



Phan Thanh Ly, Golden Palace, 220 N.E. Weidler, Portland, Oregon.

Photo by Richard J. Brown

The Entrepreneurship of Phan Thanh Ly

by Leon Harris

Coming to America spelled a new beginning for Phan Thanh Ly. The Hong Kong native wanted more for his family than what his home land had to offer. While business opportunities there do prevail, for Phan, those in America were more promising.

The 43-year-old father of five, along with his wife, Kim, arrived in America in 1977 determined to establish himself as a solid citizen and also a successful businessman. A machinist by trade, Ly (pronounced Lee) had acquired a knack for cooking, and, after working in oriental restaurants here and abroad, he decided to venture into the restaurant business as an entrepreneur.

The opportunity to open the Golden Palace Restaurant at 220 N.E. Weidler was a dream come true, and, for Ly, it has so far proven to be a smart investment.

Ideally located near the Coliseum complex, the business draws crowds which sometimes prove embarrassing due to inadequate staffing. "I hate

to keep my customers waiting," claims the Wilsonville resident, "because I pride myself in serving good food and providing quality service."

And good food it is, indeed. Offering a menu which is exclusively Chinese, The Golden Palace features Peking, Shanghai, Szechwan and Cantonese food at prices which are more than competitive. It's cocktail lounge, though small, is cozy and proudly boasts of serving cocktails at some of the lowest prices in town.

Open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 4 p.m. to 12 midnight on Sundays, the Golden Palace has banquet facilities available and accommodates up to 130 patrons. Sometimes during the basketball season, Trailblazer fans can cause an overflow, much to Ly's glee.

Like most businessmen, Ly has become so engrossed in promoting his business that he has found little time to return to his native country to visit his mother and father. He does, however, have high aspirations to bring them here, if they can be convinced to leave Hong Kong.

From all indications, Mr. Ly is earmarked for a future success story.

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Portlander Assigned to Germany

Pfc. Tammy J. Pruitt of Portland, Oregon, entered the United States Army on the 29th of December, 1986. She completed Basic Training in March and Advanced Individ-



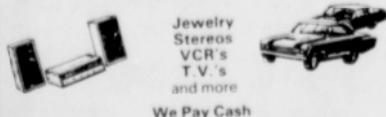
ual Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina in May of 1987. She is currently assigned to Personnel Service Company for two years in Bamberg, Germany.

Tammy is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Joe H. Pruitt and sister of Kathy Pruitt of Portland, Oregon. She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Ruth Johnson and Rev. Chess Williams of Atlanta, Texas, and Doss Pruitt of Linden, Texas. She graduated from Lincoln High School and attended Portland Community College. Tammy is a member of Allen Temple CME Church, Portland.

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HEALTH WATCH

BY Steven Bailey, N.D.

Racism: Ignorance or Disease?

I once thought that the roots of racism and other prejudices were found firmly entrenched in ignorance. And while ignorance is indeed a fertile medium for racism, I now look at it as a common friend of a very real illness.

We do not have any blood tests for this illness, yet it is very easy to observe. The symptoms of prejudice can be seen in body language and social interactions as well as in areas of employment, education and other social parameters. The illness is deep and ruthless, and we can only hope that we begin to discover the cure.

While there are no physical tests for this disease (as the cells of a racist look just like everyone else's under the microscope), there are certainly mental/emotional and spiritual abnormalities that exist in prejudice. Just as a healthy physical body is able to thrive with normal physical challenges, a healthy spiritual and emotional being should not be distressed by individual differences nor personal pursuit of happiness.

From a psychological viewpoint, I feel that personal inadequacy and/or lack of self-esteem is the primary base of prejudice. To many who do not love themselves, there is pleasure in feeling that whole groups of people are inferior to them. Whether these feelings are directed towards Blacks, women, caucasians, Jews, gays or the followers of Bagwan, prejudice does not beget self-esteem. We need to learn to love ourselves and, once this is done, to accept the law of loving others and treating others as we would be treated ourselves.

The cure of prejudice has got to start with each of us; within our own daily actions and thoughts. It would be nice if orthodox medicine accepted racism as a psychological illness, and we could use our health dollars to treat the ill. But orthodox medicine is, itself, firmly entrenched in prejudice regarding women, minorities and class. It would be nice if the ignorance of racism was seen as an unacceptable outcome of our education system. It would be nice if I personally could love and treat everyone I met with respect they deserve. The task is hard, but the disease is intolerable, and we need to join together, with compassion for the ill and support for each other, as we work towards a more perfect union.

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