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cc: scheduling (W) 8-22

discovery creek

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF WASHINGTON

Scheduled
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August 10, 2000

My dear Mr. President:

In recognition of your unwavering commitment to children, Discovery Creek Children's Museum would be privileged to have you serve as Honorary Chairman at the 2000 Discovery Creek/GapKids Adventure, Walk on the Wild Side.

Date: Sunday, November 12, 2000
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Place: Marriott Wardman Park Hotel
2660 Woodley Road NW
Washington, DC 20008

Discovery Creek's Walk on the Wild Side is a family event, which includes a dinner, children's fashion show sponsored by Gap, Inc., and life-size immersion exhibitions. The exhibits simulate a nature hike in the mountains, a flowing kayak run, a rock climbing face, an underground cavern, and a bird-watching aviary, encouraging children to learn about their precious natural world through the excitement of experiencing it.

Proceeds from the benefit directly support the hands-on science and environmental education programs that Discovery Creek provides free of charge for thousands of underserved children and teachers in the District of Columbia Public Schools. For many children who live in an urban environment, an experience in a natural setting is not part of their world. Discovery Creek brings this opportunity to life, sparking a passion for nature and science learning in Washington's children.

Mr. President, we sincerely hope you and your family can join us on November 12 at *Walk on the Wild Side*. It would be our privilege to give you a tour of Discovery Creek at your convenience. Discovery Creek is located in the oldest one-room schoolhouse in the District, in the stables of historic Glen Echo Park and on the back of a 48-foot tractor-trailer called the *Rolling Rainforest*.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan M Seligmann

Susan M. Seligmann
President

Elise Museles

Elise Museles
Event Chair

It was wonderful to meet you at Harrison Ford's Dinner & to celebrate your birthday!
Sue

Museums:
4954 MacArthur Boulevard, NW
Washington, DC 20007

7300 MacArthur Boulevard, NW
Glen Echo, MD 20812

Mailing Address:
5125 MacArthur Boulevard, NW
Suite 10
Washington, DC 20016

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discovery creek
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF WASHINGTON

AT A GLANCE

Discovery Creek Children's Museum is committed to helping all children experience, appreciate and become stewards of the natural environment.

The mission is achieved by:

- Providing a national model for environmental education that emerges from the museum's programs in the Washington, DC area.
- Using natural and historic settings to create a living laboratory of science, history, and art exploration.
- Building strong connections with children, families, and schools, particularly in underserved areas.
- Providing immersion exhibitions, outdoor experiences, and innovative, interactive programming.
- Offering instructional resources for teachers.
- Forging alliances with other scientific, educational, and environmental organizations.

Discovery Creek Children's Museum of Washington was created in 1991 to provide Washington's children an opportunity to discover, understand, and learn to love the rich natural world that surrounds them. While Washington is filled with majestic old growth forests and natural streams, many urban children never truly experience nature due to challenges in transportation, safety, and awareness. **Without deliberate intervention, many of Washington's most underserved urban children would never meet a wild creature face-to-face, hear a creek splash into eddies, or see the mysteries of science unearthed in the natural world.**

Discovery Creek was founded on the vision that, given the opportunity for engagement, children will embrace a respect, stewardship, and love for the natural world around them. By surrounding families in the intricacies of the rainforest canopy, by inviting them with the sounds, smells, and sights of the desert at night, and by lighting their way deep into a termite mound, Discovery Creek provides children not just an opportunity to learn science, but *leaves them with a desire to encounter it.*

Discovery Creek opened in 1994 in the only remaining one-room schoolhouse in the District. The grounds of the Schoolhouse, which include 12 acres of nature trails, stream and natural rock outcropping, are as much a part of the character of the Museum as the building itself. The forest is home to some of the largest old-growth trees in the region, including the *Queen of the Forest* (named by the Museum's first visitors), an old-growth tulip poplar that is so massive that 18 first-graders can barely hug arm-in-arm.

The Museum opened its second site in 1998 at the historic stables in Glen Echo Park, Maryland, less than three miles from the Schoolhouse. Like the Schoolhouse, the rustic stables at Glen Echo Park provide an intimacy of scale, a creek that feeds the Potomac River, an old-growth forest, and in Fall 2000, an interactive children's botanical garden. In 2000-01, Discovery Creek will launch its first mobile exhibition and outreach program, *the Rolling Rainforest.* Housed in a 48-foot tractor-trailer, this living, breathing rainforest ecosystem will bring engaging science education to the yards of the District's Public Schools.

The New York Times

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 1998

Parents Behind Growth In Children's Museums

By BARBARA HALL

Children's museums, founded as the stepchildren of natural history museums, are exploding both in number and in scope as baby-boom parents nationwide demand more content from their Saturday outings.

Annual attendance has doubled, and new museums are being built in Austin, Tex., Baltimore, Miami and Richmond.

No longer consisting of butterfly collections or night sky dioramas, the new museums may include social and regional history, theater and an exploration of the creative process. In some cases, they have been built around enticing themes, like Discovery Creek in Washington, which focuses on nature and uses Glen Echo Park in Maryland as a setting, and the Lefferts Homestead in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, which focuses on colonial life.

