

And Still We Rise

By Dr. William Gibson

True to the words of poet laureate Maya Angelou's inaugural poem—And Still We Rise—the NAACP, a bastion of the civil rights movement for 85 years, is still at the helm and true to its mission despite having come through some stormy waters recently. Still, we rise...to continue our mission of advancing equality for people of color.

We know that the NAACP cannot stay afloat in stagnant waters, but must move with the churning masses of our people to address the issues of the day. Our "Civil Rights" work now is economic empowerment, inner city crime and violence and dealing with the infrastructures of our cities. We have to reach out into those areas, not only to continue to expand our membership base, but to establish new NAACP branches and programs. We've had some successes during the past year when we've reached out to new constituencies. We will continue those initiatives. We will continue to work and generate memberships within

any segment of the community that we can...black or white, rich or poor, young and older, inner city or suburban. We understand there is only so much you can get within any one set of parameters.

"We know that the NAACP cannot stay afloat in stagnant waters, but must move with the churning masses of our people to address the issues of the day".

In the aftermath of the recent controversy, the NAACP National Board has put a management team in place that is carrying on with daily operations. Committees of that board are working to make sure they are apprised of what the interim term is doing. This makes for an effective and proper relationship between Board and administrative staff.

We are also happy to report that the administrative team has just begun an aggressive membership campaign well as an aggressive fund raising effort - within the structure of

the NAACP branches. Using a formula that has proven successful in the past, we are in effect soliciting NAACP branches to make special contributions. When we used this approach before, we succeeded in rising over a half million dollars. This time, we plan to generate funds of over one million dollars.

In addition, our foundation and corporate sponsors have made some positive overtures. The Ford Foundation has made a commitment to me, to help with our funding process. Not to help us with fund raising and an interim staff.

Members of the Board, interim staff and I will be meeting in the coming weeks with various corporations and foundations to ensure that we erase our current deficit, and generate funds for the various NAACP programs that are so important to the African-American community and to America. In the coming weeks I will continue to report on that, and try to answer some of the more prevalent questions you may have.

Beat The Odds When Remodeling For Resale Wood Windows Are A Profitable Choice

Stop that sledgehammer. Homeowners remodeling for the sake of resale finally have a list of sure-fire home improvement projects. A recent Metropolitan Home magazine article states that new wood windows, state-of-the-art kitchens, modernized bathrooms and exterior developments such as decks or screened-in porches can translate into long-term resale value gains. Gains turn especially favorable when remodelers focus on projects with long-term benefits.

For example, installing wood windows delivers a higher payback -- usu-

ally between 77 and 97 percent return on the investment - over aluminum and vinyl windows, according to the article. "The natural beauty and energy efficiency of wood windows are recognized by buyers. It makes wood windows a worthwhile investment for homeowners," said Dave Culver, President, Pella Window & Door Co of Oregon Inc, a local representative of Pella Windows and Doors.

"By combining the energy efficiency of today's windows with design features like shades, blinds or wood grilles between the panes of glass, remodeling can really add a

bottom line impact at resale time," Culver said.

Culver suggests gathering information about the features current home buyers in the area are demanding before undertaking a remodeling project. "Talk with local realtors or neighbors selling their homes. Other homeowners who have been through the process can shed light on whether future buyers will pay more money for the remodeling project you are considering," said Culver.

For free literature about making window decisions, call 1-800-847-3552.

Fair Share Auction

Oregon Fair Share, the state's largest citizen action organization, working for affordable health care for all Oregonians, is holding its 15th Annual Holiday Auction Fundraiser on **Saturday, October 15th at 5 PM** at St. Phillip Neri Catholic Church, SE 16th & Division in Portland. Ticket price is \$12.50 each and includes lavish Hors D'Ouvres.

Plan to do all your holiday shopping at the Fair Share Holiday Auc-

tion. Auction items include; Getaways at Oregon's Coast, hundreds of items from Portland's Saturday Market, a party at the White CAP Brew Pub. A dinner and show at Darcelle XV, and Autographed Blazer Pennant and many many other wonderful items.

Don't get caught in the Holiday Snare -- shop Fair Share!!! to reserve your Auction tickets call 239-7611

Rutgers and Crossroads Present Free Series On African-Americans

New Brunswick/PISCATAWAY, N.J. -- The relationship of African-Americans to American wars and military service in the 20th century will be examined in a four-part series of talks and films this fall. The series will be presented free of charge Monday nights Oct. 17 and 24 and Nov. 7 and 21 by Rutgers and the Crossroads Theatre Company in New Brunswick.

The Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis and Crossroads are co-sponsoring the series, "African-Americans in the Military: Race and Democracy in America at War." It will bring some of the nation's leading scholars to New Brunswick for talks to general audiences. The speakers will use films to illustrate their points and generate audience discussion.

