertension. People who check their blood pressure regularly control it better than those who don't.

If you, or a family member has high blood

pressure, it is important to know that it is a condition that is highly treatable - there are many medications used for hypertension. If you are not having good results with a prescription, don't be alarmed, your doctor can prescribe other medication until you find a one that manages your condition without side effects.

The High Blood Pressure Book was developed by the Stanford Center for Research in Disease Prevention, and its aim is to teach readers how to live healthier and longer with high blood pressure. The authors have created a workbook that helps the reader incorporate healthy habits into his life. It includes a section, "What Changes Do You

Need to Make?" that helps the reader focus on what can be changed to make clear health improvements, and how to create a plan to make the changes. It follows through with step by step education on diet, exercise and stress - all variables that we can control to improve our health. There's even a section on learning deep relaxation techniques. The book is designed around a week-by-week program that follows the one the researchers at Stanford used in their studies. As the book points out, hypertension is an easily controlled condition, but people often wait until there is damage done before they hear the message.

### 10 Super Foods You Should Eat!

1. - Sweet Potatoes - A nutritional All-Star - one of the most nutritious vegetables you can eat. They're loaded with carotenoids, vitamin C, potassium, and fiber.
2. - Whole-Grain Bread - It's higher in fiber and about a dozen vitamins and minerals than refined white or "wheat" flour.
3. - Broccoli - Lots of vitamin C, carotenoids, and folic acid.
4. - Watermelon - Excellent source of vitamin C and carotenoids - and it tastes great!
5. - Beans - Inexpensive, low in fat, and rich in protein, iron, folic acid, and fiber. Choose garbanzo, pinto, black, Navy, kidney, or lentils.
6. - Cantaloupe - A quarter of a delicious melon supplies almost as much vitamin A and C as most people need in an entire day.
7. - Spinach and Kale - Loaded with vitamin C, carotenoids, calcium, iron, and fiber.
8. - Oranges - A great-tasting fruit that is rich in vitamin C, folic acid, and fiber.
9. - Oatmeal - Plain, old-fashioned whole-grain oatmeal is inexpensive and has no added sugar or fat.
10. - Fat Free (Skim) or 1% Fat Milk (but not 2%) - Excellent source of calcium, vitamins, and protein, with little or no artery-clogging fat and cholesterol.

### 10 Foods You Should Never Eat!

1. - Quaker 100% Natural Oats and Honey Granola - more fat than a McDonald's burger
2. - Gwaltney Great Dogs Chicken Frankfurters - plenty of fat and too much salt
3. - Entenmann's Rich Frosted Donut - more saturated fat than a Big Mac
4. - Nissin Cup Noodles with Shrimp - fried in palm oil with 6 times the salt in chips
5. - Frito-Lay's Wow! Chips - fried in an indigestible fat substitute
6. - Oscar Mayer Lunchables - more saturated fat than McDonald's Quarter Pounder
7. - Haagen Daz Ice Cream - one cup of Butter Pecan is like eating a half stick of butter
8. - Campbell's red-and-white-label soups - 1/2 can contains more than half your days salt
9. - Rice-A-Roni Chicken and Vegetables - 2 people will have to fight over the 9 peas
10. - Contadina Alfredo Sauce - like melting a third of a stick of butter on each cup of pasta

Taken from Nutrition Action Healthletter published by the non profit Center for Science in the Public Interest

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The Spokane AIDS Network is committed to reducing the impact of HIV/AIDS in the Inland Northwest.

Call the Spokane AIDS Network for more information about how to prevent HIV/AIDS.



Spokane AIDS Network  
905 South Monroe  
Spokane, WA 99204

509.455.8993

# JOBS

An Equal Opportunity  
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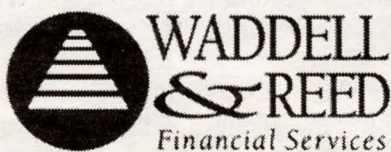
*As a community committed to achieving racial equality and justice for all members, we:*

*Accept our responsibility to make Spokane a community where all people, regardless of race, color or nationality are welcome, secure and valued.*

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Oct 9th-10:00 AM, SIRTl Bldg  
Oct 12th-7:00 PM, Silverlake Motel 6160 Sunshine  
RSVP: 509-924-4700

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SPOKANE WA. 99206

## CITY OF SPOKANE

**FOR ALL POSITIONS,** Please contact the Civil Service Office for detailed job announcement and an application. If long distance, call (509) 625-6160 to have an announcement and application mailed to your address.

