

African-American Voice

September 2000

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

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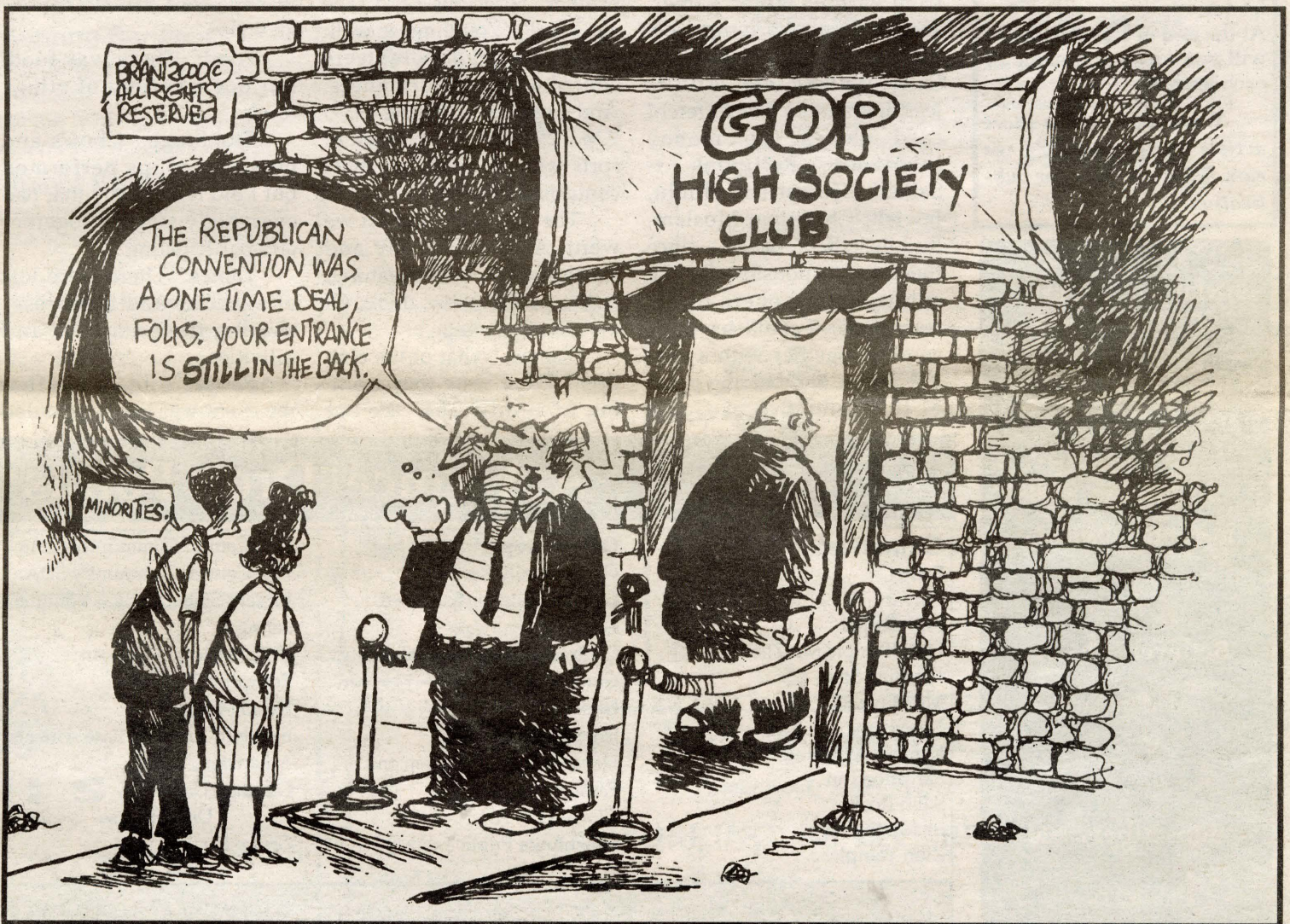
Voter Education and Registration Already Started

Come to NAACP candidate forums, challenge them to speak out on

- Racial profiling • HIV/AIDS • Education • Health care • Urban investment • Death penalty • Political appointments

It was the third Monday and the usual crowd met at the East Central Community Center for the NAACP meeting. V. Anne Smith had just returned from a trip to the deep South and she informed the group that back there the battle had begun. Voter registration and education was in full swing with rallies and meetings in churches - it was reminiscent of the 60's. Spokane was going to have to run to catch up.

Political Action Committee Chairman Morton Alexander was ready with a stack of leaflets that announced the upcoming non-partisan candidates forums that the NAACP is sponsoring (see back page).



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The only problem was there were only a handful people there to give them to.

It was suggested that members ask their pastors to announce the forums and to make voter registration forms available at the churches. The Rev. Jimmy Sirmans agreed to solicit participation through the Minister's Alliance.

The African American Voice will distribute two thousand forum announcements to targeted areas. The pre-primary forum will be held on September 8 at 7 PM at the East Central Community Center. Bring your concerns,

ask the tough questions, for example:

- Do you support or oppose efforts to maintain current equal opportunity programs such as affirmative action in the areas of education, employment and contracting?
- Do you support or oppose legislation to allow felons who are no longer incarcerated to register and vote in federal elections?
- How would you see minority involvement in the strategic plan for the Spokane economy?

The AAV would also like to invite the 206 NAACP members to check with everyone they come in contact with to be sure they are registered

to vote and to assist them in getting to the polls.

This is a time we need to pull together - let's not let the mayoral, congressional, and

presidential elections suffer from the same apathy we saw regarding I 200 and I 695 - elections DO make a difference in our lives.

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CONTEST

Leaders we have known and admired



Who is this woman

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

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

NEW FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS

We wish to thank:

Sustaining \$100
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Believers \$1 - \$49
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Subscribers \$20
Charity Doyl

Good, better, best!

BY CHARLES ELLA STOAKLEY

We were invited to attend a 'Unity in the Community' affair. "What is that?" I asked. My host replied, "It is a gathering where the various organizations come together in the park for a day. Would you like to go?" "Sure," I said.

I then asked others "What is this Unity in the Community?" but none had explained to me what the organizations did -- other than being there. Left to my imagination, I envisioned children playing and learning from various ethnic games, such as dominoes, jump rope, hop scotch, marbles, Little Sally Walker, etc. Adults learning similar but different card games (no money involved). Religions -- Sabien, Zoroastrian, Hindu, Jewish, Christian, Moslem, Buddhist, Babi, Baha'i -- since these are responsible for the cultural atmosphere of the community, I could see them coming together with a central theme, and bearing proof of this guidance of God's

word to humanity from their own holy book in as much as unity begins there. Someone registering all voters. Health service representatives, flanked by tables with businesses that help people live healthier lives. From the stage occasionally sing-alongs bearing up the theme of unity, for example 'Come on people now, smile on your

*Good, better, best
Never let it rest
Until your good is better,
And your better is best.*

brother', 'Precious Lord take my hand', 'You'll never walk alone', etc. plus volunteers contributing performances. And possibly -- during 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM -- a potluck of sorts with all kinds of ethnic contributed dishes.

The day came and off we went. A beautiful day and many happy, well-meaning, polite people were there. Of my envisionment:

Games: What of the children? What were they learning from this? They are our

future neighbors. They were not playing together. When and where should they begin to learn this? A bright note -- one of the religions did give a coloring booklet on unity and invited them to sit at a table and color. The adults were playing no games at all.

Religions: They were not arranged together. However, had they been alphabetically organized they would have been united side by side. How many of the religions I named are in Spokane? Were they invited and made to know of their importance?

Voter Registration: There was someone there to register all voters.

Food: There was food, but not a variety of ethnic foods.

The Stage: Choirs and musical groups performed but I did not see any that had everybody singing together and participating.

Tables: There were lots of agencies and businesses sharing their services and activities.

People said to me that the event was better attended

than ever and that there were more organizations represented, so it seems that there is much interest in unity in this community. However, as my sister-in-law Mari Stoakley Spence said to me:

*Good, better, best
Never let it rest
Until your good is better,
And your better is best.*

Publisher's note: Perhaps these comments from a visitor to Spokane will be of interest to those organizing next year's event so that there will be more interaction between those attending, rather than, as Edward Thomas, Jr. put it in his letter to the Spokesman Review, "just having a lot of people standing around, looking at each other". He also mentioned the police presence, but it seemed to me that they were there to take the opportunity to relate to the community in a positive way, though I wish they could have been more creative in their behavior and approach. Perhaps if they were participating in games and food and bringing their families and girl friends - must they always be on duty?

A A 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

Other Drop Sites

- Casey Family Partners
- CCS Institute for Extended Learning
- Central Washington University
- Chicken N More
- Children's NETT
- Crosswalk
- Department of Children and Family Services
- Global Folk Art
- Downtown Public Library

- East Central Community Center
- East Central Community SDA
- Eastern State Hospital Volunteer Services
- EWU African American Education Program
- Excell Stores
- Fairchild Air force Base African American Club
- Gonzaga University
- Unity House
- Group Health

(Lidgerwood)

- Hampton Institute
- Hastings (Valley)
- Jantz High School
- Jose Vigil Imagemakers
- Juvenile Court
- Larry's Barber and Styling
- MLK Center
- North East Community Center
- North Idaho College
- Moon Shadow
- 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)

*The Spokane, Pullman
African-American Voice*

PMB 145 2920 S. Grand Blvd.
Spokane WA 99203-2530 (509) 455-8274 Fax: 455-8489
e-mail rlloyd@cet.com

Publishers: Robert and Diane Lloyd

Editor: Open

Writers

- Anthony Bradley
- Victor E. Buksbazen
- Robert C. Williamson
- Jose Gutierrez

Contributors

- Arkame B. Curry
- Bob Glaza
- Stoakley Lloyd
- Kevin Taylor
- Patsy White

Support Services

- Ayofemi Oseye
- Dwight Cummings

Marketing

Diane Spano (509) 535-6686

A brief history of sovereignty

BY LEAH HENRY-SLANEY

Sovereignty, according to Webster's New Riverside Dictionary, is supremacy of rule or authority, political autonomy. When Columbus stumbled onto the shores of "The New World" he encountered a civilization thousands of years old, with a system of government in place: a sovereign civilization. However, because the indigenous peoples were non-white and non-Christian they were subjugated to a medieval Papal Bull called the discovery doctrine which allowed the Christian invaders to capture, enslave, and kill the people if they resisted and also allowed the occupation and expropriation of property. The discovery doctrine established European dominion over the indigenous peoples of the North and South American continents.

The Marshall Trilogy

In 1823, US Supreme Court Chief Justice John Marshall implemented the framework for US federal Indian policy. Justice Marshall upheld, with his Supreme Court decisions, the fallacy that the indigenous peoples of this continent were heathens, savages, and infidels. The Marshall trilogy, which consists of *Johnson v. McIntosh* (21 US 8 Wheat.) 573 (1823); *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia* (30 US (5 Pet.) 1 (1831)); and *Worcester v. Georgia* (31 US (6 Pet.) 515 (1832)); established both federal and state government relationships with Indian peoples. In these cases, Marshall applied the fallacious discovery doctrine to justify US authority over indigenous people, establishing congressional plenary power in Indian Country; the trust relationship between the US government and Indian Nations; and established that state law does not apply in Indian Country. Though Marshall himself noted that the discovery doctrine was an "extravagant... pretension" which "may be opposed to natural right" and may only marginally be supported by reason, he concluded that it "cannot be rejected by courts of justice". None of the Marshall rulings have been

overturned and the discovery doctrine remains as the legal foundation of Indian law.

Treaties, Allotment, and Reorganization -- Promises Made, Promises Broken

During the treaty negotiation period between Indian Nations and the US government, which ended in 1871, Indian leaders reserved rights already established in exchange for lands. In no way did the US government grant rights to Indian nations. Sovereignty is implicit when entering into treaties, thus the US government recognized the sovereign status of Tribes when it signed treaties with them. The treaties reserved two broad kinds of rights; rights of political sovereignty over reserved territories and rights to access the ceded territories for fishing, hunting, and gathering. Though the Tribes negotiated treaties in good faith, the US government failed to honor its obligations and broke every single treaty made with Indian nations.

