

Entrepreneur group goes regional



Sam Brooks of the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs meets with Ileana Winterhalter of Pacific Bell in San Francisco as part of the launching of the Pacific Incubation Network.

Portland joins new diversity network to support business starts

Several representatives of the business community gathered in Portland recently to launch the Pacific Incubation Network, the newest of several business incubation associations.

PIN was created as a regional association in Oregon, California, Washington and Alaska to respond to the rapid growth of west coast start-up ventures.

One of its primary purposes is to offer infrastructure, expertise, support and networking services.

The Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs hosted Portland's Northwest Launch Event, sponsored by Pacific Gas and Transmission and US West.

OAME President Sam Brooks welcomed the group and gave an overview of the business incubation project.

Barbara Harley, director of the International Business Incubators, presented a background on the need for a regional incubation association.

Ila Homsher of Pacific Gas & Electric Co. and Ileana Winterhalter of Pacific Bell pre-

sented information supporting the success and value of the incubation network.

The network's advantages are many, including maximizing the region's strengths found in its diversity, its technological innovation and its unique proximity to international markets.

PIN intends to develop its programs, products and services, as well as its entire organizational design, with regard for its members' priorities, strengths and economic constraints.

The prevailing culture of the network is intended to be one of inclusion, empowerment and facilitation.

Priorities include valuing the strengths inherent in the diversity of the region's nationalities and cultures.

Organizers said the opportunities are presented by the variety of economic and incubation solutions currently being implemented throughout the region and by the knowledge and skills demonstrated by the resourceful efforts of local assistance agencies.

The Amistad 'revolt' - A story told too late?

Continued from Front

which has denied them a very basic and essential knowledge of self. We speak of the ego-sustaining consciousness of one's being that other men derive from the free and truthful flow of information: Hegel's "Wesen". And the question is put to a society that describes itself as being the most free, productive and "color blind" in the history of mankind. "Given that, with only a few well-chosen exceptions, the history of African and African American contributions to the culture and technology of America and the world has been as carefully excised from mainstream history, text and media as has the Amistad Revolt - how much longer can a patient and long-suffering race maintain its necessary social cohesion and family structure in a society without truth?"

The full account of the Amistad Revolt is a wonderful and inspiring story - the kind that should be heard and revered by all men - but a presentation of this important episode of American history in the deserved depth would be too long for these pages. Check your "Discovery" and "History" cable channels for

related viewing this week. And see the movie (smiles). And NET, World Wide Web.

The very respected "Smithsonian Magazine" has an excellent article on the Amistad Revolt though in a semantic lapse it describes the incident as a "mutiny". This recitation is detailed and spell-binding, featuring a cast of characters that includes two US Presidents, the Navy, the federal judiciary and leading abolitionist of the day - the latter opposed by equally fervent pro-slavers. High drama, indeed. (DEC, 1997).

Later, after the readers have determined for themselves the impact and meaning of the various visual and print versions of the Amistad saga, we can "meet" here on these pages for a fruitful discussion of what all this may or may not mean for the future.

For a truthful and detailed account of the many slave rebellions see, "Before the Mayflower" by Lerone Bennett Jr., executive editor of Ebony Magazine, Penguin Books, 1984. And for American philosophy and ideologies of the times, see my "Perspectives" article.

Housing nears completion

Continued from Front

NECDC executive director Jaki Walker says, "We have a shortage of land in the inner city. Are we to not build housing for low-income families because we don't have the perfect site for them. Lots of cities have housing on busy streets and it works fine." She notes that King School Park is less than two blocks away.

Oberding says, "I couldn't get financing for more retail. What was I supposed to do, build on stilts? There are people who like to live on the ground floor, especially the disabled. I've had a lot of inquiries about my units from people in the immediate neighborhood. We have to get away from what we personally want and look at what other people need."



The largest fish is the whale shark, which weighs up to 15 short tons, twice as much as an African elephant.

Every Dollar Counts  United Way

RELIGION

'The Gift of Giving'

By U.S. AGRICULTURE SECRETARY DAN GLICKMAN

During the holiday season, we revisit the timeless lessons of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." The story reminds us of the hardships of the working poor, the importance of giving and the joy of getting involved. This year, I am reminded of the beginning of another Dickens' classic, "A Tale of Two Cities": "It was the best of times. It was the worst of times."

For America, the 1990s are among the best of times. We are the strongest, most prosperous nation on earth. Our economy is flourishing better than it has in 30 years. Our rich lands and productive farmers and ranchers provide us with the most abundant and affordable food supply in the

world.

But amid all this prosperity and plenty, we must not forget that 12 million American children live in families that do battle with hunger at some point during the year.

Strong federal programs -- from food stamps to school lunches and breakfasts to the Women, Infants and Children program -- must always be our first line of defense. But ending hunger will require the commitment of an army of public-spirited citizens working in every community.

