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Voice of the African American Community

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Pitre Hired as 2-Plus-2 Coordinator at Olympic College

Paul Pitre of Seattle has been hired as the 2-plus-2 coordinator in an arrangement between Western Washington University, the University of Washington and Olympic College.

State lawmakers funded the new 2-plus-2 position last spring when they set aside funding for a program intended to offer a selection of upper division classes available at Olympic College.

Pitre has most recently worked as a manager of community relations and associate director of partners in public education for the Seattle Chamber of Commerce.

He has a strong interest in education policies and how they affect business.

Pitre received a bachelor of arts degree in communications from Western Washington University in 1986 and a masters degree in higher education administration from New York University in 1992.

John Winesdorfer underscored the sentiments of the many people who supported and now welcome the reality of 2-plus-2 when he said, "We are pleased Paul Pitre accepted this assignment. Olympic College and local people have waited a long time for this opportunity."

I know Mr. Pitre will become acquainted with local

needs and do his very best to initiate the 2-plus-2 program as quickly as possible."

The 2-plus-2 office will be

located in the College Service Center at Olympic College.

For more information, call 478-4839.

Stop the Violence Rally Scheduled for Olympia

"Only a refusal to hate or kill can put an end to the chain of violence in the world and lead us toward a community where we can live together without fear."

Our goal is to create a beloved community and this will require a qualitative change in our souls as well as a quantitative change in our lives," wrote Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. of the challenges in rejecting violence.

On Monday, January 17, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, the Commission on African American Affairs along with other community members and organizations from across the state of Washington will rally at noon at the Capitol Building in Olympia.

They will declare and affirm their commitment to end violence, and build support among legislators for a comprehensive approach to addressing violence in communities.

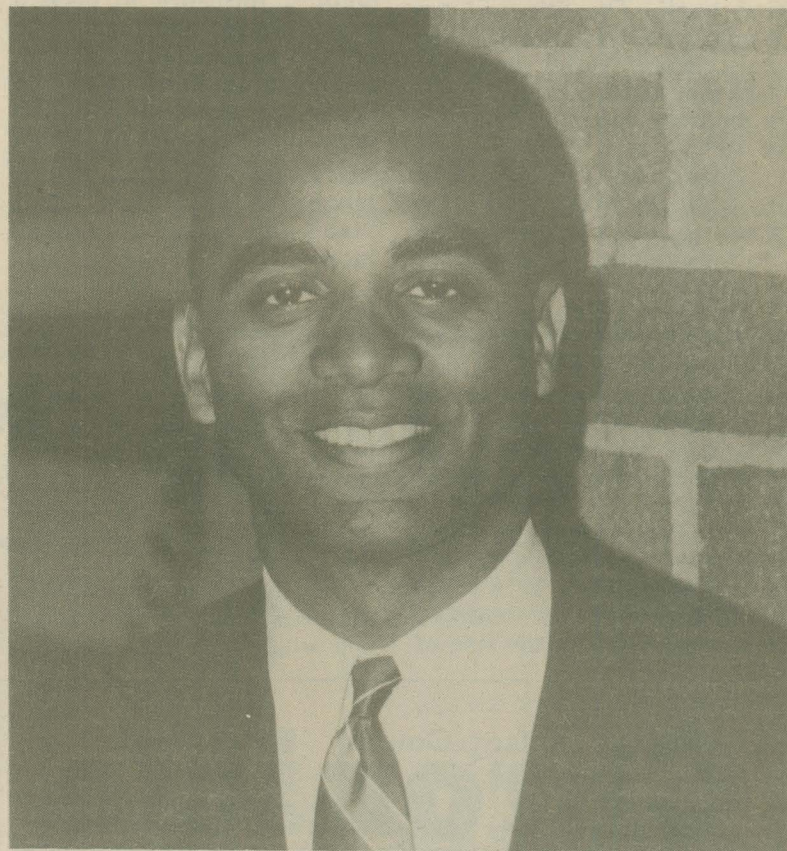
Some of the legislative proposals the co-sponsors of the rally hope will be examined include controlling access to guns by minors, reducing violent images in the media, improving the responsiveness of social services, emphasizing prevention and early intervention activities, and creating jobs.

Featured speakers for the rally include Nate Head, director of the Civil Rights Division of the UAW; Alberta Canada, executive director, Martin Luther King Housing Development Association; youth and other community members.

The rally will be preceded by a legislative briefing at 10 a.m.; after the rally, participants will be encouraged to visit their legislators.

Youth, parents, and other community members are encouraged to participate in the rally and visit their legislators.

For more information, call 324-0340.



PAUL PITRE

MLK Annual Luncheon Set for this Weekend

The Kitsap County Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund will hold their annual Scholarship Award luncheon on Sunday, January 16 at the Kitsap Golf & Country Club.

The social hour will begin at 2 p.m. followed by lunch at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person and available by calling 692-3411 or 479-1292.

"Dr. King's dream was to eradicate violence and ignorance through education

and we, the members of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Fund, are proud to be taking part in keeping the dream alive," said Nora Powell, president.

"Every year we help a youth continue their education by awarding him or her with a four-year scholarship to the institution of their choice. We feel we have and will continue to make a difference," he added.

Actor Al Freeman to Speak MLK Commemorative Banquet

Actor Al Freeman, Jr. will be the guest speaker at the 11th annual Blacks in Government, Region X, Martin Luther King, Jr. commemorative banquet entitled "Defining the Dream in a Changing Environment" on Saturday, January 15, at the Seattle Westin Hotel.

Admission cost is \$35 per person (advance reservations required). No host cocktails begin at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. followed by entertainment at 9:30 p.m.

Al Freeman, Jr., born in San Antonio, Texas, has amassed an impressive list of stage, screen and television credits. Currently he is chairman and artistic director of Howard University's Department of Theatre Arts.

He was nominated for an

Emmy for his portrayal of Malcolm X in "Roots II." The same year, he was awarded the Emmy for his work as Ed Hall in the day time soap "One Life to Live."

He has also directed a number of plays off-Broadway and in regional theatres.

Most recently, he appeared in the film "Malcolm X" in which he played Elijah Muhammad. Freeman says it is always a challenge portraying historic figures such as Elijah Muhammad.

"I hope the audience will get a sense of who he was and the powerful influence he had on many people most especially, Malcolm."

For ticket information, call 1-800-286-0756 or (206) 923-0756.



At The River I Stand

Marking 25 years since the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "At The River I Stand" examines the little-known social, economic, political, and cultural aspects of the Memphis sanitation workers' strike that brought King to the city which was a pivotal point in the civil rights movement. The 1-hour program will be televised on Monday, January 17 at 10 p.m. on KCTS-9. See page 6.

—Photo: UPI/Bettmann Newsphotos.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day — January 17