In the late 1880's the failure of the US government to honor treaties with Indian nations was widely recognized. A "progressive" movement was formed to force assimilation of Indian peoples into the dominant society. In a highly paternalistic manner the federal government "acting in the best interests of Indian Nations" implemented the Dawes Act, also known as the General Allotment Act. The Dawes Act was intended to "civilize" Indian people through land ownership. Individual Indian people were allotted lands that were to be used primarily for farming, with the remainder of the tribal lands being declared as surplus and sold to white settlers, even though this was a clear violation of ratified treaties. Though the Dawes Act was

seen as progressive and well intentioned, its destruction of Indian nations is immeasurable. In 1934 the Indian Reorganization Act repudiated the Dawes Act, but it too was paternalistic in nature. The Indian Reorganization Act set up US government sanctioned tribal governments, often at the expense of traditional forms of tribal government. Once again, the US government failed to recognize the inherent rights of Indian nations.

Today this tradition persists with the actions of elected officials like Slade Gorton (see Means Testing sidebar on this page, and Jack Metcalf (see The Dignity Report Volume 5, Issue 1 Winter 1998) and with the anti-Indian Movement. The Rhenquist Court perpetuated the racist legacy of its predecessors by using the discovery doctrine as the basic foundation of Indian law. Respect for treaty rights has been less than exemplary and US dealings with Indian Nations have been less than honorable. The US government needs to keep the promises it made in treaties with Indian Nations and recognize the inherent sovereignty of Indian Nations. It is the responsibility of the citizens of the US to uphold treaty obligations and to hold their governments, federal, state, and local accountable. By respecting sovereignty and treaty rights we can build communities which can begin to heal past wrongs. This is one of the goals of the Northwest Coalition for Human Dignity.

Leah Henry-Slaney represents the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians on the Board of the Northwest Coalition for Human Dignity. She is a member of the Nez Perce Nation.

Means Testing

Background

In 1997, Senator Slade Gorton, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies, included Section 118 as part of the fiscal year 1998 Interior appropriations bill, a provision that would impose a means test for federal funding allocated to Indian tribes. The federal funding targeted was "tribal priority allocations", the basic funding provided through the Bureau of Indian Affairs to tribal governments for their assistance in administering tribal government programs and services.

- Means Testing violates treaty responsibilities and the federal trust relationship

The benefits, protections and services provided to tribal governments are based not on need, but on Indian tribes' status derived from and supported in the Constitution, treaties and other federal law. The federal government has a duty to protect that status, including the provision of payments in return for the succession of vast expanses of land and natural resources to the federal government. To impose a means test on payments to Indian tribes would be an absolute breach of that duty owed to Indian tribes, reversing more than 200 years of Federal Indian policy.

- Means Testing is economically counterproductive

Although a very few tribes have gained some measure of economic success, by and large, Indian communities are extremely poor. 31.6% of Indian people live below the poverty level, and unemployment on Indian reservations is 56.0%. In this environment, a federal disincentive to creating economic opportunity would be devastating. To means test federal outlays to Indian tribes at a time when tribal governments are beginning to rebuild their economies and infrastructure would simply push tribes back into the dire circumstances from which they are attempting to escape. Means testing would also institute a new layer of federal bureaucracy in order to collect information and reallocate resources for the very few tribes with significant non-federal revenues, in all likelihood actually reducing the federal funds available to needy tribes.

- Means Testing unfairly targets Indian tribes

To subject tribal governments to a means test would have the discriminatory effect of singling tribes out for treatment not accorded to states, counties, cities or other units of government.

National Congress of American Indians www.NCAI.org

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Arts and Culture

"Put it back out on the beat"

BY BOB AND DIANE LLOYD

Just heard a quote from African American rap artist and actor Ice T "I suck up information and put it back out on the beat. There's a sad Black joke: How do you hide something from somebody Black? Put it in a book." Well, rap, Zimbabwean and Native American musicians are spreading a message about oppression and genocide and human rights through music. We witnessed this at The Gathering of the Four Winds, a concert by Jim Boyd and his band, Rez Bound and a collaboration with Spokane Indian poet, novelist, and filmmaker Sherman Alexie in which he took words from his writings and "put it back out on the beat."

Also attending the concert was Ferai Gezi, a musician from Zimbabwe who was touched by the message he heard in the lyrics of Boyd's songs and the words of Sherman Alexie and recognized the comparison to what musicians in his country are doing. The next day the African American Voice sat down in front of Huckleberry's with Ferai Gezi and Peter Campbell, who had just that day resigned from his position with Eastern Washington University's Indian Education Program to accept the directorship of the new Center for Plateau Studies at the Cheney Cowles Museum.

Ferai Gezi described how

people with "long sight" in his country are trying to give the big picture to the "short-sighted" people who are obstructing human rights through drama and music. "It's easier to send the message with theater", he said.

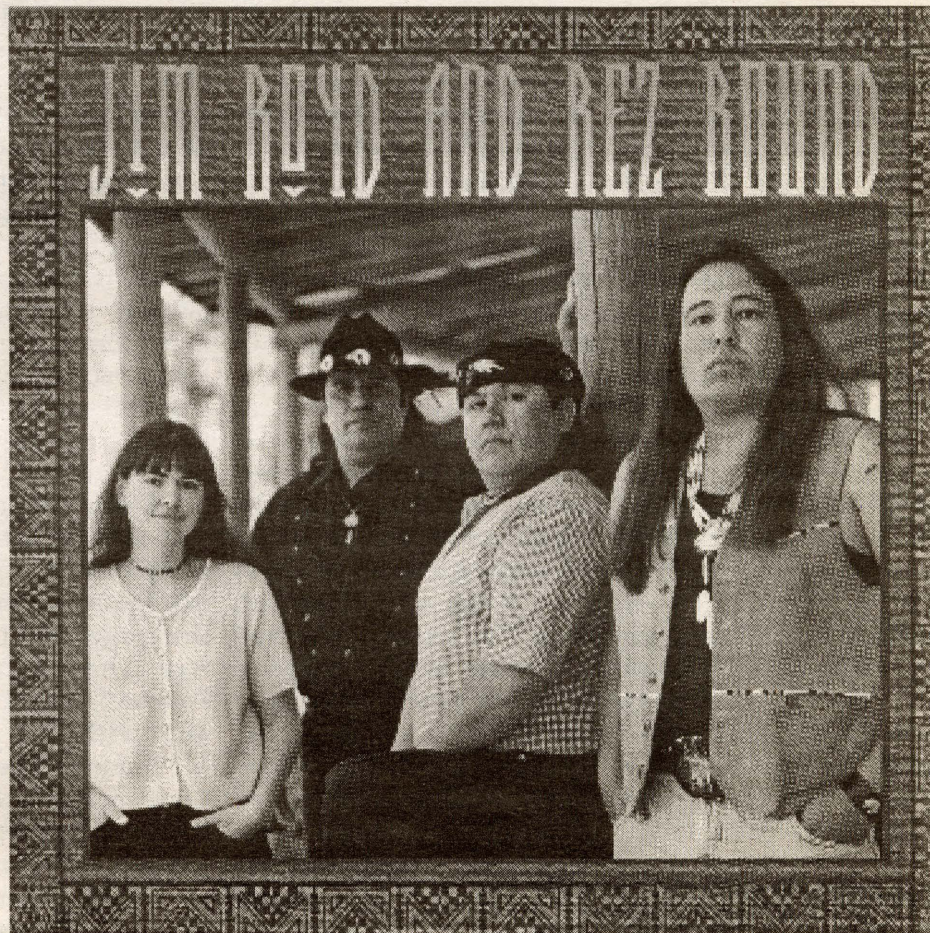
For 20 or 30 years white farmers and their corporate conglomerates have ignored compacts in which they had agreed to redistribute good farming land to the indigenous people who had been pushed on to the poorest land, as well as completely controlling access to agricultural markets.

Peter Campbell understood this quite well. "They put my father out of business the same way. That's why I'm not a farmer," he said.

For Zimbabwean musicians every song must have a message about the hardships, joys, current problems in people lives, about justice. Music is about enlightenment, teaching.

Even "commercial" music in Zimbabwe has a message - commercial simply means it was recorded in a studio and sold. It might be traditional, that is, the songs of a particular group with perhaps electronic instruments added, or it might have its roots in traditional music and its words in traditional language but modified to a reggae, hip hop, rap, or even blues beat (but never rock and roll!). Sacred songs are not performed or recorded commer-

Continued on page 14



Side one: **Where's Your Honor Mr. Gorton**

For bookings call Thunderwolf Records (509)722-3165

First Come Last Served

By Jim Boyd

*Follow the teachings of the history books
Did it really happen that way
Maybe it's time to take some closer looks
maybe it's time we stand and say*

*Chorus
First come last served we're the first ones
Here but the last observed
First come last served we're the first ones*

Here but the last to be observed

*Follow misleading of the government
It's a game that all must fear
Democrat Republican doesn't matter much
Is it time for them to hear*

*Chant
Ya he ya He takes
And he takes and he takes all
Ya he ya He takes and he takes
And he takes all*

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EVENTS

NOTE:

Events may change between the time we receive the information and we go to press. You may want to call accompanying phone numbers for confirmation.

Mail information regarding your organizations event to PMB 145 2920 S. Grand Blvd. Spokane 99203
email rllloyd@cet.com

Auditions

Sept 5 Tues 7 PM Spokane Civic Theatre auditions for reading stage performance of *Waiting for Lefty* by Clifford Odets.
Sept 11 & 12 Mon & Tues 7 PM auditions for Studio Theatre comedy *Crimea River*. Call 325-1413 for more information.

Candidate Forum

Sept 8 Fri 7 PM NAACP sponsored candidate forum for congressional and mayoral candidates. East Central Community Center. Call 534-2167 for more information.

Baby Shower

Free Pregnancy & Postpartum Conference
Sept 9 Sat 10 AM - 2 PM Workshops, gifts, refreshments, drawings. West Central Community Center 1603 N Belt. Free. Call 326-9540.

Seniors' Wellness Conference

54th Civic Theatre season opens

Spokane Civic Theatre will present the ragtime musical revue, *Tintypes*, as the opening production of its 54th season starting September 30th.

The story of these changing times blazes to life in tuneful, high-spirited brew of popular songs from 1890 to 1917, performed by five archetypes of the period: Anna Held, the beautiful music hall star; Emma Goldman, the notorious socialist; a black domestic worker; a Chaplin-esque Russian immigrant; and the outrageous Teddy Roosevelt, the youngest man ever to be elected President.

Call 509-325-2507 for reservations.

Sept 9 Sat 7:30 AM - 3:45 PM Spokane Community College. Tickets \$10 including lunch. Call 326-1471.

Audition Workshop

Sept 16 Sat Spokane Civic Theatre. 10 AM - Noon for elementary and middle school students, 1 - 3 PM for high school and adults. Free, no preregistration necessary. Call 325-1413 for more information.

Bill Cosby

Sept 16 Sat Spokane Arena

NAACP State Conference

Sept 22 - 24 Fri - Sun Gonzaga Univ. Registration \$70 including meals. Call Eileen Thomas 534-2167 for registration and more information.

Democratic Party Diversity Committee Meeting

Sept 15 Mon 6 PM The committee is seeking ideas from the East Central community for a project that can be worked on together. Bring your suggestions. East Central Public Library. Call Jan Baker at 326-1370 for more information

Tintypes

Sept 30 - Oct 28 Spokane Civic Theatre. Tickets \$17 adults, \$14 seniors \$10 students. Call 325-2507 or 800-446-9576.

Coming in October

Waiting for Lefty Reading Stage

Oct 8 Sun 7 PM Spokane Civic Theatre Studio Theatre. Tickets \$5 at the door. Call 325-1413 for more information.

Prince Hall Masons Banquet

Oct 7 Sat 6 PM Club Fairchild FAFB. Call Chester Carothers 299-5599 or T. Sgt. Anthony Crisp 244-4879 or Terry Frazier at 489-1546 for tickets.

Candidate Forum

Oct 20 Fri 7 PM NAACP sponsored candidates forum for various offices. East Central Community Center. Call 534-2167 for more information.