**LEAD BRIDGE INSPECTOR**  
(\$31,382 - \$43,451 annual salary)  
Opens Monday, October 4, 1999  
Closes Friday, October 29, 1999

Duties: Performs supervisory and highly specialized sub-professional engineering work involving the application of skilled technical knowledge. Maintains bridge inventory files and records, and performs comprehensive inspections upon different types of structures. Assists in training the Bridge Inspectors, writes reports and prepares presentations on deterioration, malfunctions and potential hazards on bridges, and assists in recommendations for the repair of bridges. Coordinates and/or participates in inspecting whether the work is being accomplished in accordance with current construction practices. Coordinates scour reports, and related bridge records. Performs related work as required.

Requires: Completion of two years of college or trade school education in Civil Engineering Technology; AND possession of a valid Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Bridge Inspector identification number; OR, possession of NICET Level III certification as a Bridge Safety Inspector, ability to obtain

a WSDOT Bridge Inspector identification number within three months of hire, and ability to successfully complete the following courses within the probationary period: WSDOT Inventory Bridge and Structures (WSBIS) Course, Fundamentals of Bridge Concepts Course, and Routine Bridge Inspection Course. Applicants must have inspected an average of at least fifteen (15) bridges per year for the past five years in the capacity of an Assistant or Lead Bridge Inspector and provide documentation of such inspections at time of application. Applicants must possess a valid driver's license and have the ability to obtain a Class "B" Commercial Driver's license (CDL) without air brake restriction within the probationary period.

**POLICE RADIO DISPATCHER I**  
(\$24,596 - \$32,426 annual salary)  
Opens Monday, September 27, 1999  
Closes Friday, October 15, 1999

Duties: Performs responsible communications work receiving and transmitting messages and general information over police radio, intercom, computer, and telephone. Employee may be required to work on a shift basis, overtime and on weekends.

Requires: High School diploma its equivalent. Must type a minimum of 200 keystrokes (40 words) per minute. A Pass/Fail keyboard test will be given during the recruitment period. Those successfully passing the keyboard test will be scheduled for the written examination.

### Diversity Recruitment Job Fair

In recognition and celebration of Spokane's diverse populations, the diversity recruitment committee is hosting a diverse job fair on

Monday, October 25  
12 Noon to 6:00 pm

The purpose of this job fair is to open up to the whole community (all races, ethnicities, religions, genders or physical abilities) to employment opportunities and to allow employers a venue to diversity their workforce.

This job fair, expected to have over 50 employers and 500 attendees, will be held at

Spokane Community College  
Student Lair  
1810 N. Greene St  
Spokane

For questions regarding this event, please contact Susie Maher at 353-3533 or Tony Beals at 459-4106.



### Lutheran Social Services of Washington & Idaho

*We value and respect the diversity among our employees and in our community. We are committed to increasing our awareness and outreach, and to promoting a more diverse and sensitive workplace.*

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DoubleTree Hotels promotes a Drug Free Workplace.  
AA/EOE Employer.

# JOBS

## We'll pay for your college

With the support of Jim Williams, former president of Spokane Community College, The African American Voice is opening a trainee position to a community college student who has strengths and interests in the field of journalism or writing. The internship, which would be available to students registering full time for Winter and Spring Quarters with the Community Colleges of Spokane, would pay community college tuition expenses for that quarter.

The student selected would serve as college editor and reporter. It presents a great opportunity to work for social justice and to be involved in the African American community.

The intern would:

- Gather and edit articles from college students at colleges in the area.
- Report on stories as assigned by the publisher.
- Assist in the layout of the paper at the end of each month

To apply, send a letter to the African American Voice describing why you want to work for the African American Voice, and give two references. Send the letter and references to the AAV, PMB 145, 2920 S. Grand Blvd. Spokane 99203. You will then receive an application.

