

African-American Voice

February 2000

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

Volume 4 Number 9

The Other Side of Martin Luther King

BY A. BRADLEY

There is a new book out about Martin Luther King, Jr. giving a view of him that most of us have forgotten or did not know. The book by Reverend Michael Eric Dyson is titled "I May Not Get There With You: The True Martin Luther King, Jr.". Professor Dyson visits the political beliefs of Dr. King and his views on affirmative action, white America, separatism and the black church, and other aspects of Dr. King's life. Dyson said he wrote the book because he was agitated and disgusted with the cultural takeover of Martin Luther King's legacy by the radical right, the ultra conservative, the misinterpreting loyalist, and those who deem themselves intimately associated with King's legacy, but who distance themselves from

his radical legacy. He stated that King's ideas have been sanitized and his legacy frozen into one speech below the Lincoln Memorial.

The reason so much attention has been given to this portion of Dr. King's life is that it serves us in several ways, one being that it relieves us from the responsibility of tracking and responding to the radical side of King's legacy. Dyson felt that by sanitizing King's legacy we ignore his evolution from his early life when he said we must appeal to the conscience of white America to what he admitted prior to his death -- that most Americans were unconscious racists. King went on to say that racism was such a nasty virus that it infects and affects a wide range of white Americans. He said that he loved them

all and he wanted to embrace them, but they had to acknowledge the fundamental reality of the fact that racism is so powerful and seductive and the beliefs of white America so pervasive it began to seduce even those people who are our friends. King stated that it was not enough to appeal to the conscience of white America. It was not enough just to say we wanted change, but that we need to go out and make that change.

Dyson reminds us that at the time of his death America was rejecting King. He was not the popular leader that he is today. King took on the issues that inconvenienced people such as approving of and standing for affirmative action. He felt that there should be some type of restitution. Dyson stated

that King thought that America had committed a special wrong against African Americans and they should be willing to do a special right. He felt that America owed African Americans a debt that could not possibly be paid back without bankrupting America.

King stood against the Vietnam War. The FBI called him the most dangerous Negro in America. Even with the threat of death, King continued to fight for the things he believed in. He knew he would be killed because the social order of the culture was fundamentally hostile towards him. Dyson also stated that King's views on the church saw a need to link Christianity to social expression - Christians must oppose all forms of economic and racial

oppression. King stated the churches seem to have forgotten that God loves and cares for those people who are the poorest in this society and the churches had a central responsibility to love, embrace and help them out of their economic misery.

Dyson thought that corporate American had hoodwinked society into ignoring the radical side of King. "King might have come on the scene like a lamb, but he went out like a lion. It is an irony that the very quest to make his birthday a holiday yielded more progressive and radical energy than the actual celebration. We have lost that radical edge of King's dream. King's legacy and the complexity of his dream has been reduced to a four word sound bite of I have a Dream!"

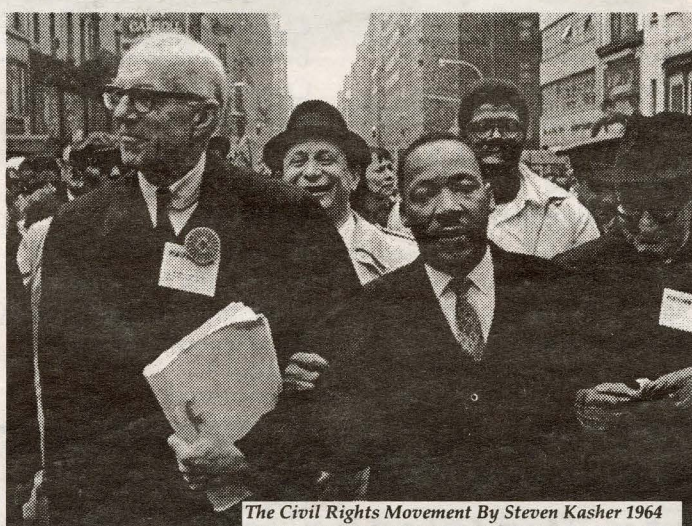
Publisher's note: The publisher hopes that the African American community, organizations concerned with social rights and justice, churches and diversity programs will begin to be interested in and learn the other speeches of Dr. King and begin implementing other dreams.

Moderate crowds celebrates King's birthday

BY A. BRADLEY

I took the opportunity to attend the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration held on Sunday the 16th at Spokane Community College.

There was the soulful singing by the Singing Hands, Angels with Attitude and the combination choir that included some members from Bethel Church and the Fairchild Air Force Base choirs. The program had a very familiar Baptist church flavor to it. The Martin Luther King Center staff and volunteers did an outstanding job of coordinating the program and the march. They made an appeal to the community for more volunteers to help tutor and mentor the kids at the center. The collection plates were passed around for the audience to make monetary contributions to the center. Mayor John Talbot declared the 17th of January Martin



The Civil Rights Movement By Steven Kasher 1964

Luther King Day. He stated that he wanted to make the city a diverse and thriving community and he wanted the people to hold him to that promise.

The keynote speaker was Frances Scott, an attorney from Spokane who spoke to the audience

about her encounters with discrimination here in our fine city during the glory days of the Davenport Hotel. She said she could not believe how the city had grown and how the Davenport had deteriorated. Initially the audience for the event was of sub-

stantial size and almost filled the 500 seat sitting area. The was considerably less than the previous year when there were people standing around the walls. By the end of the two hour and ten minute celebration, the audience had dwindled down to a third of its original size. The people who did remain were thoroughly entertained by the adult and children choirs and the singing of "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing."

The next day, January 17th was the Annual Unity March which started with the pre-march festivities at the Ridpath Hotel. Reverend Happy Watkins charged the faithful with his "I Have a

Continued on page 11

If you already contributed thank you. If not please subscribe if you can.

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INSIDE

Green Mile review

p. 4

Black baseball league

p. 10

Practical liberation

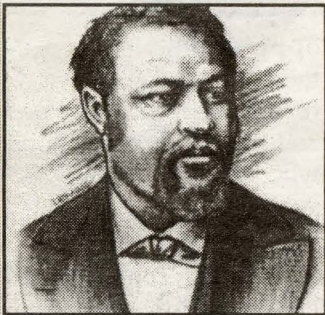
p. 6

Please use service entrance

p. 20

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.

Roger Bragdon named Chief of Police

Roger Bragdon, a 27 year veteran of the Spokane police force who has twice served as acting police chief in the last two years, has been named chief.

"I have complete confidence in Roger's ability to be the City's police chief, with or without the 'acting' in his title," Fortin says. "His staff and the community also have great respect for his ability to lead the department into the future."

First in his 1973 class in the Police Academy, quickly promoted and long in positions of supervision and responsibility, Bragdon would have been a strong candidate the last two times the position was filled except that he did not have a bachelor's degree, a qualification for the position of chief. He has worked with acting city manager Pete Fortin and

Eastern Washington University to develop a program allowing him to complete his degree in about two years.

While Bragdon has been well accepted as acting chief and has been making an effort to reach out to the community, promoting Bragdon to the position of chief is a stark contrast to the extensive process used in the hiring of the last chief, Alan Chertok, which used a broad based search committee and carefully planned opportunities for community input and evaluation of the top finalists selected after a national search. Police organizations unhappy with that process and its end result in the choice of an "outsider" are likely to be quite pleased with this one. Community members and organizations may not be so happy.

Nominations for Chase Youth Awards

The Chase Youth Commission is seeking nominations for the 13th annual Chase Youth Awards. Nomination forms are available at community centers, libraries and on-line at www.spokancity.org/youth-link or by calling 625-6909. Nominations are due by February 18, 2000.

"This is an excellent opportunity for the community to honor youth," said Sam Haltzenbeler, the co-chair of the Chase Youth Awards committee. "We need to recognize the positive impact they have in the Spokane community."

Awards will be given out for citizenship, community service, courage, creativity, diversity, leadership, and personal achievement. Individual and group awards will be given out in each category in two age divisions, kindergarten through sixth grade and seventh through 12th grade. In addition, an adult award is given to the individual who has made a difference for youth in our community.

Individual award winners will receive scholarships, and all nominees will be recognized at the Chase Youth Awards ceremony on March 28 at the Spokane Opera House from 7 to 9 p.m.

For more information on nominations on the awards ceremony, call Wendy Acosta at 625-6440.

We serve a broad community

Who reads and who pays for the African American Voice? 3,762 copies are mailed out to homes and offices. 1,238 are distributed at over 50 drop sites. 532 people have paid for at least a one year subscription. 157 people have subscriptions which have not yet expired. 3,605 people and or organizations who are not currently subscribed are receiving the paper by mail free.

Others who read the AA Voice

- AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY RESOURCES 81
- ASIAN COMMUNITY RESOURCES 15
- ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS 17

- BLACKS 721
- BLACK CHURCH 13
- BLACK NEWSPAPER 33
- BUSINESSES 116
- CHURCHES, PASTORS & MINISTRY 647
- COMMUNITY AGENCIES 62
- COMMUNITY CENTERS 2
- LATINO & LATINA COMMUNITY RESOURCES 13
- MENTORING AND YOUTH PROGRAMS 3
- MINORITY BUSINESSES 66
- NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY RESOURCES 18
- TASK FORCE ON RACE RELATIONS 62
- WOMEN'S RESOURCES 33
- UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGE 15

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AA Voice Drop Points

Churches: Bethel Calvary Full Gospel Holy Temple Mt. Zion Morning Star Mt. Olive New Hope Refreshing Spring Salvation Inn Solid Rock St. Matthew's Zion Temple	Barnes & Noble (Valley) Casey Family Partners CCS Institute for Extended Learning Central Washington University Chicken N More Children's NETT Crosswalk Department of Children and Family Services Downtown Public Library East Central Community Center	East Central Community SDA Eastern State Hospital Volunteer Services EWU African American Education Program Excell Stores Fairchild Airforce Base African American Club Gonzaga University Unity House Group Health (Lidgerwood) Hampton Institute Hastings (Valley) Jantz High School Jose Vigil Iamemakers Juvenile Court Larry's Barber and Styling MLK Center North East Community Center North Idaho College	Multicultural Salon East SCAN SCC Multicultural SCC Single Parent Program SFCC Multicultural Spokane City Hall Spokane Mental Health TASC University of Idaho Multicultural University of Washington Washington State University Multicultural West Central Community Center Western Washington University Multicultural Whitworth College Multicultural Yokes (Sprague & Sullivan)
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The Spokane, Pullman African-American Voice

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Partners International Relocates to Spokane

After a 10-survey, Partners International, a Christian, non-profit group founded in Washington state in 1943, will be moving its international headquarters to Spokane from San Jose CA, a for bringing up to 35 jobs to the area.

"We're looking forward to being involved in Spokane's community, both civic and Christian," said Paul-Gordon Chandler, CEO of Partners.

Partners International works with in partnership with local believers to establish churches throughout the world's least Christian regions.

Gays cancel hotel over allegations of racism and discrimination

The nation's largest lesbian and gay political organization has canceled dinner reservations at the Adam's Mark hotel here because of charges alleging the hotel chain's discrimination against African-Americans.

"We cannot in good conscience patronize the Adam's Mark hotel while charges of racism hang above their head," said Tom Buche, a board member of the Human Rights Campaign who lives in Denver.

"It is important that we fully express our support and solidarity with all people who continue to battle discrimination," he said.

HRC on Jan. 20 announced cancellation of its annual Colorado dinner gala at the Adam's Mark hotel on learning of a lawsuit filed by the Department of Justice alleging the hotel chain discriminates against African-Americans.

The Feb. 26 gala is now set for the Colorado Convention Center. The Adam's Mark hotel refused to return HRC's \$8,000 deposit.

According to the Justice Department, investigation of the Adam's Mark hotel began last July after allegations surfaced of discriminatory treatment of African-Americans who stayed at the hotel's Daytona Beach facility during Black College Reunion.

Justice filed against the chain Dec. 16 in a class action lawsuit joined by the NAACP. The suit alleges the hotel chain charged blacks more than whites, offered them less desirable rooms and required larger security departments. The suit also alleges that the hotel chain implemented policies that limited the number of minority clientele in the hotel chain's restaurants, bars, lounges or clubs.

"The Human Rights Campaign opposes all discrimination and we will not sit by passively when it

occurs," said HRC Communications Director David M. Smith.

"Discriminatory behavior must always be confronted and condemned," Smith

said. "We will not truly be one country until the bigotry that has plagued this nation is finally excised from American life."

Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer, keynote speaker at the HRC dinner, herself, was thrust into the national spotlight seven years ago when she was forced out of the military after acknowledging that she is a lesbian. Cammermeyer had been awarded a Bronze Star for her exceptional service in Vietnam.

Black newspapers at the Kansas State Historical Society

Over 80 black owned and operated newspapers published in Kansas are available in the Center for Historical Research. Some are available on microfilm through interlibrary loan. In addition, there are eight volumes of clippings relating to Black history. The newspapers are arranged alphabetically by town and title. The papers are listed on the society's webpage

The Kansas State Globe, an African American newspaper, is published in Wyandotte, Kansas.

"Pap" Singleton

In the 1870s former slave Benjamin "Pap" Singleton envisioned thriving mid-western communities populated by African Americans. Singleton placed his hopes for a better life on a colonizing campaign he directed toward residents of Kentucky and Tennessee. He successfully distributed his message through African American newspapers.

