Appeals Court grants partial stay of Injunction

On December 24, 1996, the U.S. Appeals Court issued a stay in favor of credit unions. This stay allows credit unions to again admit new members from employer groups that are within a credit union's field of membership. The stay was issued pending appeal of this case to the U.S. Supreme Court and will remain in effect until the court decides whether to hear the case or not. If it does hear the case, the final outcome may not be known for some time. Of

course the final outcome, if heard, is also up in the air.

What does this mean for your employees?

It means that your employees are again eligible to become OFCU members if they have not yet done so. To join, an eligible employee needs to open an account with a minimum deposit of \$5. There is no membership fee. Once an account is open, members may apply for low-cost loans and other low-cost services.

Of course we are pleased with the decision. At least temporarily it restores OFCU's ability to serve it's full potential membership. In addition to attempting to resolve this consumer issue in the courts, credit unions are working with Congress to change the Federal Credit Union Act. If there is any additional information or changes, we will notify you. Should you or your employees have any questions please contact our office.

You Are Never Alone

BY JUNIOUS RICARDO STANTON

What do you do when the props fall out from under you and you find yourself at a rock bottom? Where do you turn when the storms of life engulf you, your soul feels like it will capsize and your heart is wounded and broken? How do you face your own demons and the consequences of your foolish behavior and bounce back wiser and stronger than before?

Life presents us with a myriad of challenging situations. A loved one dies, you become seriously ill, a relationship terminates, your business fails, friends misunderstand you or turn their backs on you when you need them the most, you're forced to face the consequences of our life choices and are afraid, embarrassed, hurt and confused. Where do you go for solace, comfort and support? What do you do during the times of crisis, when things look bleak and your options limited? How do you react when you find yourself in a situation over which you have no control, can't make better and the hurt just won't go away?

No one escapes the vicissitudes of life, what William Shakespeare called "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune." No matter how organized or well-prepared we think we are, things will happen in life that knock us for a loop, throw us off course and set us back. When these things happen it is important for us not to view them as some divine retribution for something we have done or failed to do. We have to look at the situation and

certainly take responsibility for any part we may have played in it, allowing it, promoting it or causing it. But we should not beat ourselves up or be overly harsh on ourselves. During the storms, it is imperative that you not panic, lose hope or think that you are forsaken, abandoned or alone. Even if your friends and family are unable to help, you are never alone!

Divine intelligence, wisdom and guidance ar always with us in the form of intuition, unlearned knowledge, and that "still small voice". Within us lies an unerring source of counsel, comfort and sustenance that can see us through every crisis. Religious folks talk about faith. Often what they are really referring to is their particular dogma, doctrine or system of theology. That is not what I am talking about. I am talking about a very real power and presence that is always with us. This power and presence is ready willing and able to help us grow through whatever challenges we are facing; empowering and ennobling us to emerge from the fires like precious metal-stronger wiser and more valuable than before. The ancient texts say "Fear not, I am with you" I Am is the creator of the universe, The Divine

No one can guaranteed you won't have problems or your share of troubles, pain and suffering, they are part of life and living. If you are reading this and have not experienced any difficulties pr problems in your life, it's just a matter of time before you do. I'm not saying this to frighten you or to cause you undue

worry. It would be unrealistic and unethical to write about personal growth and transformation and not mention the inevitable troubles, trials and tribulations life contains.

We need to know we have cop-

ing power, a transcending dynamism available to us that is closer than our very skin. One of many references to this presence if found in Isaiah 43:2 "When you go through deep water and great trouble, I will be with you. When you go through river of difficulty you will not drown! When you walk through fire of oppression! you will not be burned up, the flame will not consume you." (The Living Bible) Water, rivers and fire are metaphors for life's ordeals and afflictions. Notice it doesn't say if, it says "When" indicating tribulation will inevitably come! The Invisible Cause/Comforter will accompany you through whatever you are facing. The promise is not that you are immune to trouble, or that you will necessarily enjoy the process. The promise is that you can go through it without being overwhelmed or destroyed by the experience. When you believe this, life and living are not something to fear and death is not something to dread. This is a blessed assurance knowing no matter what life sends your way, no matter what you are going through, you have direct access to transcending power and you are never alone.

You may contact Junious Stanton at e-mail address: JRSwriter@GNN.Com

Coretta Scott King honored



Coretta Scott King (seated bottom right) has received the Sara Lee Frontrunner Award.

Coretta Scott King recently received the Sara Lee Frontrunner Award, one of the nation's most

prestigious awards honoring women. Each year since 1987, Sara Lee Corporation has honored outstanding American women for their achievements, and the Frontrunner Awards program has become one of the nation's premier women's recognition programs. The 44 Frontrunners honored thus far have included a Nobel laureate, a Supreme Court Justice, the U.S. Attorney General, several CEO's, leading artists, humanitaries, politicians and educators. Among these recipients, there have been 12 African-American women, including famed poet/author Maya Angelou, Nobel prize-winning author Toni Morrison, legendary performer Lena Horne and civil rights pioneer Dorothy Height.

