

LETTERS & EDITORIALS & OPINIONS & LETTERS & EDITORIALS & OPINIONS & LETTERS & EDITORIALS

PAINES
LANE
by Adriel Paine

I care about our youth and I'm trying to get our youth and their talent busy in Seattle. Seattle has a lot of excellent talent that's not being used. We, as African Americans need to support anything that helps our youth. B.O.S.S. Productions cares because we have helped some youth to get on stage and T.V. The citywide Teen Talent Show is coming to town, and it will be held at Seattle Center House. These youths need every African American in Seattle there to support them and show them we care that they're not selling drugs, doing drive bys, or getting high. These young people worked hard to get to these finals. Black Culture is part of B.O.S.S. Productions which consists of LeLe, LaLa and BoBo, my nieces are the best female rappers in the Seattle area. These young ladies rap their hearts out for real.

If you know me, Adriel Paine, people know me also as Bernard. You will come and support me, my son, Adriel, Jr., Clarence Benton and David Steward and Black Culture and show me you care about our youths. The Dept. of Housing and Human Services, Seattle Center, The Bon Marche, Seattle Dept. of Parks and Recreation and Langston Hughes care about our youths so if these people care and support us, as African Americans should care and support us too, so please come.

It's a small step on getting our youths on the right track but it is a step. Let's keep stepping for our youth until they see the light about respect, togetherness, caring and non-gang activities. If they want to be in a gang be a gang doing a gang of good for the African American community.

I also like to say Alfie Joe, I love you and I will miss you greatly. Hope you're in heaven. So stay in the right lane with Paine and support our African American youths at the citywide Teen Talent Show. Thank you.

Democratic National
Committee Honors Louie
Martin, 'Godfather of
Black Politics'

Democratic National Committee Honors Louie Martin 'Godfather of Black Politics' Washington-Louis Martin, considered by many as the "Godfather" of black politics, was presented the First Annual Lawrence O'Brien Achievement Award at a reception in the Mansfield Room of the U.S. Capitol on Tuesday, September 29, 1992.

Martin was one of nine recipients of the award established by the Democratic National Committee (DNC) and the O'Brien family in memory of the late Lawrence (Larry) O'Brien, who served in President John Kennedy's Administration and as Chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

National Democratic Party Chairman Ronald H. Brown hosted the awards reception and said the award was created to honor persons or institutions that have made "a particularly notable contribution to the health and vitality of the Democratic Party." Winners received an official award citation in addition to a check in the amount of \$4,000.

Martin was cited for his years of work with Democratic Party as Deputy Chairman and serving as a senior advisor to three Democratic Presidents, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, and Jimmy Carter.

In presenting the award to Martin, Chairman Brown noted, "More than any other person, Louie Martin has paved the way for the significant involvement of Black Americans at all levels of the Democratic Party. He is an extraordinary human being who has done so much to make the Democratic Party a true party of all the people."

Joining in saluting Martin and the other recipients was Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell. Among special friends of Martin attending the reception were Senator Harris Wofford (D-PA) and Eddie Williams, President of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

Martin was accompanied by his wife, Gertrude, and his daughter. He suffered a stroke two years ago and now lives in Diamond Bar, California, outside of Los Angeles.

The 6th Annual Black
Women's Gathering

"Choices 1992: Women of Determination" will be the theme for the 6th Annual Black Women's Gathering scheduled for Saturday, October 24, 1992, at First A.M.E. Church located at 1522 14th Avenue from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Constance Williams Rice, Ph.D. will deliver the keynote address for an anticipated gathering of over 500 African American women. Workshop topics include "Women in the Trades," "Parenting African American Children," "Politics in the 90's" and "Career Development." This year's Gathering will also feature a teen summit to address the concerns of African American teenage girls. The annual "Sisters Market" will also be a part of this year's events. If you are an African American entrepreneur interested in having a booth, call 725-6223. There is no charge to attend this event. Lunch will be available for \$5 with advance registration. Send checks payable to The Black Women's Gathering, 1347 15th Avenue So., #5, Seattle, WA 98144. In addition, child care will be available for a limited number of children, from toilet trained to 12 years of age - call 324-5785 to reserve a space for your child. For further information regarding this year's events call 726-8239 or 725-6223.