Two hundred Black settlers responded to "Pap" Singleton's campaign, moving west to Nicodemus in Graham County, Kansas. They completed their long journey from Lexington, Kentucky, to the central Kansas plains in 1878. By 1886 the community supported three Black newspapers.

Black newspapers offer insight into the history of African American communities. These local publications often featured church news and items of specific interest to readers, usually without the support of advertising. They also discussed issues considered politically incorrect by other publishers.

Since 1876 Black newspapers have

been published in Kansas representing twenty-two communities and eighteen counties. The first publication encouraged Black voters to participate in the upcoming election. The paper went out of business the week after the election. Over the years many other newspapers have sprung up and faded during election years urging Blacks to exercise their right to vote in order to preserve their hard-won freedom.

The Colored Citizen

The Colored Citizen, a Topeka newspaper, promoted education of African Americans. As early as 1878 editor William Lewis Eagleson and other publishers spoke out against segregation in schools. A proponent of colonization, The Colored Citizen encouraged Black migration in the late 1870s and provided a unique message of realism. "Never leave home for Kansas without having some money over and above what it takes to pay your transportation," Eagleson warned. "For the old men and women chances for great success in Kansas are not flattering."

Throughout history Black newspapers have given a voice to local communities in Kansas, promoted change, and championed important causes and leaders. Their voice is an important part of Black heritage and is being preserved at the Society, whose collections include nearly one hundred African American newspapers.

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EWU's Black History Month Banquet February 19 features A. K. Black

A. K. Black, the San Francisco-based rap lyricist, performer, speaker and "edutainer," will be the guest speaker at the EWU Black History Month Banquet on Saturday, February 19.

Sponsored by the EWU African American Education Program, the banquet also features the awarding of prizes of the winners of the annual Black History Month Essay Contest for area students and the recognition of scholarship winners at the university.

A. K. Black's presentation will be "Edutation." He uses rap to speak to the many social ills that plague inner city communities - homelessness, domestic violence, racism,

gangs, drug abuse, as well as youth apathy. Since 1983 he has been artistic director of Eco Rap, an environmental arts education program that uses rap music as a medium of communication to teach youth about the environment. He has also developed teaching and learning material using this art form.

"Youth won't sit down and pick up a newspaper," Black says. "If a magazine has a favorite sports star on the cover they'll open it. But rap in communities, as Chuck D says, is the CNN. It's like something serious is about to be said." Black is a literary artist for the Bayview Opera House recording studio project and has released a record-

ing, "Rhythm of Steel." He is working on his next release, "Portrait of a Gravedigga." He has performed with such artists as Pearl Ubungen Dancers and Musicians, Piri Thomas, Quincy Troupe, Genny Lim, Francis Wong and Midnight Voices.

The evening begins at 6 p.m. with a mix-and-

mingle social half-hour at the Pence Union Building on the campus in Cheney, followed at 6:30 p.m. by a traditional West African dinner. Cost is \$25 per person, with proceeds going to the African American Education Program account with the EWU Foundation; funds from that account are used to support a variety of activities of students in the program. Advance reservations are required. Please call (509) 359-2205.

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Arts and Culture

The Green Mile

THE GREEN MILE

The Green Mile opened December 10 nationwide starring Tom Hanks and Michael Clarke Duncan and directed by Frank Darabont, who also directed the Shawshank Redemption. The Mile is also a prison setting film based on a Stephen King novel and some will want to compare it -- but don't. Get the books and then make the comparisons.

The Mile is a unique piece reaching for greatness but not quite making it. The almost 180 minute movie is set in a 1935 depression era southern prison. The green mile is the lime green colored floor on the death row cell block that leads to Old Sparky, the electric chair. If you are the sensitive type, be forewarned - Old Sparky lives up to its

name.

The story centers on a relationship between the head guard Paul Edgecomb, played by two-time Oscar winner Tom Hanks and an African American prisoner named John Coffey (it sounds like coffee but it's spelled different - inside joke), played by Michael Clark Duncan who starred with Bruce Willis in the mega-hit "Armageddon" as Bear, one of the tough guy drillers. While awaiting his turn to walk the green mile Coffey displays some miraculous and mysterious powers.

The story is told by an older Edgecomb in a retirement home reflecting back on an event that changed his life. The way the story builds is lengthy but build it does and pulls you in and keeps you there.

The acting is outstanding. The cast of characters and their personalities were like fine wine - they got better as the movie aged. As you got to know the the guards and the prisoners the picture came together like a jigsaw puzzle, becoming clearer while at the same time the lines between good and bad characters became blurred. You do hate some of the prisoners and some of the guards, especially Doug Hutchison as Percy Wetmore, the sadistic trouble-making guard who is highly connected. Strong performances are also given by Academy Award nominee Graham Greene as Arlen Bitterbuck and Sam Rockwell as Wild Bill, two of the death row prisoners. Tom Hanks is known for playing the vulnerable nice guy and he does it quite well.

One of the most memorable scenes is when you first meet Coffee. It's definitely the old bait and

switch routine. Coffee, 6 feet 5 inches of hulking black manhood, steps out of the truck looking more like a demigod, with arms as big as damn tree trunks. I'm sure that this is probably the primal black man in the nightmares of many white people. On top of his appearance, he has been convicted of the rape and murder of two little white girls. At this point I have to suspend my belief - I know this is just a movie now because this brother would never have made it to trial. Not back then. Anyway, as it turns out he is a gentle giant with miraculous healing powers.

The movie has quite a few twists and turns to keep you riveted, but was missing a certain realism because of the lack of racial tension. It was 1935. African Americans were catching hell. This brother was so aware of all the ugliness in the world but did not mention anything

about racism and prejudice. It left me wanting.

A good film to me must have excellent acting. This one had that. A good film must also captivate your mind like taking a ride on a roller coaster - once you're on there's no stopping. It can make you cry, scare you, upset you, make you happy or leave you confused. Lapses in believability will stop the ride while you're on it.

The Green Mile gets a 7.8 on the Cummings Rate-A-Movie Scale, with 1 being "don't waste your time or your money" and 10 being "don't miss it". It was a good attempt at a great movie and worth seeing. I don't think Hanks will win an Oscar but luck is with him. Every time he co-stars with an African American he wins an Oscar -- Forest Gump with Mykelti Williamson and Philadelphia with Denzel Washington.

Racism Intergalactica

ZURO! A tale of Alien Avengers by William A. Simms
REVIEWED BY A. B. CURRY
AND JOSE S. GUTIERREZ JR.

The setting is Earth the year 2000, where centuries after they left African humans to inhabit the small planet, the alien ancestors of African and dark-skinned people, the

Zuronians, have returned to make a progress report. The Zuronians, a Black race of intergalactic aliens from the planet Zuro, who established the ancient societies and technologies of lore like Egypt, return to discover the dark peoples of earth subject to poverty-stricken conditions and domination at the hands of white people. The whites, who are recognized by the Zuronians as descendants of the white

alien race of Cyripitonians from the planet Cyripiton, control the earth in a greedy and unjust manner angering the Zuronians who desired peace for the inhabitants of Earth.

After the Zuronians probe the earth and find the conditions of people of color equilaterally dismal, they attempt to correct the situation peacefully by negotiation with the dominating structures of Earth, specifically the U.S.

government. Instead of cooperation, the Zuronians are subject to massive resistance from the majority of white people and the U. S. government, which denies any wrongdoing or inequalities amongst Earthlings. What follows due to the lack of cooperation is a campaign to re-educate people of color and prepare them to retake the Earth and equalize the small arrogant planet.

The Zuronians, led by Captain Eumgwa, begin to gather Blacks, other people of color and whites who also disagree with current conditions on Earth to counter the current state of affairs. In a valiant effort to regain independence from stagnant thought and self-ignorance, the Zuronians establish learning centers for people of color. The learning centers restore people of colors' knowl-

Continued on page 10

The Tony Award Winning Fats Waller Musical AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'



Featuring Vivian Jett
from the Original Broadway Cast

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Weekend performance
benefiting Mid-City Concerns

THE MET THEATER
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The Met Theater, 901 W. Sprague Ave., Spokane, WA 509-835-2638
The Met is owned and operated by Metropolitan Mortgage & Securities Co., Inc.

Wayne Brokaw Appreciation Night

March 24th at 6 p.m. is Wayne Brokaw Appreciation Night at the Spokane Chiefs vs. Kolowna Rockets game.

The "Spotlight Landing", located below the Video Wall is reserved exclusively for Wayne Brokaw Appreciation Night and will include a wet bar and complimentary snacks.

Everyone will sit together in sections 214, 215, & 216 and receive mention in the Chiefs Program, over the Public Address System, and on the Message Centers. Return "Group Prize Entry Forms" when you enter the game for a chance to win one of three group prizes given out for the game

EVENTS

Tell us what you or your organization is doing in the near future

Exhibit
Cheryl Dos Remedios
 Feb 1 - 29 Chase Gallery,
 Spokane City Hall.

Nevada Lidgerwood
Neighborhood Council
Craft Fair
 Feb 3 Thurs 12 - 8 p.m., Feb
 4 Fri 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Holy
 Family Hospital Health
 Education Center 5633 N
 Lidgerwood.

Jazz Festival
Paquito D'Rivera
The Sons of Brazil
 Feb 5 Sat. 8 pm SFCC
 Music/Performing Arts
 Building Aud, Bldg 15.
 SFCC Community Jazz
 Ensemble. For tickets call
 325-SEAT.

Job Fair
 Feb 7 Mon 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 SCC Lair Student Center

Six Historical African
American Women
 Feb 8 Tues 12-1 pm.
 Lisa Saunders as Marian
 Anderson and Mary
 McLeod Bethune, Nancy
 Nelson as Nina Simone
 and Mahalia Jackson,
 Peggie Troutt as Sojourner
 Truth and Mona Lake
 Jones. Showalter
 Auditorium, EWU.

Single Parents Together
Agency Fair
 Feb 8 Tues 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 SCC Lair-Student Center
 SCC. Call 533-7030.

The Tribute
 Feb 9 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Kibibi Monie, Demene Hall
 and Sauda Porter choreo-
 graph the work of Maya
 Angelou, Toni Morrison
 and Rita Dove in a theatri-
 cal reading. SFCC Bldg 17
 Student Union.

All City Senior
Valentines Dance
 Feb 11 Fri 1 - 4 p.m. L.D.S.
 Church Bldg, E 1620 29th.
 Jim Baker Orchestra. Free,
 donations accepted. Call
 Linda Bise 325-1830.

Ain't Misbehavin'
 Feb 12 Sat 8 p.m. The Met
 Theater 325-7328. Tickets
 benefit Mid-City Concerns.

Native American
Sovereignty 2000
 Feb 16 Wed 11:30 a.m. - 1
 p.m. Red Nations student
 organization sponsors Doll
 Watt, Colville Tribal council
 member. SFCC Bldg 17
 Student Union.

IEL Career Day
 Feb 16 Wed 8:15 a.m. SCC
 Lair-Student Center. Call

533-3034.

Women's Leadership
Conference
 Feb 18 7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 SCC Lair-Student Center
 SCC. \$15 Call 533-7030

Morris Dees
Avista Luncheon
 Feb 18 Fri 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
 Spokane Convention
 Center. \$25 Call 325-SEAT
 for registration.

EWU Black History
Program Banquet
 Feb 18 Fri 6:30 p.m. EWU
 Pence Union Bldg. Call 359-
 2205 or 359-6150.

White Supremacists
 Feb 18 Fri 7:30 p.m. Lecture
 by Bill Wassmuth. Unitarian
 Church 4340 W. Ft. Wright

Dr. Donations accepted.
 Call 325-6383.

The Cripple of Inishmaan
 Jan 29 - Feb 19 Spokane
 Civic Theatre Firth J. Chew
 Studio 1020 N Howard.
 Tickets \$8. Call 325-2507.

Racism/Stereotype Forum
 Feb. 23 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
 SFCC Student Union Bldg.

L.A. 2000
8 LA Artists
 Feb 16 - Mar 18 Drawing,
 painting and sculpture.
 SFCC Art Gallery. M - F 8
 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Artist lecture and slide pre-
sentation by David Amico
"All Bets Are Off"
 Feb 23 Wed Noon EWU Art
 Dept. Rm 116, Cheney
 Feb 23 Wed 7:30 p.m.
 Cheney Cowles Museum

1020 W. Riverside Ave.
 Feb 24 Thurs 11:30 a.m.
 SFCC Bldg 17 Student
 Union Bldg.

Multicultural Dinner
 Feb 26 Sat 4 - 9 p.m.
 Ethiopian, East Indian &
 American food. St.
 Gregorios Orthodox
 Mission Parish, at St.
 Andrew's Church 2404 N.
 Howard. By reservation:
 \$10 adults/ \$5 children
 under 12.. Call 325-6432

COMING
African Art Exhibit
 April. JFK Library, Eastern
 Washington University,
 Cheney.

Blacks in Government
 Meets 4th Tuesday of the
 month. Conference
 May 31 - June 2 in Spokane.

