

Las Vegas's Long Search For Family Ends Happily



HAPPY DAY--Mrs. Cleather Manning of Las Vegas beams her happiness at recent reunion with long lost family. She is pictured here (in white Tam) with a small segment of the family in Chicago--Sisters (from left) Maurine Ellerson, Evelyn Cook, and Pearl Mae Hayes who are all residents of Chicago.

Cleather Manning's story is perfect material for one of the daily soap operas which chain millions of housewives to their television sets five days a week. And though her story is not unusual in that it proves again that truth, indeed, is stranger than fiction, it is unique in that the end of the story is really a beginning. And a joyous beginning it is for the attractive, baby-faced mother of 8 who has just been reunited with the family for whom she has searched all her life.

CLEATHER WAS three years old when her mother died and her father, Ceolia Ellerson, left her with her maternal grandparents in Charleston, Missouri. Cleather remembers that her father must have kept in touch because, upon her grandmother's death, when Cleather was 14 years old, her heretofore unacknowledged resolution to find her father was somehow determined by the knowledge that her father had married again and that his wife's name was Luella.

So at age 16, Cleather left home to begin the quest she never forsook. Her first stop was St. Louis where she thought she might find a lead to her Dad's whereabouts. Her grandfather passed when she was 18 and she broadened the search and took up residence in Benton Harbor, Michigan following a lead that her father was located in Michigan.

Then came adulthood and marriage and she moved to Los Angeles, California where she lived for 10 years while beginning a family of her own. But never did she give up hope of finding her Dad or members of his family. She knew he had a marriage previous to his union with her mother, so the name of Ellerson was ever her lead in the long search.

Five years ago, her husband, Joseph Manning moved the family to Las Vegas. He found employment at the Dunes Hotel where he is a porter, and they became a part of the local community engaging themselves in church and school activities. When the MANPOWER program was activated here, Mrs. Manning was employed as a Manpower Aide.

A devout christian, Mrs. Manning is a member of the Prairie House Church of God in Christ, and it almost seems natural that it was on a Sunday afternoon, last October, that Mrs. Manning found the trail that led her to the fulfillment of her life's dream.

Mrs. Manning relates that she had returned home from church on that fateful Sunday and was sitting quietly in her home remembering places mentioned to her where someone had recalled an Ellerson family. Suddenly, she recalls, the name of Ypsilanti, Michigan kept crowding her mind, and she decided to call the Ypsilanti telephone information office only to find no listing for a Ceolia or Luella Ellerson. Unbidden, she related, the thought came to try the Police Department. A cooperative official found the City Directory revealed a Luella Ellerson residing there and dispatched an officer to the home with the message to call Mrs. Cleather Manning in

Administrative Intern



KERMIT BOOKER, JR.

Kermit Booker, Jr., recently has been selected as one of ten administrative interns now operating in the Clark County Schools. This selection was based on outstanding leadership demonstrated by Mr. Booker in school as well as in community service.

During Mr. Booker's first year as a teacher at Matt Kelly School, he was instrumental in organizing and coaching intramural sports programs for both boys and girls. Under his leadership, the Matt Kelly Cub Scout Program increased in size and effectiveness. He directed a boys' drill team which won honors in the Hellorado Parade.

Many new teachers at Matt Kelly School have been instructed in the use of audio visual equipment by Mr. Booker. The Matt Kelly Staff and Principal are extremely proud of Mr. Booker's appointment.

In addition to his teaching duties Mr. Booker will now assist the principal in the areas of in-service education, enrichment activities, and publicity. He is currently working with two colleagues in the development of a special after school program to challenge students who have demonstrated unusual talent.

Mr. Booker is also Vice Polemarch of Kappa Alpha Psi, a functional fraternity.

Las Vegas.

IT WAS, indeed, her "mother", Luella Ellerson who told her that Cleather's search had not been one-sided. They, too, had been trying to locate her for all these many years, and although her father had died several years before Luella had continued the search.

