

NEWS CLIPS

PISCATAWAY CASE COULD CHALLENGE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Attempts by the Piscataway, N.J. school board in 1989 to deal with budget constraints triggered one of the most explosive employment discrimination cases in the country. The board was forced to eliminate one teaching position in the business department of the local high school. After assessing the credentials of two instructors, Debra Williams and Sharon Taxman, the board decided they were equally qualified. However, the school board decided to lay off Taxman, the white teacher, and retain Williams, the black teacher, in an effort "to promote diversity in the workplace." Following this decision Taxman filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. The Bush administration joined the fray and sued the school for discrimination in 1991. In 1993, the Federal District Court in Newark ruled in Taxman's favor and awarded her \$114,000 in back pay. The school board appealed and in 1996 the U.S. Court of Appeals upheld the judgment. The case will be taken up in this term of the Supreme Court.

PLANS TO HONOR BENJAMIN BANNEKER TO BE UNVEILED

A host of supporters, civic and political leaders are expected to be on hand Nov. 14, to witness the unveiling of new signage and learn of plans by the Washington Interdependence Council (WIC) to upgrade the site of the Benjamin Banneker Park in southwest Washington, D.C. to a memorial honoring the legend (Nov. 9, 1731 - Oct. 9, 1806). The new informational kiosks and name placard will officially designate the park as Benjamin Banneker Park. Plans will also be announced concerning the campaign to elevate the park to the status of a monument. Banneker was a member of the first Presidentially Appointed Commission charged with the mission of surveying and designing the nation's capital. He was also the engineer of the first all-American made clock, author of one of the first almanacs published in America, a tobacco farmer, scientist, mathematician, civil rights proponent and astronomer. For more information call 202-797-7201.

EDUCATION SUMMIT TO FOCUS ON AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDENTS

Preparing African-American children for success in the next millennium is the focus of an upcoming education summit sponsored by the Washington State Commission on African American Affairs. The summit, titled, "Creating Achievers for the 21st Century," will be held Saturday, Oct. 25 at Tacoma Community College, located at 6501 South 19th Street in Tacoma, Wash. African-American educators, parents, business and community leaders will gather to discuss the barriers and solutions to academic achievement among African-American students in public schools, K-12. "The success of our educational system is directly linked to the prosperity of our communities and our state," said Tony Orange, executive director of the commission. "We must be proactive in preparing our children for the future." For more information call 360-753-0127.

SICKLE CELL MONTHLY BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS URGED

WASHINGTON — Though new research says that monthly blood transfusions can cut the high risk of strokes for children with severe sickle cell anemia by 90 percent, nearly all the estimated 2,500 high-risk children who get the transfusions will develop a toxic side effect that requires painful, expensive treatment. "It's a difficult tradeoff," said Dr. Claude Lenfant, director of the NIH's National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, which paid for the study. But "stroke is among the most devastating complications of this disease, affecting a child's ability to move, speak and learn." Headed by Dr. Robert Adams of the Medical College of Georgia, the study offers the first stroke protection for children with sickle cell. The results were so dramatic that NIH stopped the study 16 months early — and recommended that all children with the inherited blood disease get sophisticated brain scans to find the ones at highest risk who may need transfusions. About 72,000 Americans have sickle cell anemia, an inherited disease that strikes mostly blacks. Hemoglobin clumps inside red blood cells, changing the normally round cells into a sickle shape that can't squeeze through tiny blood vessels. Patients suffer severe pain attacks, infections and eventually organ damage; they typically live only into their 40s. Childhood is particularly risky. Ten percent of child patients will suffer a stroke, and they have an 80 percent chance of repeat strokes after the first attack.

Fannie Mae gives group \$150,000 for WLW project

Special to Sentinel-Voice

The Fannie Mae Foundation announced earlier this month that it will support an affordable townhome development in West Las Vegas with a \$125,000 loan and \$25,000 grant to the Nevada Housing and Neighborhood Development (Nevada Hand).

Ann Marie Wheelock, executive vice president and chief operation officer of Nevada Hand, hosted a reception to announce the Fannie Mae's support.

"I am pleased to join you to affirm our commitment to

affordable housing in Nevada," Wheelock said. "Nevada Hand has worked tirelessly to expand affordable homeownership opportunities in Southern Nevada, and the Fannie Mae Foundation is proud to contribute its efforts."

Fannie Mae will invest \$125,000 in Nevada Hand to capitalize the predevelopment fund for the Country Ridge Townhomes, an 85-unit development located in West Las Vegas.