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 G U Library 03/07/00	Tuesday G U Library 04/04/00	Tuesday Riverbend 05/02/00	Tuesday G U Library 06/06/00
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Maureen Rieckers Human Rights Office 625-6266

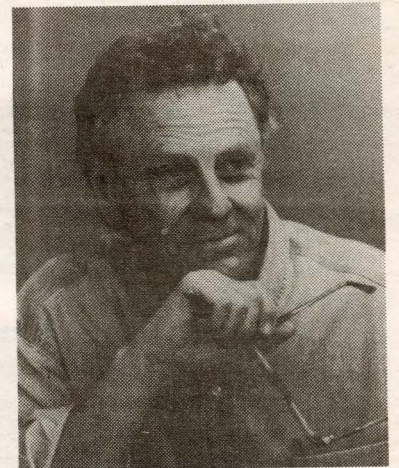
VIEWPOINT

Hear the man who's made a
 career out of combating hate.

Morris Dees Featured speaker

*"Teaching Tolerance and the
 Economic Impact of Hate"*

Morris Dees is a co-founder of the Southern Poverty
 Law Center (SPLC), a non-profit organization that
 combats hate, intolerance and discrimination
 through education and litigation. Since its founding
 in 1971, the SPLC and Dees have won landmark
 civil rights cases and verdicts totaling over \$57
 million against various hate groups. He is the
 author of "Gathering Storm," "A Season for Justice"
 and "Hate on Trial", co-written with Steve Fiffer.



February 18, 2000
 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
 Spokane Ag Trade Center
 334 West Spokane Falls Blvd.
 Spokane, Washington
 Doors open at 11:00 a.m.

Tickets are \$20 plus applicable service fees
 and can be purchased at any G&B Select-A-Seat
 outlet, or call 325-7328 (800-325-7328 outside
 Spokane). For special needs, call 509-495-4817
 before February 14.

Please come early and allow extra
 time to facilitate security measures.

Filipino-American Association Dance

A personal invitation
 from Ben Cabildo, human
 rights activist and entrepre-
 neur

On February 12,
 Saturday, the Filipino-
 American Association will
 be holding a Y2000
 Valentines Day dinner and
 dance celebration. A short
 program of awards, recog-
 nition and new board of
 directors introduction will
 be followed by dinner and
 dance. The party starts at
 5:00 p.m., dinner will be
 served at 6:00- 7:30 p.m.
 Mahaal group -- profes-
 sional Filipino duo singers

Norm and Sarah will per-
 form. Also our very own
 Debbie Cruz, a hidden
 Spokane talent will sing.
 This event will be held at
 Rendezvous ballroom next
 door to Bayou Brewery
 restaurant on Trent and
 Hamilton. Tickets are \$25.

Please come and enjoy
 Valentines Day with the
 association -- warm friend-
 ship, cozy atmosphere and
 lots of fun -- let us share a
 part of our culture with all
 of you.

Please RSVP before
 Feb 7, Ben Cabildo 325-
 5057

See you there.



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Editorial

Among others, Mayor John Talbott has introduced Henry Clay Miggins, an African American from Portland, Oregon, for consideration for City Manager. The African American Voice was sent a copy of a summary of Mr. Miggins resume. In addition, we posted a request for information on the Oregon Assembly for Black Affairs listserv. We have so far received one reply, which was very positive:

If some agency or business is considering Hank Miggins for any governance or executive position, that group has an outstanding opportunity to be stable and to prosper. I had known Mr. Miggins in Portland as part of several greater community initiatives. In my experience (he) is solid. Best wishes.

Michael Chappie Grice, Director, IRISE, San Francisco

We have also spoken to a Portland area member of Blacks In Government, Ora Nunley, who also spoke highly of him.

We just wanted to give the community a heads up and to let our elected officials know we are keeping track. We will want to know why you choose who you choose, and why you don't choose who you don't choose. We all need to put our prejudices and personal politics on the back burner and consider each candidate fairly.

Highlights from Henry Clay Miggins' resume.

Summary:

Diversified practical experience in the management of multifaceted services, programs and facilities. Experience in managing diverse personnel, accounting, internal auditing, budgeting, financial and administrative support services. Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively on all levels.

Experience:

Animal Control Director - Multnomah County
Legislative Assistant to State Representative Michael Fahey Sr.

Consultant

Interim Manager - Portland Exposition Center
Interim Chair of Multnomah County Commission
Executive Assistant to the Chair of the Multnomah County Commission
Deputy Multnomah County Auditor
Internal Auditor - Multnomah County
Vice President for Financial Affairs - Fort Wright College, Spokane, WA
Internal Auditor - U.S. Air Force
Supervisor, Budget, Accounting and Finance - U.S. Air Force

Professional Certificates:

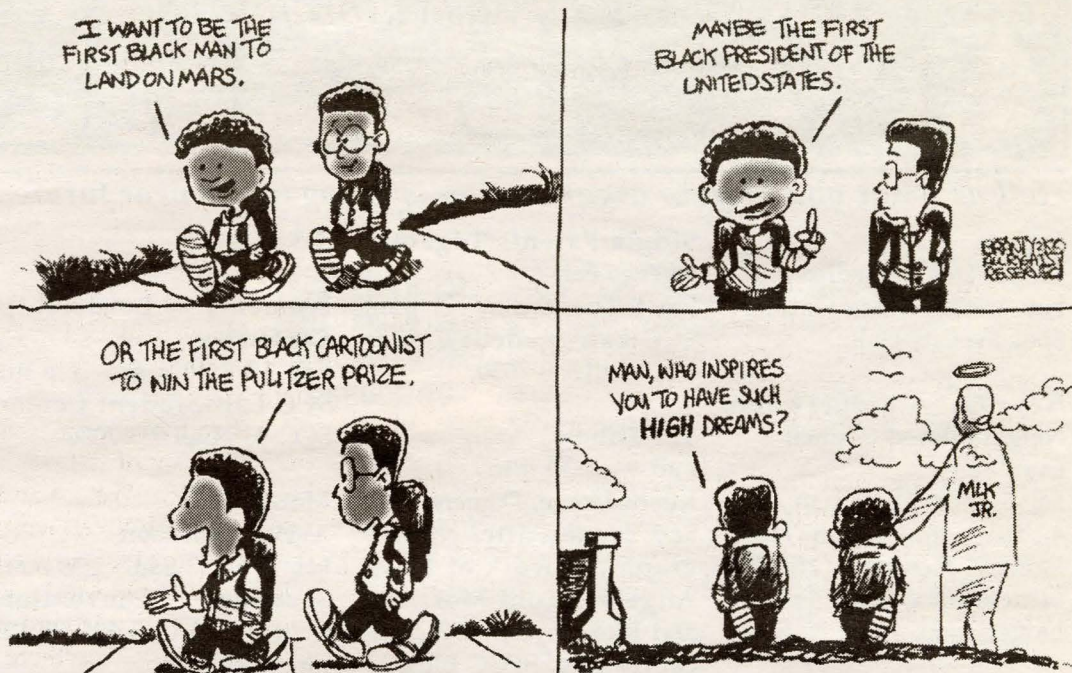
Certified Internal Auditor

Education:

Portland State University - Post Graduate Studies
Fort Wright College - Master of Arts
Fort Wright College - Bachelor of Arts
Eastern Washington College, Cheney, WA - Undergraduate Studies
University of Minnesota, Duluth, Minnesota - Undergraduate Studies
University of Michigan, Marquette, Michigan - Undergraduate Studies

Commitment and Community Involvement:

Member, Board of Directors - Multco Credit Union, Center for Airway Science, Oregon Assembly for Black Affairs, Project Pooch.
Former Director - Board of Governors, Oregon State Bar
Former Member, Board of Directors - Rosemont School, Mainstream Youth Program, Inc., Garlington Center
Former Member, State - Federal Judicial Council, Multnomah County Citizens Budget Advisory Committee.
Former Chair - Supervisor Committee, Multco Credit Union
Former Treasurer, Blacks in Government, Region X Training Conference.



Opinions

Practical Liberation

BY BRO NAT

In many aspects of life Blacks, African Americans, lag behind the general U.S. population. Day after day people release reports saying we are behind in wealth, income, health care, fire protection and so on and so on. When confronted with one of the best opportunities to compete on a more level playing field in 400 years, the Internet, we spend much of our energy studying, complaining and lamenting the digital divide rather than seizing the moment. This is not to belittle the successful efforts of individuals and small groups of us who have "succeeded" despite the odds. But here we are talking about the collective "we". We are looking at why "we" lag behind in so many areas and in some areas such as HIV/AIDS things seem to be getting worse.

My Hypothesis:

Blacks in our 400 year or so sojourn in the U.S. have built two basic types of institutions and developed two basic philosophies -- one based on survival and one based on liberation and development. Both types are important and needed. But over time the institutions focused on liberation and development have been targeted for destruction and are constantly weakened from attack. So today African America is primarily left with an institutional infrastructure that is survivalist. We however are faced with a new world, new age and new economy which require a liberated infrastructure and mindset.

Some of My Evidence: Employment

We have many institutions that can crank out grants and proposals to get money and resources from foundations,

government and corporations to setup job training programs, minority profession out reach programs and the like.

But have few institutions that can consistently raise money and build businesses to hire these very same people. To have fruits of their labor reinforce "our" institutions.

Education

We have developed many important strategies to ensure that our children can take advantage of schools and opportunities that exist in "white neighborhoods". And we should since our tax money helps to pay for those schools.

Yet we have not developed strategies that makes the schools that serve "black neighborhoods" so "excellently" that whites are developing strategies to get in "our schools".

Rewards and Punishment

We have all kinds of ways to attack Blacks who "succeed" move out of our neighborhoods, rise up into corporate America, make big salaries and join country clubs.

Yet we have developed no way to reward with fine housing, big salaries and country club memberships those who "stay" and work "for the people".

Conclusion:

In the 80's Wall Street leverage buyout first bought and restructured U.S. corporations with new technology, networks, and techniques, which has made them competitive in today's markets (a painful, difficult but necessary process, probably not done in the best way). African Americans need to implement a similar process -- buy out strategically certain of our "survival" institutions and restructure them into liberation "institutions". Our survival depends on it.

Civil Disobedience

An individual who breaks a law that conscience tells him is unjust, and who willingly accepts the penalty of imprisonment in order to arouse the conscience of the community over its injustice, is in reality expressing the highest respect for the law.

In no sense do I advocate evading or defying the law, as would the rabid segregationist. That would lead to anarchy. One who breaks an unjust law must do so openly, lovingly, and with a willingness to accept the penalty.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Letter from Birmingham Jail, 1963.

The AAV doesn't speak for you, it is a vehicle where you may speak.

LETTER

Black D.J. Mike Barrow

Dear Editor

To the best of my knowledge, Spokane has one Black D.J. (Mike Barrow/101.9) who has volunteered his personal time (three hours each Sunday) for the past couple of years in order to provide this city with traditional and contemporary gospel music. It is my understanding that these three hours are in jeopardy, "Due to lack of sponsors/funding." Are there any suggestions for the best course of action to address this situation? Is anyone aware of potential sponsors and/or any other radio stations that would be interested in continuing this program? Let's not allow this to be another example of our city's indifference.

Rex

Moving on up?

Editor:

I must admit to the reader that I do not know Rodger Bragdon or really know of his ability to do the job as police chief of Spokane. The problem I have is with the way he was hired. There was no community input whatsoever. He failed to meet all of the qualifications for the job. If I remember correctly, when he was appointed to the job after Chief Chertok left, he stated he did not want the job. With an acting City Manager, why didn't the City Council have more to say about the promotion? Did they even consider what the people thought? The Mayor has stated that he wants a diverse and cohesive community. I do not see that intent in this process. Officer Bragdon may or may not be the best man for the job -- that is not the point. There should have been a more inclusive process for his promotion. Good Luck, Chief Bragdon - do your best, we as citizens will be watching. In the meantime, I am still trying to figure out whether this promotion qualifies as Affirmative Action before I-200. Or is this the new Affirmative Action after I-200?

A. Bradley

WTO and a global democracy movement

Editor:

My WTO experience began in October at an Olympia conference on the WTO organized by the Labor Education Center of The Evergreen State College. I am on its advisory committee and shared the info gained there with my union local and with other community groups. At the conference I learned of the effects on labor, the environment, human rights and sovereignty of the international trade pacts to be enforced by the WTO. A Mexican professor spoke of privatization and the deterioration of public education in her country since NAFTA. An Indian economist denounced bio-engineered foods and the patenting of life forms, such as seed to ancient, common subsistence crops. She described the menace of "Free Trade" to the lands and cultures of indigenous peoples. Her stirring call to "Say No to the WTO!" brought all of us to our feet, except for the representative of the AFL-CIO from Washington, D.C. who did not even applaud. There was a clear division between the Abolitionist and the Reformist positions on the WTO.

Organized labor, especially many locked out Kaiser workers from Spokane and Tacoma, was well represented. Ron Judd, head of the King County Labor Council ended his speech with a curious vow: "We're going to shut down the WTO!" I asked myself how that could happen. On November 30th, I saw how, and it wasn't quite by Mr. Judd's plan!

Paige Kenney and I, along with 2 dozen of our comrades from our State Employees Local #1221, rode Amtrak there and back. How exciting to join 50,000 union members, environmentalists, farmers, students, youth, seniors and just plain folks from around the world to affirm the rights of all species and all people! Leaders of the student march defined the goal "to end corporate rule and restore balance to the international political economy". Their demands included making corporations liable for harm caused to people and the environment, canceling the Third World debt and abolishing sweatshop and child labor. One declared that moist Seattle day a ray of hope

bursting through the darkness of apathy and despair.

