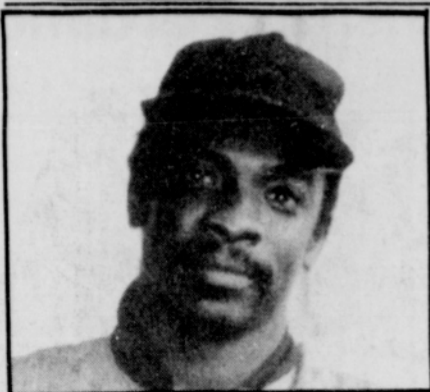


Speak Out

Why do Afro-American business fail more often than other ethnic group businesses?

by Arnold Pitre



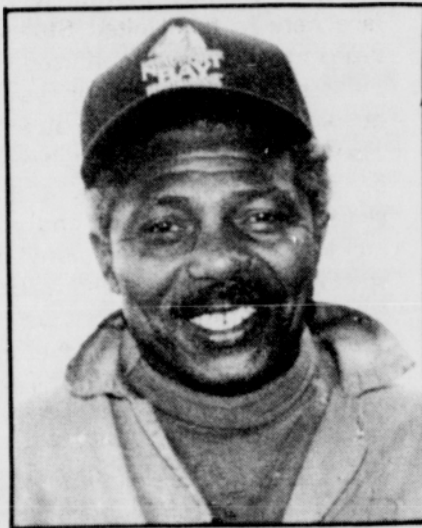
Henry Taylor
Clerk



Ronda Chiles
Club Manager

Reverse discrimination . . . or reverse prejudice. Some of our Black people have been conditioned into thinking that we can't trust our own people. They will take their cars, for instance, to a white mechanic, rather than a Black, saying, "that Black mechanic does not know what he is doing." The Black businessman often times has a lack of knowledge and a lack of understanding of how and where to get the knowledge. There are often times when the understanding of rules and regulations are a big problem. Money is always a problem. We can't get the loans that the white man can get, and access to the funds is very important. It seems that no one is willing to provide funds, even our own banks.

Blacks refuse to patronize other Blacks, and there is a lack of respect of Black people for Black businesses. On the other hand, white people do not patronize Black businesses either. So, Blacks do not patronize Blacks, whites do not patronize Blacks, therefore, there is no business. A smart businessman can get the money to run a business, but without the patronage to support the business, it is a lost cause.



James Smart
Self Employed

Limited Funds. Black people do not have access to the money that other groups do. A lot of people are not properly prepared, do not have the know-how, and do not do any research to get themselves prepared. Some of us consider ourselves a success by virtue of being in business, whether the business is successful or not. They need to take the time to evaluate the success of the business and react accordingly. I have seen city inspectors that appear to be stricter on businesses in the Black community that attempt to be in compliance rather than those that are not. This creates a burden on Black businesses. Black people seem to be a bit more particular when patronizing Black business. We seem to patronize our businesses as a last resort, and then we want to bargain with the owner. We won't do that at Safeway or other white establishments.



James Berry
Proprietor
N.E. Business Center

Operating capital. It is hard for Black business owners to get loans. Programs that are supposed to help minorities are inaccessible. Insurance . . . inability to get proper insurance in certain areas of town, usually where Blacks are attempting to place their businesses. Black customers expect Black businesses to provide them with very low prices, even when the business cannot afford to give them such prices. Blacks need to purchase from Black businesses because the money goes back into the community, and if they would do that, the businesses can lower their prices.

Community Mental Health

by Danny Bell

Domestic Violence

Recent figures indicate that approximately 50% of American families experience some form of domestic violence. What is domestic violence? It is physical abuse between husband and wife; it occurs in homes with stress, such as where there are money or medical problems; or when an elderly relative resides in the home with the couple. The participants usually have a history of being abused. Therefore, since this behavior is a learned condition, the participants tend to respond to stress by imitating actions they have grown to expect. It is frequently common that the use of alcohol has a negative effect in domestic violence cases, being that alcohol tends to cause confused thinking and limited inhibitions.

