

## Seminar To Aid Development of Small Business

Las Vegas, Nev. — All aspects of small business will be explored at "How To Develop and Expand Your Business Using Community Resources" on July 31, from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon at Heritage Hall located at 932 West Owens Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The seminar is designed for those individuals with established businesses and those who are considering the venture into a new business.

Included in the 14 presenters for the workshop will be experts from the Nevada Small Business Development Center, Nevada Economic Development Company

(NEDCO), and the Office of Community Services along with various other local and state agencies.

Assemblyman Wendell P. Williams said, "The seminar was designed to address issues and concerns of small business, which is the most vital aspect of the economy. Also it is intended to afford those individuals who are interested in starting his or her own business an opportunity to free professional advice."

The seminar is free and open to the public. For information and reservations call Assemblyman Williams at 646-1018 or the Nevada Small Business Development Center at 739-0852.

### Past the Sixties:

## A Need for Economic Development

By Sylvester Dihaan

When blacks emerged from the civil rights era of the 1960s, greater employment and educational opportunities replaced the marches and mass demonstrations that gave rise to Martin Luther King, or the fiery rhetoric that brought Stokely Carmichael and Malcolm X to public attention. Today, Buffalo's black community bears the appearance of a struggle with its boarded shops and abandoned properties, without the gains of battle.

Blacks, according to the 1983 census, are considered the least likely self-employed group. Ironically, figures from the 1970 to 1980 census indicate that blacks are better educated than the period covering the civil rights movement. Yet, black self-employment represents

3%; while white self-employment represents 93.2%.

The inability of blacks to employ themselves poses a most alarming problem. What really creates jobs is small businesses. Manufacturing industries no longer serve as the prime employer of Americans, African descent or white... The significant decline of industrial employment, plus the lack of small businesses that could offer some employment options, has hurt the economic development of the black community. The failure on the part of black entrepreneurs to create small business ventures has depressed the economic growth and employment potential within the black community...

Where are the talented in- See ECONOMIC, Page 10

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## 81-year-old makes sure history of racism isn't forgotten

By Joyce Gemperlein Knight-Ridder News Service

CARBONDALE, Pa. — When Frank Albert Young gets to wondering — and he gets to wondering from daybreak to nightfall — he walks what would be three blocks in a big city but in Lackawanna County is "down the hill and over the bridge and across the road" to his library.

He has his own library set up in a rented storage shed because local fire inspectors told him a while ago that the numbers and bulk of the reference books he had jammed into his tiny, subsidized apartment were a fire hazard.

Frank Albert Young is 81, very nearly 82. He is part Amish, part American Indian and part black. His nickname is Ghost Green Eyes. His back is a bit curved now and his fingers are stubborn about gracefully turning a page, but Young has a memory bank to rival any computer's.

He is a walking history book, both for what he knows through study and probing and for the times he has lived through — most often as a participant, rarely as an onlooker — in many cities across the United States.

But Young's deepest passion is the rich but little-discussed history of blacks in Pennsylvania. And that makes him a living state treasure.

Now and then Young ven-

tures out to lecture, to tell stories about the Underground Railroad for fugitive slaves that ran through Pennsylvania to freedom in Canada. He has gone to libraries in counties such as Susquehanna to dig up stories and papers on some of the principal local stations of the railroad at Wilkes-Barre, Pittston, Scranton and Abington.

Knowing that a historical site is out there somewhere — just there, unmarked by an official plaque — makes Young antsy.

Time and again he has gotten into his car and, with his wife, Esther, 60, ("a much younger woman than me, but people pay too much attention to that") at the wheel, they travel through Pennsylvania, pushing and poking around, daydreaming as they stand beneath a tree, for example, where blacks were lynched in Christiana, Lancaster County, during riots in 1851. They wonder aloud to each other how it had gone, what was said. They create their own motion picture, sometimes a tragic one, in their minds.

"Yes, yes, we go everywhere. My wife loves to drive. I just tell her to go easy on the gas pedal," Young says.

Whenever he can, especially with groups of young people, Young likes to pass out a list of black inventors before 1900.

It is an amazing list, he

says, only because little credit is given to blacks like H. Blair, who got a patent in 1834 for a corn planter; for J.A. Burr, who received a patent in 1899 for the lawn mower; for C.W. Carter, who invented the umbrella stand in 1885; for G.F. Grant, who received a patent for the golf tee in 1899; for T.J. Marshall, who got a patent for the fire extinguisher in 1872, or for J.L. Love, who invented the pencil sharpener in 1897.

Chicago Defender.

Young went on to be printer's devil (as apprentices were called) at the paper and, among other things, its sports editor, like his father. He was once assistant secretary of the Negro National League, the baseball organization, and a social worker. He worked for a number of newspapers and labor organizations around the world.

And now, Young says, it is time to put it all down on paper. He is just finishing his book, "Buy Your Ticket at the Station and Wait for the Three-Day Train," a history of racism, the title being a reference to the difficulty blacks had buying train tickets; he has begun two other books.



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