Spokane's legendary folk singer, Utah Phillips has said: "The Earth is not dying. It is being killed. And the people who are killing it have names and addresses." Many of these plutocrats were meeting in Seattle to "write a constitution for the world economy". Experienced people of the Third World see this as an effort to recolonize countries which have achieved independence in only the last 50 years. The WTO deals with the nuts and bolts of a new corporate colonialism, one in which global capital makes nation-states irrelevant.

When the labor march was diverted east, we continued south. We refused to shun the solidarity of the day and sought out the youth downtown (which included 2 of Paige's kids). We sat and talked with committed, idealistic protesters occupying the intersection at Niketown, with police in the background, a block from the Convention Center. Some had climbed up and hung a banner with a coiled serpent and the slogan, "Don't Trade On Me!" When someone spray-painted a slogan containing the word, "bitch" the principled crowd protested, "Not Our Words!" Soon after we left, the atmosphere of exhilaration there was punished with the booms of tear gas bombs.

I took a picture of people at a trashcan fire. They were burning money in symbolic rejection of materialism. The broken windows we saw seemed largely targeted against the most infamous corporate villains. I sympathize with such expressions of outrage. Surely, many of the most sanctimonious hand wringers over such losses never even bat an eye at the "collateral damage" our marauding pilots regularly inflict on innocent people around the world. The full range of expression and action which occurred that day enhanced the whole: People now are now paying attention to the injustices of these corporate privateers.

There was a successful synergy of all that went on that week. The strong base of demonstration and unity by us "mainstream" marchers was emphatically punctuated by passive resistance, as well as by vandalism. Those who blocked the path of the delegates achieved what strikers can no longer legally do. They "held the line" and halted business as usual. Even the experience of police mayhem was a valuable rite of initiation and education for the current generation of activists. The saving grace was the soulful flavor drawn from the great artistic and musical expression of people on stilts, in puppets, in bands, dangling from ropes, climbing walls, and costumed as turtles and globe-rolling dung beetles!

Without this total voice, it's likely that many around the world would have simply yawned and turned the page on another report of a march of thousands protesting something. Alexander Cockburn recently wrote: "Great movements for change are not driven by what people think their chances of success might be under the law. They happen when people dare to defy the law".

So, this is how we shut down the WTO. The third world delegates inside, somehow almost in solidarity with those in the street, staged their own rebellion against the agenda of the elite. We, at the Labor Center of Evergreen College, held our annual retreat last weekend. Ever the organizers, we are planning "the next step". "Post WTO: Where do we go?" This is an unprecedented opportunity to build a global democracy movement. Let us leave no one behind.

Morton Alexander

e-mail: almo300@dshs.wa.gov

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Black children's book author wins two prestigious awards

Christopher Paul Curtis has won both the John Newbery Medal, awarded by the American Library Association to the best American children's book, and the Coretta Scott King Award, given to a black author and illustrator whose works encourage and promote world unity and peace and serve as an inspiration to young people in the achievement of their goals.

Bud, not Buddy, about a runaway foster child in 1936, is Curtis's second book. The first was *The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963*.

Other Awards

The Caldecott Medal

Given to the illustrator of the most distinguished American Picture Book

Simms Taback, *Joseph Had a Little Overcoat*

The Mildred L. Batchelder Award

Given for an outstanding book translated from another language

Anton Quintana, *The Baboon King*

The Michael L. Printz Award

Given for excellence in literature for young adults

Walter W. Myers, *Monster*

Awards information courtesy of The Children's Corner Bookshop, Skywalk Level, River Park Square, 714 West Main, Spokane. 624-4820 or 1-800-624-4820.

Update On Booming Economy

BY ROBERT C. WILLIAMSON JR

Two months ago I wrote an article about the booming economy. At the time I thought Spokane was missing the boat when it came to reaping the benefits of a booming economy, especially on an individual level. I recently came across a report that was released by the U.S. Conference of Mayors in December 1999. This report shows that people living in others cities are not necessarily benefiting from the booming economy either.

The report shows an average 18% jump in the demand for emergency food, the largest boost since 1992. The report also shows an average 12% increase in the demand for emergency shelter, the largest since 1994.

The study is based on a survey of 26 cities, ranging in size from Los Angeles to Burlington VT,

for a 12 month period ending in October 1999. About 85% of the cities reported rising hunger, 69% experienced rising homelessness.

Officials blame a shortage of affordable housing and a decline in food stamps for the problem. About 5.3 million Americans lack an affordable place to live. More than 7 million people have left the foodstamp program in three years as states move welfare recipients into jobs.

The mayors' group has reported rising hunger and homelessness for each of the past 15 years. This year's findings:

- 25% of those seeking shelter were denied; 20 of 26 cities reported turning people away.

- 21% of those seeking food were denied; 14 of 26 cities turned people away.

- Despite a strong economy, nearly all the cities expect another increase in hunger and

homelessness in 2000.

Among the report's most troubling findings are the rising needs of working Americans and families with children. More than half of the people seeking emergency food were members of families; two thirds of the adults were employed. More than one third were families with children.

Federal officials acknowledge they could do more. "This survey adds to a growing body of evidence that when you address the underlying causes of homelessness -- (through) programs to create more affordable permanent housing, more job training and jobs, more substance abuse treatment and more mental health services -- we can break the cycle of homelessness," Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo says.

Given the statement that was made by the

Continued on page 17

Just Announced Coretta Scott King 1999 Awards

These awards are given to a black author & illustrator whose works encourage & promote world unity & peace, & serve as an inspiration to young people in the achievement of their goals.

We congratulate
Author **Christopher Paul Curtis**
for **BUD, NOT BUDDY**
&
Illustrator **Brian Pinkney**
for **IN THE TIME OF DRUMS**

Celebrate Black History
all year long at

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For information on current
award winners call us, 624-4820

Institute 2000 This Far By Faith

The Black Church and Domestic Violence Institute is a diverse group of people who are concerned about issues of domestic violence in families and all human relationships and the response for the Black Church. A portion of the mission is "we believe in the Church's mission to improve the quality of life and recognize the linkages of violence to all social problems in the history of

Spokane Community College and
SCC African American Student Organization present

Black Communities. Therefore, we stand against violence in all its guises including physical, sexual, psychological, spiritual, emotional and economic. To that end, we develop partnerships and collaborations to provide educational, spiritual, and technical support as well as advocacy and leadership development; to enhance the capacity of the church to empower and protect the victims of

domestic violence; to hold abusers accountable; to promote healing and wholeness in diverse communities. To fulfill its mission the Black Church and Domestic Violence Institute offers training, collaboration and education resources to clergy, counselors, activists, survivors, and volunteers to organize to end domestic violence within African American communities."

Institute 2000 - This Far By Faith is being held February 17 - 20, 2000 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Highlighted topics are:

- Scripture as Empowerment
 - What Men Can Do
 - The Relationship Between Secular Organizations and Sacred Institutions
 - Generation "Next": Making Gender Justice
 - The Second Closet - Domestic Violence within Woman-to-Woman Relationships
 - International/Immigrant Women's Issues
- The Black Church and Domestic Violence Institute can be contacted at (404) 658-9003 - Denise McInnis. Or e-mail bcdvorg@aol.com.*

Black History Month,

February 2000

Free!!

February 15 - Debbie Wooten, inspirational speaker SCC Lair Auditorium 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

February 17 - Carl Mack, historical lecture in the SCC Bigfoot/Sasquatch Rooms at 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

February 22 - Step Show by fraternities and sororities of W.S.U. and E.W.U. Lair Bigfoot/Sasquatch 11:30 - 12:30 p.m. Refreshments served.

February 23 - Ron Taplin will speak about the origin of the Statue of Liberty and African American History, SCC Lair Auditorium 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

For More Information, call Terri Anderson at 533-8114.

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Building a nest with Charlie, Martin and the Peanuts gang

BY VICTOR E. BUKSBAZEN

Sometimes I wonder whether Martin Luther King, Jr. ever read "Peanuts." Knowing his zest for life and his robust sense of humor, though, I'm pretty sure he did!

After 50 years of creating a comic strip that was based upon common-sense philosophy, and often challenged us to reflect on the real meaning of life, Peanuts creator Charles Schulz, 77, will finally rest his pen to devote himself to a fight of his own.

Schulz suffered several small strokes in November, when he also was diagnosed with colon cancer. So he reluctantly decided to finish drawing the strip that had become both an American institution and an international favorite, daily reaching an estimated 355 million readers in 75 countries.

Last farewell

On January 3, Schulz bade farewell to the legions of fans of the whimsical, wholesome assortment of characters who have become worldwide friends and family members -- Charlie Brown, Linus, Snoopy, Schroeder, Lucy, Peppermint Patty and, of course, Woodstock.

Although he may never know it, he recently drew what was probably my favorite of the thousands I have enjoyed over the years.

It characteristically featured three panels. In the first, Snoopy's feathered friend Woodstock stands surveying the nest that rests in the branches of a pitiful fallen tree. Snoopy stands behind him, viewing the scene with stark seriousness, and gives his assessment of the situation:

"So after you built your nest in this tree, the tree fell down..."

In the second panel, Snoopy turns and walks in the opposite direction. In the third one he returns, wearing a black hat and bow tie and carrying a briefcase. Woodstock is still in the same spot, staring at the nest in the branches of the fallen tree.

Now Snoopy is in his lawyer's garb. However, his observation has not changed: "So after you built your nest in this tree, the tree fell..."

I know just how Woodstock must have felt. Like him, I sometimes feel

as if I have spent a lot of years building my nest in a tree that fell down!

There are times when I have asked myself why something I set in motion years or even decades earlier have suddenly gone south, despite the best of intentions and preparation. After all, that tree seemed pretty sturdy when I started to build the nest in it!

Like Woodstock, I have spent frames of my life surveying and trying to repair the damage instead of moving on with my life as best I could. A strange thing happens when an individual or family endures long-term emotional trauma.

We've become accustomed to the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune," as Will Shakespeare referred to the unexpected attacks we all experience at one time or another. In fact, we may even be left feeling pleasantly surprised when things begin to settle down again. Even when the rough road starts getting smooth, sometimes we imagine we still feel the same bumps we formerly did.

Martin and the future of our cause

In a very real sense, this Peanuts strip parallels the history of the Civil Rights movement. Martin started building a nest whose time, literally, had come.

There were, indeed, many barriers and hurdles along the way. Prejudice. Apathy. Fear of change. Even today in South Carolina and elsewhere, there is a tenacious insouciant racial pride and the reluctance to dispense with dilatory attitudes. This was shown by recent volatile demonstrations for preserving the Stars and Bars flag in the name of a so-called historical legacy.

And throughout the nation -- not just in the South -- blacks and whites, Asians and Latinos are still being harassed, assaulted and even murdered merely for being different from their tormentors and for refusing to be silenced!

But this is the year of our Lord 2000, the end of a century and millennium. This year Martin, Woodstock, Snoopy and I will cease to survey the accumulated damage of the past. We will start to build new nests in other trees.

We must build them

more carefully this time, aware of some of the dangers which lurk, but we shall build them nevertheless. For we are now seasoned nest builders.

And we know that no matter how many times we have to repeat the process, no matter how many winds batter us and no matter how many dangers threaten us -- eventually, someday -- we shall overcome!

African American Women portrayed

Six historical African American Women will be portrayed at a program at Eastern Washington University's Showalter Auditorium on Tuesday, Feb. 8 from 12 - 1 pm.

Lisa Saunders will

appear as Marian Anderson and Mary McLeod Bethune, Nancy Nelson as Nina Simone and Mahalia Jackson, Peggie Troutt as Sojourner Truth and Mona Lake Jones.

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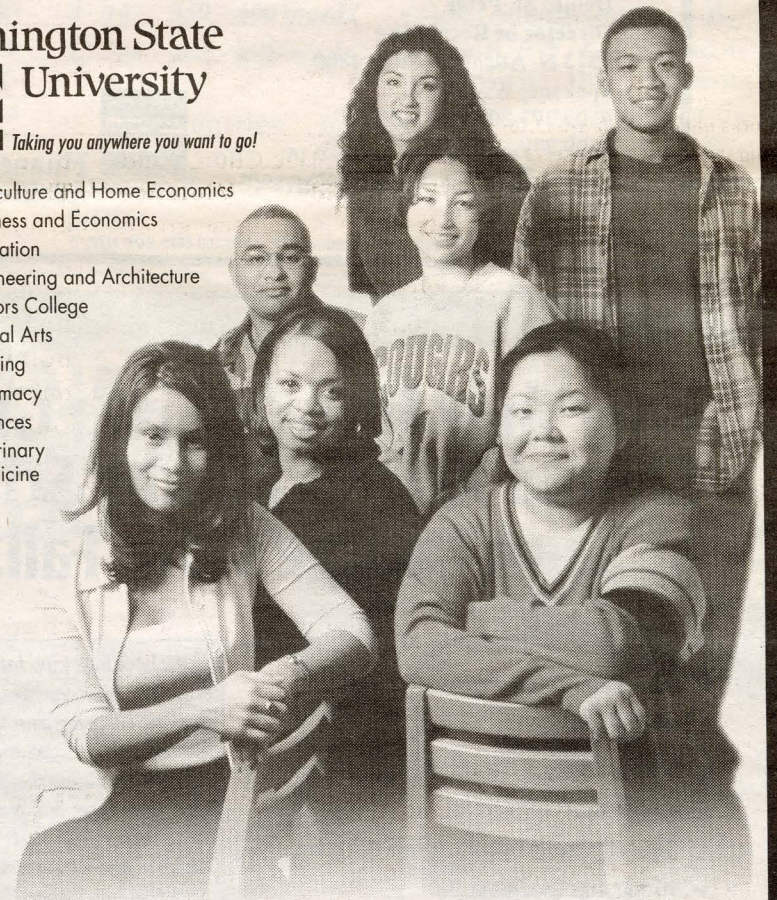
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NAACP News

In her New Year letter to members and activists, Eileen Thomas, president of the Spokane chapter of the NAACP is pleased with the way the chapter is heading into the new millennium.