Additionally, the \$25,000 grant will expand Nevada Hand's administrative capacity and enhance its marketing and

outreach for the development.

"We are pleased to have been able to develop the Country Ridge Townhomes as an important asset for our community," said Mike Mullin, Nevada Hand's executive director. "Country Ridge will provide comfortable, affordable housing to low-income households."

We appreciate the Fannie Mae Foundation's contribution to our efforts."

Nevada Hand encourages, facilitates and develops affordable housing and economic development

activities statewide, with specific targeting of distressed areas.

The group constructs, purchases, sells, renovates and manages low- and moderate-income housing projects. Since its inception in 1993, the organization has developed nearly 400 units.

Headquartered in Washington D.C., Fannie Mae Foundation, a private organization, supports national and local nonprofit groups working to provide decent and affordable housing in communities throughout the United States.

Theater group announces 1998 Black college tour

Special to Sentinel-Voice

The 32nd Street Theater has announced the schedule for the fourth annual "Unity Through Knowledge" Black College Tour.

This year's educational and cultural tour will visit Alabama State, Clark-Atlanta, Florida A & M, Morehouse, Morris Brown, Spellman and Tuskegee.

The tour will take place April 6-10, during the Clark County

School District's spring break. The 32nd Street is a registered and recognized 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization.

The cost for the 5-day/4-night tour is \$500. The fee includes round-trip airfare, deluxe coach travel, hotel accommodations, guided campus tours, college preparatory seminars and evening tours of the cities' various tourist and cultural attractions.

"This tour is more than a spring break trip," said tour director Kelcey West. "It is a necessity and an opportunity for students to physically explore other opportunities of higher learning. After last year's overwhelming response to the tour, we felt compelled to continue our efforts."

High school students with a minimum 2.0 grade point average may obtain a registration form from any Clark County School District High School counseling office.

For more information, contact Kelcey West at 648-0511.

Chamber

(Continued from Page 2)

conference's theme: "Contacts and Contracts: Charting the Course, Sustaining the Competitive Advantage and Winning the Game."

The Chamber has also started a Junior Urban Chamber of Commerce aimed at youth.

Nixon said 1998 is the Chamber's year. "Ninety-eight, for us, will go into areas that we had not previously gone into in developing programs for the community so that we can enhance what's out there," he said.

"It took some doing to get from where we were then (a year ago) to where we are now," Phelps said. "I want everyone to know how important it is for me and the board of directors that everyone understand that we're trying our best to put something into the community that has not been there, and that is an atmosphere of professionalism, an atmosphere that says we're about doing business in Las Vegas — the same as any other community."

For more information call 648-6222.

WHAT'S WORSE THAN NEEDING LEGAL HELP? Not being able to afford it.



Pre-Paid Legal Services offers convenient plans to prepay your most common legal needs. Talk with an Independent Associate today.

Carmen Day • 838-2581

NOW EVEN BIGGER... TO SERVE YOU BETTER...

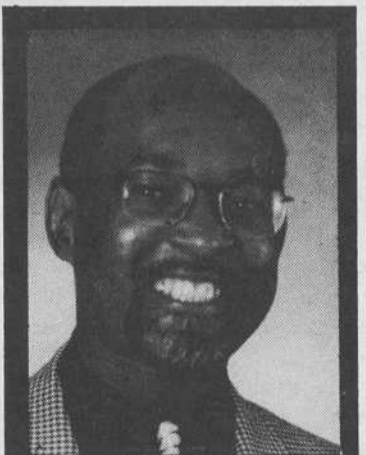
UNITED NISSAN CAN HELP RE-ESTABLISH YOUR CREDIT AND GIVE YOU A GREAT DEAL ON YOUR NEXT NEW OR USED VEHICLE. REPOSSESSION, BANKRUPTCY, CHARGE-OFFS CAN ALL BE OVERCOME. 99% APPROVAL! COME IN TODAY AND GIVE US A TRY!

No matter what the credit, we can help you. In fact, possibly with NO MONEY DOWN!

NISSAN UNITED NISSAN

E. SAHARA & BOULDER HWY. • 457-8061

Hours: Mon-Fri: 8:30a to 10:00p • Sat: 8:30a to 9:00p



LAWRENCE ENNIS
General Sales Manager

"Your Time Is Important To Me. Please Phone Ahead For An Appointment"

SPECIAL VALUES AND DEALS TO STATE, COUNTY AND CITY EMPLOYEES!