A pioneer of children's museums is Michael Spock, son of the late pediatrician Benjamin Spock. In the 1960's, Michael Spock worked at the venerable Boston Children's Museum, one of the nation's first such museums. A consultant to Port Discovery, which is to open in Baltimore later this year, Mr. Spock attributes the museums' growth to the demands of parents.

"Many kids these days have very heavily managed lives," he said. "They're from families that organize the pants off them. So, a very rich educational environment, a place of free exploration and learning, becomes very important to them.

"I think the growth of children's museums is happening in parallel with education reform, rather than being deeply imbedded in it. Parents are smarter about how their kids learn today, and part of that's been how educators look at children's museums. In turn, children's museum people are looking at schools and what's happening in them."

The Association of Youth Museums, a Washington lobbying organization, said that in two years attendance at children's museums had more than doubled. This year's projected attendance is 22 million visitors, up from 9.3 million in 1996. Since 1991, 62 new children's museums have opened, bringing the total nationwide to 156.

Some recent scenes from children's museums show their range.

In the crowded amphitheater of the Brooklyn Children's Museum, Brian Grech, 6, was chinning himself on a railing instead of paying attention to the performance. But he suddenly became still, enchanted by a haunting tune played by Cliff Mathias on a Cherokee flute carved by the performer. "I love that flute," Brian announced.

At a replica of a classic New Jersey diner in the Garden State Discovery Museum in Cherry Hill, N.J., , youngsters pretended to cook for their parents, serving fake food, tallying the bills and, in the process, learning a bit of nutrition and math.

At the Hudson Valley Children's Museum in Nyack, N.Y., children learn to read by equating quilt patterns with word patterns.

"School education is not enough anymore," said Cheryl Bartholow, director of programs and education for the Brooklyn Children's Museum. "Parents want their kids to be more savvy in how they spend their leisure time. They're very interested in their children's education outside formal structures, so they're seeking out alternative education sources like ours."

Susan Seligmann, director of Washington's Discovery Creek, sees a link between the museums' growth and changes in education.

"I think that smaller children's museums are growing because communities want these resources for their families," Mrs. Seligmann said.

opportunities that didn't exist before. Parents are more deeply interested in education then they had been in past years."

Kathy Dwyer Southern, president of Port Discovery in Baltimore, said, "I think as we look at education reform, the synergy between formal and informal learning becomes more and more important. The fabric of the education communities is broadened, so that all of us embrace our responsibilities."

Children's museum directors are leading several trends. Lou Casagrande, director of the Boston Children's Museum, said, "Today, there is a sense that children's museums need to make connections with other institutions. While we were mavericks in the 60's, we have to be strategic allies into the next century."

Mr. Casagrande said his museum had expanded contacts with theater.

"Ours is called 'Kidstage,' and it's been a huge hit," he said. "We've always been good with science for young kids, multiculturalism and early childhood development. But we've added this theater program were every kid gets to be a star."

The future of children's museums may be most clear in Port Discovery, which will open this year in Baltimore's historic harbor district. Mayor Kurt Schmoke recruited Learning Systems, the for-profit tutoring service, in the early days of the project. They then persuaded Michael Spock to serve as a consultant, and the Disney Corporation's "Imagineering" unit to design the exhibits, including a three-story treehouse.

Helping children realize their dreams is the foundation of the Port Discovery museum, which will tap schools, the Enoch Pratt Library and the Walters Art Museum.

"Port Discovery is how to service kids' dreams, how to figure out ways to acquire the skills, the insights, the strategies to begin to make them happen," Mr. Spock said. "A lot of it has to do with issues like heroes — popular and home-grown, like your parents — and how they got to where they are. It also has to do with ideas, excitement, enthusiasms, like pets or sports, things that turn you on — finding out how to use them in the world, particularly in your own community, in your family, in schools, libraries, and on the Internet.

"You'll be able to pursue these ideas, feel that you're taking charge of your excitements, and develop them further. It's very ambitious, very complicated, and I think it's going to take a number of years to pull it all together. But it'll be very wonderful when it works."

Chester Higgins Jr./The New York Time

Shani Ashkenazy visited the Brooklyn Children's Museum with her daughter Shandy, 6, and son Moishe, 3

The Washington Post

METRO

THE REGION

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2000

Earth Day Celebrants Ask Higher Standards

Calls to Reduce Emissions, Slow Global Warming Rate

By DAN EGGEN
Washington Post Staff Writer

Tens of thousands of people turned out on the Mall yesterday to celebrate three decades of progress in cleaning up the environment and to warn that new restrictions are needed to combat the threat of global warming.

Under gray skies and with blustery winds that likely kept thousands more away, Earth Day 2000 mixed Washington politicking with Hollywood celebrities to draw a diverse crowd of young and old.