Northwest Coalition for Human Dignity

14th Annual Conference
Oct 27-29 Fri - Sun. Boise Idaho. Call 206-233-9136 for more information

NAACP State Conference races to vote in Spokane

Spokane Branch #1137 of the NAACP welcomes members from Alaska, Oregon and Washington to a state conference to be held September 22 - 24 at Gonzaga University.

The theme of this year's conference is "Race to Vote". A variety of workshops will be available. Events begin Friday September 22 at 6 PM and end Sunday September 24 at noon.

Registration is \$70 for adults, \$40 for youth and includes all meals. Register by mail before September 15th to:

Mrs. Barbara Peyton, Treasurer

Alaska, Oregon, Washington State Conference
7390 Navajo Trail NE
Bremerton WA 98311
Register by fax (509-865-7009) until September 20th. Registration will also be available on site.

Conference lodging is available at West Coast River Inn (formerly Cavanaugh's) for \$60 per night if reserved before September 10th. Call 1-800-325-4000.

For questions contact Edna Brooks Pittman (509-865-7009) State Conference President, or Eileen K. Thomas (509-534-2167) Branch President.

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More Information Contact and RSVP:
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Spokane Race Relations Task Force Meeting
First Tuesday of the month 11:00 am to 1:00pm.
Lunch served. For more info contact Vince Lemus, Human Rights Specialist, City of Spokane, 625-6263,
www.racerelations.spokane.net
Become a member!
Add your event to our calendar.

Editorial

Received a telephone call from an advertising agency on the day of the ad deadline to explain to me that he would be making a 75% cut in the advertising to our paper. I had by then already made decisions regarding the size, content and distribution based on advertising commitments we had. When I asked if this was his decision or his client's he did not give me a direct answer but said there had been a meeting. He asked if I would send him a rate card. I sent the rate card with the following message:

This paper is not some advertising rag. This

paper is a place where Blacks (African Americans) have a voice. This paper does not seek advertisers, this paper seeks supporters of the African American community and the issues that affect them. This paper wants to make Spokane a more inclusive city.

This paper does not wish to tell anyone what level of support they should give. We are thankful and appreciative for each dollar or effort they extend to this community. Their level of support should be commensurate with their commitment and their resources. Their level of support and involvement should not be dictated by advertising agencies and other go-betweens. If agencies dictate the level of support given to this paper, we'd rather have none at all.

If after reading the back issues of the paper I will be sending you, if you appreciate its direction and goals, your support is welcome. If not, let's not make token gestures.

His response was, in part:

In the future you may want to relax on the diatribe and put more effort in selling your publication, the squeaky wheel approach. There are 25 radio stations in the market that we can buy for any one client. There are only a few that know how to sell, the good ones know that we don't need to buy all 25. They also know that the arbitron rating is important, but not the final determinant.

I look forward to reading and learning more about your publication so that we might consider it for current and future clients.

I want to make it clear that I am not interested in ratings. We hope to build a movement taking care of the business, not a business taking care of a movement.

Bob Lloyd, Publisher

Opinions

Black Ministers Jump in California School Voucher Battle

BY EARL OFARI HUTCHINSON

The last day of the Democratic National Convention a small band of black ministers and community leaders staged what they billed as a Freedom Rally outside the Convention. They implored vice-president Al Gore to meet with them and back Proposition 38. This is the California ballot initiative bankrolled by multi-millionaire Silicon Valley wunderkind Tony Draper that shells out \$4000 of public funds to any parent who wants to yank their kid from a public school and put them in private school.

There were two huge problems with their demand. The first was that Gore flatly opposes vouchers. In his presidential candidacy acceptance speech at the Democratic National Convention he said that he would not take a dime from public schools for vouchers. His running mate Joseph Lieberman who took much heat from black leaders for his pro-voucher vote in Congress backpedaled fast on the issue. In meetings with the Hispanic and Congressional Black Caucuses at the Convention he vowed to back increased funding for public schools.

The even bigger problem is the initiative. It is a poorly conceived, terribly written

measure that will drain an estimated \$3 billion from already cash strapped public schools, impose no regulations on private schools, will not prohibit discrimination in student selection, set no professional standards for performance and accountability for teachers and administrators, and generates no new funds to pay for the voucher program. It will benefit only a handful of students while trapping thousands of poor, and minority students in schools that are poorer and more segregated.

Also, the initiative will be closely watched by voucher supporters in other states. If it passes it will almost certainly clone similar initiative measures in other states and embolden legislators to push harder for vouchers in their state legislatures.

Yet despite the grave danger of Proposition 38, the black ministers who support the initiative are hardly lone black voices touting vouchers as an educational panacea. In a national survey the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, a Washington DC think tank, found that a majority of black parents nationally back a voucher program. And a whopping 90 percent of blacks aged 26 to 35, who are most likely to have children attending public schools, want them the

most. A California poll shows that more than fifty percent of minorities in the state back vouchers. This is higher than white support.

Many black and Latino parents are deeply dissatisfied with public schools and are desperate to put their children in schools that teach them how to read, write, spell, add and subtract. They

failure. But neither side has mustered a convincing case for or against them. Mostly because voucher programs are still not widespread enough in school districts nationally, and there aren't enough children in the programs that do exist to tell whether they work or not. Voucher programs in Cleveland and Florida are



want their sons and daughters to have a decent chance at a career or profession. They would instantly snatch at vouchers if they were available.

But the question is if a sizable number of the mostly black and Latino students in urban public schools could attend private schools at taxpayer expense would it really improve their children's education? Voucher advocates and opponents toss around a few fuzzy studies to prove that vouchers are a smashing success or object

presently hopelessly tied up in court suits. Voucher combatants then are forced to fall back on such anecdotal homilies as "the parents love them" or "the public schools are getting better."

While Proposition 38 would create much mischief with public education in California and similar voucher initiatives would do the same in other states, it doesn't mean that a voucher program is totally worthless. A voucher program might work if these provisions apply:

- Students with learning disabilities who require specialized instruction unavailable in public schools are eligible.

- Private schools that receive vouchers conform to state professional codes for teacher and administrator training, credentials, and evaluation.

- No gender, racial or religious discrimination in eligible schools.

- Students in schools that consistently fail to meet minimum state performance standards are eligible.

- Funds for vouchers can only come from private or public supplemental funding sources and not the state's general education budget.

- Tight income standards to guarantee that only truly needy students receive them.

Proposition 38 fits none of these provisions. But the harsh fact is that as long as heavily minority inner-city public schools disgracefully underperform, black and Latino parents will demand the right to pick and choose the schools that offer them the best deal in education for their children. The black ministers who pump Proposition 38 as an answer to failing public schools deliberately play hard on that need.

Earl O'fari Hutchinson is the author of *The Disappearance of Black Leadership*.
email: ehutchi344@aol.com

Reprinted from September 1999

Why they don't vote

By VICTOR E. BUKSBAZEN

There is an apparent disconnect between the citizens of Spokane and their elected leaders. A quick glance at the lack of participation in recent elections bears this out.

Statisticians and political scientists have been trying for a long time to fathom the reasons for the marked decline we have seen over the past several decades in this and other states.

Some assume that all political candidates are corrupt -- so why vote for any of them? Others reply that they only vote in general elections. They fail to realize, though, that the outcome of the primaries and other elections determines what goes on the ballot in the general election. Still others tell us that recent scandals in Washington, DC have poisoned people's interest in government and voting altogether.

Then there is another group -- perhaps the largest portions of non-voters in the country -- which simply does not seem to care what happens outside their small circle of interest. They, too, seem to be unaware that what takes place on Election Day determines, to a large extent, the size of that circle!

Disturbing trend

Whatever the reasons given, as a result of this mass indifference, political lobbyists and special interest groups wield a disproportionate influence both in choosing the issues and the candidates.

This is a disturbing trend in many respects. Representative democracy cannot survive for long if there is only minimal participation in the electoral process.



Bush Jr. blows off 6,000 minority journalists and communication professionals Fall 1999

It will also be undermined by general apathy and distrust of government in general.

While the traditional reasons given all have some merit, they seem to ignore the personal alienation and disappointment which many Americans feel from their leaders.

Perhaps the most salient factor is that political campaigns have changed drastically since the late 60's and early 70's. Voter involvement was the big emphasis then. Voters had much more opportunity to meet and dialogue with the candidates than they do now.

In a host of nations throughout the world where suffrage is either denied to everyone or restricted to an elite, citizens would almost be willing to sacrifice a limb for the right to vote! And yet, in this country, so many who could vote do not.

I have been fortunate in my lifetime. My parents, both

immigrants from Eastern Europe, encouraged me to take a personal interest in public affairs, and encouraged me to attend gatherings in which I could hear (and sometimes even meet) many local, state and national candidates.

This supplemented and enhanced my academic civics courses. It lit a spark in my soul which later ignited the fire I now have for public affairs. (My wife calls it an obsession!)

Lack of concern

Not too many parents even care about those issues themselves anymore, let alone urge their children to become involved in them! What a pity!

The sense of intimacy which was fostered when candidates campaigned door-to-door and neighborhood-to-neighborhood in bygone years was what often bonded the voter and the campaigner, giving even an apathetic citizen a reason to make his vote count.

And from having some-

body demonstrate his or her concern for the public's concerns -- even if it was ultimately self-serving -- potential voters were often made into active voters. Occasionally one of them even became an election worker -- or a candidate himself somewhere down the line!

This type of grassroots electioneering is fast going the way of the dinosaurs. Some may still do a token amount of it -- but often, the results are just token, too. Electronic media, slick advertising and special interest funding have irretrievably altered the way that most campaigns are run.

Perhaps even more important than the potential benefits a candidate could derive from this low-tech but high impact method of politicking, is the effect it could have on the American system in general. It gives the average citizen a chance to meet a candidate, share his concerns with him or her, ask questions and receive spontaneous replies in return.

Personal touch

This is rarely possible with TV ads that have been carefully crafted to project just the right image, then edited to fit a 30 or 60-second sound bite.

'Shoe Leather' campaigns can give the uncaring or undecided a real reason to vote for or against an issue or candidate. High tech advertising, on the other hand, is rarely able to do this, since it lacks the personal dimension.

During any election season there is the inevitable perception of sameness among the candidates. We have become a nation of politics by polls, not by informed voting. The old-style campaigns provided citizens more of a chance to vote "for" a candidate, not simply "against" his party affiliation. Candidates of all parties have an obligation to go out and meet the voters on their own territory -- their doorsteps.

When all is said and done, we must not forget that politics is still about people and their well being and pursuit of happiness.

Running the country, in a very real sense, is everybody's business! Participation in it can be expressed by every citizen over the age of 18 who votes. By law, no citizen can be denied this right because of their skin color, religion or sex.

We all have a stake in casting our ballots. I will be on duty in my precinct from 6:00 am till the polls close at 8 pm. *I'll be looking for you!*

The writer is an Elections Inspector, a Human Rights Commissioner and a former member of the Advisory Board of Spokane Mental Health.

Police have a book for you, it's not a booking!

Spokane police have produced an inventory book for residents in which they may log possessions to help them if they ever have a burglary or a house fire. The booklet has space for each room in the house or apartment and encourages listing not only the usual burglary target items such as electron-

ics and jewelry, but furniture in the event of fire or water damage.

Detectives say the lack of information on stolen items, especially serial numbers and other identifying marks, encourages burglars to steal them, and makes them easier to sell and harder for their owners to recover. In fire

damage, insufficient information slows or reduces insurance payments for losses.

The booklets were funded with a gift from Eagle Hardware and are available at C.O.P.S. substations free of charge.

Can I pick up mine at Eagle Hardware?. :-)

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'Strategic planning' -vs- development in general

The following is an excerpt from an e-mail invitation that was sent to Ben Cabildo, community organizer, among many others contacted to meet with a consultant hired by the Mayor's Commission on Economic Development "to help identify the Spokane region's opportunities for success in the 'new economy'". Following the excerpt is Ben's response expressing his concerns about the focus of the study and the reply he received.