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Serious consideration will be given to individuals who have one year formal education beyond high school and/or equivalent experience. Strong math, keyboard and organizational skills are required. Attention to detail, adaptability and reading comprehension skills are necessary.

We offer competitive salary and comprehensive benefits. To be considered for this opportunity, please send a resume and cover letter outlining your experience and salary history in confidence to:

Principal Financial Group  
Human Resources - PRS1099  
1330 North Washington, Suite 4000  
Spokane WA 99210-2346  
Fax: (509) 324-7799  
Email: Bunkers.Barb@PRINCIPAL.com

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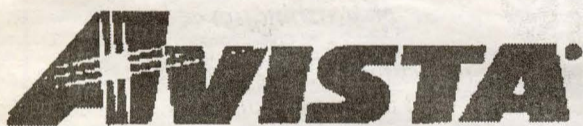
AVISTA Corp. is recognized for its innovation, entrepreneurial spirit and strong relationships. WE have been honored for business excellence in recognition of important contributions to the progress and future of the energy industry.

Those qualified to join our team enjoy abundant opportunities for personal growth and career development. We offer competitive wages and an excellent benefits package including medical, an outstanding 401(k) Plan and paid leave.

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The Spokane, WA office of Travelers Property Casualty is now hiring

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**INCOME:** In addition to a base salary, Sales Consultants are eligible to earn monthly sales incentives (some are earning \$3,000+ in a month in addition to the base).

**TRAINING:** Travelers offers paid training and assistance in obtaining a Washington Property/Casualty Agent License. You may also be eligible to earn a \$500 BONUS during the first month of training for passing the P&C licensing exam on the first try!

**BENEFITS:** Our total compensation approach includes a competitive base salary, incentives, contests, employee referral program, stock purchase and option plans, 401(k), strong work/family programs, and medical/dental and disability coverage. Travelers also offers all employees a subsidized bus pass and city pass.

**SCHEDULE:** Full-time work schedules vary with daily start times from 5:00 A.M. through 12 Noon. Saturday work may be required.

Qualified applicants can also mail or fax a resume with cover letter, including salary requirements, to: Travelers Property Casualty, Attn: HR-AAV, 707W. Main St., Suite 300, Spokane, WA 99201; Fax: 509-835-7031; or call our Jobline: 509-835-7777. Visit our Web site: [www.travelers.com](http://www.travelers.com)

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Continued from page 12

### How will you vote?

lion in the 1999-2001 biennium was estimated by the state Office of Financial Management. The estimated reduction in Spokane County/City is nearly \$5 million annually. The Washington State Association of Counties made the latter estimate. I believe this will put the north-south corridor in jeopardy as well. We will be left with Division Street congestion, clean air problems, not to mention even larger potholes. I asked myself if it would be fair for a vehicle owner who can afford a new \$35,000 + auto to pay the same fee as the owner who can only afford a \$12,000 or less used auto. Who is really gaining by the flat \$30 fee?

There are many unanswered questions about I-695, for example, if in a booming economy, sales tax collections generally increase. I-695 could require government to stop collecting sales taxes (or other revenue) once they have collected the amount they received in 1999 - unless they obtain voter approval. However, if there were a downturn in the economy and tax collection declined, I-695 would freeze total tax collection at the lowest level they ever reached. Even if the economy improved, jurisdictions

arguably could not collect the increased revenue without voter approval. It also appears that I-695 would require voter approval for any increase in rents by the public housing authority. Unlike many jurisdictions that have public housing, housing authorities do not have a defined electorate. Apparently it is unclear just who would vote to approve a rent increase, the tenants, all the residents of the applicable city or county or only the city or county council members? Where are the guidelines? In addition the cost to the public to hold a special elections is about \$4 million each. On top of this voters could be faced with a multitude of minor fee-approval measures. At this rate any reserve in the state coffers would be eaten up by the end of the biennium.