The occurrence of domestic violence transcends all economic and social stratas. However, it is more pronounced in families with money problems. The abuser, in most cases, tends to be male. The profile of abusers tends toward persons who assume the role of dominance in the relationship. This type of personality has an urgent need to feel a sense of entitlement, as if one should at times have the ability to read their minds and respond to the abuser's needs.

The person abused, on the other hand, tends to be female, unassertive, passive, and a person who will try anything to keep peace in the family. The abused person's prior family role models were often abused, as well, setting a pattern of abusive behavior. The abused person generally has poor coping skills; this, in turn, further influences them to have a sense of dependency on the abuser. Both participants have a low self-esteem.

Often women have a hard time breaking the cycle of abuse. It is a difficult task to extricate oneself, financially and emotionally, from the abusive partner. The cycle is made even more complicated by the abuser's routine apologies to the battered person. This goes hand in hand with promises never to batter her again. However, in most cases, sheer application of will power will not remedy the situation.

What is needed to successfully over-come a problem of this nature is for both parties to seek professional counseling. The first step of breaking the cycle of abuse is for the woman to tell someone, such as a doctor, nurse, or sympathetic friend.

Women who are in need can find assistance in the blue section of the White Pages of the telephone book under "Women Services." Other agencies which can help are mental health clinics, hot lines, and the police.

These resources may direct an abused person to a women's shelter. Women's shelters are havens of refuge for women who have experienced domestic violence. The shelters in the Portland area generally accept children. The shelter will not release the address where the woman is staying, nor will they release the name of any woman staying in the shelter. Shelters offer counseling, both to resident clients and the public. Women's shelters also provide women with assistance in establishing a separate household, acquiring a restraining order, as well as assist in the prosecution of criminal charges against the abuser.

Community Mental Health invites our readers to write us at 128 N.E. Russell, Portland, OR 97212, Attention: Danny Bell.

Housing and Economic Development Conference Set for January 30

Revitalizing our inner city neighborhoods — creating jobs, rehabbing abandoned buildings, improving our commercial business districts, designing affordable ways for families to own their homes — and other community development issues will be topics at the fourth annual Citizen Leadership Conference sponsored by Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Program.

The conference, "Housing and Community Economic Development: Neighborhood Strategies for the 1990's", will be held Saturday, January 30, 1988 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Providence Hospital, N.E. 47th and Glisan.

The conference is designed for citizen activists, business district leaders and city staff. During morning sessions participants will learn about successful models/programs both nationally and locally choosing

between two tracks: housing or economic development. Afternoon sessions will encourage discussion among participants to identify common neighborhood priorities and to begin to develop citywide policies and strategies.

Bob Zdenek, President of the National Congress for Community Economic Development in Washington, D.C. will be the keynote speaker presenting a national overview. Comments by Harry Demorest, President of the Portland Development Commission are also slated.

Registration forms will be available in early January. Space is limited and early registration is requested. The cost for citizens is \$5 and includes lunch and materials. Scholarships are available. Call Southeast Uplift for more information, 232-0010.

CALENDAR

Self-Help Tax Assistance

Additional help to Oregonians preparing their federal income tax returns will be available starting **January 25 through February 12** in the Portland IRS office, with self-help tables set up in the main floor lobby area to assist 1040A and 1040-EZ filers, located in the federal building at 1220 S.W. Third, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily.

Jazz & Art Exhibit

An exhibit of jazz-related etchings, paintings and photos by Hawaii-based artist John Henry Nichols will be on display at Mt. Hood Community College's College Center Fireplace Lounge **through the month of February**. The lounge is open from 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fridays and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays. The exhibit is free and open to the public. Nichols first began painting in Harlem at the age of 20. Within two years, his paintings were on display in New York and Canada. He recently completed a series of artistic tributes to such music personalities as Miles Davis, Dizzy Gillespie and Alice Coltrane.