"Dr. Kolzow defines the focus of this study in the following paragraph:

'Given the broad range of discussions going on in the name of 'strategic planning' in the Spokane area, it will be important to clarify from the beginning that this regional effort is about economic development rather than development in general. The focus will need to be on creating higher wage jobs in higher technology endeavors, and what it will take to accomplish that. As important as quality of life issues, diversity issues, government issues, and K-12 education issues are ultimately to economic development, there are many dimensions of these issues that are not directly relevant to economic development. One of the biggest problems I have found with strategic planning is that it tries to be 'comprehensive' in nature, which defeats its 'strategic' intent. To be strategic is to be focused.'

As part of the study he will fly to Spokane to interview the major "stakeholders", particularly as related to the "new economy". You have been identified by members of the Commission as one of those key players."

Ben Cabildo's response:

Sent: Friday, August 18, 2000
Subject: Re: Mayor's Commission on Economic Development

Dear Friends,

I am very much disturbed and offended by the "focus" of Dr. Kolzow's study whereby he disregarded the issue of diversity in relation to economic development. This is the very issue that AHANA has tried to impart to the Spokane business community from the very beginning. It is lack of diversity in employment and business opportunities that make it hard for Spokane to disassociate itself from the likes of Racist Butler and his gangs of Nazis. It is this lack of diversity that makes it hard to recruit and retain professionals and businesses of color from coming and investing in Spokane. It is because of this

lack of diversity that minority businesses took the initiative to come together and form AHANA Business and Professional Association to help position Spokane in the ever-changing global economy by bringing the issue of diversity to Spokane's economic development program.

What kind of "strategic planning" is Dr. Kolzow going to provide Spokane? He might have written countless of books on "economic development" but by discounting diversity and its vital relationship to economic development, I feel that his ideas are outdated and do not conform to the present economic changes. It would be very difficult for me to consider his ideas as relevant to the economic development of Spokane as much as he does not see the importance of diversity to economic development. Please revisit the "statement" I passed out at our first meeting as to how

minority businesses throughout the US are impacting our whole economy. If any of you disagree with my "statement" then I would understand why you would support his "focus" devoid of diversity.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ben Cabildo
Community organizer

Jackie Stone's reply:

Subject: Re: Mayor's Commission on Economic Development

Ben, I'm sorry you chose to take exception to Dr. Kolzow's definition of the limited scope of his study. We asked him to focus on our best opportunities (i.e. industries and industry clusters) in this abbreviated contract. I'm sure you're aware that communities are paying \$250,000 to \$500,000 for a comprehensive plan for economic development and that is far beyond the scope of what we are trying to do here.

Dr. Kolzow asked to

interview approximately 20 key people to further identify our focus industries and opportunities. We have imposed on him and arranged meetings with 35-40 people, your group included. We have made every attempt to be as inclusive as possible given the time and financial constraints. It is our hope and expectation that Dr. Kolzow's report will provide a very focused, specific blueprint and that everyone involved will do their part in trying to help him understand the myriad forces at work in our community as it pertains to the goal.

Ben, there are enough obstacles for the region to overcome without creating additional ones among ourselves. I hope you will stand back and take a little more objective view of this.

I also believe that your statement "...whereby he disregarded the issue of diversity in relation to economic development" misreads his comment which was: "AS IMPORTANT AS quality of

life issues, DIVERSITY ISSUES, government issues, and K-12 education issues are ultimately to economic development, there are many dimensions of these issues that are not directly relevant to economic development." If you and your group feel it is important to expand upon this study or have an extensive, comprehensive plan for economic development undertaken then perhaps you'd be interested in helping lobby and raise funds for such a study.

Sincerely, Jackie Stone

Ben Cabildo's response: Ms. Jackie Stone:

I am sorry to say that you have misunderstood the diversity issue. The very heart of the issue of diversity is economic empowerment. For your information, lack of diversity with regards to employment and business opportunities has definitely put Spokane way behind other cities and will continue to be a barrier to our economic development. Diversity is not only a social justice issue. Look into changing demographics happening throughout the country. What about the purchasing power of the communities of color and their growing numbers? How about the globalization of the economy? Can minority businesses act as global links for our businesses here with their connections to the countries of Asia, Africa, Latin America and Middle East?

I know it is hard for you to understand. Such a reckless statement is not acceptable for AHANA Business and Professional Association. Please consider this input that I am forwarding to you.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ben Cabildo
President-AHANA Business & Professional Association.



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Social Security Provides savings guide to retirement

BY LESLIE MCAULEY
SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD
REPRESENTATIVE IN SPOKANE

Social Security was designed to provide only part of your retirement income. It replaces almost 40 percent of an average wage earner's pre-retirement earnings. According to most financial experts, you will need about 70 percent of your preretirement earnings to provide a comfortable retirement.

Fortunately now Social Security provides tools to help you formulate a savings plan to prepare for your financial future. The first, the Social Security Statement, provides you with estimates of the monthly retirement, disability and survivors benefits you and your family may be eligible for now and in the future and also a listing of your past earnings.

You will receive your Statement in the mail every year about three months before your birthday. It is an important personal document and should be used for your financial planning and to

keep track of your earnings under Social Security.

The other tool, the Social Security Retirement Planner, can be found on Social Security's website at www.ssa.gov. It will allow you to:

- calculate your retirement benefits using different retirement scenarios;
- find out how certain types of earnings and pensions can affect your retirement benefits;
- see if your spouse and children will be eligible for Social Security benefits on your record; and
- discover your options if you are close to retirement age.

Although Social Security doesn't provide 100 percent of your retirement income, it is still a base you can count on. These new planning aids will help you use that base to plan for a more financially secure future.

For more information, go to our website, www.ssa.gov, or call us toll free at 1-800-772-1213.

Car impound policy modified

Spokane police have initiated a modification of the Department's vehicle-impound policy that will allow a one-time return of a car to an owner who can show he/she didn't know the person who borrowed the car didn't have a valid license.

A two-member panel will evaluate each case. Patrol Captain Jim Nicks said in one case a woman lent her vehicle

to the man she was living with, and he had been arrested seven times for driving without a license. "In that case we wouldn't return the car," said Nicks. In another instance, every member of the family had suspended driver's licenses so that vehicle also would not be released, as there was no eligible person to receive the car.

Diversity Dome

This was a slow month for the dome. We went to Unity in the Community looking for minority contractors. We found one whom we will be asking for a bid on part of the construction.

We asked the Spokane Home Builders' Association if they knew of any minority builders. They didn't, but they did have an apprenticeship program which might be good for minorities inter-

ested in getting into the building trades to check out. You can get paid while developing skills and it leads to certification.

We also staked out the house design on Hart Field with little orange flags so we could check out the room sizes. It looked so official it stayed up for three days until the designer, Brian Farwell, could walk through it with us!

Fluid power program graduates offered jobs

Manufacturing companies that rely on fluid power technicians are hurting, said Ed Willey, a fluid power technology instructor at Spokane Community College.

"There's so much work, so many jobs, and there's no one there to hire," Willey said. "Of the 20 or so second-year students we graduate each year, almost all will have at least five job offers

before the end of the school year." The entry-level wage for these graduates ranges between \$12 and \$18 an hour, he said, with opportunities to move into management or go on to an engineering program at a four-year school.

The SCC program produces both fluid power technicians, who work in the areas of mechanical installation and repair, field services,

and technical sales and design, as well as fluid power specialists, whose training allows them to assist in the design and assembly of electronically controlled power systems.

Fall quarter begins September 25. For more information and to check whether there are still openings call instructor John Norman at 509-533-7137.

This article is part of a series on the dome that diversity is building.

The A A Voice is trying to compile a list of diverse contractors, suppliers, building trade workers, artists and craftspersons, landscapers, interior designers, suppliers of furnishings, and anyone else who thinks they have something to offer to this project. If this includes you or someone you know write the AAV at PMB 145 2920 S. Grand Blvd. Spokane WA 99203.

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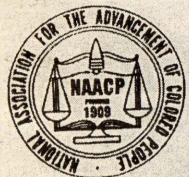
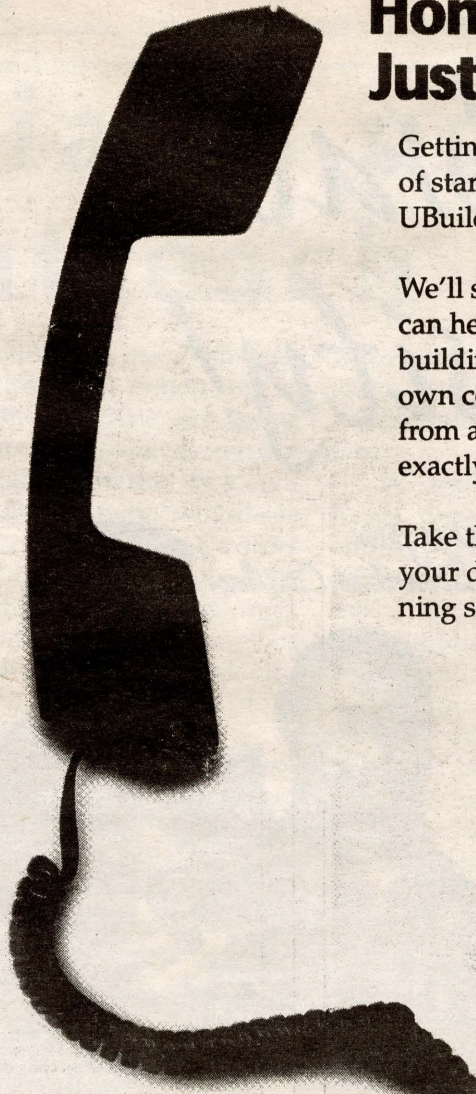
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NEED HELP

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

For Information Contact: President Eileen Thomas

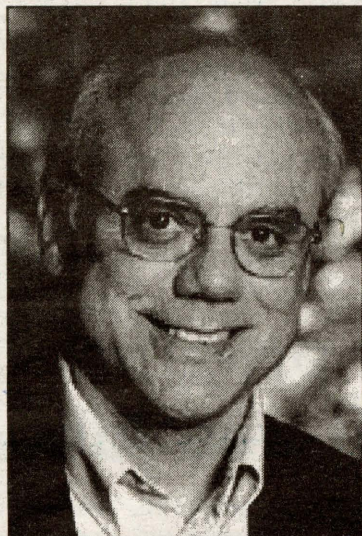
Tom Keefe strong advocate for civil rights and diversity

BY VAL SMITH

Last winter I supported Wayne Brokaw in his 5th Congressional District race. He was a strong advocate for civil rights and diversity and stood firmly against racism and prejudice.

Wayne was very grateful to the African-American Voice for its endorsement along with many human rights leaders in Spokane.

Then a new candidate, Tom Keefe, emerged. Wayne and I were struck by Mr. Keefe's extraordinary work resume and personal qualities. He was intelligent, articulate and informed about issues. Best of all, he was a man with a track record of working for civil rights and diversity and taking stands against injustice even when it meant taking on local or federal governments. By now you know that Wayne Brokaw put his ego aside and withdrew from the race to



Tom Keefe

support Tom Keefe's candidacy.

Tom Keefe has worked for twenty years to bring Native American issues to the attention of the Democratic Party in Washington State and erase the ugly stain of anti-Indian bias that has dominated the political debate in the state for most of this century.

Before it became the standard, Tom Keefe was advancing the need for "government to government" cooperation between the state, its political divisions and the nearly thirty federally recognized Indian tribes in our state. Tom served as liaison between the tribes and city, state and federal governments in his capacities as counsel to Seattle's mayor, Legislative Director for former US Senator Warren Magnuson, and as counsel to former US Senator Brock Adams. He intervened to see that tribal leaders were afforded the same access to elected officials as non-Indian leaders enjoyed.

Tom worked with Senator Adams to pass legislation to stop the eviction of tribal families from their homes on "in lieu" fishing sites on the Columbia River and to secure federal protection for the right of the Yakama Tribe to reacquire traditional lands being

used by the US Army. Fighting for two years, he won a victory in the defense of tribal members swept up in the notorious federal and state "Salmonscam" sting operation.

As Special Assistant to Senators Magnuson and Adams of Washington and as a private attorney who fought to protect Indian fishing rights and tribal sovereignty, he has consistently shown a deep understanding of the rights which are so vital to Native Americans across America.