Teenage girls shrieked for actor Leonardo DiCaprio, the "Titanic" star who served as the event's chairman. A few activists booed Vice President Gore. And aging baby boomers sang along with the likes of David Crosby, James Taylor and Peter, Paul and Mary in an appeal to stop global warming. The entire multimedia program, broadcast live on the Internet, was powered by generators fueled with wind, sun, natural gas and discarded cooking fat.

"According to scientists around the world, we are on a downward slope," said DiCaprio. "Enough is enough. . . . Our planet's alarm bell is now going off, and it's time to wake up and take action."

The Washington rally was the focal point for a worldwide slate of Earth Day celebrations and protests. Activists from Taipei to Mexico City hosted a wide variety of events, including a one-day boycott in Jakarta, Indonesia, against driving cars and a clean-energy picnic in Warsaw.

In an appearance intended to tout his environmental credentials for the presidential race, Gore repeated his call for the eventual elimination of the internal-combustion engine. The likely Democratic

See EARTH, *C9, Col. 1*

Blustery winds kept volunteers busy trying to keep a huge balloon of the Earth tethered to its spot on the Mall during Earth Day activities. Tens of thousands of people turned out to listen to speeches and music during the 30th annual event.

BY LUCIAN PERKINS—THE WASHINGTON POST

Cool Spring Day Greets 30th Earth Day Protest of Global Warming

EARTH, *From C1*

nominee also said that coal-fired power plants, exempted from many modern pollution laws, should be held to stricter standards and urged Congress to act.

"We need to make the next 10 years the environmental decade," said Gore, who made several references to "Earth in the Balance," his reissued 1992 book on the environment. "We have to stand against the pollution apologists."

In a radio address, President Clinton also used Earth Day to blame the Republican-controlled Congress for failing to recognize the global warming threat and to urge passage of legislation promoting clean and efficient energy.

Republican National Committee spokesman Chris Paulitz called Clinton's proposals "small ideas to help the environment," and said Gore's book highlighted his "extremist ideas" on the environment. Texas Gov. George W. Bush, the likely Republican presidential nominee, declined an invitation to appear at the event, said Denis Hayes, who helped coordinate the first Earth Day in 1970 and was a leader for this one as well.

Organizers with the Earth Day Network, which put together the event, said 300,000 people were on the Mall at the event's height yesterday afternoon, with about 500,000 attending throughout the day.

But many participants and visitors said they were disappointed in the turnout, which they said may have been hurt by the chilly weather. The U.S. Park Police no longer issues crowd estimates for Mall events, but in 1990, the police estimate of the Earth Day gathering was half the size of the one given by organizers of the event.

"At least it's not raining," said Sara Zdeb, a policy associate with Friends of the Earth, whose members were desperately working to keep a 30-foot-tall inflatable globe from blowing away. "There are still thousands of people here, and that should send a strong message to the decision makers in D.C. that they should start paying attention to the environment."

Jeff Chaloupek, 34, a District resident who works for an international consulting firm, spent part of the day listening to music from a cozy spot under a tree. "We only have one planet," he said. "If we waste it or spoil it, we put ourselves in a great deal of trouble."

Fran Morrill, from New York City, said she attended Earth Day because she felt it was important to help people raise their consciousness. "We all live on Earth, but we exploit the natural resources," she said. "It's our obligation to use these resources wisely."

The crowd's makeup varied wildly, from suburban soccer families to ponytailed environmental protesters. A group of Seattle activists wearing sea-turtle costumes—last seen at the International Monetary Fund and World Bank protests—made an appearance, while a group of Gore critics held signs urging him to "walk the walk" on environmental issues.

Visitors strolled through tents labeled Earth, Air, Sun, Water, People and Children, which together featured more than 200 exhibits on solar power and other "clean-energy" issues. Most scientists believe that heat-trapping greenhouse gases, mainly carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels, are the key cause of a rapid warming trend in the Earth's atmosphere.

One of the biggest attractions for children was a faux rain forest in a trailer operated by Washington's Discovery Creek Children's Museum. The exhibit included dart frogs, macaws, a waterfall and scores of tropical plants.

"I want to see a bird!" exclaimed Jordan Dail, 4, who waited in line with her parents and little sister to visit the rain forest.

"Both of the girls are pretty into wildlife and nature, and we thought this would help educate and entertain them," said Jordan's father, Jeff Dail, of Cambridge, Md. "We want them to learn to respect and care for the Earth."

Children were plentiful, underscoring Earth Day's transformation from a fringe protest movement into a mainstream campaign. Some die-hard activists feel the event has become so hyped that its message has been diluted, apparently prompting one of yesterday's placards: "Save The Earth—Not Leo's Career."

But Gaylord Nelson, the former Wisconsin senator who founded the original event, said he was thrilled with how popular environmental issues have become.

"The sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders in school today are better informed and ask better questions about the environment than college seniors did in 1970," Nelson, 83, said at the rally.

Despite the crowds, Energy Secretary Bill Richardson told reporters that he worried that the seizure of Elian Gonzalez was detracting attention from the event. "Let's not let what happened in Miami block the importance of Earth Day," he said.