A new office, courtesy of Gonzaga University, is in Unity House, the Cultural Diversity Center, at 709 E. DeSmet. Students

help in the office, but more volunteers are needed.

The complaint process has also been successful - some of the resolutions have taken place with the intervention of the Legal Redress committee:

Government Correctional Centers: Airway Heights, 3 complaints Falsely accused of assaultive behavior - Dismissed; Poor behavior performed by staff at

the facility - Resolved; Alleged assaultive behavior - Pending

Police Misconduct: 10 complaints not resolved

Employment complaints: 4 complaints: 3 Resolved, 1 Pending

Public transportation - Airlines: 2 complaints - Resolved

NAACP complaint forms are located at all colleges and can be picked up at the office.

Continued from page 4

Intergalactic aliens

edge of self and historical significance on Earth which has been minimized by the history books that we all grow up from Elementary school on up. However, instead of encouragement for uplifting people of color, the Zuronians are met with the traditional U. S. coin telproesque tactics of subversive violence against freedom fighters and must respond with force - then Brothers and Sisters from another planet unleash the intergalactic funk.

Zuro! is a very intense book for avid science-fiction readers, but even for those who can't stand sci-fi adventures or Star Trek Voyager ads, Zuro will have you reflecting on yourself from an afrocentric view, our place on Earth as humans and how the possibility of change, in a world that hesitates to think about change or different concepts, is worth struggling for.

To order a copy of Zuro! please contact Waverly House Publishing at (800)858-2253 or send an inquiry to Waverly House Publishers, P.O. Box 1053, Glenside, PA 19038.

Support elimination of discrimination against women

Cities, counties, states and organizations all over the United States are indicating their support for the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women in an effort to get the United States Senate to ratify that convention prior to March 8, 2000 to correspond with International Women's Day. The Spokane Women's Coalition is planning its own celebration on March 4, 2000. Ask any group you are part of to lend their names to the support of the Proclamation by signing the form below and returning it to Lucy Lennox 540 E 12th, Spokane WA 99202.

in support of the present Convention have agreed to follow Convention prescriptions; and

WHEREAS, although women have made major gains in the struggle for equality in social, business, political, legal, educational and other fields in this century, there is much yet to be accomplished and through its support, leadership and prestige, the United States can help create a world where women are no longer discriminated against and have achieved one of the most fundamental of human rights, equality; and

WHEREAS, President William Clinton and the Secretary of State have placed this treaty, the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, in the highest category of priority in order to accelerate the treaty's passage through the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the full U.S. Senate with the goal of United States ratification; NOW THEREFORE,

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the United States supports and has a position of leadership in the United Nations, and has been an active participant in the drafting and is a signatory to the Convention; and

WHEREAS, the spirit of the Convention is rooted in the goals of the United Nations, and the United States, to affirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of men and women; and

WHEREAS the Convention provides a comprehensive framework for challenging the various forces that have created and sustained discrimination based on sex against half the world's population, and the nations

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SPOKANE COUNTY WASHINGTON, that the Board of Commissioners strongly urges the Senate of the United States to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and supports the Convention's continuing goals.

Yes, we wish to have our name added to the list of those supporting the Proclamation on the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to be presented to the Spokane County Commissioners.

Name as we wish it to appear on Proclamation Request:

Date _____

Return to : Lucy Lennox 540 E 12th, Spokane WA 99202.

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Errol Schmidt,
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INTERNET: WWW.SGS.ORG

READY FALL 2000

Continued from page 1

King March

Dream Speech". This year there were volunteer booths set up in the dining area of the Ridpath Hotel. The booths were very informative and their appropriate theme was Human Services. Hopefully, they will be included as part of next year's celebration.

When it was time to march, the children lead the way. The weather was chilly, but the sun was visible and bright. The turnout for the march was a good one. There were about 1000 people or more. The route of the march was much more pleasant than last year's route. Last year we marched down some very unfamiliar back streets.

As we marched I noticed the stopped traffic and how inconvenienced

they looked. Then I thought the traffic should be stopped. The drivers and passengers should be inconvenienced by the march. The city should be inconvenienced by the march and the holiday. Dr. King had a dream that he knew would inconvenience many people. He was nonviolent, but he knew that being inconvenienced on matters of equality was like a slap in the face to his foes. Sometimes we must venture outside of our own comfort zone to get things accomplished or to rationalize things. Maybe after being inconvenienced, more people will realize that this should truly be a day "on" for all aspects of the dream and a day "off" from the norm.

Junior Achievement

Job Shadow Week to provide working world insight to area students

Area middle school and high school students will have the opportunity to spend a portion of a workday with one or more employees at a business, non-profit organization or government agency during Job Shadow Week, March 20-24, sponsored by the Junior Achievement (JA), US West, and the Spokane Area Chamber of Commerce.

Job Shadow Week is in its third year in Spokane and is part of a national program that plans to involve one million students this year. "By expanding the organization's idea and creating an entire week of job shadow opportunities, more children are able to participate and gain insight to the world of work," said Eleanor Andersen, president of the Junior Achievement of the Inland Northwest. Andersen said approximately 600 area students participated last year and JA expects nearly 1000 to participate this year.

Students or adults interested in participating in the Job Shadow Week should contact Junior Achievement at (509) 624-7114. Deadlines to sign up are February 4 for businesses and February 9 for students.

SFCC Jazz Festival to feature Paquito D'Rivera



Internationally acclaimed saxophonist Paquito D'Rivera will headline Spokane Falls Community College's annual Jazz Festival on Saturday Feb. 5 at 8 p.m.

He performs at the festival's grand finale concert in the SFCC Music/Performing Arts Building auditorium, Bldg. 15.

Joining D'Rivera are The Sons of Brazil from Kansas City, as well as the SFCC Community Jazz Ensemble directed

by SCC music instructor Dave Wakeley.

The festival also features jazz clinics for area middle school and high school students, plus a free noon concert on Saturday.

Tickets for the evening concert are \$14 in advance, \$16 at the door. Call G&B 325-SEAT. For more information call 533-3720.

Women's Leadership Conference

Spokane Community college's third annual Spokane Area Women's Leadership Conference will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday February 18 in the Lair-Student Center.

Following a dramatic performance by Lisa Sanders, Violet Marie Malone, a professor of adult and higher education at Western Washington University, will speak about "Change and the Women of the New Millennium".

According to Malone, who has spent most of her career working with adults in transition, "change is the energy that keeps us on the cutting edge, sometimes before there is an edge to cut."

Following Malone's presentation participants can choose among workshops on strategies for changing career paths, chaos and creativity, and partnership and balance.

Four Women of Achievement will be recognized during the confer-

LEADER
I decide on the basis of conscience. A genuine leader doesn't reflect consensus, he molds consensus.
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

ence luncheon. Tickets, which include the luncheon, are \$15, \$6 for students. The registration deadline is Feb. 11. Contact Shannon Stegman at 533-7030.

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 June 1, 2000.

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



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Civil Rights or Silver Rights?

BY MANNING MARABLE

More than a century ago, conservative black educator Booker T. Washington proposed a strategy for black advancement within capitalism. The founder of both Tuskegee Institute and the National Negro Business League, Washington cautioned African Americans not to agitate publicly for civil rights. He argued that white corporations and the Republican Party were black people's best friends. Washington called for building black capitalism, forging a close partnership between wealthy and powerful whites with the aspiring black entrepreneurial middle class.

It is a measure of the conservative times in which we live that many of the most articulate spokespersons within the black community regarding issues of social justice are gravitating toward this approach. This includes the Reverend Calvin Butts of Abyssinian Baptist Church, who has, among other things publicly embraced reactionary New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, and aligned himself politically behind the administration of Republican Governor George Pataki. Former Congressman Floyd Flake became an unofficial Giuliani spokesman inside the black community during the 1997 New York mayoral campaign. Civil rights movement veterans like Reverend Wyatt T.

Walker support the development of charter schools, which in the long run undermine the viability of public schools, which the vast majority of black children attend.

Leading the pack of black entrepreneurs headed to Wall Street is the Rev. Jesse Jackson. In January 1997, Jackson initiated the Wall Street Project, which was designed to assist minority-owned firms into financial markets and inside corporate America.

According to the Wall Street Journal, the Wall Street Project has been widely endorsed by many government officials and corporate executives, such as Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Arthur Levitt, Jr., and Citigroup, Inc. co-chairman Sandy Weill. Jackson's top pointman in the project, attorney Thomas Hart, has "earned tens of thousands of dollars in consulting fees from minority-owned firms looking to cash in on some of the new financing opportunities." To a considerable extent, Jackson's current strategy is a throwback to Operation PUSH's "corporate covenants" of twenty years ago. In 1998, for example, the Wall Street Project began to campaign against the racial hiring policies of Telecommunications Inc. (TCI), charging that the company deliberately prevented upgrades in cable service in poor communities. When AT&T then

announced its intention to buy TCI, the Wall Street Project went ballistic, declaring that it would use all means to block the merger, unless there were real changes in workplace diversity and opportunities for black entrepreneurs.

AT&T chief executive C. Michael Armstrong wanted to avoid bad publicity, and participated in several meetings initiated by Jackson. Armstrong agreed to retain several minority companies to underwrite the bonds for acquisition of TCI, including Utendahl Capital Partners and Blaylock & Partners. More recently, Jackson's Wall Street Project has forced MCI WorldCom to the negotiating table. An agreement last September commits MCI WorldCom "to use minority-owned investment banking, pension fund and financial service companies," cited in the Wall Street Journal.

Even the Reverend Al Sharpton, head of the National Action Network, has followed his political mentor's lead into corporate headquarters and investment banks. Sharpton is launching his own program to force Wall Street firms to do business with black-owned companies. Sharpton promises to shake things up on Wall Street: "I'm coming downtown, just like King Kong."

The basic problem I have with these minority-corporate partnerships is that they benefit only a

tiny number of black executives, and foster the illusion that the corporate sector, can be persuaded to "do the right thing" on race. The vast majority of African Americans are working people, not investment bankers. According to a recent study by United for a Fair Economy, the median black household in 1995 had a net worth of \$7,400, including home equity - only about 12 percent of whites' median income at \$61,000. Nearly one third of all African-American holdings actually have a zero or negative net worth; that is, a greater amount of debt than their combined financial assets. The poverty rate for blacks and Latinos at about 26 percent is more than 3 times higher than that of whites. How many working class and poor African American families will actually benefit from the successes of the Wall Street Project?

Don't get me wrong. I have absolutely nothing against black-owned businesses, so long as they provide goods and services with a degree of social responsibility to the black community. But Jesse and Al would make a more significant contribution to the black freedom

movement if they placed greater emphasis on income distribution strategies, and the campaign for a living wage to support families. Several weeks ago, even billionaire Donald Trump called for an across the board 14.25 percent tax on all assets of wealthy individuals and trusts worth \$10 million or more. Such a tax would generate according to Trump \$5.7 trillion. Shouldn't Jesse, Al and company be at least as "progressive" as The Donald? African Americans' real interests are not to be found in making deals on Wall Street or within white corporate America's ruling class.

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of History and Political Science and the Director of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies, Columbia University. "Along the Color Line" is distributed free of charge to over 325 publications throughout the U.S. and internationally

*ZNet Commentary
Sun, 2 Jan 2000*

Census 2000 Forms Arriving Soon

Beginning mid-March census questionnaires will be delivered to your home. Here's why you should fill it out and return it immediately.

Your participation in Census 2000 is important, safe and easy. The form will be the shortest form in 180 years. Census results are used to establish local eligibility for government programs - every year over \$100 billion in federal funds are awarded to localities based on its numbers. It is also used by community leaders for planning schools and building roads, providing recreational opportunities and managing health-care services.

The Census Bureau protects your privacy. By law the Bureau cannot share your answers with the IRS, FBI, Welfare, Immigration - or any other government agency. No court of law, not even the President of the United States, can find out your answers. Nor can they be sold or given away to peo-

ple who want to send you mail.

Technology further protects your information with numerous security measures, including electronic barriers, scrambling devices and dedicated lines. No one can connect your answers with your name or address. Millions of questionnaires were processed during the 1990's without any breach of trust.

Fill out your form and help government be more effective.

Publisher's note: This census has over 65 possible categories for race, but if any part of your heritage is African-American I suggest that you choose that category and that category only. If you choose more than one category, you will not be counted in any of them. Numbers of various ethnic groups are used in everything from revising legislative districts to distributing federal funds, and how you check these boxes may drastically affect the funding of programs important to you.



NAACP

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

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

East Central Community Center 500 S. Stone Street Spokane WA

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.

For Information Contact : President Eileen Thomas

Bill Wassmuth to speak on white supremacists

"White Supremacists: What They Tell About Today's Society" is the title of a talk to be given by Bill Wassmuth at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane on Friday, February 18th at 7:30 p.m.