Central Area Neighbors
Against Drugs

A group of Central Area neighbors who are fed-up with the drug trafficking in their neighborhood have united to take back their street from drug dealers, buyers and prostitution. The residents have had regular marches on Thursday, Friday and Saturdays, gathering at 25th and Cherry St. and marching to Yesler St. and then holding their vigil on Cherry St., often times past midnight. As a result of the groups efforts and support provided by the officers of the East Precinct, a visible difference can be seen at the corners of 26th and Cherry St. Armed with anti-drug signs, white tee shirts and white hard hats, these residents have vowed to continue their vigil until the drug trafficking ceases. Tired of feeling powerless and being victimized by this criminal activity residents have decided that no one should have to tolerate this in their neighborhood any longer.

If you too, are fed up with the trashing of your neighborhood, drug trafficking and all other criminal activity this perpetuates, plan on joining this group and take a stand against crime and make a difference. Call 684-4370 for marching times and additional information.

THE LETTERS AND EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS WRITTEN IN THE FACTS NEWSPAPER DO NOT REFLECT THE OPINIONS OR THE VIEWS OF THE FACTS NEWSPAPER OR THEIR STAFF. THESE OPINIONS ARE THEIR OWN (THE WRITERS)

WISDOM DIVINE
Dealing With Reality
by Omari Tahir

Respect For Black Male Authority

Respect for Black male authority is at an all time low in America. In so-called Black churches across America an image of a White male Jesus is worshipped as "the Lord and Savior" of the Black family? It doesn't take a Harvard trained psychiatrist to figure out the devastating effect on the Black child's mind, self esteem and self respect the perpetuation of this horrible big white lie continues to have on the African community here in America. Every "Black Preacher" should be confronted and ask over and over and over, why do they teach submission to and worship of a White male image of Jesus Christ the "only begotten son of God?"

No group of people in the world has been able to free themselves and progress while worshipping their historical enslaver, oppressor, exploiter and corrupter as their "Lord and Savior". The cowardly and silly argument given by many Black Reverends/Pastors that Jesus skin color is irrelevant is refuted by these same NERPS (Negro Establishment Responsible Preacher Politicians) adamant refusal to teach or preach the Biblical description of Jesus. Before the rise of the African slave trade even Europe worshipped a Black skinned Madonna and Christ child. It is understandable why Europeans would want to change and whitewash the image of Jesus to cover their wicked slave trade, brutal beatings and murder of Africa's kidnapped children.

Today the world under the leadership of Euro-America intentionally projects a "color purple image" of the Black male with the cooperation of many black male hating Negro women. The end result has been and is no respect for Black male authority in or outside of the Black family in America. Black women teach their Black sons that "your daddy ain't no good and your following in his footsteps (no good either), black women need to be careful what they teach their sons and daughters about Black males. More importantly Black women need to stop having babies for "No good Black males". Wouldn't it be wonderful if Black women could have babies for the White male Jesus? The babies would even have "good hair"?

Should Black women respect Black males. Not Black men? Yes! There is a big difference between a Black male and a Black man. Black males don't respect themselves, Black women or Black children. Black men do! Praise the Lord as long as he is not a Black man?

Traveling With Pizazz

ALABAMA - The State of Surprises! From the scorching strains of a jazz trumpet to the cool splash of an Appalachian waterfall; from French fortresses to the pulpit where Martin Luther King first shared his vision of brotherhood with the world; from the sweet perfume of magnolia and jasmine to the brilliant burst of color from December camellias - go on, and a part of you will call Alabama home forever.

In Selma visit Brown Chapel AME Church, at 410 Martin Luther King Street. Open by appointment every Monday-Friday. Free admission. 874-7897. Founded in 1867 as the First AME Church in the state, it served as a headquarters for Blacks during the Civil Rights Movement. It was the starting point for marchers from Selma to Montgomery. There is a Martin Luther King room and a bust of Dr. King is front of the church.