Before the Mall rally, VIP's gathered at the Mayflower Hotel for a "thank-you" breakfast and pep talk. Celebrity guests such as Melanie Griffith, Chevy Chase, Tom Arnold, Clint Black, Donna Mills, Peter Yarrow, Dennis Weaver, Ed Begley Jr. and Edward James Olmos joined Hayes, Nelson, Richardson, Environmental Protection Agency head Carol M. Browner and Sen. John F. Kerry (D-Mass.). All were included later on the roster of rally speakers.

Chase, like the other famous names, was in Washington to draw more popular attention to environmental issues. He said Third World industrialization and overpopulation are his main concerns. "Unless we help them—educate them—we're in trouble," said the actor. "The world is in trouble."

Chase and his wife, Jayni, who heads Friends of the Earth, were scheduled to stay at Camp David with the Clintons last night. He later joked with reporters about his family's strict adherence to conservation: "We never flush. It's a mess."

The breakfast featured a number of heartfelt speeches. Weaver spoke at length on fossil fuels, Mills spoke of using the Internet to mobilize millions of people across the globe, and Hayes paid tribute to Earth Day founder Nelson as the man who "changed my life."

In 1970, as a young Harvard student, Hayes said he called Nelson about the upcoming Earth Day the senator was planning—thinking it might be a good way to jump-start his romantic life. "I thought, 'That's probably something girls would be attracted to,' " Hayes said.

The former senator received a standing ovation, then told the audience how the first Earth Day changed American politics.

"It did shake up the establishment," he said. "It did get the attention of Congress. It did put the issue on the national agenda."

Staff writers Michael H. Cottman and Roxanne Roberts and the Associated Press contributed to this report.

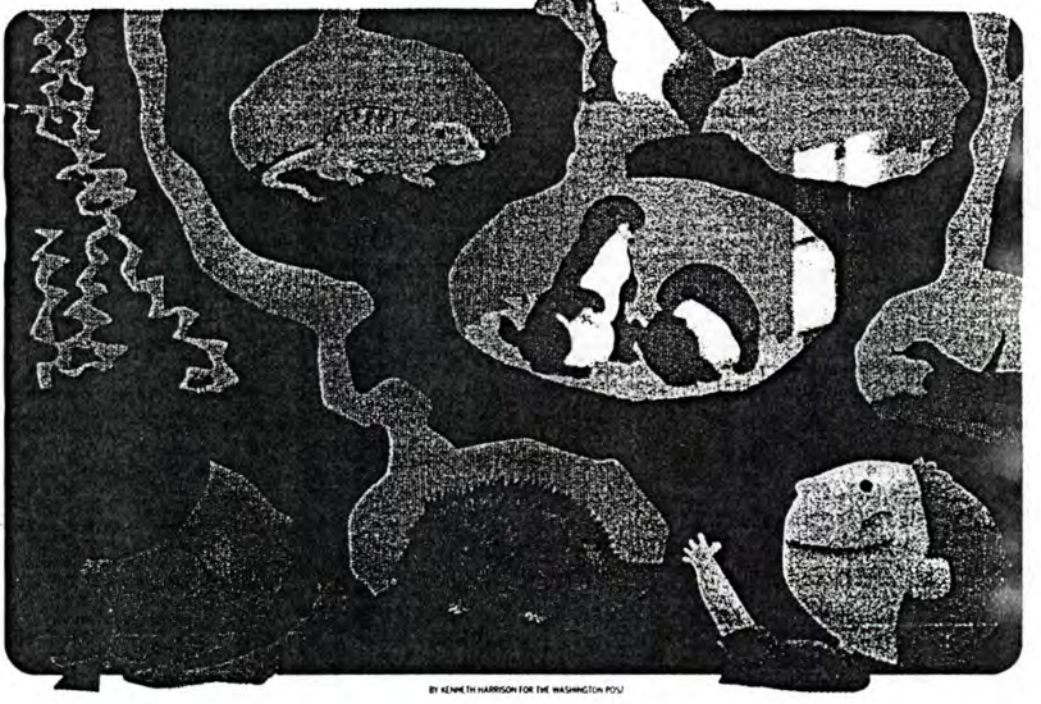
The Washington Post

Saturday's Child

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS • FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Beneath The Surface

By Hank Burchard
Washington Post Staff Writer



BY KENNETH HARRISON FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

WHEN Annikki Dighe lures young kids into her Glen Echo lair, things get down and dirty right away. The youngsters crawl through the creepy dark. They spy on naked mole rats, ogle anthills, pet a prickly hedgehog, squirm past a worm farm and peer at prairie dogs. They dish the dirt about life and death. They go home slightly grubby and, one hopes, with the beginnings of a grounding in the wonders of the earth we all walk on.

Dighe, a senior educator with the Children's Museum of Washington, has the bounce and enthusiasm of an overwound cheerleader. It takes her only a few minutes to learn the names and engage the attention and energies of the dozen or so children she leads on tours of the "Deep Down Underground" exhibit that has transformed the old National Park Service stable at Glen Echo Park into a labyrinth of lighthearted learning. The tours, led by one of the center's eight educators, also include a tramp through the adjacent woods and along a creek.