Tom and his wife Jo Ann, a member of the Nez Perce tribe, moved to her reservation in Kamiah, Idaho for six years to insure that their children had the opportunity to be enriched by their cultural heritage. They became licensed as foster parents and Tom became an appellate court judge for the Northwest Intertribal Court System.

Tom and Jo Ann battled the Kamiah school board to have Martin Luther King, Jr's birthday honored by closing the school on this holiday. After two years they got it done!

Tom and his wife Jo Ann

have each lost family members to AIDS and have demonstrated both personal and professional commitment to fighting AIDS in their communities. Tom Keefe's strategy and tireless efforts on behalf of the Ryan White CARE Act spearheaded its success in securing the first appropriation for Ryan White services.

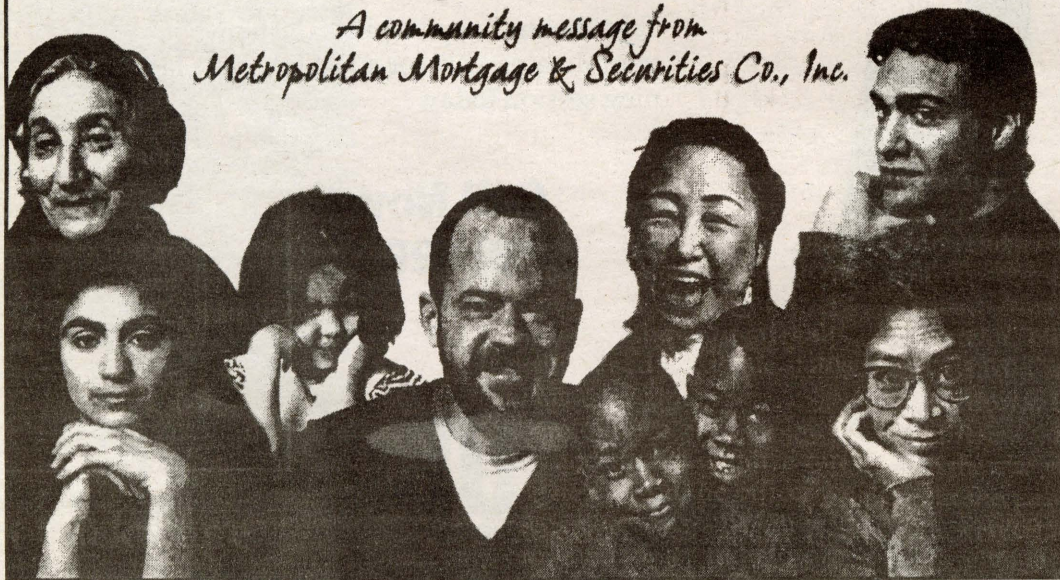
Jo Ann Kaufman operates a legal/consulting firm specializing in Indian health issues. Her firm was recently named one of the "Five Great Indian-Owned Small Businesses" by National Indian Reporter. She is applying to become a member of AHANA. Look for her in the next meeting.

Valerie R. Smith, MSW
1118 W. 8th Ave
Spokane, WA 99204
valsmith@uswest.net

Member of NAACP - Political Action Committee, Spokane County Democratic Central Committee - Affirmative Action Committee and retired Director of Child Welfare Services at Lutheran Social Services.

Celebrate Diversity!

A community message from Metropolitan Mortgage & Securities Co., Inc.

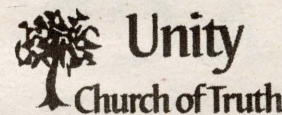


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See announcement on back page

Legislative Report Card

WASHINGTON

The NAACP Legislative Report Card is a presentation of key civil rights votes cast in both the United States' House and the Senate during the 106th Congress January 6, 1999 - July 10, 2000

U.S. Senate

	Grade	Votes	%
		1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	
Gorton	F	↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓	33%
Murray	A	↑ ↑ ? ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑	93%

U.S. House of Representatives

	Grade	Votes	%
		1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	
Inslee	B	↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑	82%
Metcalf	F	↓ ↑ ? ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓	27%
Baird	C	↑ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑	73%
Hastings, Doc	F	↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	18%
Nethercutt	F	↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑	27%
Dicks	A	↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑	91%
McDermott	A	↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ? ↑	91%
Dunn	F	↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑	27%
Smith, Adam	F	↑ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↑ ? ↓ ↓	55%

VOTE KEY

- ↑ = voted in favor of the NAACP position
- ↓ = voted against NAACP position
- ? = did not vote
- italics = Republican*

GRADING SCALE

- A = 100 - 90%
- B = 89 - 80%
- C = 79 - 70%
- D = 69 - 60%
- F = 59 - 0%

Vote Description

US Senate

1. Impeachment Vote, Article 1, Perjury
2. Impeachment Vote, Article 2, Obstruction of Justice
3. \$11.4 billion over 6 years to hire new public school teachers (S. 280)
4. Congressional Gold Medal to Rosa Parks (S.531)
5. Preserve Community Reinvestment Act (S. 900)
6. Disparate treatment of minority youth by state justice systems (S. 254)
7. Background checks on gun purchases at pawn shops (S. 254)
8. Background checks on gun purchases at gun shows (S. 254)
9. Passage of a weak and inadequate "Patients' Bill of Rights" (S. 1344)
10. Confirm Judge Ronnie White of Missouri to the federal bench
11. Increase the Minimum Wage by \$1 over 2 years (S. 265)
12. Confirm former Senator Carol Moseley-Braun to serve as US Ambassador to New Zealand
13. Confirmation of Marsha Berzon to serve as a fed-

eral judge

14. Confirmation of Richard Paez to serve as a federal judge
15. Hate Crimes Prevention Act

US House

1. Census Review (H.R. 472)
2. Congressional Gold Medal to Rosa Parks (H.R. 573)
3. Condemn the government of Sudan for Slavery (H. Con. Res. 75)
4. Increase prosecutorial discretion on fate of juveniles (H.R. 1501)
5. Reauthorize Community Policing program (H.R. 1501)
6. Background check on gun purchases at gun shows (H.R. 2122)
7. Patients' Bill of Rights (H.R. 2723)
8. Establish a school voucher program (H.R. 2)
9. Two-year increase of the Minimum Wage (H.R. 3846)
10. Congressional Black Caucus budget substitute (H. Con. Res. 290)
11. Increase funding for crime prevention programs (H.R. 2670)

For more information on specific votes, Contact the NAACP Washington Bureau (202) 638-2269 1025 Vermont Avenue, NW Suite 1120 Washington, DC 20005

NAACP initiates political education outreach efforts

NAACP Spokane Chapter #1137 Political Action Committee

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Spokane Chapter 1137 is committed to seeking to increase registration and voting as well as working for the enactment of municipal, state and federal legislation designed to improve the educational, political and economic status of minority groups.

While we are non-partisan and do not endorse candidates for public office, we recognize a responsibility to our community to help pro-

vide informational opportunities for voters to aid in their decision-making. The NAACP Political Action Committee is instituting what we hope will be an annual event -- Candidate Forums that will be moderated and formulated by members of Spokane's minority status groups.

Marianne Mashima will moderate this year's initial effort. The interviewing panel will represent AHANA, the African American, Native American, Hispanic, Asian and GLBT Communities. If time allows, the moderator will present written questions from the audience.

In the past few years, we have seen efforts to roll back civil rights legislation on the

national level, the elimination of Affirmative Action laws in Washington State and strong efforts to discriminate against sexual orientation as a civil and human right. We believe it is important that voters hold candidates accountable for their human rights track records and beliefs as well as check out their qualifications and competencies to hold office.

We believe that our vote is our voice in determining who will shape social policies, enact laws and determine budget priorities on a national, state and local level. We believe that our votes are a hard-won and important responsibility; and that in-depth access to candidates gives a voter more pertinent

information to make decisions than yard signs, billboards and 30 second sound bites.

We believe that voters have power when they choose to exercise it. The political candidates know this. They raise and spend a lot of money trying to get your attention and your vote. Across the country when minority status groups have increased their voter registration and turnout by 2-5 percent, they have made the difference in major races. They are no longer being taken for granted. There are special interest groups who hope most of the electorate will not bother to vote. These groups have been able to win legislative and initiative contests by

the small margin of 17-19 percent of the registered voters. This is a scary thing -- to realize that important decisions are made by such a small group of voters because the rest of us stayed home.

It is important that candidates address issues that are important to our various minority status groups in Spokane. It is important that we, as their employers, take the time to look closely before we award them the jobs they are seeking.

We sincerely hope your readers will join us on September 8 and October 20, 2000 at 7:00 PM at the East Central Community Center at 500 S. Stone in Spokane, Washington.

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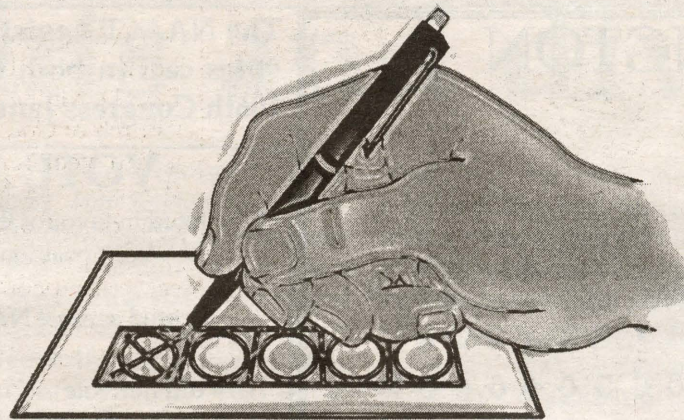
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Where's Ralph Reed, 'Politically Incorrect' ?

For the last four days, the Republican Party has cleverly choreographed what some have described as a "masquerade ball." After failing to get her party to "move beyond oratory" and address the concerns of minorities, the long-time Republican activist Faye Anderson was offended by the steady parade of African Americans and Latinos across the convention stage. She denounced it as an "illusion of inclusion." What should one make of this cosmetic diversity? One needs to look no further than to former Christian Coalition-head-turned-Bush adviser Mr. Ralph Reed. Years ago, Reed wrote the script to the show we now are witnessing. In my attached release, I describe how Reed and Republican strategists are cloaking their conservatism to appeal to moderates and independents.



rights."-Ralph Reed, *Politically Incorrect*, former Executive Director, Christian Coalition

"I want to be invisible. I do guerrilla warfare. I paint my face and travel at night. You don't know it's over until you're in a body bag."-Ralph Reed, December 17, 1997, *The Hill* newspaper, conservative political consultant

Where's Ralph Reed?

BY JESSE JACKSON, JR.
CONGRESSMAN SECOND DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

"First, social issues are the key to unlocking support in the minority community. Republican candidates traditionally run on taxes and cutting government spending. The result is that they have won only a small percentage of the minority vote since 1936, when blacks left the party of Lincoln for the party of FDR. Moderates in the Republican Party who call for inclusion of more minorities in the party want to beat a retreat from the social issues, a flawed strategy that would virtually lock the GOP out of the minority vote for the remainder of this century. Jesse Helms, for example, received a higher percentage of the black vote than Ronald Reagan in North Carolina in 1984 by campaigning in minority churches on issues like school prayer."

"...the need for religious conservatives to work more actively within the Democratic Party. Despite their essentially conservative views on the issues, Blacks and Hispanics remain strongly Democrat in their loyalties, partly because of the legacy of civil

Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr. asked today, "Where is Ralph Reed? The first day of the Republican convention in Philadelphia was a moment of triumph for him -- a shining IMAGE of a more moderate, inclusive GOP which was actually a masterful manipulation of the party's REALITY.

"Reed carries out the millennium strategy of his idol and mentor, the late Lee Atwater -- orchestrator of the 'Willie Horton' tactic for George Bush's 1988 presidential campaign (Atwater changed William R. Horton's name to Willie. A William won't rape your daughter. A 'Willie' will.) Atwater taught that if the Republican Party could strategically attract 15-20% of the African American vote, Republicans would be in power for a millennium.

"The image of African Americans and Latinos spouting morality-laced Republican rhetoric and waving flags beside Republicans was a calculated ploy to woo 'non-traditional' voters to the GOP, or at least diminish their enthusiasm for Democrats. Republicans used African American social conservatives as a cover for their economic conservatism which would

encourage people of color to vote against their economic interests, or not vote at all.

