



The National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. will present its Third Annual Testimonial Banquet at 7:00 p.m. on April 25. The banquet, to be held at the Club Rouge, 900 E. Bonanza Road, will honor Dr. and Mrs. William Pearson, Jr. Planning committee members are, seated left to right, Berta Norwood, co-chairperson and Lucille Gee, chairperson and program coordinator. Standing are Simmie Danials, ticket chairperson, Gilda Austin, hostess and Shelia Gilchrist, publicity and finance. Two members not shown are Ruth St. Cyr, hospitality and Brendia Crosby, door prize chairperson. Call 438-2078 after 6:00 p.m. for ticket information, or pick up tickets at the Club Rouge.

1987 CIVIL RIGHTS BILLS ON 'FAST TRACK' IN CONGRESS

By Larry A. Still
NNPA News Correspondent

Washington, D.C. — An all out drive to revive the endangered, controversial, anti-discrimination and equal housing laws in Congress started this week after 39 to 53, U.S. Senators introduced bi-partisan legislation in the Capitol.

Both bills calling for a Civil Rights Restoration Act and Fair Housing Law "were on a fast track in the Senate and House" (of Representatives), indicating early passage of the measures according to Ralph G. Neas, executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, which is rallying support for the legislation.

The LCCR is a coalition of 185 labor, religious, civil rights, social welfare, educational and community groups organized during the height of "The Movement" against racist, jim-crow, segregation laws 30 years ago. Recently, the coalition has been strengthened by the addition of women's groups, senior citizens, ethnics and the disabled.

The coalition was founded by Arnold Aronson, veteran Jewish leader; the late A. Philip Randolph, pioneer black leader who organized the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and Roy Wilkins, late NAACP president. Rev. Benjamin Hooks, current NAACP president, is present LCCR chairman.

The Civil Rights Restoration Act, which failed passage last year in the con-

servative 99th Congress, was introduced this year by Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass) in the new Democrat dominated Senate. He was joined by nine party colleagues and two Republican sponsors, along with 42 co-sponsors in the 100 member Senate.

In the House of Representatives, the chairman of the Labor and Human Resources and the Judiciary Committees are the principal sponsors. These include Reps. Augustus Hawkins (D-Calif.) and James Jeffords (R-Vt.), and Peter Rodino (D-NJ), Don Edwards (D-Calif.) and Hamilton Fish, Jr. (R-NY). Over 200 members of Congress are expected to co-sponsor the bill.

The Fair Housing bill was introduced by Sen. Joseph Biden (D-Del.), Paul Simon (D-Ill.), and Arlen Specter (R-Pa.). Biden is chairman of the influential Senate Judiciary Committee. The strong new measure was sponsored in the House by Congressman Rodino, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and Edwards and Fish. "These two measures are priorities," declared Neas.

Because of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in the Grove City (Calif.) case in 1983, the government may now subsidize discrimination, said Neas. The court ruled that funds could only be prohibited in specific acts. The bipartisan Civil Rights Restoration Act would prohibit Federal funding by reviving four statutes barring such actions against all persons because of race, sex, disability or age.

However, passage of the proposed new laws are threatened again by several amendments exempting religious organizations and persons "who choose to have an abortion." The LC-CR "vigorously opposes these amendments...which would gut" the effectiveness of the legislation, said Neas.

Fair Housing legislation has passed several times in the House of Representatives since 1977, but failed in the Republican controlled Senate under the leadership of Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.). It is expected to pass now with the help of the new bipartisan coalition and the support of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights which is growing stronger.

RJR Nabisco Contributes to NAACP Legal Defense Fund

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — RJR Nabisco, Inc. recently contributed \$26,000 to the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.

The corporate gift included a special \$11,000 donation to the fund, primarily to help defray the cost of students' attendance at the fund's annual Civil Rights Institute in New York City in May. In addition, RJR Nabisco made its annual \$15,000 contribution to the fund's general operations budget.

"We share the goals of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund as it continues to lead the fight in the courtroom against prejudice and discrimination based on race and sex," says Marshall Bass, senior vice president of RJR Nabisco. "The fund has an unparalleled record in prevailing on issues at all levels of the judicial system, which will affect the history of this country and the lives of many generations of Americans."

RJR Nabisco, an inter-

Little Known Facts About Las Vegas

Nearly 600,000 people live in the greater Las Vegas area... 92,000 students attend elementary and secondary schools...the sun shines up to 320 days a year...There are 59,000 marriages annually, and no blood tests or waiting period are required.

More than 20,000 college students attend classes in Las Vegas...In 1931, gambling was legalized in Nevada...the area that's now Las Vegas was originally discovered in 1829 by Spanish explorers...The mammoth Las Vegas Convention Center, one of America's largest single level facilities, spans 1.1 million total square feet of convention space...There are more than 56,000 hotel and motel rooms...The casino industry employes 80% of the work force.

national consumer products corporation, is the parent company of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Nabisco Brands, Inc. and Del Monte Corporation.

There are over 50,000 slot machines in the Las Vegas area...it rains an average of 6.8 inches a year...Las Vegas began as a railroad division point located in what is now downtown...There are 455 taxicabs serving the area...300 commercial flights land and depart McCarran International Airport each day.

Nearby Hoover Dam is 70 stories high...There are 30 wedding chapels in Las Vegas...Lake Mead, 45 minutes away from the Strip, has 500 miles of shoreline...Over 100 million meals are served annually in Las Vegas.

Less than 45 minutes from downtown Las Vegas stands Mt. Charleston where, surrounded by desert, winter sports enthusiasts can snow ski...Las Vegas' superstar-studded showrooms employ enough sequins to fill a dozen moving vans...when completed in the year 2000, McCarran International Airport will be among the most modern airport facilities in the world.

Women - Is Business For You?

"Women In Business — Is it for you?" is the title of a seminar set for April 17 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Clark County Community College, 3200 E. Cheyenne, Room 1068.

Women, find out if owning your own business is in your future and if so, how to start off on the right foot.

Speakers are Dot Bristow,

Re-Entry Center, Clark County Community College; Sharolyn Craft, Nevada Small Business Development Center; JoAnn McPherson, Rapport Institute; and Marie Papile, Small Business Administration.

Co-sponsoring the seminar with the SBA are The Institute and the Re-Entry Center at the Clark County Community College, and the

Nevada SBDC.

Registration fee is \$15.00. Contact the Clark County Community College, at 643-6060, extension 442, for reservations.

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877-0377

ATTENTION!!

The Nevada Black Chamber of Commerce is in its 3rd year of 301b economic development planning, for the special impact area as designated by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration.

The Chamber is currently accepting applications for existing projects, new projects or business ventures that seek location or expansion in the special impact area, which are designed to create employment opportunities and foster a more stable and diversified local economy from individuals, organizations and entities.

DEADLINE FOR PROJECT SUBMISSION IS TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1987 AT 12:00 NOON. For project registration forms and complete details, please call the office of the Nevada Black Chamber of Commerce, at 648-6222.

The Nevada Black Chamber of Commerce
1048 W. Owens Avenue
P.O. Box 4850
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106
Gwyn Brown-Coleman, Executive Director

Our success depends upon how well we satisfy you

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