Equally adept at drawing out shy youngsters and gentling disruptive class clowns, she soon has everyone stepping lightly along to the irresistible rhythm of her earthy delivery. The kids' steps grow lighter still as Dighe leads them to the understanding that the ground beneath their feet wasn't always there, it's a mixture of worn-down rocks and rotted plants and is just crawling with bugs and mold and animals as big as badgers and as small as sand grains. Each child takes on the role of a plant, animal or insect.

Dighe and her seven fellow educators have a canny knack for winkling out who'll make the best Dead Dude or Water Warrior. At some point during the tour, each child takes a star turn as a key element of the ecology; by the end of the exercise comes the understanding that all elements of the ecology are essential. Along the way they are matter-of-factly reminded that death is a natural and inevitable part of life's loamy underside.

The exhibit, which is open to the public on weekends, is the current attraction of the nonprofit museum's Discovery Creek unit, now in its second year of operation. The museum designs its programs specifically for pre-kindergarten through sixth-grade children.

"We have an awful lot of fun because we get children at their brightest and most open-minded age" says Jacqueline Eyl, director of education. "And it's the critical age: If we can turn them on to nature now, they'll probably never turn off."

The teaching method is not only hands-on but hands-in: Hands in a rotting stump to feel wood turning to soil; hands in the creek to feel the slime of algae and the grit of sand starting on its long journey to the sea; hands scrabbling through crisp, fresh-fallen leaves to find the remnants of last season's shed glory, now almost fully decomposed in Mother Earth's recycling center and well on their way toward renewal and rebirth as part of other plants and animals.

Most of the weekday visitors come by school bus, and the pent-up energy of the regimented ride is dissipated in a swimming pool-size sandbox in the stable yard, where they cavort in athletic abandonment while awaiting their turn to tour. Through a marvelous grasp of group dynamics, the center's tour leaders manage without sternness or yelling to channel the children's joyful abandon into eager examination of the world beneath their feet.

The museum, founded in 1994 in Washington's last one-room schoolhouse, an 1864 structure at 4954 MacArthur Boulevard NW, has formed partnerships with 20 District schools, 10 more in Montgomery County and expects to expand to schools in other area jurisdictions, particularly those with a large percentage of disadvantaged pupils.

The museum's mission, says Eyl, "is as clear and simple as it can be: We try to help young children understand that they're part of the living planet; that food doesn't really come from the Safeway, that trash doesn't just go away, that we share the earth and air and water with other living things and all are important and valuable. Kids used to experience nature as they grew up, but America has been urban for several generations now, so they grow up in a largely artificial, televised, computerized, virtual-reality, keep-off-the-grass world."

While the center makes the learning process painless, all its programs meet national scientific instruction standards, Eyl says. Other offerings include after-school and weekend activities and summer science camps. Eyl's pet project of the moment is a "Rolling Rain Forest," a self-contained, living and functioning ecology exhibit in a tractor-trailer rig that can be driven to schools.

Adults are welcome to join their children in the underground adventures, but are warned to watch out for low ceilings: The environment is geared mentally and physically to little visitors.

DEEP DOWN UNDERGROUND — On view weekends through Jan. 30 at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. 202/364-3111. For children 3 to 11. Open 10 to 3 Saturday, noon to 3 Sunday. Admission $3, adults free.

Carousel

These events for children and families are free unless a fee is noted. Regular hours for continuing activities appear here, but some sites will be closed on New Year's Day. Call before you visit.

Performances

MARYLAND YOUTH BALLET — The Nutcracker. [illegible]

Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College, 51 Manakee St., Rockville. 301/652-2232 or 301/279-5301.

"BARNEY'S MUSICAL CASTLE" — Friday at 1, Saturday at 3:30 and 7, Sunday at 1:30 and 5. $11.50 to $26 plus service charges. Patriot Center, George Mason University, 4400 University Dr., Fairfax. For tickets, 202/432-7328; for information, 703/993-3000.

"LYLE THE CROCODILE" — Friday at 1, Saturday and Sunday at 1 and 3. $6. Reservations required. Bethesda Academy of Performing Arts Imagination Stage, Level 2, White Flint Mall, 11301 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. 301/881-9106. [illegible]

Theatre, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. 301/320-5331.

"WINNIE THE POOH, A CHRISTMAS Tale," by the Children's Theater. Friday at 1:30. $8, seniors and students $6. Thomas Jefferson Community Theater, 3255 Old Glebe Rd., Arlington. 703/538-1154.

"HOW TO MAKE AN APPLE PIE and See the World," through Jan. 7. Sunday at 1:30 and 4:30, Tuesday-Thursday at 7:30. $15. Kennedy Center Terrace Theater. 202/467-4600 or 800/444-1324 (TDD: 202/416-8524).