In Montgomery visit the Civil Rights Memorial at the Southern Poverty Law Center, 400 Washington Ave. 264-0286. Admission is free. May Lin the architect of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., designed this stunning tribute to the 40 Americans who died during the Civil Rights Movement from 1954 to 1968. Beginning with Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat to a white man on a segregated bus, this national memorial documents the momentous events of the Civil Rights struggle. Located outside the Southern Poverty Law Center, the Civil Rights Memorial is accessible 24 hours a day.

Visit Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church, 454 Dexter Avenue, 263-3970, in Montgomery. Open Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. - noon and 1-4 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. It is closed on Sunday and when the church facilities are in use. Holidays and weekends call at least 2 weeks in advance.

Visit Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site - the Carver Museum at 1212 Old Montgomery Road, Tuskegee Institute, 727-3200. Open daily 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; closed major holidays. Admission free. Established by the Tuskegee Institute in 1938, the museum exhibits needlework, ink, dyes and artworks that George Washington Carver created from agricultural experiments with the peanut and sweet potato. The museum also features a photo exhibit of early Tuskegee Institute.

However you choose to travel, our staff at PIZAZZ TRAVEL will make all reservations for you, including hotel, airline or car rental or Amtrak.

PIAZAZZ TRAVEL, 300 14th Ave. South in Seattle; office hours Monday - Friday 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; available parking; major credit cards accepted; telephone (206) 322-1987; toll free 1-800-55CLASS; FAX (206) 322-1901. Give us a call, or drop in; you'll be glad you did.

Making It A Day
At A Time

by Joseph O. McGowan, SJ

Some of us never learn that sweet talk, shouting, growling, and intimidation may freeze people for a little while. But only the sick ones will hang in there and take the mess we hand out. Our kids will leave us. Our spouses will give us back as good as we dish out. Our friends will ignore us. Our co-workers will sabotage us. Our bosses will fire us sooner or later, we will have to learn how to communicate rather than manipulate: c: speak clearly and to the point; o: own our feelings, thinking, and behavior; m: realize an effective relationship is a mutual relationship; n: realize we can't make people do what we want; u: but we can grow in understanding of each other; n: by naming our own needs-hurts, hopes, and helplessness; i: and be illumined by others sharing their needs and dreams; c: which will help us to attend to each other with care; a: be aware of each other's concerns; t: treat each other sensitively and positively; e: four our living and working relationships safe and enduring; and keep making it a day at a time.

RAQIB SPEAKS
OUT
by Raqib

What needs to happen before we turn from the violence and self hatred among us that is reflected in our youth? What will it take to develop some "Mothers Against Unruly Children, or Dads Against Drugs and Violence"? I don't mean a bunch of men and women out marching through the neighborhood, (not to say there is anything wrong with this) but I mean parents taking time to raise their children and setting some limits on what they will permit or tolerate in and around their house. We parents must stop the apathy and hypocrisy in raising our children.

Parents and other mature, responsible citizens, have got to step forward and condemn use of intoxicants. Throughout our relationship with children we literally teach them to GET HIGH, usually with alcohol. We teach by example. Every party and special occasion is enveloped in getting high. We have commercials and advertisement associating sophistication, charm and manliness with getting high. Then our children grow up and they too GET HIGH, but some of them choose different substance than we used, but the bottom line is GETTING HIGH and doing their own thing. Now our chickens have come home to roost. Now the seeds of decadence and wrecklessness that we planted during their childhood are blooming in our youth as a fully flourished menace. Most of the violence in our community involves alcohol and or drug use. Sometimes violence erupts out of the erratic, irrational reaction of someone under the influence of a mind altering substance. Sometimes violence breaks out during the exchange, theft, or sale of these substances.

Why do we consume these substances? Could it be that we can't stand to be with ourselves when we are sober? Is there a secret desire to destroy ourselves? Do we hate that image in the mirror so bad that we have to have our mind fogged to face it? Then when you are out of our mind with some mind altering substance and your inhibitions are down, you strike out at that hated image, usually mirrored in another person whom you seek a confrontation with so you can have a chance to destroy or at least hurt them. Yes that is it and only we can change it.