During the holiday season and year round -- thousands of Americans live the lesson of the Bible that teaches, "When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not -- gather the gleanings after your harvest; you shall leave them for the poor and for the

stranger." They know that every year, our nation throws out 96 billion pounds of wholesome, nutritious food. If we saved just 5% of that food, it would be enough to feed four million hungry Americans every day for a year.

Besides gleaning farmers' fields, we can also collect extra pans of lasagna from cafeterias and restaurants, day-old bread from grocery stores, smashed packages and dented cans from wholesalers and unsold fruits and vegetables from farmers' markets. All it takes is loading excess food into a truck bound for a soup kitchen instead of a dumpster headed to a landfill.

It may be a small difference each of us makes on our own, but together -- working through national networks

like Second Harvest and Food chain -- we can make a dramatic difference in the lives of our fellow Americans.

This holiday season, as we make our gift lists and new year's resolutions, I hope we also reflect on the true spirit of the season and commit ourselves to helping those who are less fortunate. Whether we give money, time or excess food, each of us can lend a hand against hunger. If you are not already involved, please call 1-800-GLEAN-IT or visit our gleaning web site (www.usda.gov/fes/glean.htm) for information on a food recovery effort near you.

Hunger has no season, and neither should our commitment to ending it. If you join this effort, you may find -- as I have -- that the greatest gift of all is the gift of giving.

O B I T U A R Y

Edithe Williams

(Maiden name of Als)

May 19, 1913 - November 29, 1997

Friends attended funeral services for Edithe Williams on Monday, December 8, 1997 at Killingsworth Little Chapel of the Chimes, Portland, Oregon.

Edithe was born May 19, 1913 in Cold Water, Mississippi to Louella H. Als. She passed away in Portland, Oregon at the age of 84. Edithe's husband, Willard Williams passed away on January 24, 1987.

Edithe was a member of True Vine Missionary Baptist Church under the pastorate of Dr. Raymon H. Edwards, Sr. in Portland, Oregon. Her occupation most of her life was a homemaker. Prior to moving to Portland in 1972, she lived in Malden Missouri and before that in Blythe, CA area.

Survivors include:

Son Joe Willie Spain Portland, OR
Daughter Victoria L. Blufoes-Gray Portland, OR
Daughter Lillian Lee Wesby Portland, OR
Son Little Richard Steward Portland, OR

Also a host of Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren & Great Great Grandchildren. Also a host of nieces & Nephews and Great Nieces & Nephews.

Her husband, Willard and 5 sons, 2 daughters, 1 brother and 1 sister predeceased her in death.

Dr. Carle Richard Vickers,

July 5, 1914 to November, 1997

Dr. Vickers established his dental practice in Portland after having served in the armed forces. His office was located on Williams Court (the old Fraternal Hall). Dr. Vickers and his wife, Evelyn, had one son, Carl Wayne, who was born in Emanuel Hospital in Portland. Upon closing his Portland office, Dr. Vickers moved his family to West Palm Beach, Florida, to be closer to his parents, Dr. & Mrs. Thomas R. Vickers, Sr. There he opened another dental office.

In addition to his wife, son, and granddaughter, Dr. Carle Vickers leaves to mourn his loss his brother Thomas R. Vickers, Jr., and sister-in-law Dorothy Vickers, Portland; niece, Sharon Alice Vickers, Fremont, California; and many friends.



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"In Thee, O Lord, Do I Put my trust:
Let me never be put to confusion"
Psalm 71:1

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Coming Events

The Christmas Story

The Christmas story will be interpreted in dance and sign language at 3:30pm, December 14th, at Bethel A.M.E. Church. Bethel is located at 5828 N.E. 8th. The Buds of promise an ensemble of

girls ages three to sixteen will perform. The Buds sign, sing and dance to a number of traditional and nontraditional religious songs.

A free will offering will be taken.

Annual Christmas Charity Bazaar

The Church of Scientology Women's League will host its annual Christmas Charity Bazaar on Saturday, December 13, 1997 from 11:00am to 4:00pm at 709 SW Salmon. All proceeds from this year's bazaar will benefit Toys For Tots program, one of Portland's largest toy distributors for the holidays.

In addition to gifts, hand-made specialty clothing, art, home decor and home-baked goods, this year's bazaar will also offer free gift wrapping and hot apple cider for shoppers and visitors alike.

Donation of a new, unwrapped toy for the toy box are more than welcome

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Presents:

The Buds of Promise
Sing, Praise & Dance Team Recital

An African-American Celebration of the Holiday Season
Designed for You and Your Family's Delight and Pleasure
Sunday, December 14th, 1997

3:30 p.m.

Bethel A.M.E. Church
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Portland OR

Rev. Dorsey McCullough, Pastor
Ms. Rochelle McElroy, Director

G.G.

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