"A NEW YEAR'S ADVENTURE IN the Forest of Wonders," through Jan. 9. Sunday at 2. $10 in advance, $12 at the door. Classika Theatre, 4011 [illegible] St., Annandale. 703/823-6300. [illegible]

Saturday at 11. $9. Reservations required. Wed. [illegible] Thursday, Dance Theater, 5 Wildwood Dr., Frederick. 301/662-0600.

Special Events

MODEL RAILROAD OPEN HOUSE — Displays of HO-scale model railroad layouts by the Triangle N Western Model Railroad Club. Sunday, noon to 5, through Jan. 16. Insurance Unlimited Building, 5622 Belair Rd., Baltimore. 410/256-9047.

MODEL RAILROAD OPEN HOUSE — Displays of HO and O-scale model railroad layouts. The [illegible]

THE WASHINGTON POST WEEKEND/FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1999

The Washington Times

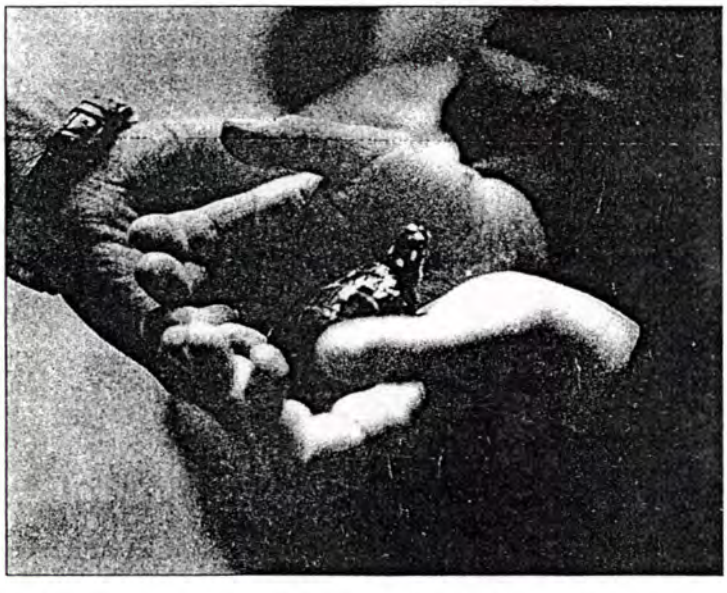
://www.washtimes.com WASHINGTON, D.C., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1998 ★★

Photos by Tippi Nicole Thole/The Washington Times

As she discusses the turtle in her hand and its wetland environment, Alexis Gelb, 22, has the complete attention of first-graders Jenny Schroder and Whitney Price, both 7, at Discovery Creek Children's Museum of Washington at Glen Echo Park. The youngsters, on a field trip from St. Patrick's Elementary School in the District, also had a chance to hold a smaller painted turtle (below) and other animals during their visit.

Field trips

By Jill Welbaum
THE WASHINGTON TIMES



Even those who fear snakes may learn to like them after spending a day at Discovery Creek Children's Museum of Washington in Glen Echo.

Visitors get a chance to view tiger salamanders, newts, toads and other amphibians that may not win beauty contests but still pique the curiosity of young explorers intent on discovering nature.

"Nah, I'm not afraid. I have a tiger salamander at home, but now I know more about it," says Marcus Jay, 12, a sixth-grader at Bunker Hill Elementary School in Washington, during a recent visit to the museum as part of a class field trip.

An outing to Discovery Creek is more than an educational exercise — the museum's two main sites are connected by three miles of footpaths. Although museum officials hope eventually to provide transportation between the two sites, right now folks must hike the distance.

A renovated one-room schoolhouse — which is heated — serves as the initial meeting place for museum visitors. The schoolhouse features brightly painted murals and hanging plants. Various species of live caged mammals, amphibians and a boa constrictor are on display.

Those exhibits allow children a close-up view of the animals, which can be observed safely in their roomy display cases.

Museum guides conduct hands-on lessons and activities that are relevant to the ages of the children.

"We try to make it so it's not just a zoo show," says Kim Lowther, educator at the museum. "In our lessons, we like to relate the animal habits to human habits. This makes everything more comprehensive and real for the children."

The second site features a replica of a healthy ecosystem with four sections: a living pond, grasslands, a heron's nest and a bog. This small one-room learning area is in a building called the "stable," which is a historical landmark. With dirt floors, growing plant life and muggy boglike temperatures, the room is bursting with nature — and the noise of schoolchildren.

"They never had anything like this place when I was a kid. This hands-

A pond at the museum gives the visiting first-graders an opportunity to learn about its ecosystem.

When you go

DIRECTIONS: From Interstate 495, get off at Exit 40 on the outer loop, Exit 41 on the inner loop. Take the Clara Barton Parkway (Cabin John Parkway) east to MacArthur Boulevard/ Glen Echo exit and follow the signs for Discovery Creek Children's Museum of Washington.

PARKING: Parking is free on a large lot just off MacArthur Boulevard at Oxford Road, across from the Glen Echo Shopping Center. From the parking lot, a well-lighted asphalt path leads across the Minnehaha Creek bridge and into the park.