Wassmuth has for the past ten years served as executive director of the Northwest Coalition Against malicious harassment and received numerous awards for his life-long commitment to issues of human right. He will identify the major players and organizations in the current white supremacist movement, using specific examples from Washington State. He will provide an overview of

their ideology and vision along with an exploration of the networking that takes place between the various groups. He will focus on the impact these groups have on contemporary life, the resulting sense of vulnerability, as well as the energy wasted in combating these groups that could be more productively applied to improving race relations and celebrating diversity in all forms.

The Unitarian Church is located at 4340 W. Fr. Wright Dr., Spokane, at the corner of Government Way and Ft. Wright Drive. Donations are accepted at the door.

Emergency Shelter grants available

Applications for emergency shelter grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will be accepted until 5 pm February 15, 2000, the City of Spokane Human Services Department announced.

The money, to help agencies that shelter homeless individuals and

families, is to be used during 2000-2001 for renovation or rehabilitation, essential services and/or operations of homeless shelters.

Application forms can be obtained from the Human Services Department, 6th Floor of City Hall or by calling 625-6130.

WSU exhibits Northwest artist's paintings of light

At 60: Norman Lundin, Landscapes and Still Lifes, on display January 19 through March 26 at the Museum of Art at Washington State University features the work of the well-known Northwest artist.

Norman Lundin is known for his depiction of blank space and quiet shafts of light falling into empty rooms or onto atmospheric landscapes. He has used the theme of light throughout his more than 35 years as an artist, particularly the light of the skies of the Pacific Northwest. According to Lundin, "I have attempted to use light in a way that can create a subjective-expressive response to inanimate and emotionally neutral objects ... Light on objects is the subject matter".

There is an opening reception on January 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Fine

Arts Center and a dialogue between the artist and critic and curator Matthew Kangas on January 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bryan Hall Auditorium on the WSU campus in Pullman. Call 509-335-1910 for more information and gallery hours.



Photo courtesy of Wally Hagin 2nd from left.

Logan School MLK Day features

African American contributions to Spokane

Logan Elementary School's assembly to celebrate Martin Luther King Day included a nod to local African Americans as well as remembering national historical figures.

Mrs. Peggie Troutt, who has performed with Onyx Theater Troupe, gave a performance as Sojourner Truth. Then students from the 5th and 6th Leadership/Respect group gave presentations as Spokane African Americans. Jessica Fowler introduced the presentations (which were written by Ms. Elaine Tyrie from information located at the Spokane Public Library with the help of librarians Dennis Fredrickson and Nancy Compau) by explaining how the project began.

"After Mr. Bush and Mrs. Gurnari gave the 5th and 6th graders a leadership and respect lesson in the fall, they challenged us to create a project for Logan. The students here have been meeting. So far we have chosen the slogan "Keep others looking up". We are creating a design for a T-shirt for our group. We are proud to share with you some of the African Americans who made a difference to life in Spokane. We hope you enjoy our program."

The presentations included Nicole Quarnstrom as Clarence Freeman, Trevor Anderson as James Chase, Dayla Clarke as Eleanor Barrow Chase, Travis Theisen as Carl Maxey, Kevin Bockelmann as Dr. Vernon Scott, and Leigh Fredrickson as Wally Hagin. Following is an example of the presentations:

My name is Leigh Fredrickson. Today I represent Wally Hagin.

I love photography. I made it my career. I had a photography studio for 20 years. My work included portraits, commercial and aerial photography.

Fortunately only once did a family refuse to have me take their picture because of the color of my skin. I found that I was judged on my ability.

Later I was the head of the Camera Department at the Bon Marche.

I am most proud of the photo history I created of African Americans in the northwest and in Spokane. My collection is now at the Cheney Cowles Museum.

The presentation ended "We hope you have learned how important African Americans have been, and are important to Spokane."

**JOBS JOBS JOBS
JOBS JOBS JOBS
JOBS JOBS JOBS
JOBS JOBS JOBS**

Looking for a Job?

Plan on participating in Spokane's most diverse job/career fair at the Spokane Community College Lair, 1810 N. Greene St. The job fair is February 7, 2000 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

and is sponsored by the Spokane Area Diversity Recruitment Committee. It's a great opportunity to network with a wide variety of employers about opportunities in the Spokane area.

St. Gregorios Multicultural Dinner

St. Gregorios Syrian Orthodox Church of India is sponsoring its Second Annual Multicultural Dinner featuring Ethiopian, Indian and American food. The dinner will take place on Saturday, February 26th, 2000 at St. Andrew's Church parish hall, 2404 N Howard, Spokane WA.99205 (corner of Howard and Carlisle). Tickets cost \$10.00 per adult and \$5.00 for children under 12 and must be obtained by reservation by calling (509) 325-6432. Dinner will be served from 4 p.m. to 9 p. m. Come and enjoy some delicious food. Call 325-6432 for more information.



The Nurturing Program A Spring Tonic....

"Thriving with Adolescents in the Family"

Join us for a free, 12-week program centered around parents and their adolescent children. Families will have the opportunity to upgrade parenting skills. Develop effective communication skills and enhance family bonding.

Eligible families must have at least one adolescent between the ages of 11 of 14.

All family members are encouraged to attend. Open to all families in the East Central neighborhood.

Call today!!!

**Kerry or Debbie at 477-2162
Voice mail: Kerry 477-2196
Voice mail: Debbie 477-2197**

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. African American Voice will publish profiles of community members each month.

Leslie McAuley

BY JOANNA RING

Leslie McAuley cites Dr. Martin Luther King as one of her heroes and has studied his work throughout her life. Through her studies and ministry she has developed a practice she believes can heal racial tension. This practice calls for the entire community to be involved with one another as brothers and sisters.

"My heart's desire is to see people set free and the only way I can do that is getting involved and meeting them eye to eye and shaking their hand. You can't do that from a distance," said Mrs. McAuley.

Mrs. McAuley's vision for Spokane is seeing true unity established. This means "loving others as Christ loved us." She desires not only for blacks and whites to rid themselves of racial barriers, but also for all races and communities to come together as family. She says Dr. Martin Luther King took us to the first step of freedom, which is overcoming laws against African Americans and

establishing simple rights to be treated as human beings.

"We are the only nation that has had law established against us as well as being treated as less than human. Those two ingredients create a society of people who think less of themselves," said Mrs. McAuley. "Our society has done a good job repairing that damage, but now we are ready to go to another higher level of restoration." Mrs. McAuley says this next level calls for all races to come together and see each other as brothers and sisters, which will require involvement on a very personal level leaving no room for being shallow or ignoring one another. Mrs. McAuley believes the key to this next level of freedom is Christ. "In order for us to truly be brothers and sisters we have to see each other as one family under God," she said.

Mr. and Mrs. McAuley have started a Foursquare Church with the purpose of bringing together black and white believers as well as all ethnic cultures.

"We need to recognize

that we'll all be together in heaven, so let's bring a little bit of heaven to earth," said Mrs. McAuley. The McAuleys believe that every culture has something to bring to the table and the community has something to learn from every culture.

The focus of their ministry is restoration and reconciliation. Their vision is to create an environment where every single person is allowed to recognize their spiritual gifts and use them. "We don't intend to make a person feel like they have to stay with us forever. We want to have them be reconciled and restored and then released to ministry," she said. They believe everybody has a ministry to fulfill and want to be instrumental in helping them succeed.

Mrs. McAuley believes most people just want somebody to love them and she feels God has placed a call on her life to love in ministry. She will continue to love regardless of hate and other setbacks. "It's hard to keep loving when people hate you, but Jesus did it and so can I."

State of the city according to Talbott

BY A. BRADLEY

On Thursday evening, the 27th of January, at the Northeast Community Center, Mayor John Talbott did his best to assure the 55 people on hand for his Annual State of the City address that Spokane was in good shape. He cited community volunteers, human services, and neighborhood councils as some of the strong points. He stated that the city goals were to focus on and encourage economic development. He also stated that the entire city, including the neighborhoods, needs to come up with comprehensive plans that would enhance economic development.

Another goal was to make as smooth as possible

the transition into the new form of government. Talbott also noted that after talking to city employees they informed him that they were concerned and uncomfortable with the interaction of the city council. He assured them that all of the right questions would be asked and answered and that they had a good team. Talbott also wanted to get an independent auditor for the council.

Goals also included filling two major positions -- city manager and police chief. On Wednesday, Roger Bragdon was promoted to that top cop position even though he did not hold a four year college degree which is a requirement for the job. Bragdon intends to

get his bachelors degree in two years.

Mayor Talbot stated that the districting process was in full swing and the City Council members will be selected from the district in which they live. A decision regarding the creation of districts would be made later this year with the assistance of the citizens.

The last of his goals was to get the streets repaired. He admitted that it would probably take a bond issue or a gasoline tax increase. He said he was also looking at reassessing contact with various downtown organizations such as the Convention and Visitor's Bureau, downtown partnerships, and Economic Development concentrating on deliverables.

One citizen disagreed with Mayor Talbott that the city was in such good shape, noting all the I-695 cuts in the areas of transportation, the North-South freeway, healthcare, and improvements to I-90. The mayor responded by saying he saw the situation not as a dark cloud over the city but as a challenge and an opportunity to shine.

Scholarships for our children

I wish to pass this on to anyone that has a need for free money for continued education. There are scholarships available for high school students, as well as graduate level student degrees.

Please take the time to fill out all applications irregardless to what the qualifications state. I can personally attest that I received a 3 year Fellowship because no one had applied for the dollars and they were there for the taking.

The greater the dissemination the more valuable this information becomes. Please pass on to your local churches, schools, community centers, organizational youth programs etc.

This is but a small sampling of all the different organizations and groups that offer scholarships, grants, and fellowship dollars. With the Government cutting back on educational training dollars this will become more of a necessity. Don't let these opportunities pass by you.

ACT NOW!!!!

<http://www.wilsonfund.org/mission.htm>
<http://www.kff.org/docs/fellowships/mini.html>
<http://www.kodak.com/US/en/motion/programs/student/scholarship.shtml>

<http://www.ssrc.org/mell.htm#ot>
<http://www.tsf.org/fellowship-ss.html>
http://compedge.walmart.com/wf_scholar.html
<http://www.apa.org/mfp>
<http://www.cbcnet.org/programs/#Spouses>
<http://www.wuolin.wustl.edu:8010/>
<http://www.wuolin.wustl.edu:8010/>
<http://www4.nas.edu/osep/fo.nsf/852562de00796ff4852562cb0073ff22/70a2c>
<http://www.jackierobinson.org/Scholars/Prog/Src/lower.html>
<http://www.microsoft.com/college/scholarship.htm>
http://www.nebhe.org/diversity/minority_intro.html#anchor564448
<http://www.aauw.org/3000/fdnfelgra.html#J2>
http://www.awic-dc.org/text/scholar_app.html
<http://www.research.att.com/academic/urp.html>
<http://www.radcliffe.edu/bunting/apply.htm>
<http://www.bpwusa.org/foundation/scholarships.html>
<http://cuinfo.cornell.edu/Student/GRFN/list.phtml?category=WOMEN>
<http://www.wrei.org/fellowships/index.html>

Publisher's note: This information is from a much forwarded email.

Protect Human Services

In the first week of 2000 Legislative session, legislators are already reacting to Initiative 695. Legislators are considering taking funding from several pots of money that are critical to funding for health, housing, and human services to make up for 695 cuts. People advocating for funding for road construction are making a strong case in Olympia -- we need to make an equally strong case. In particular, legislators have mentioned taking funding from:

- Housing Trust Fund
- Homeless children's lawsuit
- Tobacco settlement
- Hope Act
- Welfare Saving
- Health Services Account

Each of these funds pays for critical services for low-income children and families. In addition to all these funds, all human services, housing and health programs are on the table for cuts. To protect these programs, we need to speak up now.

Action needed: Please call your two representatives and one Senator at 1-800-562-6000 or e-mail them.

Message: "Please protect human services, health and housing funding in the state budget as you implement I-695. In particular, please do not cut funding for _____ (insert any program or group of programs such as the above which you strongly support -- it helps to remind legislators of programs that are working in their communities)."

SENIOR LAW

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- Medicare and Medicaid
- Guardianships and Trusts

Every month is Black History Month

The Negro baseball leagues and the 50th anniversary of Robinson's debut in the majors

There are few survivors left, men who played "the other" game of baseball before the modern color barrier was broken.

They are the Negro leaguers, gray and bent with the years but as filled today with pride and a love for the game as they were decades ago as nervous rookies on dusty sandlots.

A half-dozen of these players spent time recently with *The Sporting News* to reminisce about their glory days, a time when two separate baseball worlds thrived alongside one another -- one white, one black. Although the vast majority of documentation during that time belongs to white baseball, the Negro leaguers have no doubt that black baseball was as good as any.

For years, white all-star teams barnstormed across the country playing black all-star teams after the regular season. And the blacks won more than their share.

The Negro leaguers know well the racism that awaited them outside the chalk lines, but in interviews they chose primarily to recall the good times, the competition, the game.

BY ALBERT DICKSON

Buck O'Neil is in a reflective mood, sitting on wooden ballpark seats in the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City. "There is nothing better than baseball. I would have played baseball for nothing, if I could have afforded it.

"We were playing for a living, but there wasn't that much money in it then."