This year's celebration of the awards marked the tenth anniversary of the Frontrunner Awards program. Mrs. King, founder and chair of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, received the Frontrunner Award for her work in the field of the Humanities. The other 1996 Frontrunners honored on November 13, 1996, in New York City were: Secretary of State Madeleine Albright (Government); Jane Alexander (the Arts), Chair of the National Endowment for the Arts and an award-winning actress; and Geraldine Laybourne (Business), President of Disney/ABC Cable Networks and the key visionary behind Nickelodeon, the preeminent TV network for children.

In honor of the award, Sara Lee Corporation donates \$25,000 on behalf of each recipient to a notfor-profit organization dealing with issues of integral concern to all women. To date, Sara Lee Corporation has contributed more than \$650,000 in grants through the Frontrunner program, and several African-American organizations have benefitted, including the National Council of Negro Women (Washington, DC), The National Institute for Women of Color (Washington, DC) and Spelman College (Atlanta, GA.).

"Through our Frontrunner Awards program, we recognize outstanding women for their achievements, with the goal of inspiring others to pursue their dreams despite the obstacles or challenges they might face," said John Bryan, chairman and chief executive officer of Sara Lee Corporation.

Black History commemorated

Human Rights commission commemorates Black History Month With Publication On discrimination In Oregon

crimination In Oregon
the Metropolitan Human Rights
Commission has received a donation to reprint "Ethnic and Gender

Discrimination in Portland: 1884-

1980" in honor of Black History Month. The 72 page chapter of the oregon Regional disparity Study was written by local historian, Elizabeth McLagan, author of "A Peculiar Paradise." It covers the progress of African American, Native American, Latino, Japanese and Chinese

communities in the city and state. Legal barriers to racial and gender equality and legislative progress receive special attention. Free copies are available at the MHRC office, 1120 SW Fifth Street, as long as the supply lasts. Copies will be mailed for a small charge.

Economic development package Introduced

Senator Avel Gordly (D-Portland) introduces the first bills of her economic development and equal opportunity package this week in Salem.

"With Oregon's booming economy, we need to make sure that all Oregonians have the opportunity to share in the state's growth and prosperity. We don't have to leave anyone behind," explained Senator Gordly. "My economic development package attempts to address specific needs, so all Oregonians share in the state's economy and prosperity," she added.

SB 327 requires recording keeping and operator training to address pesticide exposure of agricultural workers. "We all contribute to this economy and should all be safe in our workplaces, and able to earn a living wage," asserted Senator Gordly. As one of the Chief Petitioners for the successful initiative campaign to raise the minimum wage in Oregon, Senator Gordly will resist any attempts to rollback or exempt certain workers from the minimum wage increase.

SB 328 provides permanent employees status benefits to temporary workers of temporary labor providers after 90 days of employment. Senator Gordly is concerned with the continuing trend toward use of temporary workers in the labor force and their lack of benefit coverage. The majority of the people without benefit coverage above the Federal Poverty Level are working Oregonians, and many are families with children, according to the Office of the Health Plan Administrator.

Senator Gordly is working to develop a community development bank fund similar to the federal fund that

Senator Avel Gordly (D-Portland)

introduced her education package in

Salem today.

would include small town, locally owned banks in the state who carry high rates of community redevelopment. She is also exploring trade opportunities beyond the Pacific Rim such as South Africa.

Senator Gordly's committee assignments this session include Senate Trade and Economic Development, Crime and Corrections and Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety. Her staff includes Portland businessman Carl Flipper as Trade and Economic Development Advisor.



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"As we move toward education reform, we need to recognize that we are becoming ever more diverse in this country and in this state. We need to be teaching cultural diversity in our public institutions, especially if we expect to compete in the global marketplace," Senator Gordly explained.

SB 338 requires school districts to develop and implement multicultural education policy, and SB 339 requires development and implementation of multicultural education

tion program.

Senator Gordly proposes accelerated funding of Head Start. "With 20 years of research, Head Start is the best program going that deals with children and the family unit together. It is one of the best prevention programs and investments in the future of our children. We are

investing so much in prisons, and with Oregon's booming economy, we must invest in the children now."

SB 340 speeds up the full funding of Head Start to 100% by the end of the 1997-1999 biennium. The Governor's budget funds 50% implementation of Head Start by 1999 and full funding by 2004.

SB 341 dedicates prison savings to education. It directs the legislative fiscal officer to determine any savings as a result of changes to the mandatory minimum sentencing law, and for Department of Administrative to report any savings resulting from court challenges with the savings being dedicated to education.

"We need to reaffirm our priorities to this state's future through our children and their education - Pre-Kindergarten through Higher Education - rather than building prisons for problems that could have been prevented."

Earth Day '97 seeks project leaders

Education bills shown

The annual drive to recruit project leaders to sponsor community based projects in support of Earth Day '97 is on. April 22 is Earth Day and organizers are, once again, expecting thousands of children and adults to spend it doing "hands-on" projects in their neighborhoods and schools throughout the area.

Information about every group and organization that plans a project for Earth Day and, ideally, everyday will be highlighted in the popular Earth Day, Every Day Hands-On Guide. The Hands-On Guide will be distributed as an insert in a mid-April edition of the Oregonian and available in outlets throughout the area.

To list a project in the Earth Day, Every Day Hands-On Guide, project leaders must complete a registration form by March 1. Call the Earth Day '97 Hotline at 771-4808.