"The reality is African Americans remained loyal to the party of Abraham Lincoln, The Great Emancipator, until Roosevelt offered a new economic deal", Jackson said. "That's the point where the masses of African Americans became Democrats. Now the Republicans want to talk about social issues as if they exist in a vacuum, completely unrelated to true racial reconciliation and its economic and political implications.

"Yes, the Republican reality has a history that includes Mr. Lincoln. However, the Grand 'Old' Party also has a more pronounced history of economic conservatives using race to suppress African American voter turnout with at-large elections, gerrymandering, poll taxes and annexation. The GOP also became a haven for segregationists of the 1940s and 1950s who became disenchanted with the Democratic Party.

"Democratic economic conservatism has made Democrats vulnerable to this strategy, and vulnerable to economic populism. Democrats have yet to address the economic underbelly of racism, and have joined Republicans in 'balancing the budget' rather than fight for the \$200 billion urban economic investment program promised during the 1992 campaign which helped mobi-

lize people of color to vote Democratic.


"Voters of color should enjoy the show the Republicans are putting on in Philadelphia, but they must remember the IMAGE of inclusion is far different from the GOP's REALITY. That reality was measured in a July 31st New York Times/CBS News poll showing that on issues ranging from affirmative action and gun safety to abortion and environmental concerns convention delegates are even more conservative than the majority of registered Republican voters. One in five delegates put their net worth at \$1 million or more, almost 90% of them are white, most are middle-aged men, they are more likely to be lawyers and business executives, most oppose campaign finance reform and most oppose prescription drug subsidies for seniors.

"The IMAGE of moral leaders who say they are pro-life, support prayer in schools and school vouchers must be distinguished by the light of REALITY that shows those same leaders not funding maintenance and construction of schools for children to study in, let alone pray in. Those same leaders are not making sure the children who do survive, and their parents, have access to a health care system of equal high quality -- 45 million Americans are without health insurance, and 45 million others have inadequate health insurance. I am also a man of faith, however, faith without works is dead", said Jackson.

At the convention's end, it's time for the lights to come on and the masks to come off. All that glitters is not gold.

<http://www.jessejacksonjr.org>

Dis train ain't goin' nowhere without you. Don't want to speak for you, only want to provide a vehicle for you to speak through. We need your help. If you like the way this paragraph is written, we need you...



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Troutt Grand Master

By LORENZO HERMAN

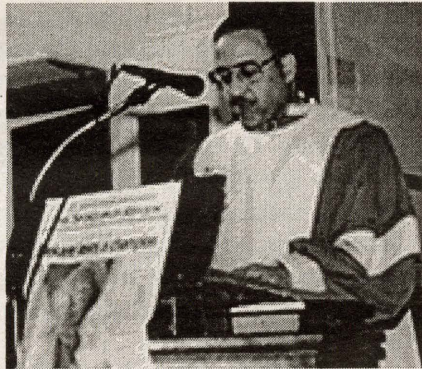
James Troutt, a retired United States Air Force first sergeant, has been elected to the highest position in Masonry. As the Grand Master, he is the Chief Executive Officer of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Washington and Jurisdiction. Troutt's new responsibilities will be exercising general supervision over 2,200 Masons in the state of Washington, as well as parts of Canada, England, Germany, Guam, Iceland, Mainland Japan, Okinawa Japan, Republic of Korea, Republic of the Philippines, and Turkey.

He intends to increase membership and raise more money for the Grand Lodge. Troutt also wants to establish a museum that will house archives and memorabilia from throughout the state, as well as construct a ramp needed at the Grand Lodge building in Seattle for the physically disabled.

When asked what he plans to do with his new position he replied, "Improve the relationship between free masonry and the black church and celebrate that relationship. The successes African Americans have celebrated over the past one hundred years thirty five years since slavery, are mainly attributable to the Masons and the Black Church. Together, they have been the backbone of the black struggle. If people look at the leadership in the churches, they will see that they are Masons serving as ministers, deacons, trustees, ushers and choir members." Troutt mentioned that some of the most renowned black leaders were Masons, for example, Booker T. Washington, Alex Haley, Medgar Evers, Thurgood Marshall and Spokane's first black mayor, the late James E. Chase who was a Past Grand Master in this jurisdiction.

The Prince Hall Masons have been instrumental in giving hundreds of scholarships, helping poor families in communities, giving monetary and physical support to struggling businesses that focus on supporting their community.

Troutt is a community builder throughout the state of Washington. He is served as president of the Spokane Chapter, Blacks in Government; member of the Fairchild African-American Club; president of the African-American Forum; member of the Chamber of Commerce Workforce Diversity Committee; graduate of Leadership Spokane; and



James Troutt,

member of the NAACP. He is an active member of Calvary Baptist Church and has served as president of the choir, member of the board of trustees and assistant treasurer. He continues to be an avid racquetball champion.

Grand Master Troutt is a veteran of 27 years with the United States Air Force, retiring as a senior master sergeant in 1987. He served as First Sergeant for Fairchild's 92nd Civil Engineering Squadron and received numerous awards and decorations. Grand Master Troutt has been married to the former Peggie J. Lashley of Washington DC for twenty-nine years. Mrs. Troutt is the executive secretary to the commander of the 141st Air Refueling Wing. Her title in the Masonic family is 'First Lady'. Peggie is very active in the Fairchild and Spokane communities and complements her husband beautifully. They have three children: Devron, Jay, and Angel. The Troutts have been blessed with six grandchildren: Devron, Jr., Jazmine, James, Thomaso, Casanae, and Isaiah.

Inland Empire Lodge No. 3 is sponsoring a banquet to honor Grand Master Troutt for being elected to this prestigious seat. At this banquet he will recognize the four oldest Black Churches in the state of Washington (Spokane's Calvary Baptist Church and Bethel AME Church, Seattle's Mt. Zion Baptist Church and Tacoma's Bethlehem Baptist Church). The banquet will be held at Club Fairchild, October 7, 2000, at 6 p.m. Points of contact for ticket purchase are Mr. Chester Carothers (299-3511) or Technical Sergeant Anthony Crisp (244-4879).

Rev. Kinlow appointed to state nursing commission

Washington state governor Gary Locke recently appointed Reverend Ezra D. Kinlow, pastor of Holy Temple Church of God in Christ in Spokane, to a four year term as a member of the Washington Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission.

"I appreciate your willingness to serve the people of Washington State in this capacity", the governor said in his letter of appointment.

The mission of the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission is "to assure safe and quality nursing care for the people of Washington State", according to their website at

www.doh.wa.gov/nursing. Among the objectives listed are that the commission will conduct a system that efficiently and effectively manages the process from receipt of a complaint through the appropriate final resolution and that networks will be established and maintained with key consumer and stakeholder groups - "Commission staff will be available, when feasible, to meet with interested groups to provide information about the Commission's role and program".

As one of only two public members on the commission, Rev. Kinlow will be representing you.

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for Mayor

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WALK FOR LIFE
2000

What's WORTH walking for...

Sunday, October 1, 2000
Registration from 11-11:45 AM
Kickoff at Noon

For registration contact:
Spokane AIDS Network
905 South Monroe
Spokane, WA 99204
phone 509.455.8993 fax 509.455.9743

Continued from page 4

Puttin' it on the beat

cially however.

"Will Jim Boyd's rock band be part of a traditional occasion like the Pow Wow starting today at Riverfront Park?" the Voice asked Peter Campbell.

"Oh, no," he replied. "That's why the concert was held the day before. It gives young people permission to take that approach, but it separates it from the traditional." The language and sacred songs are never to be desecrated. "My nephews pay blues and worry about playing it for the elders. I remind them that my generation and the one before loved jazz - don't worry." This brought to mind the story of Junior and his father who loved

Jimi Hendrix's Purple Haze dramatized by Alexie and Boyd the night before. On the other hand, Native American musicians who use Native American music simply to reach the lucrative white market go too far, said Campbell.

Ferai recalled "When I was 12 or 14 I had a school boys band, but to play in front of elders and parents - no! When parents came to school concerts we were very careful what we performed."

That night at The Shop on South Perry at a concert sponsored by the Spokane Folklore Society, Ferai Gezi told the audience about how the Zimbabwean people are denied access to farming land and how they are no longer patiently waiting for a system of

redistribution that never comes. But he wanted them to know that it is not an anti-white movement but a take back the land movement. Many American musicians have visited him recently and even gone out into the countryside and it is not the violent situation the media is portraying. Of course, if a few big farm owners use guns to meet the 500 poor farmers reclaiming their land, there will be violence and some people will die, Ferai said. Because the people were ignored, now the land will be redistributed the hard way.

Read the words of Jim Boyd's song "First Come, Last Served" on page 4 and hear the disenfranchised people of the world putting the message out on the beat.

Driving While Black in America (or Spokane)

Driving While Black in America is a new program on AT&T Cable Community Production Channel 14 airing in September with a two minute introductory program designed to encourage citizens of color in the Spokane / Coeur d'Alene area to contact the producer.

The show is about discrimination and racial profiling by local police and sheriffs' organizations.

The introductory program asks you in the community to tell your stories on air about traffic stops that have happened to you and how the police agencies handled the stop.

"Were you harassed or do you feel that you were stopped because of your race?" asks the program's producer Emerson Cole. "This is your chance to sound off about these incidents in our area."

Those wishing to be a part of the program or who would like to submit their comments for or about the program should write:

*Driving While Black in America
Box 14912
Spokane, WA 99214*

Black Men Making A Difference BMMAD

Mission Statement

As brothers we encounter many challenges from outside of our community as well as within. When faced with conflict and struggle, there is tremendous pressure to fold, simply give in or allow ourselves to be conquered. As brothers, we don't allow ourselves to be defeated without making the effort to win. As Men, we address and challenge the responsibilities and issues that confront us as well as our communities, while boys watch and learn from what we do. The stress, impatience, and conflicts that we confront only exist to empower and prepare us for the next swarm of problems that we must face.

Black Men making a Difference (BMMAD) serves to provide brothers with an open and honest forum by which we can communicate our concerns and differences.

- We celebrate this brotherhood because with it, we can make changes in our lives by helping each other feel better

about ourselves.

- We celebrate this brotherhood with respect for individual opinions because a closed mind sees, hears and thinks with vast limitations.

- We celebrate this brotherhood with respect for individual opinions because a closed mind sees, hears and thinks with vast limitations.

- We celebrate this brotherhood in the spirit of unity, building foundations for our younger brothers and sisters to stand tall upon. We are responsible for challenging a history that has worked to divide us for centuries.

- We celebrate this brotherhood with encouragement for knowledge - so that, brothers are appreciated and not humiliated when we think before we speak.

- We celebrate this brotherhood knowing that every day we are in the process of achieving manhood - by placing PEACE ahead of violence, by RESPECTING individual opinions, by living first in the spirit of UNITY and by encouraging

KNOWLEDGE.

So BMMAD Brothers!

- Be mad that sisters (who our mothers used to be in many ways and still are in others) don't feel respected, appreciated or acknowledged by us.

- Be mad when brothers use physical force to deal with insignificant issues.

- Be mad when one of us is denied an opportunity, harassed by authorities or disrespected because of our skin color.

- Be mad that private prisons are "big businesses" in the year 2000, at the expense of people of color and the poor.

- Be mad when ignorance prevails - labeling our actions as "white" simply because we are educating ourselves and achieving our goals.

- Be mad when people that can contribute by voting and being involved in the community do nothing but talk.

- Be mad, because in the midst of all this apathy - you should BMMAD!

BLACK MEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Speak on it!

For more information call Jose Gutierrez 509-332-2722.



Pregnant? Breastfeeding? Child under age 5?

Call me to see if you are eligible for these services from WIC - the Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children:

- \$40 - \$50 of healthy food monthly
- Baby book for pregnant women
- Nutrition and breastfeeding tips
- Help finding health services

WIC serves working families on a tight budget, unemployed families, those on Healthy Options and Medicaid.

