

# NATIONAL BLACK NEWS SURVEY

BY ROBERT N. TAYLOR

## Black Wealth Seminar Set For October 1 In Buffalo, N.Y.

Buffalo, N.Y. (NBNS) - The next in a series of forums designed to show African Americans how to build personal and family wealth has been set for October 1 in Buffalo, New York. The all-day seminar details self-help topics including home-based businesses and buying real estate with little and no money down as well as financial planning, short term investing and making profits in the 900-number business. Credit repair sessions will also be held. The seminars are being sponsored by the national black wealth building organization known as the BetterLife Club. Persons interested in attending the day-long event can receive pre-registration material by calling 1-800-748-1821.

## Rangel Defeats Powell In Harlem

New York, N.Y. (NBNS) - Veteran Congressional Black Caucus member Charles Rangel last week beat back an impressive challenge by the son of the late Adam Clayton Powell to hold onto his seat in the U.S. Congress. Rangel represents New York's 15th congressional District which is essentially the world famous community of Harlem. Prior to Rangel, Adam Clayton Powell winning around 38%. Nevertheless, it was the first significant challenge Rangel had faced in years.

## Black Boarding School Association Targets Parents

Headmasters at five of the nation's historically black boarding schools have announced the establishment of the Association of African American Boarding Schools (AAABS). The organization was created at a Myrtle Beach, S.C. conference in early August and will host a panel on the black boarding school experience in September at the annual conference of the Congressional Black Caucus in Washington, D.C.

"African American boarding schools provide an alternative to the public schools for black parents who seek a quality education, values and discipline for their children," said Dr. Sherman Jones, an AAABS founder and Headmaster of Southern Normal School in Brewton, Ala.

## Five Blacks On Richest Entertainers's List

New York, N.Y. (NBNS) - Forbes magazine has released its annual list of the nation's richest entertainers and there are five African Americans on the list. They are Oprah Winfrey (\$105 million), Bill Cosby (\$60 million), Michael Jackson (\$38 million), Whitney Houston (\$33 million), and Eddie Murphy (\$30 million). Last year Winfrey headed the list but this year she was knocked from first place by movie producer Steven Spielberg who generated \$335 million over the past two years. Dropping completely off the list of the top 40 highest paid entertainers was Prince who last year placed in the number five slot.

## National Black Chamber Of Commerce Plans Big

Washington, D.C. (NBNS) - The situation in what potentially is one of the richest blackruled nations in the world took a further turn away from democracy last week. Military rulers in the west African nation of Nigeria assumed absolute power. The regime has also refused to recognize democratic elections. U.S. black political leader Jesse Jackson visited the country recently in an attempt to mediate.

# Voters To Decide North/South Light Rail



Left: A map shows the proposed North/South Transit Corridor. The new public light rail system would serve North and Northeast Portland carrying passengers from Southeast Portland to Vancouver.

Above: Tri-Met's Max light rail line carries commuters from Gresham to Portland without the congestion of traffic.

turning to modern mass transit systems and away from building freeways.

It's a popular concept for public leaders with environmentally-conscious citizens.

Tri-Met's first so-called Max train was funded with funds first appropriated to the construction of a Mt. Hood freeway through Southeast Portland. The city has been a frequent model for meeting mass transit needs, ever since.

The local share of the proposed South/North corridor is \$475 million. The total \$2.4 billion project which would be shared between the federal government, Clark County and the states of Washington and Oregon.

The cost of the bond levy would average about 31 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property tax value, or about \$31 per year for the owner of a \$100,000 home.

The Tri-Met construction would extend its multi-million dollar construction schedule to the year 2005 and bring with it provisions for minority contracting and hiring.

Of the \$33 million spent on the westside construction, 17 percent has been for minority employment and 12 percent to sub-contractors who are minority, women or small and emerging business owners.

"If the North/South goes through, you can expect the volume of work to stay high," Walsh said.

Walsh has served at the helm of Tri-Met for three years. He previously was employed for 30 years in private construction, building such projects as the residential Riverplace complex along the Willamette River in Southwest Portland.

A native of New York state, Walsh attended Lincoln High School in Portland and has never left the city.

Prior government experience includes service on the Oregon Transportation Commission and Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission.

### Continued from front

struction phase, extending its Gresham to Portland rail line to the west side from downtown to Hillsboro. "Why are we accelerating so quickly?" Walsh said, is the most frequent question he's asked. Walsh sees the answer in tim-

ing, in "striking while the iron is hot."

There's opportunity to build a transportation system that's not just linked by a series of lines but one which is cohesively tied together.

Portland has been successful in winning federal monies ahead of many other major cities for by

## Western State Treasurers Elect Hill As Vice President

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influence the decisions that affect us all."

Hill is a member of the National Association of State Treasurers' (NAST) Force on Integrity in the Municipal Marketplace. The Task Force proposed resolutions calling for specific standards of conduct and campaign finance reform, as well as disclosure of agreements between financial professionals for negotiated transactions. The resolutions were unanimously approved by the state treasurers from across the nation, drawing praise from the finance

media. Hill served as chair of the Subcommittee on clearinghouse for Information Regarding abuses in the Market.

As state treasurer, Hill is the chief investment officer for the state and chief debt management officer. His office is responsible for the prudent investment of trust funds including the Public Employees' Retirement System which outperformed the stock market during the last fiscal year. Hill is the first state treasurer to serve on the national advisory council for the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

## Rider Advocates Rise From Storm Of Gunfire

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The positions were created with the help of neighborhood representatives, the youth gang task force and former Multnomah County Sheriff Don Clark, Walsh said.

Clark worked with Tri-Met for three months as a volunteer.

He had experience cleaning up violence and crime at the Columbia Villa public housing project in North Portland and helped put a community-based plan into effect, Walsh said.

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