HOURS: During the week, school groups participate in activities at the museum. The general public is invited to attend weekend programs. Two workshops are offered on Saturdays. The wetlands exhibition is open from 10 to 11 a.m. for children from age 3 to 6 and from 11 a.m. to noon for children from 3 to 11. Periodic guided tours of the wetlands also are given from 1 to 3 p.m. On Sundays, only periodic wetland tours are offered between noon and 3 p.m. The exhibit will be open until January.

ADMISSION: The Saturday workshops are $6 for museum members and $8 for nonmembers. The wetlands tours are $3 for museum members and $4 for nonmembers.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES: Reservations must be made six months in advance. On Saturdays, only the wetlands exhibition site will be open. On Wednesdays through Fridays, both sites will be open.

INFORMATION: 202/364-3111

FOOD: Bring your own. There are no picnic tables on the museum's property, but there are several in Glen Echo Park.

WHAT TO WEAR: Comfortable shoes — there is at least a 3-mile trip between the one-room schoolhouse and the stable ecosystem learning sites. There is no shuttle system provided by the museum.

on natural habitat is a great learning environment. It even smells like a bog," says Peter Burnes, a father accompanying a recent first-grade field trip of St. Patrick's Episcopal Elementary School in Washington.

In visiting the ecosystem, large school groups are divided into four smaller groups and assigned to four museum guides who explain each section and encourage their groups to ask questions. "The purpose is to teach children while they're young and impressionable," says Susan Seligmann, president and founder of the museum, "to show them there is no need to be afraid of the animals."

Although the stable is adjacent to the parking lot via an asphalt path, visitors should keep in mind that the proper museum tour starts at the schoolhouse.

Museum exhibits are changed periodically throughout the year. Other exhibits include programs on tropical rain forests, coral reefs and wetlands.

"Discovery Creek's program on the wetlands really brings our classroom unit to life," says Mary Beth James, first-grade teacher at St. Patrick's. "The children are able to touch and feel all the elements of the wetlands and interact closely with them."

Discovery Creek, which is a division of Glen Echo Park, is a private nonprofit organization that opened in 1994. The museum works with Conservation International, a developer of solutions to preserving ecosystems and species, to make sure the environmental exhibits and curriculum is up-to-date.

The Washington Post

Exploring the Great Indoors

By Wendi Kaufman
Special to The Washington Post

FROM THE outside, the old stable at Glen Echo Park is nothing to write home about, just a small, square building nestled on a hill. But take a look inside and you might be surprised to find the place alive with the sights and sounds of the great outdoors. Once the province of the park's police horses, the renovated stable is now home to the Discovery Creek Children's Museum, where children can explore scientific frontiers with a naturalist bent.

Celebrating its grand opening this month, the Glen Echo site is the second of two homes for the children's museum—the first still operates Mondays through Fridays by appointment for groups only in Washington's only remaining one-room schoolhouse, at 4954 MacArthur Blvd.

The new Glen Echo site will be open to the public on weekends only, and you can't just drop by. For now, public tours and family workshops are the only way to view the museum, and the hours of operation are limited. When planning a visit it is best to call, or consult the list that follows this article, for a complete schedule of workshop topics, dates and tour times.

The museum is not very large, just one room, and has a kind of clubhouse feel to it. The small space actually works in its favor, as it necessitates keeping tour groups small and personal. And, from all appearances, it seems to be blue skies for the new location. Especially on the inside.

On a recent preview visit, I stepped out of an early autumn twilight into a brightly lighted sky-blue day, with billowy tufts of white clouds shimmering at me from above. The entire 800-foot exhibit hall, from wall to ceiling, has been painted to resemble a brilliant spring day. And it doesn't stop there.

More than three tons of dirt were delivered to transform the former horse paddock into "Wild Wonders of the Wetlands," an interactive display with live plants and animals, and lighted by grow lights, incandescent and fluorescent lighting, and skylights and windows. Who says you can't bring the outdoors inside? Not the people at Discovery Creek, who have managed to do just that, creating a sort of living laboratory for children's exploration and enrichment.

Inside the museum are four distinct areas—bog, pond, marsh grasses and heron's nest—each representing the wetlands' varying landscapes. The first stop is the bog, the kind of place where good Italian leather boots sink ankle-deep in mud and then make a squishing sound when you walk. Remember to dress for an outside excursion, even though you'll be indoors.

In the bog there is a log. And under the log, which children are invited to lift, is a whole other world waiting to be discovered. A world where beetles scurry, a snake slithers, and a marbled salamander does whatever it is that marbled salamanders do. There's not a wall plaque, chart or graph in sight. All the lessons here come from observation, hands-on learning activities and the museum educators.

Bog terrain also includes some fascinating plant life, including the predatory Venus' flytrap and pitcher plants. Older children can hear about plant adaptation, how carnivorous plants find nutrients and about the quality of oxygen-deprived soil.

PHOTOS BY MARK FINKENSTAEDT FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Senior educator Annikki Dighe, right, gets hands-on at Discovery Creek Children's Museum.