WIC Income guidelines per month (a pregnant women counts as 2)

Family of 2 earning up to \$1,735
Family of 3 earning up to \$2,182
Family of 4 earning up to \$2,629

Call us - It's easy to apply:
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Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies

Getting WIC will not affect your immigration status

WIC is an Equal Opportunity Program

African-American Voice

455-8274 rllloyd@cet.com

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

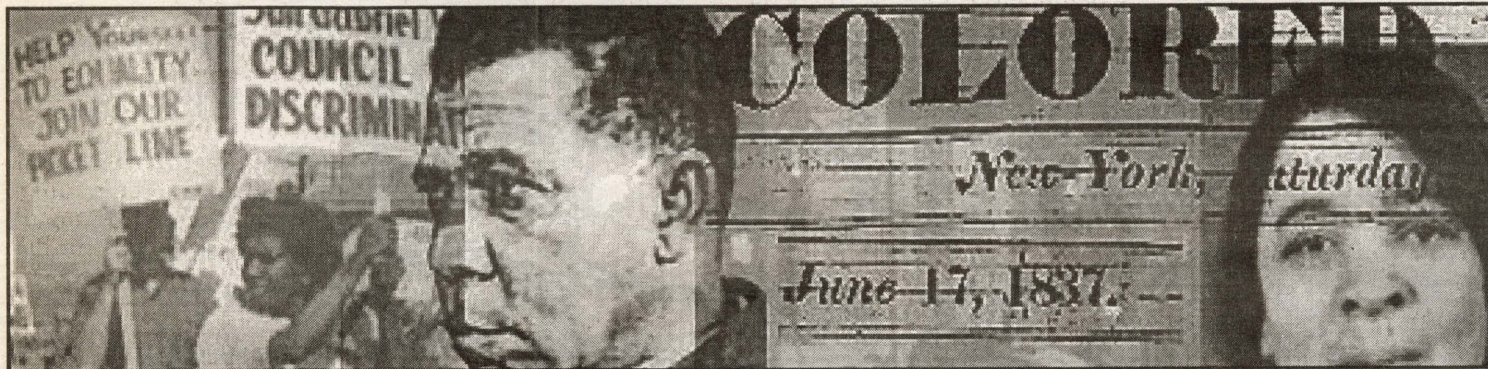
For an annual contribution of \$20 you will receive the paper in the mail. Send this form with your check to PMB 145, 2920 S Grand Blvd. Spokane WA 99203.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

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CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

Every month is Black History Month



Reviewing the historical significance of the Watts uprising

BY NELSON PEERY

August 11 marks the 35th anniversary of the Watts rebellion. Why did it happen? Armed, mass uprisings are a specific stage of struggle against an oppressing state power. In the struggle against violent oppression, the masses become conscious of themselves. Rejecting the compromised leadership of the reformist elite, they inevitably turn to defensive violence.

Watts was the culmination of this process within the African American freedom movement. The rejection of reformist leadership and the subsequent fighting in Harlem, Detroit, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Cleveland and numerous other places was not lost on the people of Watts.

By 1965, the distrust of the "power structure", be it black or white, was near total in the Ghetto. This was clearly shown at the beginning of the fighting in Watts. The African American newspaper The Sentinel called the uprising the most disgraceful day in African American history. The respected "militant" comedian Dick Gregory mounted a police car with a bull horn and crudely demanded that the people calm down and go home. A young man with a single-action .22 hesitated for a moment, then shot Gregory instead of the cop standing beside him. It is noteworthy that as the fighting began, not one so-called leader left the police side of the barricades to defend the interests of the people.

Throughout 1963, 1964 and into 1965, the crisis in the reformist leadership intensified as the tactics and leadership of the Freedom

Movement shifted back and forth between the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) led by Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. and the scattered local, semi-organized movements led by mainly young people who did not have access to city hall. The SCLC was mainly Southern, based in the churches and the black middle class. The local movements were throughout the country and based in the streets. (The excellent video "At the River I Stand" clearly shows this division during the struggle in Memphis that led to King's death.)

It was not possible for the SCLC to deal with the thousands of daily acts of humiliation, brutality, unemployment and poverty that were part of the system of American apartheid. As the masses resisting segregation were met by brute force from the police, they turned toward meeting violence with violence. Any impulse toward violent defense forced the SCLC to sharpen its call for nonviolence, which deepened the division. Nonviolence was the only form of black struggle acceptable to the white liberals. They were indispensable to the reform struggle; hence the inability of the reform leaders to compromise.

An example of this was the situation in Birmingham, Alabama where black strikers were attacked by dogs, Bull Connor's police force and mobs of white, civilian fascists. When the workers organized to defend themselves, Reverend King was brought in to calm the situation. "Remember always that the nonviolent movement seeks justice and reconciliation, not victory," he told them. "Let

our blood flow, not theirs."

On August 15, 1965 after observing the situation in Watts, Dr. King said, "It was necessary that as powerful a police force as possible be brought in to check them." Police informants advised against him entering Watts for fear he might be killed.

These quotes are not intended to denigrate Dr. King, who gave his life in the struggle. Our intent is to show the deepening class divisions that brought about the uprising...

Subjectively and objectively, Watts was part of a worldwide, violent struggle of the world's colored masses for freedom.

The colonial world was quick to understand that the uprising identified the African American movement with the international struggle against US imperialism. The Ghanaian Times; reflecting colonial opinion, stated: "The brutal suppression against Negroes by the US government should be brought before the bar of world opinion for a clear judgment. The fact that this happened in the West is important. It destroyed attempts by the US government to present the racial issue as a regional, exclusive Southern affair."

As the fighting ended, powerful right-wing forces moved to change America. The Reagan group organized the so-called "white backlash" to grasp power first in California and then in the nation. The incorporation of the "Dixiecrats" into the Republican Party and the capture of the Democratic Party by its Southern "liberal" wing, all have roots in the Watts uprising.

Watts was a mass upris-

ing against white economic exploitation and police brutality. It was a police riot against the people. It was not directed against white people in general, nor were whites in general opposed to it. This was shown by the people of Lynwood who collected food for the children of Watts.

The last word on the Watts rebellion has yet to be written. One thing is finally being accepted. That is that the uprising, far from being an insane orgy of burning and looting, was the heroic sacrifice that reshaped our concept of American democracy.

Nelson Peery is the award winning author of, "Black Fire: The Making of an American Revolutionary," a memoir of his years in the army during World War II. He is also co-author of a new book, "Moving Onward: From Racial Division to Class Unity." His political and theoretical work includes writings on race, class and the economy. Nelson Peery has over 60 years in the revolutionary movement. He is a founding member of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America.

<http://www.lrna.org/league/PT/PT.2000.08/PT.2000.08.3.html>
People's Tribune/Tribuno del Pueblo, August 2000
(Vol. 27, No. 8)

BRC-NEWS: Black Radical Congress <blackradicalcongress@email.com>
Subscribe: <<mailto:majordomo@tao.ca?body=subscribe%20brc-news>>
www.blackradicalcongress.org

BLACK FACT OF THE DAY Sunday, August 27, 2000

In 1963, W.E.B. Du Bois (95), scholar, protest leader and a founder of the NAACP, died in Accra, Ghana.

W.E.B. DuBois was born in Great Barrington, Massachusetts in 1868. His mother Mary raised him after his father left the family when he was very young. He was the first black person to graduate from his high school. After high school, he went on to study at Fisk University in Tennessee on full academic scholarship. After graduating with honors in 1888, he then went on to Harvard to pursue a second undergraduate degree. He received a second B.A. from Harvard in 1890, and went on to get his Master's there as well in 1891. He became the first Black to receive a Ph.D. from Harvard in 1895. DuBois then began teaching at Atlanta University in 1897, staying there until 1910. In 1905, DuBois helped found the Niagara Movement. This led to his work with the NAACP, where he served as editor for The Crisis from 1910-1934. He then became involved with the Pan-African movement, organizing the first four Pan-African Congresses. He continued to write, penning several important works. In 1961, DuBois joined the Communist Party. He expatriated to Ghana in 1964, where he died the same year.

Whitworth wins diversity grant

Professors Doug Sugano and Jim Waller of Whitworth College received approval for a \$75,000 grant from the Hewlett Foundation to help make Whitworth a more culturally rich and diverse institution. They'll examine curriculum, Student Life and various off-campus agencies to see how they can help students become better world citizens while making Whitworth a more supportive climate for students from all cultural backgrounds.

**Publisher's note:
See - diversity pays.**

Something You Can Do If You Will

Teen Advisory Council Positions Open

The Chase Youth Commission's Teen Advisory Council (TAC) gives teens and youth in our community the opportunity to voice their opinions while providing a forum for them to make a difference. The Commission hopes to fill almost 80 opening with representatives of every high school and civic organization in Spokane County.

The students on the Teen Advisory Council work together to implement projects for the Chase Youth Commission. This year they will work to create the 2001 Chase Youth Awards, the 'To Make a Difference' forum and the Battle of the Bands. Those who like to write will be busy on the new Public Relations Committee as they issue news releases and articles for local publications. Some will gather as a 'Task Force' to focus on short-term projects -- projects which include an October 10th Candidates' Forum on Youth Issues, along with our ongoing effort to include youth on various Boards and Commissions throughout the City and County.

"TAC gave me the opportunity to work with people my own age, to bring a unique perspective to the attention of City and County leaders, and to educate the community that youth are a resource, not a problem," states Nowell Bamberger,



Photo by Matt Herron, digital manipulation by Robert Lloyd
 Rally for Freedom Vote candidates, Hinds County Courthouse, Jackson, Mississippi, Fall 1963.

TAC Executive Officer. "I think TAC is perhaps what Mayor Chase had in mind when he supported youth involvement: an organization comprised almost entirely of young people who are responsible citizens, who care for their City and County, their community and their home."

For more information or a Teen Advisory Council application, contact the City/County Youth Department at 625-6440 or apply on-line at <http://www.youthlinkspokane.org>

Application Deadline: September 15, 2000

Bill Wassmuth to speak in Spokane

September 14 author and lecturer Bill Wassmuth will be giving a presentation called Expanding Circles: The Intrusion of Racists into the Mainstream. Bill has been involved in human rights issues beginning with his days as a Catholic priest in North Idaho, when his house was firebombed by extremists. He is also the former Director of the Northwest Coalition Against Malicious

Harassment.

This is a free presentation sponsored by the City of Spokane Diversity Committee. It will take place Thursday Sept 14, 2000 at City Hall, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd. in the Council Chambers from noon to 1:00 p.m. No registration is required.

For more information contact Gita Hatcher 625-6233 or ghatcher@spokanecity.org.

Volunteer board vacancies

The Spokane Mayor's Office is presently accepting applications for the following volunteer Boards and Commissions.

Construction Review Board 2 vacancies

Candidates should be a resident of the City of Spokane. The first position is an Industry Representative and should be a representative of the construction industry and qualified by training and experience with expertise in building codes. The second position is for a Registered Design professional and in addition to the above requirements must be an architect or engineer. Deadline for application is Friday, September 29 at 5 PM

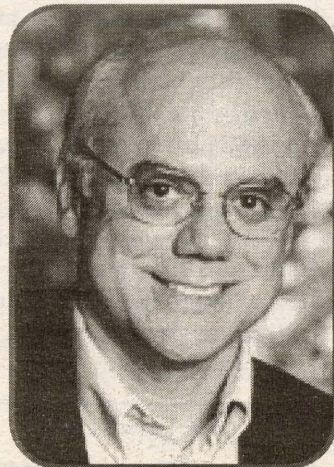
Spokane Housing Authority Board 1 vacancy

Applicants must be a resident of the City or County of Spokane, not a city employee and not directly benefiting from housing authority programs. Expertise in banking and/or finance would be helpful.

Deadline is Friday, September 22 at 5 PM.

Remember - they hide the secrets in the books. Read.

This year, there REALLY is a difference!



TOM KEEFE is a strong new voice we need in Congress who will speak up for programs that will:

- nurture our children and encourage strong extended family structures;
- provide family wage jobs with good benefits;
- protect our environment while preserving a healthy and growing economy;
- develop and support economic development for our entire congressional district.
- honor and respect our community's differences whether it be in age, race, gender or economic status;

- respect the privacy rights of individuals from the misuse of personal information by government or private entities.

TOM KEEFE will listen to you, and speak out against the special interests that threaten to destroy representative democracy. To find out what you can do to help put a fresh new voice for Eastern Washington in the next congress, visit Tom's website www.tomkeefe.org or call (509) 838-3374.