All four programs begin at 7:30 p.m. in Crossroads' facilities at 7 Livingston Ave. Each will conclude

about two hours later.

"We hope this series will shed light on the often neglected service of African-Americans, who have fought in every American war,"

The talks are part of a two-year public humanities program on war, peace and society being conducted by the center under grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, a state program of the NEH.

"We hope this series will shed light on the often neglected service of African-Americans, who have fought in every American war," said John Whiteclay Chambers II, professor of history at Rutgers and project director. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses at Rutgers on war, peace and the military in U.S. history.

Self Enhancement Inc. Launches "Buy-A-Brick" Program

"In SEI we greet each other every day with a smile and a handshake to strengthen the relationship between us," says Tony Hopson, president of Self Enhancement Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to providing Portland's inner city youth with constructive alternatives to drugs, gangs and violence. "This is one of six 'standards' we teach the kids, and I can't wait until I get to greet our young people at the door SEI's new Center."

SEI launched its Buy-a-Brick/Build-a-Future program to help raise funds for the construction of the Center for Self-Enhancement in northeast Portland.

Through the program, donors pay \$25 for a building-brick personalized with the contributor's name that will create the entry-way to the Center. The donor will also receive a

"certificate of ownership." SEI established a "Brick Hotline" to handle inquiries. Interested people should call 503/282-4309.

"We think that encouraging Portlanders to contribute a physical piece of the Center offers a wonderful way for them to tangibly understand how they're making a difference in their community, and gives them a sense of community ownership and involvement."

The Center for Self Enhancement will be a 60,000 square-foot facility containing classrooms, computer and music laboratories, a multicultural library, athletic facilities, a dance studio, an auditorium and administrative offices. It will serve youth on the weekends and every weekday until 10:00 p.m., and will be used by other civic groups while children are in school.

Q Lube Enters Oil Change Market

Quaker State has opened 13 Q Lube oil change centers in the Portland area.

The new stores replace the company's former Minit-Lube centers and incorporate redesigned interiors and exteriors with the trademark Quaker State "Q" logo.

"Converting to Q Lube will help us differentiate our service from others in the industry," said Jai O'Neill, Q Lube president.

Before embarking on the change, consumer research, revealed that customers saw most quick lubes as "about the same." At the same time, the research showed consumers had confidence in the Quaker State brand name, evoking high customer expectations. Q Lube stores offer consumers a quick lube service center, providing an effective measure of how the company is meeting expectations. Q Lube has reinforced its commitment to customer satisfaction through the installation of one of the most advanced computer systems in the industry and has added new training and customer service programs for employees.

The company has made each center an ongoing oil reclamation site. Local "do-it-yourselfers" can bring their used oil to a Q Lube center, where it will be properly handled, free of charge.

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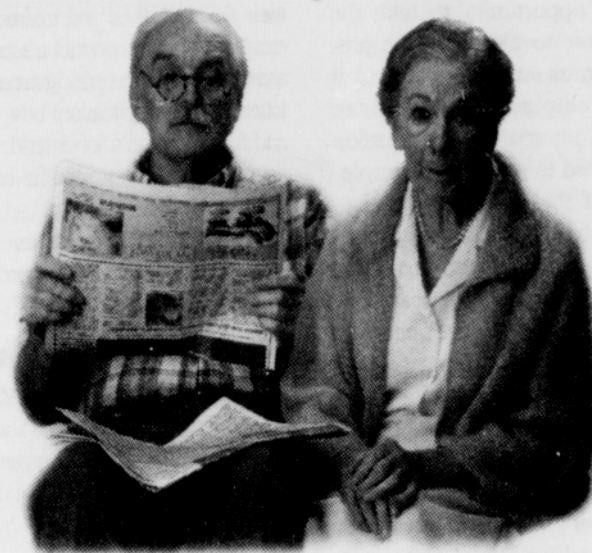
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THANKS TO OREGON LOTTERY PROCEEDS



A portion of Oregon Lottery proceeds is dedicated to helping Oregon's state colleges and universities remain competitive at the national level. Since 1989, these schools have received more than \$6 million in Lottery proceeds to provide academic scholarships and strengthen their athletic programs.

With the help of Lottery dollars, women's athletics and non-revenue sports such as soccer, gymnastics, volleyball, and wrestling are able to

attract some of the best student athletes in the country. In addition to these sports, all intercollegiate athletic programs benefit from Lottery proceeds, adding to their success.

Without these Lottery funds, the thrill of victory would be hard a goal to achieve - because players don't win if schools can't field a team. The Oregon Lottery - helping Oregon's student athletes compete with the best.



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