Luella Ellerson must deserve some special place hallowed for those who are truly mothers. She had found the five children of her husband's first marriage and with the 12 children begotten by her marriage to Cleather's father, they had all been united in one big happy family, and all had dedicated themselves to find the one lost lamb, Cleather.

On the first of November, Mrs. Manning flew to Ypsilanti and had a joyful reunion with the segment of the family there. Then, they all departed for Chicago for a mammoth reunion with the 40 brothers and sisters, children and grandchildren that make up the Ellerson family.

Two of the family necessarily missed the momentous occasion. One brother is in the Marines, another in the Army; both are in Vietnam. Brother Harold who is in the Navy was home on leave and was a part of the Ellerson family's storybook reunion.

Mr. and Mrs. Manning with their five sons and three daughters live at 609 Marcella, North Las Vegas. She is PTA President of Jo Mackey Elementary school where six of the Manning youngsters are enrolled. The other two attend J. D. Smith Junior High School. Mrs. Manning serves as President of her church Usher Board and the COIGC District Usher Board President as well. She is leader of the Junior Girls at Jo Mackey school and Jr. Mother of her church.

Hers is the story to inspire the true spirit of the Yuletide Season and reaffirmation of faith to HIM from whom all blessings flow and whose wonders never cease.

MATT KELLY BULLETIN



REALIZATION of the importance of how "the twig is bent" would be sufficient, alone, to merit diplomas for these mothers--their concern is deep enough to warrant the issuance of diplomas in Cub Pack training to (from left) Mmes Lucille Bryant, Willie Holland, Lonnie Marshall, and Emma Blackwell... Stalwart gentleman pictured is Ulysses Winfrey who, along with Kermit Booker, Jr. received his diploma for having completed training as committeeman for Cub Pack #134.

ON SATURDAY, November 18, 1967, the Boulder Dam Council of Boy Scouts conducted its annual training Pow-Wow for Cub Scout Leaders. The day-long training covered--administration of cub packs for committeemen, crafts, games and ceremonies for Den Mothers.

Those completing the training session and receiving diplomas from Pack 134, were Den Mothers: Mrs. Emma Blackwell, Mrs. Lucille Bryant, Mrs. Lonnie Marshall and Mrs. Willie Holland. Committeemen from Pack 134 completing training were Mr. Ulysses Winfrey and Mr. Kermit R. Booker, Jr.

College Students Sought

In an effort to motivate young college students towards careers in Federal government the Job Information Center in Sacramento (California) has opened a Student Trainee announcement appropriate to all Federal agencies in California and Nevada.

The announcement offers preprofessional training during the summer vacation to college students. Upon graduation, the students are eligible for a continuing career position in their chosen field.

Practically all options of professional engineering are covered by the announcement as well as positions in the Life Sciences, Agriculture, Physical Sciences, and Accounting.

WHILE ON the job, student trainees will work under the guidance of professional personnel in the specialized field which the student has selected. Although working primarily under guidance, the students will have the opportunity to assist in working on various projects.

This opportunity should not be construed as temporary summer employment. Rather, persons selected will initially receive permanent appointments and will be eligible for professional positions upon graduation from college. They are retained on Federal rolls during the entire scholastic year in a leave without pay status and reemployed each summer.

Applicants for GS-3 level jobs will be rated eligible if they have at least one year of academic study completed, 30 semester or 45 quarter hours, and if they pass the written test. Eligibility at the GS-4 level requires at least two and one-half years of completed academic study as well as a passing test score. The GS-3 starts at \$82 per week while the GS-4 starts at \$92 per week.

The written test is designed to measure verbal ability in addition to quantitative and abstract reasoning. Candidates for the engineering and physical science positions will also be required to pass an algebra test.

Interested students should contact any of the seven Federal Job Centers in California and Nevada. The Job Centers in Nevada are located at 300 Booth Street in Reno, and at 300 Las Vegas Blvd. in Las Vegas. Test sites, which are located in 54 California and Nevada cities, will be listed in announcements received by contacting the Federal Job Centers.