Multnomah County Library Schedules Public Meetings

The national library press is calling Multnomah County Library a leader in the profession and "We'd like to make sure that continues by regularly 'connecting' with the public," says Sarah Ann Long, Multnomah County Library director.

"We'd like to share information about how we make the decisions — everything from selecting books to what hours the library is open to what's new in libraries across the United States," Long says.

Citizens are invited to attend sessions scheduled for **Monday, Feb 1** at noon in the auditorium of Central Library, 801 S.W. Tenth; on **Tuesday, Feb. 2** at noon in the North Portland Branch Library, 512 N. Killingsworth; or on **Wednesday, Feb. 3** at 7 p.m. in the Midland Branch Library, 805 S.E. 122nd.

The Tax Man Cometh — And So Does Free Help

Don't let the tax man get you down. Help is at hand with Portland Parks and Recreation. Several Park Bureau community centers and community schools provide free assistance from people well versed in this year's tax laws. The service is primarily for seniors and people on low incomes, so check with the recreation center nearest you to find out whether you qualify for help.

Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 NE Knott. Program begins **mid-February**. Call 282-1460 for information & appointment.

Ockley Green Community School, 6031 N. Montana. Program begins **mid-February**. Call 280-5663 for information & appointment.

Peninsula Park Community Center, 6400 N. Albina. Assistance from trained AARP volunteers. **Tuesdays and Thursday, 2-1 through 4-15**, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 285-4222 to make a half-hour appointment.

University Park Community Center, 9009 N. Foss. For low income, senior, or handicapped citizens. Presented by AARP. **Wednesdays, 2-3 through 4-13**, 10 am to 2 pm. Walk-ins welcome, or call 289-2414 for an appointment.

Calendar Continued on Page 10

WOZA (wo'zuh)

To rise up.

WOZA RUTH

WOZA STEVE

WOZA LILIAN

WOZA ROBERT

WOZA BRAM

See Entertainment Page

Career Conference Set

Young women from the Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area will have an opportunity to meet with local women representing various careers at the ninth annual Expanding Your Horizons Career Conference on Saturday, February 6, 1988. The conference, which will be held at Portland State University, if from 8:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. and is open to young women in grades 7-12.

Conference participants will hear from presentors about their work as well as have an opportunity to participate in hands-on workshops. Careers represented include health sciences, communications, engineering and technology. Nontraditional careers, such as welder, automotive repairer, elevator mechanic, firefighter, and deputy U.S. Marshall, also are represented. Emphasis is placed on the math and science background needed for most careers and the need for young women to study math and science in order to keep career options open.

Pre-registration deadline is January 29, 1988. For further information, please contact Madeline Moore at 464-3045.

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Oregon Human Rights Coalition To Meet

On January 30, 1988 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., The Portland Chapter of The Human Rights Coalition will hold a meeting focusing on the following issues: emergency medical care, child care reimbursement, coping with job search, obtaining emergency assistance (cash and foodstamps), new jobs program, AFS (Adult and Family Services) staff rudeness toward clients.

The meeting will be held at the Old Wives Tales Restaurant, 1300 E. Burnside, Portland, OR, 238-0470 for directions.

For more information, contact: Geraldine Willaims, 281-1620, or Karen Roothaan, 249-8232.

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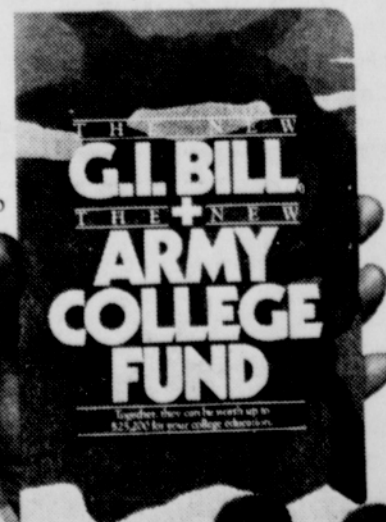
Of course, exactly how much

you earn will depend upon how long you serve and which specialty you qualify and enlist for.

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