This Way For Black Empowerment
Street Talk

As Election Day 1992 approaches, I am spending much of my time in the streets of Black New York. I am out there to deliver an urgent message to the African American electorate: Don't waste your vote on Bill Clinton. This is a man who did business with apartheid South Africa, who raced home to Arkansas to oversee the execution of a Black man, and who played golf at a "whites only" club.

Even so, sometimes people come up to say: "I don't like Clinton. But isn't he a little bit better than Bush?"

In my opinion, the answer is no. Whatever little bit of difference there may be between them doesn't make a difference. In the days of slavery, there may have been a slaveowner who was slightly more humane in his treatment of his slaves than the slaveowner on the next plantation. But slavery was - and is - slavery; it doesn't make sense to distinguish which slaveowner is "better." The point is to get rid of slavery!

The African-American community is making a big move this year. Many are not going with Clinton, because folks are aware that voting for him just shows that we're willing to accept his insults. Voting independent for Fulani is a statement which gives leverage to the Black Agenda and to those who have been disrespected by the Democrats and Republicans. When I tell people this on the street, they understand.

They also understand that many Black leaders will soon be telling them to vote for Clinton. Not even because they think he's the best choice. But because they make choices based on what's best for their careers and jobs, rather than what's best for African-American community.

We met an employee of the Urban League who said that - like everyone else at his job - he had not been planning to vote, so he was glad to run into us. Now he's going to tell all his colleagues that they need to go to the voting booth on Election Day and do the independent thing. I'm the nation's #1 African American independent, and the Black community is going to lead the way in building independent politics.

We are looking for building captains; people who will take responsibility for going door to door in their apartment buildings to distribute literature, to find out whether a neighbor needs help in getting to the polls on Election Day and to make the necessary arrangements.

One woman told me that the "only" thing she can do is cook -- she will prepare food for the next meeting in her neighborhood.

Our people are giving whatever they can give and then they are giving a bit more. I think we will see the results on Election Day - and beyond. Call me at 800-288-3201 and let me know what you can do. To reach Dr. Fulani's campaign locally, call (206) 329-9540.

M.L. King Elementary School
Students to Demonstrate P.E.P.
Assembly

An exciting event for children and their families is upcoming at Martin Luther King Elementary School on Capital Hill, and the public is welcome to attend. On Thursday, October 15 at 1:30 p.m. the students will be demonstrating how to put on a school P.E.P. Assembly to which teachers and administrators from the entire school district have been invited. At the assembly, student representatives from every grade level will be presenting poetry, goals for the month, music and social skills demonstrations for their guests. There will also be a special guest career speaker.

P.E.P. stands for Proficiency in English and it is a program that was started in the Watts area of Los Angeles, particularly for African American children. It has now expanded to districts as far north as Seattle, and teachers from King, Minor and Rainier View have been trained in P.E.P. These three schools are demonstration schools for the entire district. Emphasis is placed on academic achievement, cultural awareness, social skills and career awareness.

The public is encouraged to visit on October 15 to see that there are some very positive things occurring in our schools.

MY "STILL RIDING THE
BACK OF THE BUS"
VOICES
by Freedom Justine Nubee

I was in the hospital to visit my friend Rhonda, who was in a car accident. I was asking the nurse about her progress when we heard a wild scream.

"I'm free!" the voice said. "I'm free! I'm free! I'm free!" the voice trailed off into loud laughter.

We both knew it was Rhonda. We ran to her room to see what had happened.

SHOES had intrigued me since I was a little girl. I found any excuse to be in my barefeet. My mother was 4'10" and wore the highest heeled shoes she could find. It made no sense to me that she soaked her feet in hot epsom salts water at night just to be able to pour her feet back into tight high heeled shoes the next day.

It came as no surprise to me to learn that high heeled shoes originated by males in Europe during the 1600s to accentuate the height of a short monarch. Soon the fad turned into one created for the female to express her beauty as controlled by men.