When this petition was presented to me this past summer for my signature it seemed to be too good to be true. I mainly heard the part about a flat fee of \$30. So I signed thinking that I would save money when my tab time came around next year in September. Now after researching the facts and thinking about just who would gain or lose from the passage of this initiative I have second thoughts. And I remember the saying that if a thing seems too good to be true, it probably is.

If you go to: [www.wa.gov/dol/vehicles/tr-exc.htm](http://www.wa.gov/dol/vehicles/tr-exc.htm) on the internet you can get more information on I-695.

*African-American Voice*  
455-8274 [rlloyd@cet.com](mailto:rlloyd@cet.com)

*This paper is a tool to help empower and organize for a better Spokane community. Information is power. Use it and share it or lose it.*

For a contribution of \$20, you can receive the paper in the mail. Send this form with your check to PMB 145, 2920 S Grand Blvd. Spokane WA 99203.

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W 9.500" x H 7.250"  
Full page 72.5 col. in. \$525  
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#### MECHANICAL REQUIREMENTS

Tabloid page is 5 columns wide  
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2 col .... 3.699"  
3 col .... 5.632"  
4 col .... 7.565"  
5 col .... 9.500"

#### DISTRIBUTION

The Spokane African-American Voice is published monthly, at the first week of the month. Deadlines for ads are the 4th Wed. of the month. Circulation is 5,000: 3, 500 copies by bulk mailing and 1,500 copies to stands and Black churches.



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'83 Ford T-Bird ..... \$1576  
'84 Mazda RX-7 ..... \$1799  
'86 Chrysler LeBaron ..... \$1865  
'84 Ford Ranger ..... \$1979  
'88 Chevy Corsica ..... \$2040  
'91 Ford Probe ..... \$2277  
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'90 Mercury Sable Wagon ..... \$3967  
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'95 Mazda 626 LX ..... \$8227  
'97 Ford Taurus ..... \$9864  
'98 Plymouth Breeze ..... \$11,970  
'98 Ford Taurus ..... \$12,765  
'98 Chevy Malibu ..... \$12,782  
'99 Pontiac Grand Am ..... \$13,993  
'98 Nissan Maxima ..... \$16,429

#### SPORTY

'96 Ford Probe ..... \$9637  
'98 Ford ZX-2 ..... \$11,623  
'97 Ford Mustang Coupe ..... \$11,972  
'99 Ford Mustang GT Cnvt ..... \$24,988

#### TRUCKS, VANS & 4x4s

'91 Isuzu Pickup ..... \$3984  
'90 Ford 1/2 Ton 4x4 ..... \$5215  
'97 Mazda Cab Plus ..... \$8964  
'93 Dodge Dakota 4x4 ..... \$8991  
'92 Ford 3/4 4x4 Diesel ..... \$9924  
'94 Ford Explorer ..... \$11,377  
'93 Ford Bronco ..... \$12,993  
'96 Ford Windstar ..... \$13,659  
'98 Ford Windstar ..... \$14,987

'96 Ford Aerostar AWD ..... \$15,945  
'95 Jeep Grand Cherokee ..... \$15,997  
'98 Ford Ranger SC 4x4 ..... \$16,410  
'98 Ford Explorer ..... \$17,367  
'97 Chevy Blazer ..... \$17,461  
'96 Ford Explorer E.B. .... \$17,482  
'97 Ford Explorer Sport ..... \$18,212  
'96 Ford Bronco ..... \$18,488  
'96 Chevy Tahoe ..... \$18,671  
'97 Chevy 1/2 Ton SC 4x4 ..... \$18,675  
'99 Ford Windstar ..... \$19,627  
'98 Ford 1/2 Ton SC 4x4 ..... \$19,827  
'97 Dodge 1/2 Ton SC 4x4 ..... \$21,872  
'98 Ford F-150 SC 4x4 ..... \$21,970  
'99 Ford Explorer ..... \$23,671  
'97 Ford Expedition ..... \$23,706  
'99 Ford Expedition ..... \$29,747  
'99 Ford F-250 Crew Diesel ..... \$34,717

All prices plus tax & license. Subject to prior sale. On vehicles in Dealer's stock. Sale ends September 26th.

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