

# RENO HAPPENINGS



R. Grant Seals  
President Reno-Sparks NAACP



Ada Cook has been in the University of Nevada System since 1970. She served four years as a counselor at what is now Truckee Meadows Community College. This was followed by a two-year stint as assistant director of Upward Bound at the University of Nevada at Reno. She also served as research coordinator of the Research and Education Planning Center in the College of Education. She has been the Director of Special Programs in Student Services since 1978.

Ms. Cook taught the fifth grade for nine years in

Greenville, Mississippi, a town of some 40,000 according to the 1978 Rand McNally Family Atlas. It's probably closer to 60,000 when the total metropolitan area is included. She then took a position teaching the third grade in Elkhart, Indiana, a town of similar size to Greenville. She said she worked for a wonderful principal and school system.

When she came to Reno, she came primarily because she had relatives here; people who had been here since the fifties. While she didn't adjust as easily to Reno as she had to Elkhart,

Ms. Cook says that a big city, such as Sacramento, is not really her speed and she likes the size and pace of Reno.

Ms. Cook was born in Neshoba County, Mississippi, about 60 miles from the infamous Philadelphia, Mississippi where three civil rights workers were killed and fraudulently buried in the sixties. She received a Bachelor's Degree from Jackson State College, Jackson, MS and earned a master's degree from Tennessee State University in 1966 under Dr. Crump, a colleague of mine in my early career.

She has presided over the graduation of some 150 students from Upward Bound, part as Assistant Director of the program and part as Director of Special Programs.

Ms. Cook is one of eight siblings and the youngest. The other siblings supported her successful efforts to go to college. She says "My mother kept repeating this: 'keep pushing and remember the darkest hour of night is just before day'."

Her most rewarding moments are those remarks she gets from former students who remember her admonitions and tell her months and years later. Ms. Cook has received the Thornton Peace Award from UNR in 1984, Woman of the Year from Second Baptist in 1977, is a Life Member of the

## Nevada fighters top Lawlor undercards

Carson City super middle-weight contender Nicky Walker will face James Williams of Portland, Ore., in a scheduled eight rounder on one of two boxing cards at Lawlor Events Center March 22-23.

Walker, 25-2-2 with 17 knockouts and ranked No. 8 by the International Boxing Federation, will test Williams on the undercard of the Tyrell Biggs-Jeff Sims heavyweight fight March 23.

In other bouts, Reno lightweight Mike Grow will face Abel Infante of Portland, Ore., in a six-rounder and Reno heavyweight Rory Kileen will meet Terry Davis of Vallejo, Calif.

Five fights are scheduled on the undercard of the Dwight Muhammad-Qawi-Leon Spinks junior heavyweight title fight Saturday afternoon.

Tyrone Trice, 20-1 with 17 knockouts and ranked No. 15 by the World Boxing Council, will fight an opponent to be named in a 10 rounder.

NAACP and has served as Secretary of the Reno-Sparks Chapter of the Negro Business and Professional Women's Club.

THE RENO-SPARKS BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS Thursday April 3 at the Community Services Agency Center at Eighth and Sutro Streets. Board meeting is March 27. Both meetings are at 7 p.m.



Delores Feemster, Reno Sentinel-Voice General Manager. For news, weekly locations of paper and advertising information, contact her at 323-3677.

## Charles show to aid Reno Philharmonic

The legendary Ray Charles will bring his inimitable piano-pounding style to the Lawlor Events Center April 5 at 8 p.m. as part of Reno's Canadian Friendship Festival (through April 20).

Charles, dubbed "the genius" by Frank Sinatra, will perform with the Reno Philharmonic Orchestra, with all proceeds benefiting the Philharmonic.

Blind since age 7, the 55-year-old Charles has transcended his blindness and blackness to transform American popular music with his infectious, highly original blend of jazz, blues, country and western, rhythm and blues and rock.

Ticket information will be available within the next two days, according to publicist Rick Sorenson of Harrah's Reno, the show's sponsor.

For information call 786-3232.

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