"How do you do it?" Rhonda had asked me about wearing my "clunkers" with frilly socks.

I had had my bouts with high heeled shoes but I was glad to be able to say: "Folks I know think I'm beautiful regardless of what I'm wearing or NOT wearing."

We had both laughed.

"I know how bad heels are and I try not to wear them but I was almost fired."

"The Chinese Communist Manifesto was about this same issue," I had said.

Rhonda had sadly understood. She knew the shoes were a killer. She agreed that all women knew if they allowed themselves to admit it.

She was a tall, attractive woman and my friend. I knew she would do the best for herself. When I heard she had been in an automobile accident, something made me know she would be alright.

Her screams made me hurry into her hospital room by her bedside. Prominently displayed was her right foot held red neatly painted toenails and a red spike heel pump where her left foot used to be.

I squeezed Rhonda's hand as we both wept softly.

LOVING
DIVERSITY
By Dr. Steven Beresford

African-American Jazz Giants

I was introduced to African-American jazz during my first year at college. One of the students kept playing some jazz that seemed to be rather quaint and old-fashioned. However, after a few days of casual listening, the music suddenly exploded on me like a bolt of lightning. I realized that it was the work of a tremendous creative genius. I had encountered the spirit of Charley "Bird" Parker.

From then on, I was totally fascinated with "Bird's" genius and listened to almost all of his recorded work. This in turn led to "Trane", Monk, Davis, "Bags", Wes, Mingus, "Cannonball" and many other African-American jazz giants. An entirely new vista opened up to me that completely transformed my life.

Music is an expression of the soul - and the depth, beauty, and creativity of these jazz giants never ceases to amaze me. Their brilliance has transformed and enriched the lives of countless millions of Whites throughout the world. They were truly great. I will always be in their debt because they shared their genius.

But perhaps the most important thing to remember is that great music is a combination of the performer and the instrument. All the instruments played by the African-American jazz giants were invented by Whites. These instruments opened doors in their minds and allowed their creative talents to blossom. The combination of White inventiveness and Black musical genius gave birth to a new art form - modern jazz - that continues to inspire and delight millions of people throughout the world. "Bird" still sings!

This fact emphasizes the importance of racial harmony. The Black and White races are very different, but if we can love our diversity and overcome the barriers that separate us, we can truly enrich each other. If we transcend racism and combine the positive elements of our different cultures, a tremendous amount will be accomplished!

Remember, if you want to end racism in America, start by ending it within yourself. Clean up your own racial attitude. Then be an example to others. Readers who want to contact Dr. Beresford should write to him at: 16307 N.E. 83rd Street, #F, Redmond, WA. 98052.

Duplicate Bridge

The Monday Bridge Set had five full tables in play on Oct. 5th last, under direction of Herb Jackson. Results as follows:

1st, Nelda Hill & Dortha Bowen (43 1/2); 2nd, June Motin & Patsy Wade (40); 3rd, Muriel Russell & Octavia Jackson (38 1/2).

The Regular Thursday Night Game, Le Etta King, had seven and a half tables in play on Oct. 8th last, under direction of Herb Jackson. Results as follows:

NORTH-SOUTH
1st, Barbara Bedayal & Orville Johnson (107.3, 1st O/A); 2nd, Dick Cole & flora Cole (98, 4th O/A);

EAST-WEST
1st, Peggy Johnson & Ray Merriwether (101.5, 2nd, O/A); 2nd, Nan Edwards & Dee Bennett Jr. (98.5, 3d O/A).

The next two major Bridge Events are as follows: Saturday Oct. 17th - COASTERS Bridge Club "C" Regional at the Central Area Senior Center. Registration at 6:30 p.m., and play at 7:00 p.m. Call Charles Huey, 322-4375, for partnerships. Sunday Oct. 25th - Seattle/Tacoma Unit Game to support the United Negro College Fund. The Game will be Stratified per Roscoe Simmons, Unit President.

Remember: regular play on Noon Mondays, and 7:00 p.m. Thursdays, and all Bridge Players are welcome. So, come one, come all, see you there.