Paid for by the Tom Keefe for Congress, 425 W. First Ave., Spokane, WA 99201

Ten Ways to Fight Hate

From *Ten Ways to Fight Hate*, 2nd edition, by Jim Carrier, Southern Poverty Law Center, 2000.

#5 Create an Alternative

Do not attend a hate rally. Find another outlet for anger and frustration and people's desire to do something. Hold a unity rally or parade. Find a news hook, like a 'Hate-Free Zone'.

Hate has a First Amendment right. Courts have routinely upheld the constitutional right of the Ku Klux Klan and other hate groups to hold rallies and say what they want. In 1998, for example, the American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan held 39 weekend rallies in 14 states. Communities can restrict group movements to avoid conflicts with other citizens, but hate rallies will continue. Your efforts should focus on channeling people away from rallies.

Do not attend a hate rally

As much as you'd like to physically show your opposition to hate, shout back or throw something, confrontations only serve the haters. They also burden law enforcement with protecting hate mongers against otherwise law-abiding citizens.

• In Memphis, Tennessee, a riot broke out between a Klan rally and counter-demonstrators on Martin Luther King's birthday. More than 100 police threw tear gas canisters and arrested 20 anti-Klan demonstrators while protecting the Klan's right to rally and speak.

• A 25-minute march by the Aryan nations through 15 blocks of Coeur d'Alene,

Idaho, cost the state, county and city more than \$125,000 for public safety. Mayor Steve Judy described this as money spent to protect free speech. "But we could have taken the money and done a lot for human rights with it".

• Ann Arbor, Michigan, was stung by a 1996 rally in which 300 police failed to protect the Klan from a chanting crowd that threw rocks and sticks, hurting seven policemen and destroying property. The Klan's members were able to stand on the First Amendment, surrounded by what one of their leaders called "animal behavior". Two years later, Ann Arbor police were better prepared. A 115-person "peace team" was trained to stand between the Klan and its opponents. Anti-Klan forces tore down a fence and police again used tear gas, but commentators felt the yellow-shirted peace team kept trouble to a minimum. The team remained together for rapid response to hate events.

A world of ideas

Every act of hatred should be met with an act of love and unity. Many communities facing a Klan rally have held alternative events at the same hour, some distance away. They have included a community picnic, a parade or unity fair with food, music, exhibits and entertainment. These events emphasize strength in diversity and the positive aspects of the community. They also give people a safe outlet for the frustration and anger they want to vent. As a woman at a Spokane human rights rally and reggae dance put it, "Being passive is something I don't want to do. I need to

make some kind of commitment to human rights".

• After the dragging death of James Byrd Jr. in Jasper, Texas, the KKK rallied on the courthouse lawn while black Muslims paraded by. Local people, who had demonstrated their feelings at a courthouse vigil one week after the murder, stayed away. Yellow ribbons from that event still fluttered from locked storefronts as a mute response to the Klan's hate. Hundreds of journalists did record the black-versus-white demonstrations, but locals were not involved.

• Pulaski, Tennessee, the birthplace of the Ku Klux Klan in 1866, closed its doors to white supremacists attempting to rally in 1989. Racists found the town closed for business, including McDonald's, the grocery store and Wal-Mart. "They couldn't find a place to get a hamburger or even go to the bathroom", the mayor said. In subsequent years, the KKK rally became a joke, and even the media got bored with it. "Last year no one came", said the mayor, "The year before that, the only TV was the Comedy Channel".

• When the Klan came to Indianapolis, local museums, the state capitol and other attractions opened their doors to citizens for free. Community leaders held a youth rally in a ballroom. A huge coalition, including the mayor and the NFL's Indianapolis Colts, placed a full-page ad in the Indianapolis Star deploring the Klan.

• During a unity parade in a Pennsylvania village, a local clown troupe donned red noses, wigs and floral

sheets under the name Kook Klutz Klowns to spoof the fascists. In Pittsburgh, a coalition held a "parade of banners" in which families carried homemade banners with a message either denouncing hate or promoting diversity.

• When the Klan rallied in Madison, Wisconsin, a coalition of ministers organized citizens to spend the day working in minority homes and neighborhoods. Volunteer Judy Dettwiler said she wanted to "do something constructive and uplifting which would be in opposition to what the Klan stands for. So, I'm cleaning cupboards at the Hispanic community center this afternoon. I've never been there, but I'm looking forward to doing something for my community".

• When the Ku Klux Klan announced plans to clean up shoulders and ditches along a stretch of road under the Adopt-a-Highway program in Palatine, Illinois -- and officials realized they couldn't stop it -- local teenagers flooded City Hall with so many applications that they claimed every inch of highway earmarked for the program and pushed the Klan onto a waiting list. "Truth and love and kindness and caring won out over hate", Mayor Rita Mullins said. "It restored my faith in humanity".

• For many years in Cincinnati, the KKK has erected a cross and rallied in the downtown Fountain Square at Christmas. Embarrassed city officials failed to stop it in

court so decided to keep a low profile, fearing bad publicity. But when Klan attendance appeared to be growing, City Councilman Tyrone Yates organized a multicultural flash-light vigil on an evening when Klan members would not be around. Speakers included national civil rights heroes. "You couldn't let the evil of the Klan cross just stand there with no voice in opposition", said Yates. "Too few speak out because it is uneasy, it is uncomfortable, it is inconvenient and it may ruin our shopping season", he told a local reporter. "But in the long run we help our cause and we help our downtown".

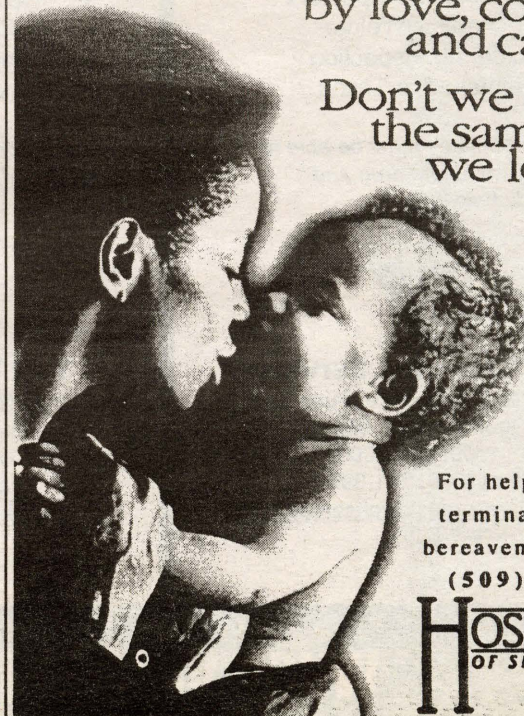
Men's issues class offered

Dr. Don Barlow is offering a class covering options for dealing with issues concerning men in today's society, such as change, job stress, fatherhood, divorce, grief and loss, and relationships. Barlow is a mental health counselor and a single father for 13 years.

The classes are offered through the Community Colleges of Spokane's Institute for Extended Learning for four Thursday evenings: October 19 and 26, and November 2 and 9 from 6:30 - 8:30 PM. The cost is \$37. For more information and registration, call Dr. Barlow at 533-3041.

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Greetings from the M L K, Jr. Family Outreach Center director

I began my present position on June 21, 2000. I have had the opportunity to meet with the fine staff and observe the various program services they provide to the community of Spokane. It has been a busy time these past few days, but in many ways exciting and rewarding.

On a more personal note, my wife and I were both born and raised in Eastern Montana, and both graduated from high school there. We

have four grown children, two boys and two girls. I am a graduate of the University of Nebraska Medical Center. I am a Vietnam era veteran, a graduate of Leadership Spokane - 1995. During 1990, I was appointed by Mrs. Coretta Scott King as Chair of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Federal Holiday Commission's Native American Involvement Committee...

I look forward to working

with the MLKC Board of Directors, the Business, Civic and Community leaders of Spokane, to expand the Martin Luther King, Jr., Family Outreach Center and to continue the long-standing efforts of providing multicultural and multiethnic program services to the Spokane Community.

Reprinted from the August 2000 issue of the Martin Luther King Jr. Family Outreach Center newsletter.



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We are actively recruiting for a number of full-time faculty, administrative and classified positions. We also maintain employment pools for various part-time positions.

Employment opportunities are posted on our web site at <http://ccs.spokane.cc.wa.us> and also are listed on the following employment job lines:

For Classified Jobs: (509) 533-2013

For Faculty and Administrative Jobs: (509) 533-2263

TTY Job Line: (509) 533-7483

JOBS

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- we need your feedback.

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WHITWORTH COLLEGE Spokane WA

Assistant Director, Planned Giving

Provides support for the Whitworth Foundation's planned giving program including trust/bequest administration. Requires a bachelor's degree and 3-5 years of related experience (finance, accounting, estate planning and trust administration). Application review began 8/21/00.

Manager, Student Accounting Services

Reporting to the Controller, manage the delivery of Student Accounts Receivable Services. Requires a bachelor's degree and appropriate working knowledge of accounting principles. Application review begins 9/15/00.

Aerobics Instructor, Adjunct Faculty

Teach an aerobics class during the Fall, Jan Term, and Spring semesters. Requires aerobics instructor certification.

Cheerleading Advisor, Adjunct Instructor

Coordinate 2-3 practices per week during football and basketball season; organize and schedule try-out sessions; attend home games; oversee the cheerleading budget; inventory and purchase equipment/uniforms as needed.

All positions remain open and applications reviewed until the positions are filled. For full position descriptions and application process, please visit our website at www.whitworth.edu or call (509) 777-4413.



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 :

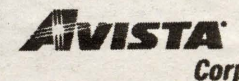
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Diversity Recruitment Committee

It's about people helping people

NETWORKING and LIVE RESUMES

What to Expect:

- A chance to network with a variety of employers in the Spokane area
- An opportunity to hear what jobs are available from employers
- A chance to sell yourself and your skills

Suggestions for conducting a live resume:

- Introduce yourself
- Give a brief description of what you are looking for (i.e., a clerical job, an engineering job, an accounting position, etc.)
- Your career goals (long term or short term)
- Bring copies of your resume

Guidelines

- Keep it brief
- Don't talk about personal information, keep it job related
- Remember, this is an excellent opportunity to get connected with multiple employers at once.

WE ARE EXCITED TO MEET YOU!

- If you are not comfortable talking in front of a group of people, you're not alone. After introductions, the bulk of the time will be spent NETWORKING with companies in one-on-one conversations.

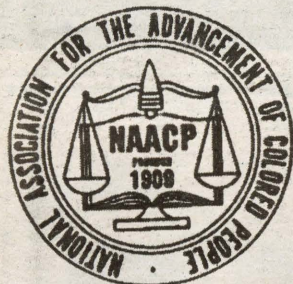
Remember If someone doesn't have a job available now, they might in the future. Please be sure to let any DRC member know if you get a job through these meetings. And feel free to come back to future meetings:

3rd Wednesday of each month

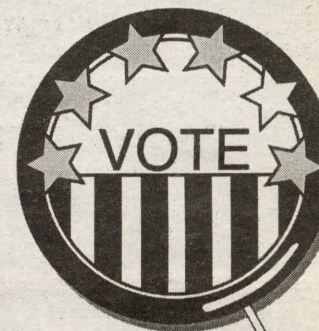
1 PM

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Suite 300
For more information call
Jeff Toney 891-2354
or Tony Beals 459-4106



NAACP



The National Association for the Advancement of
Colored People, Spokane Chapter #1137

Invites you to their 1st Annual Candidate Forums

September 8, 2000 7:00 P.M.

Pre-Primary Congressional And Mayoral Candidate Forums

Moderated by Marianne Mashima

Questions by a Minority Community Panel

October 20, 2000 7:00 P.M.

General Election Candidates Forum

East Central Community Center

500 S. Stone Street, Spokane, Washington

Your vote is your voice in determining who will shape our social policies, laws, and budgets on a state and national level... and who will lead Spokane into the future. We believe voters need more information than billboards, yard signs and 30 second sound bites. Come judge for yourself.. these leaders that ask you for their jobs! The NAACP is non-partisan and does not endorse candidates for public office.

For more information on the forums, please call 323-6368.