Although he didn't make a fat salary or play in the major leagues, O'Neil doesn't envy today's well-to-do players. In fact, he relishes his time on the diamond.

"I was born right on time. I might not have done as much for baseball at another time," says the man who broke the majors' color barrier for coaches in 1962 as a member of the Cubs' staff.

From this notable accomplishment, O'Neil, 85, preaches a message of love for the game -- and for your fellow man.

"Men remain in ignorance as long as they hate," says O'Neil, the chairman of the Kansas City museum. "And you hate unjustly as long as you remain in ignorance. It's just that simple."

O'Neil, a former first baseman and manager, remembers a story about Jackie Robinson in 1945, the only year Robinson spent in the Negro leagues. Robinson, short-



From: *When the Game Was Black and White*. Brooklyn Eagles

stop for the Kansas City Monarchs, taught other team members a lesson in standing up for their rights when a white gas station owner wouldn't let the men use his restroom. Over the years, this man had regularly sold large quantities of gas to the Monarchs.

"The man sees a 50-gallon tank on one side and another 50-gallon tank on the other and he knows that he won't sell that much gas until we come back again. He thinks and says, 'You boys go in the restroom.'"

"From that day on, the Monarchs never got gas where we couldn't use the restroom. We never played in a town where they didn't have a place for us to stay. Jackie taught us that."

His gnarled, arthritic hands caught more fastballs from Satchel Paige than those of anyone dead or alive. And just maybe the hands are gnarled because of Paige's pitches.

Ted "Double Duty" Radcliffe, 95, reclines in a chair in his Chicago apartment just blocks from Comiskey Park and chews on a fat cigar. He is almost a half-century removed from his days as "Double Duty" -- a name he picked

up because he would catch one game of a doubleheader and pitch the next during more than 20 years of service in the Negro leagues. His diverse talents led to 11 all-star game appearances.

"I never thought about getting mad about playing in the Negro leagues," he says. "I was young and I knew that I was good, and I had the pick of the girls."

Trying to coax Radcliffe to talk about his fondness for baseball is no easier than catching Paige's deliveries. He always steers his emotions in another direction.

"I used to love to go to Havana, Cuba, to play," he says. "You'd be treated like a man. The women down there used to love me. I don't know how I pitched

sometimes."

Radcliffe tilts his head back and cackles with delight. He will relate many more off-the-field adventures before the night is through. But you push back to baseball.

"I played against (Fidel) Castro down there," Radcliffe says of the time when he was an aging pitcher and Castro was a kid. "He played second base. He wasn't a hitter. He just talked a lot. I made him look sick at bat. He was just another out." (As the years passed, Castro developed a pretty fair reputation as a pitcher.)

He remembers confronting racists on and off the field while playing in the United States. For the most part, he let his skills

as a player do the talking.

"When I first started, you couldn't get a room anywhere," he says. "You'd play and (then) they'd throw eggs at you after the game. The chief of police was managing a team in this one town and he said, 'If you niggers beat us, we're gonna run you out of town.' I had to get the state police to help us. We beat them, 20-0."

Radcliffe has little fondness for today's ballplayers and believes their huge salaries will lead to the collapse of the game.

"The players of today can't play, they can't pitch out, they can't bunt," he says. "Guys hitting .220 are getting \$2 million. Another 10 years and you'll see it fall down. It ain't gonna last."

Double Duty reflects on his words and, with resignation, says: "That's the reason I'm not in the Hall of Fame now. I speak my mind."



Patricia Roberts Harris

BY JOHNATHAN BRADLEY

Patricia Roberts Harris had a remarkable career in several incarnations, hitting the heights in the fields of law, education, politics, and civil rights. She broke barriers of both race and sex, and was appointed to important positions by no less than three American presidents. Ms. Harris graduated Summa Cum Laude from Howard University, where she would later be named Dean. She graduated first in her class from the law school at George Washington University. In 1963, President John F. Kennedy appointed her co-chairman of the National Women's

Committee for Civil Rights. Ms. Harris worked on the presidential campaign of Lyndon Johnson, and in 1965 was appointed by President Johnson ambassador to Luxembourg, the first black person to head a U.S. Embassy. When President Jimmy Carter appointed her Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in 1977, Harris became the first Black woman to be named to a presidential cabinet position. In 1979 President Carter appointed her U.S. Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, a post she held until 1982, when she was appointed a full-time professor at the George Washington National Law Center, a position she served in until her death.

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Something You Can Do If You Will

Be involved in the Anne Frank Exhibit

The traveling educational exhibit on the subject of the Holocaust is being sponsored by Gonzaga University this spring. It comes from the Anne Frank Center USA in New York. This is a comprehen-

sive and educational display intended to teach us about the atrocities of the Holocaust, preserve the memory and look to the future. This display vividly demonstrates what happens when hate and intol-

erance prevail over tolerance, mutual respect and basic human rights. To be involved, please contact the Anne Frank Exhibit Office at 323-3604 or email annefrank@soc.gonzaga.edu

Citizens' Review Commission

The Citizens' Review Commission reviews complaints that could involve allegations of misconduct by police officers brought forth after processing by the police chief. Their primary function is in determining whether the Police department's investigation of the allegation was thorough and objective. The seven members are appointed by the mayor, and confirmed by the city council. They include one retired judge, court commissioner, or retired magistrate, one qualified member from a list provided by the police guild (cannot be a current city employee), one qualified member submitted by the Police Lieutenants and Captains Association, (cannot be a current city employee) and four citizens at large who should represent the diversity of our community.

African American Graduation set for May 6

Start planning now to be a part of the Fifth Annual African American Graduation Celebration on May 6 at 1 p.m. at Spokane Falls Community College.

Graduating students from high schools, GED programs, vocational schools, colleges and universities will be honored at this celebration.

If you would like to participate, call Rich Tucker at 533-3556.

Contributions to help defray the cost of the event are also welcome.

CINAAR Status report on the cultural diversity shopping center

CINAAR is making great progress on obtaining the funds to build the cultural diversity shopping center, but we are lacking the support of the community. We are making an urgent appeal to the city of Spokane and espe-

cially the African-American, Native-American and Hispanic communities to join the Community Advisory Board. All groups and the entire community are invited to participate in the process of making the decision regarding where the shopping center will be located, where the funds will be spent and what the community needs are. The shopping center will create millions of dollars yearly for community development after it is completed and open.

If you or your organization would like to participate or need information please call CINAAR at (509) 536-1827 or send your comments to CINAAR 2613 E 2nd Ave Spokane, Washington 99202. CINAAR will have a public meeting February 23 at the East Central Community Center S 500 Stone from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the senior area. A display of the shopping center will be there to view.

Big Brother Big Sisters School-Based Mentoring Program

Mentors are needed to spend one lunch hour per week with an at-risk elementary student. Mentors will spend time building a friendship and helping a child to be more successful in school. There are programs at 18 schools throughout Spokane County. Call 328-8310.

East Central Neighborhood Steering Committee/Council needs members

The East Central Neighborhood Steering Committee/Council, in the interests of representing everybody in the area, is seeking African Americans who would be willing to serve on the council.

"Volunteers should be interested in working for the improvement of the neighborhood and presenting an ethnic viewpoint on the issues that come before the group," said Council President Eric Johnson.

Call the council at 534-3009 for more information. The council meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Avista hosts civil rights attorney at community luncheon

Avista Corp. will host civil rights attorney Morris Dees at the company's annual Viewpoint luncheon to be held Friday, Feb. 18 at the Ag Trade Center from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. Dees will speak on "Teaching Tolerance and the Economic Impact of Hate." Tickets for Viewpoint are \$20 each, plus service fees, and are available at all G&B Select-A-Seat outlets. Tickets can be ordered by calling 325-7328 or 1-800-325-7328.

"In order to grow and ensure future prosperity, our region must embrace diversity and promote tolerance," said T. M. Matthews, board chairman, chief executive officer and president of Avista Corp. "The Inland Northwest's unearned reputation of racism and intolerance hurts everyone here. It is critical for business leaders and community citizens to work together to change this image to assure local businesses and potential new companies

will choose to grow their businesses in our region," Matthews added.

Dees, son of an Alabama farmer and cotton gin operator, is co-founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), a non-profit organization that combats hate, intolerance and discrimination through education and litigation. Since its founding in 1971, the SPLC and Dees have won landmark civil rights cases and verdicts totaling over \$57 million against various hate groups. In addition to his work as chief trial counsel for the SPLC, Dees is also an author of three books, including the 1996 expose "Gathering Storm." He was instrumental in the construction of the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Ala., and has received honors such as "Trial Lawyer of the Year" by the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice and the National Education Association's Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Award.

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HOSPICE
OF SPOKANE

We welcome your involvement!

The Task Force on Race Relations has made encouraging progress in their efforts to plan the 3rd Community Congress on Race Relations. The Task Force reconvened in September. They are working hard now to lay the groundwork for the Community Congress on Race Relations, April 28 2000. The congress is completely funded by donations. This year's theme is "Dreams Into Reality-Why Should I Care?" Designed as an educational tool for adults, teens and young children, the annual congress has become a trademark for race relations education in the Northwest and this year promises to be a dynamic program.

For more information, please contact:

Vince Lemus at 625-6263 vlemus@spokanecity.org or Maureen Rieckers at 625-6266 mrieckers@spokanecity.org

Just like me

By JAYSON MARTIN

I am 17. I'm just like any other teenager. I get up every morning go to school, I come home every night. nothing special, nothing extravagant.

I'm no better than anyone else, I'm no less than anyone else. I have the same hopes, the same fears, the same questions, and the same daydreams. There are people like me in every state, in every city, in every school, and in every class room. This morning 15 students, just like me, got up, got dressed, and went to school. Some, like me, were running late, some early, some worried about that test they had first period, some were day-dreaming about the cute boy that had the locker right next to theirs, some were thinking about the friend they had gotten in a fight with the night before, some were giggling with each other about the substitute with the big bright red wig.

But not one of these students, just like me, was worried about walking into that school, the school they walk into every other Monday through Friday for nine months out of the year, and being shot at. But there is a difference between these 15 students and me, I came home after school, I will be able to go on that date Friday, and pass that test, I will be able to graduate, and I am still alive. I asked God, "Why? Why do bad things happen?" And as much as I wanted a straight forward answer from Him, I didn't get one. and I know I won't.

But I did get something else. I got a feeling deep down in my heart that says, "This shouldn't

happen. and I can do something about it. I have the ability to change the world." God said that with faith, I can move mountains. And I have some mountains to move. I have no idea how to solve this problem. I have no idea what has gone wrong in the heads of so many of my peers, and I don't know how to stop it. But I am sure going to try.

Today I was saddened by what happened. I was scared, and I was confused. But most of all, I was ashamed. I am ashamed. I am ashamed of my generation, of my classmates, of my friends, and of myself. These shootings were done by kids my own age. Kids that you pass on the street, kids with friends, and kids with families. The kids that died are the same. these kids that were killed are innocent victims. They did not deserve to die and nothing can ever come close to making what happened justifiable. Those that ignore this, as I have, for the past however many years, are those that I am ashamed of. What has to happen? Does it have to happen to your family, to your kids, to your friends to your life to open your eyes? Are you going to wait still? because I refuse.

I refuse to watch this happen anymore. I refuse

to be a victim. I don't know how I am supposed to change the world, but I will. I am not going to stand by any longer and watch my generation flush society down the toilet. The streets aren't safe, parks aren't safe, homes aren't safe, and now schools aren't safe. There is something wrong with this picture. And I feel sorry for those that don't see it. But most of all I pity those that do but choose to ignore it. I am making a vow to myself to stand up against it, to make a difference, and I pray I am not alone.

My name is Jayson Martin from Littleton, Colorado, I would like for anyone who reads this to please write their name down. I would like to send prayers out to my friends who were in Columbine HS I would like everyone to please say a prayer for the safety of everyone who was involved in this terrible tragedy. It is something that has hurt me today as well as my friends, I'm grateful for my safety and their safety. Please Forward this to as many people as you can, let us all come together and pray that this tragedy ends soon. Thank you.

YOUNG PEOPLE

The blanket of fear was lifted by Negro youth. When they took their struggle to the streets, a new spirit of resistance was born. Inspired by the boldness of and ingenuity of Negroes, white youth stirred into action and formed an alliance that aroused the conscience of the nation.

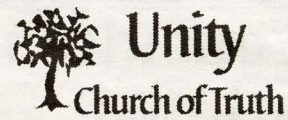
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Holy Family Hospital lists job openings

Holy Family Hospital is sending a list of current job opportunities to organizations in the community. The accompanying cover letter states "Holy Family Hospital is committed to diversity in the community by living out our values of respect for the life and dignity of each person, compassionate and competent service, collaboration, and social justice.

They have a 24-hour employment line at 482-2104 which lists available positions. It is updated on Friday afternoons.

Job listings include both full and part-time positions such as Assistant Director of Human Resources, RN, Rehab. Aide, Chaplain, Unit Secretary, Medical Technologist, Transcriptionist, E.R. Tech, and Certified Care Associates.



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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

Continued from page 8

Booming economy

Housing Secretary, I wonder if we are moving in the right direction in Spokane to break the cycle of homelessness. In a recent newspaper article there was a story stating that the City was not going to hand out funds to as many social service agencies as they have in the past. It also appears that our mental health services are in chaos. Maybe I will pose this question to our city officials. Stay tuned for more of the booming economy.