UNBROKEN
CHAINS
by Harold MurphyI Cannot Lie
by Harold Murphy

It's been hard
Lord...
I can't lie!
these words I
Must speak
Before I die.
I's been hard
Lord...
Life's road
Have not been
Easy to travel...
The blood along the way
Is thick and always fresh
With new sacrifices
Of struggle...
Innocent blood!
The successes are marred and scarred
By rejection and humiliation
Barraged by guilt and law...
Scarred Success!
It's been hard
Lord...
that is why my people...and I
Sing hard
Dance hard
Love hard
Cry hard
Pray hard
Live hard
Die hard...my Lord
I cannot lie
Before I die.

This poem is a reflection on my experiences as an African-American in this country of the United States. I am certain these feelings are shared by other cultures and peoples in the world whose tradition claims slavery and oppression. Regardless, as individuals are unique, so are whole peoples of nations, races, and cultures. It is this uniqueness that The Unbroken Chin of Black Poetry attempts to capture and save.

"Stop, Think and Listen" - A
Message to the Community
from Decharlene Williams

In paying this community back for faithfully supporting Decharlene's Beauty and Boutique for 2 decades of success, I have a vested interest in this community's health, social, civic and welfare. I think of myself as a Community Watch Dog! For the last 10 years I have dedicated my services to organize, form and act as Central Area Chamber's president (enrollment of 159 members). Whereas my duties are to lead our organization in a positive direction which I have demonstrated to you over the years. I have no problem now in sharing my personal views with you about "Weed and Seed". As to what my statement contains, it has not been discussed with our board members.

Weed and Seed is a very interesting topic - the Weed and Seed Program comes in the nick of time. Looking back through the years when I first headed the drug movement for Mayor Charles Royer's Task Force in 1988, I see very little changes taking place to pull crime to the curb. Today I see an up-swing in street violence. Almost every weekend you count at least three black people getting gunned down. The National Census states that Seattle is #2 in the world for gang violence, which is a very negative statement to make about a city with our type of climate. Weed and Seed Program can work for us if we all ban together. This program will eventually provide employment opportunities for both the employer and employee. This program will start off with the increase of the community Police Team, as well as the enforcement of demanding a curfew law for our youth. Once the Weed and Seed Program takes off, there will be an avenue open to help with Drug Education Treatment and Counseling in Youth Parenting. Weed and Seed has an ugly name tagged on to the programs credit title, which makes us sensitive I know, however, for those of us who have been a victim of gang violence understand the value in a program of this type. I myself, view the program as a business growth element. This program will only work if we ourselves are committed to the advisory board of Weed and Seed and demand that the city clean up their act! Our people's welfare and survival should always be our main concern and kept out front. At the rate of three killings of black people a weekend, we are headed for a large decrease of the black population. In the next decade we will experience a loss of 50% vanishing black people. By the year 2015, we will have lost half of our people. Is this what we want to experience?

"Weed and Seed is the link that will bring us together as a Black race of people. Believe me."

Sat Test Preparation
Workshop

The Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle (ULMS) received an overwhelming response for the September-October SAT Test Preparation workshop. Many who were interested were placed on a mailing list.

To accommodate those students interested in participating in the SAT strategies workshop, we will offer a three-week session from 9:00am to 12:00 on November 7, 14 and 21. We will conduct strategy sessions on math, verbal and give a simulated SAT test.

Preference is given to students living in Central and S.E. Seattle and to those scheduled to take the SAT on December 5 or January 23.

According to the SAT Coaching Cover-UP, a 1992 report released in January by the Center for Fair and Open Testing (FairTest), students who take special courses to prepare them for the SAT can increase their scores by as much as 100 points.

FairTest, a leading testing watchdog group, substantiates earlier claims by testing opponents that test scores can be manipulated simply by coaching test-takers, and that the test scores are not necessarily indicator of students' intelligence or ability to succeed in college.

For additional information on higher education options, or to register for the November SAT workshop, contact the Leagues' Education Department, at (206) 461-3792.