

OUTSTANDING BLACK BUSINESS OF THE WEEK



Starting June, 1974, Rev. Sam Roberson, a 25-year native of Las Vegas, developed the RELIGIOUS EMPORIUM, 1322½ D St., and has experienced continuous growth since that date. It handles a full line of religious records, sheet music, song books, tapes, bibles, study books, robes, black greeting cards and a large number of other related products. Through these years, the RELIGIOUS EMPORIUM has been able to expand through the aid of the Small Business Administration. For the outstanding contribution to the black business community and Las Vegas, the RELIGIOUS EMPORIUM has been selected to receive the LAS VEGAS SENTINEL "OUTSTANDING BLACK BUSINESS AWARD".



Insurance Corner

By ALEX THOMAS

Ebony Insurance Agency

BE SEEN AND LIVE

Of the many variables which combine to cause an accident on the highway, one is visibility of the "target". The less visible your car is, the higher its chances of being struck.

According to recent tests at the University of California, the colors blue and yellow were judged the safest if you want a car to be seen on the highway. Blue shows up best during daylight and fog, and yellow is best at night. The worst color from the visibility standpoint is gray. It seems to blend into the background and appears to be much farther away than it is.

Luminous tape is also a major visibility factor at night. Its reflective ability triples the distance that your car can be seen. And here's the visibility tip for the day. Why not paint the inside of your car's trunk with luminous paint? In case of a breakdown at night, your raised trunk lid will glow as a warning to other motorists.

This information has been brought to you as a public service by EBONY INSURANCE AGENCY, 808 So. 6th Street, Las Vegas. Phone: 382-2431. Your one-stop answer to complete insurance protection.

MAMA PUSHES ADOPTION PROGRAM

"MAMA stands for Members & Advocates for Minority Adoptions and our primary objective is to attend to the needs of black children in the Child Welfare System," said Kirby Burgess, president, MAMA.

He was responding to the inquiries as to the work of the organization and indicated that the work of MAMA enhances the efforts of Aid To The Adoption Of Special Kids (AASK).

The goals of MAMA are to (1) inform the community of the numbers of black children needing permanent homes; (2) recruit black families for the adoption of black children; (3) evaluate the availability of adoption information; (4) review current adoption and foster care legislation; (5) to demonstrate that black families are available and interested in the placement of black children and (6) decrease the number of black children waiting for permanent homes.



Kirby Burgess

Locally, there are approximately 40 children in foster homes and/or awaiting adoption.

"Recent changes in adoption trends have caused a large number of black children to be adopted trans-racially. While trans-racial adoptions are considered beneficial to the children, as a last resort, it is concluded there are interested people in the community and nationally who need further orientation as to the availability of black children in order to keep trans-racial adoptions to a minimum," said Burgess.

MAMA meetings are held on a bi-monthly basis on Thursdays at the Westside Library at 5:30 p.m.

WAITING CHILDREN

John is an eight-year-old biracial child with soft brown curly hair and dark brown eyes. He has medium complexion and is physically large for his age. John is a cute little boy who is very loving and affectionate. He is a happy child and a joy to be around. But John has been waiting for adoption all his life.



John

John is in his third year of school. He attends a school for the trainable mentally retarded. John is continuing to make progress. At school he is working on improving his eye contact and attention span. He responds well to verbal praise and positive reinforcement. He does much better with individual attention rather than in a group.

John's speech is improving. He can put three or four words together and carry out at least three commands. He understands almost everything that is said to him. He has been working on pre-writing skills, but he still has difficulty with eye-hand coordination.

John needs to work on his behavior problems, especially sharing and playing with others. He is very aggressive when playing with other children and he doesn't realize he is so much larger than the younger ones.

John enjoys playing with blocks and buckets. He likes to play ball and he especially loves toys he can push and pull such as trucks and wagons. John seems to entertain himself and enjoys playing alone. He needs little supervision unless he is playing with younger children.

John's self-help skills are rather good. He can

dress and undress himself, but he sometimes gets his clothes on backwards. He has pleasant table manners and is a very neat eater. He needs some help with his bath since he doesn't know which faucet is hot.

John's health is good. He is epileptic, but he has been seizure free for the past four years. He takes medication each day to control the seizures. He wears glasses, but his sight has been improving so he may soon outgrow the need for them.

John has been in foster care since infancy. He needs an adoptive family that will give him love, discipline and structure. John needs strict limits and individual attention. Adoptive parents would need to work with the school and have endless patience. The adoptive family needs to be aware of John's limitations and the attention and care that John will require. Are you the adoptive family for John?

HOW YOU CAN ADOPT

The Las Vegas SENTINEL, working with AASK (Aid to Adoption of Special kids) hopes to find homes for these children. AASK is looking for people who can give love and nurturing to hard-to-place children. Prospective parents may be single or married.

Subsidies (payments to the adopting family each month and medical expenses) are available for many of the children. Subsidies depend on the financial situation of the adoptive family.

If you'd like more information on how to adopt a special child or how you can help financially support the AASK program, please call 876-7420 or write AASK Adoption Agency, 3305 W. Spring Mountain Road, Suite 92, Las Vegas, 89102.

Adoption is a specific legal matter, and the Las Vegas SENTINEL can answer no questions concerning the children.