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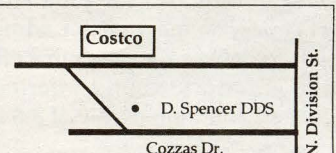
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JOB

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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Career Day targets adults and teens

The community colleges' Institute for Extended Learning hosts Career Day 2000 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 16 in the Lair-Student Center, Bldg. 6 at Spokane Community College.

The day is designed for adults considering a return to school and for high school students contemplating higher education choices and highlights hot career fields as well as job-hunting basics.

Participation is free, but preregistration is necessary by Friday Feb. 4. For information, call Kay Mack 533-3034.

Nursing Consultant Institutional Recruitment (#3-9-291-OC)

Nursing Consultant Institutional positions with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Aging and Adult Services Administration are available in the Spokane area. Applicant would be responsible for surveying nursing homes to determine compliance with State and Federal regulations. Must have a Masters Degree in Nursing. Positions require current nursing knowledge, knowledge of documentation and writing principles, ability to analyze and interpret assessment data, typing skills and excellent communication skills. Travel required. Salary range \$37,632-54,480 annually. Benefit package includes medical/dental, life and long-term disability, retirement and leave benefits. Qualified applicants should contact Residential Care Services at (509) 456-3117 for a Washington State Application and submit the application to the Department of Personnel, P O Box 47561, Olympia, Washington 98504-7561. Although Masters prepared applicants will have preference, interested persons with a Bachelors in Nursing may apply for the Nursing Care Consultant register (recruitment #3-9-290-OC) DSHS is an equal opportunity employer.

Washington State University

Conferences and Professional Programs
Pullman, Washington

Conference Manager - Online Programs
(Full-time, Permanent, Administrative/Professional)

WSU, a multi-campus land-grant institution, is seeking a creative, innovative, and entrepreneurial Conference Manager to develop, deliver, and administer non-credit, professional development training programs which are delivered by computer to individuals, corporations, communities, and government entities. As a self-sustaining unit, Conferences and Professional Programs (CAPPs) offers a wide variety of non-credit professional development programs, as well as conference and meeting management services, through its central office in Pullman and satellite office in Puyallup. The position is based in Pullman and reports to the Director of CAPPs.

Responsibilities: The Conference Manager--Online Programs will be expected to: (a) develop, implement, and market computer-based training programs to adult learners in collaboration with deans, chairs, director, faculty, staff and private industry; (b) negotiate appropriate contracts and manage program budgets to insure that the programs are financially self-supporting; (c) supervise the work of administrative and technical support staff to deliver the programs efficiently within established timeframes; and (d) build internal and external relationships to insure a continuing flow of 3-6 new programs per year.

Completed applications must be received by February 21, 2000.

For a complete position description, list of qualifications, and application procedures, please contact Maureen Evermann, Extended University Services, Washington State University, PO Box 645210, Pullman, WA 99164-5210. A complete job description can also be found on our web site at www.eus.wsu.edu/c&i/.

WSU is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Educator and Employer. Members of protected groups are encouraged to apply.

City Of Spokane

INSTRUMENT REPAIR TECHNICIAN

(\$29,774- \$39,254 annual salary)
Opens Monday February 7, 2000
Closes Friday, February 18, 2000

Duties: performs skilled technical work at the journey level in the design, construction, installation, maintenance and repair of electronic, electrical, mechanical instruments, and process control computer systems. May be required to respond to emergencies, and work in confined spaces.

Requires: Completion of a two-year course in instrument repair or related field above the high school level; and two years of experience installing, maintaining and repairing electronic, electrical and mechanical instruments including solid state circuits and boards. Additional experience installing, maintaining and repairing electrical and mechanical instruments may substitute for the educational requirement on a year for basis. Applicants must possess a valid driver's license.

POLICE RECORDS SPECIALIST

(\$22,174- \$29,148 annual salary)
Opens Monday February 7, 2000
Closes Friday, February 18, 2000

Duties: Performs moderately difficult specialized office support work providing informa-

tion and records maintenance functions in the records section of the Police Department. Employee may be required to perform shift work which may include evenings, weekends and holidays.

Requires: High School Diploma or equivalent; AND, two years of clerical experience involving records maintenance. One year of business or clerical education above the high school level may be substituted for one year of the experience requirement. Must be able to type at a rate of 250 keystrokes (50 words) per minute. All applicants must submit to a polygraph examination, fingerprint, and background investigation prior to appointment and have the ability to obtain ACCESS II certification within the probationary period.

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING ASSISTANT

(\$41,363- \$51,490 annual salary)
Opens Monday February 7, 2000
Closes Friday February 18, 2000

Duties: Performs highly responsible sub-professional work involving the application of skilled technical knowledge. Investigates new project developments and land uses affecting the City's Traffic engineering operations, advises, coordinates, seeks and makes commitments with private devel-

opers regarding the interface of such projects with the City's traffic engineering operation. Assists the Department 1 lead in representations and giving input at the Planning and Zoning hearings on behalf of the Traffic Engineering Department. Assists professional associates in advance planning studies relating to present activities and to proposed and future traffic control projects. Evaluates curb use on a continuing basis for maximum utilization; collects field information needed to evaluate parking problems; performs administrative work in conjunction with the Commercial Driveway Resolution. Assists supervisor in accomplishing the administrative affairs of the Department, performs related work as required.

Requires: Eight years experience in the practice of engineering; three years of which have been in a field related to traffic engineering, site development or transportation planning. Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a degree in civil or transportation engineering may substitute for five years experience. A master's degree in engineering may substitute for one additional year of experience. Applicants must possess a valid driver's license.

New laws are not enough. The emergency we now face is economic, and it is a desperately worsening situation.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Eastern Washington University Department of Technology

The Department of Technology at Eastern Washington University is seeking applications for a 9-month, full-time, special faculty position beginning September 13, 2000, to teach graphic communications. Rank and salary are commensurate with education and experience. A master's degree is required; doctorate preferred. Graphic communications and electronic publishing expertise is required. Teaching experience at the college level and/or industrial experience is important. Expertise in another area such as technology education, CAD, technology in world civilization, etc., is desirable.

Responsibilities include teaching, advising, program development and university service. Send resume, transcript copy, and references with phone numbers to:

Dr. Mick Brzoska, Chair
Department of Technology

Eastern Washington University
Mail Stop 76, 526 5th Street Cheney, WA 99004-2431
(509) 359-7026

The search will continue until the position is filled. Eastern Washington University is committed to increasing the diversity of its faculty, staff, students and academic program offerings and to strengthening sensitivity to diversity throughout the institution. We are an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, and applications from members of historically under-represented groups are especially encouraged. The successful candidate will be required to show proof of eligibility to work in the U.S. pursuant to U.S. immigration laws.

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JOBS

Community Colleges of Spokane Invites applications for the following positions

Full-time:

Assistant to the Associate Vice Chancellor for Public Relations, Communications and Marketing, District Office.
Closes February 18, 2000.

Custom Saddle Making Instructor, SFCC.
Closes March 24, 2000.

District Facilities Manager, District Office.
Closes February 25, 2000.

Sociology Instructor, SFCC.
Closes March 20, 2000.

Part-time:

American Indian Law Instructor, SCC.
Closes March 3, 2000.

For position details, qualification requirements, and official application, contact Human Resources Office, Community Colleges of Spokane, 2000 N. Greene Street, Spokane, WA 99217-5499 or access Website at <http://ccs.spokane.cc.wa.us>. (509) 533-7429, TDD (509) 533-7466. AA/EOE.



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Martin Luther King Center seeks Bachelors Degree, experience in operating & managing a culturally responsive social service agency. Skills needed: Financial experience managing non-profit, supervision of staff, grant writing, public relations, fund raising, experience with government grants, community collaboration, ability to work with diverse social economic population. Salary DOE. Send resume & 1 page letter of interest to:

MARTIN LUTHER KING CENTER
S 845 SHERMAN STREET SPOKANE, WA 99202
ATTN: CHAIR PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
Closing Date: February 11, 2000



INHS

INLAND NORTHWEST HEALTH SERVICES

Inland Northwest Health Services, a not-for-profit corporation, represents the purposeful coming together of several health organizations to provide collaborative health care throughout our regional community. For a current listing of job opportunities, stop by the Human Resources office or send your resume to :

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If you are interested in a career with a company that is an industry leader, call our 24 hour message line for current openings (509) 495-4281 or access our website at www.avistacorp.com.

Avista Corp. is an equal opportunity employer.



NYSE: AVA www.avistacorp.com



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Medical Lake ♦ 120 South Broad St. ♦ 299-3161
Northtown ♦ 103 East Queen Ave. ♦ 483-0425

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Night of Elegance - Blacks please use service entrance

An organization in Washington, D.C., The Positive Black Men's Coalition (PBMC), hosting its 7th Night of Elegance at the Omni Shoreham Hotel November 24, 1999, spent months planning their event, paid a sizable deposit (which included a million dollar insurance policy) to the hotel, and was looking forward to another well attended, well-received elegant event as they had in major hotels across the city in previous years. Ten days before the event, there was a stabbing and shooting in the hotel.

Now you might imagine that it was the PBMC who was concerned about

the safety of their guests, but you would be wrong. The Hotel decided that the rest of its guests needed to be protected from the PBMC's Night of Elegance and made additional requirements that they thought necessary because the shooting event had caused them to have concerns.

What is the connection between the two, you ask? The fact that those involved in the shooting were black, as were the members of the PBMC.

PBMC informed the hotel's executive committee that they believed the fact that the committee was judging the patrons of PBMC by the actions of

individuals who attended this prior event was unreasonable at best and discriminatory at worst.

The committee stated that their concern was for the safety of their hotel guests. Rather than seem unreasonable in light of the circumstances, the PBMC agreed to voluntarily pay for increased security and reluctantly agreed to the addition of metal detectors to the equipment of the door security.

But that was not enough. It was asked that attendees not enter through the main hotel lobby but use the side door. The "side door" turned out to be the loading dock.

This was simply not acceptable - 1000 mostly African American guests at the Night of Elegance should not have to enter the Formal Ballroom through the rear service entrance.

"You cannot imagine our surprise and dismay in discovering on the day of the event during our final pre-event walk through, the Omni Shoreham Hotel had erected walls that actually separated their main entrance and lobby area from the ballroom area reserved for our use. These walls were never there in all of the times we had been to this hotel, nor were they brought to our attention

for discussion," wrote the coalition in a letter of apology to all those who had attended the event.

It was discovered later that the walls were removed only two days after the Night of Elegance, so were clearly in place to "protect" the hotel guests from the PBMC event.

The organization has hired lawyers "to challenge the discriminatory decision of the Omni Shoreham Hotel".

Note: the U.S. Justice Department filed suit against 21-hotel Adam's Mark chain for widespread and egregious discrimination practices. See article "Gays cancel hotel" on page 3.

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Free After-School Program for the East Central Neighborhood

BY JULIE GONSER

Recently, the East Central Neighborhood in Spokane was graced with a large sum of money. This money is the result of the State Incentive Grant, which was recently awarded to Gunthild Sondhi, the Spokane County Prevention Coordinator. This federal grant is intended to be used for the implementation of an after-school program whose purpose is the prevention of alcohol and other drug abuse among teens. The program, which is offered year round weekdays from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m, is provided through a partnership between the Martin Luther King Jr. Family Outreach Center, and the East Central Community Center.

The State Incentive Grant (SIG) is made up of several programs that have been thoroughly researched and resulted with such successes as increased school attendance and decreased attitudes favorable to drug use. Among these programs are Across Ages, Smart Moves, Family Advocacy Network, Media Literacy, and the Nurturing Program.

Across Ages

Across Ages is a mentoring program that pairs older adults with teens as mentors. Older adults often think that teens are all disrespectful, rude and

loud; while teens tend to think that older adults are grumpy, exclusive and boring. The purpose of this program is to break through these stereotypes and to give the teens a person to look up to along the way.

Smart Moves

Smart Moves builds leadership skills in teens. The program has three segments that teaches teens some basic problem solving and other life skills as well as drug refusal skills. During the final segment, Smart Leaders, teens become mentors for the younger children who are just beginning the program. The Family Advocacy Network is a family component of this same program.

Media Literacy

Media Literacy teaches teens to scrutinize ads and pick them apart to determine who or what the ads are targeting and also the strategies employed by advertising companies to do so. It teaches them to be cautious consumers.

The Nurturing Program

The Nurturing Program is a parenting program for parents of teenagers and the teenagers themselves. Teens attend one class while the parents attend

another. Then the parents and the teens meet together to discuss what they have learned. The focus is on communicating in a healthy manner.

In addition to these exciting programs the after-school program will also consist of field trips, guest speakers, art classes, cooking classes and many other exciting activities. At this point one might be wondering what the cost will be to the parents and the youth. There is no cost. The program is completely free.

The grant was awarded to the East Central Neighborhood and would like to target 6th through 9th graders who attend Grant, Sheridan, Chase and Sacajawea schools. However, the program will welcome any teen interested in participating in this exciting program.

If any or all of this sounds exciting to you we would love to hear from you. We are still recruiting for all aspects of the program. We need teens to participate in the program itself and we are also looking for a variety of volunteers. These volunteers range from high school or college students to older adults interested in becoming mentors.

All interested parties should contact Mary Bartol at the East Central Community Center. She can be reached at 625-6696.