The next station is the pond, home to tadpoles, turtles and crayfish. The kind of place where, standing in the bulrushes next to the lapping water, you can almost forget you're indoors. Aquascopes and stereoscopes can be used to test the water, one of many activities designed to show how water quality, even in a small pond, affects us all.

The terrain changes again when you come to the marsh grasses. Deductive reasoning is the call of the day amid the tall reeds and switchgrass: Children use their detective skills to follow animal tracks, learning how to identify signs of animal activity. There is a bit of a mystery to uncover when trying to piece together what happens when fox tracks meet duck tracks (hint: loose feathers and only one set of tracks heading away from the site).

For a change in perspective, climb up and look down on the wetlands from an oversize heron's nest perched above the main floor. From there, it's easy to survey the entire exhibit room in a glance. More treehouse than bird's nest, this aerie gives a bird's-eye view of the wetlands. Here the lesson is about bird adaptation, specifically beaks and feet. Using common home tools like needle-nose pliers and tweezers, children try to pick up different objects from beads to grains of rice, quickly learning which type of beak is best for the job and why.

The visionary behind this living tableau is Sue Seligman, the museum's founder and president. Seligman wanted to teach children about the diverse wetland terrain and its endangered ecosystem in a way that was both engaging and educational.

"We're committed to educating children about the delicate balance of nature," says Seligman. "We give children who visit Discovery Creek the opportunity to explore, to learn, to ask questions and to draw their own conclusions."

Part of the museum's mission is to help children forge a connection with the natural world, a way of thinking about and looking at nature that extends far beyond the museum's walls. Don't let the museum's size fool you: It may look small, but the world it opens up to children is very large indeed.

Please touch: A boy acquaints himself with a reptilian resident of the museum's latest location.

DISCOVERY CREEK CHILDREN'S MUSEUM — 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. 202/364-3111. Web site: *www.discoverycreek.org*. The museum is open to the public only on Saturdays from 10 to 3 and Sundays from noon to 3. Admission per child is $6 for members, $8 for nonmembers. Adult admission is free. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Closed Dec. 5-6 and 26-27, and Jan. 2-3. A family membership is $50 a year.

From the Capital Beltway (I-495), take Exit 40 from the outer loop, or Exit 41 from the inner loop. Take the Clara Barton (Cabin John) Parkway east to the MacArthur Boulevard/Glen Echo exit and follow signs to the park.

"Wild Wonders of the Wetlands" exhibition tours are offered Saturdays and Sundays through Jan. 31. One-hour tours are Saturdays at 1 and 2, and Sundays at noon, 1 and 2. This all-ages tour is available for children on a first-come, first-served basis; reservations are not necessary, but space is limited.

Workshops — "Wild Wonders of the Wetlands" family workshops are offered Saturday mornings through Jan. 31, from 10 to 11 a.m. for children ages 3 to 5, and from 11 a.m. to noon for children of all ages. Reservations are required.

Upcoming workshop topics are "Wings in the Wetlands" (Oct. 31 and Dec. 19), "Ponder Ponds" (Nov. 14 and Jan. 16), "Preposterous Plants" (Nov. 7 and Jan. 9), "Who's Been Here?" (Nov. 21 and Jan. 23), "Bugs in the Bog" (Dec. 12) and "Fabulous Frogs" (Nov. 28 and Jan. 30). Registering and paying in advance for three or more Saturday programs earns a discount of $2 per child, per program.

discovery creek
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF WASHINGTON

Susan M. Seligmann
President
sseligmann@discoverycreek.org
Office Address:
5125 MacArthur Boulevard, Suite 10 • Washington, DC • 20016
Tel: (202) 364-3111 • Fax: (202) 364-3114

About Discovery Creek

Discovery Creek Children's Museum is committed to help all children experience, appreciate, and become stewards o natural environment by providing a national model for environmental education.

This mission is achieved by:

- Using natural settings in the National Capital area to cr a living laboratory of science, history, and art exploratio
- Building strong connections with children, families, and schools in the Washington community.
- Providing immersion exhibitions, outdoor experiences, a innovative, interactive programming.
- Offering instructional resources for teachers.
- Forging alliances with other scientific, educational, and environmental organizations.

Discovery Creek Children's Museum is located in the only remaining one-room schoolhouse in Washington, DC and the historic Stable at Glen Echo Park.

Discovery Creek's Rolling Rainforest

Housed in a 48-foot tractor-trailer, Discovery Creek's *Rolling Rainforest* is the museum's first mobile exhibition. In its pilot year, the *Rolling Rainforest* will travel to 15 of Washington, DC's most underserved Public Elementary Schools. As children transform into eco-travelers and become immersed in the sights and sounds of a tropical rainforest, they gain an understanding of how they can impact an environment thousands of miles away. At the same time, th *Rolling Rainforest* is immersed in the culture of a communit from schoolchildren to families to neighborhood organizations.

What Can You Do To Help?

Think about the impact the *Rolling Rainforest* exhibition can have for stude across the nation. **We need your help** i realizing this goal. If you are interested supporting this effort or would like mo information, please contact us.

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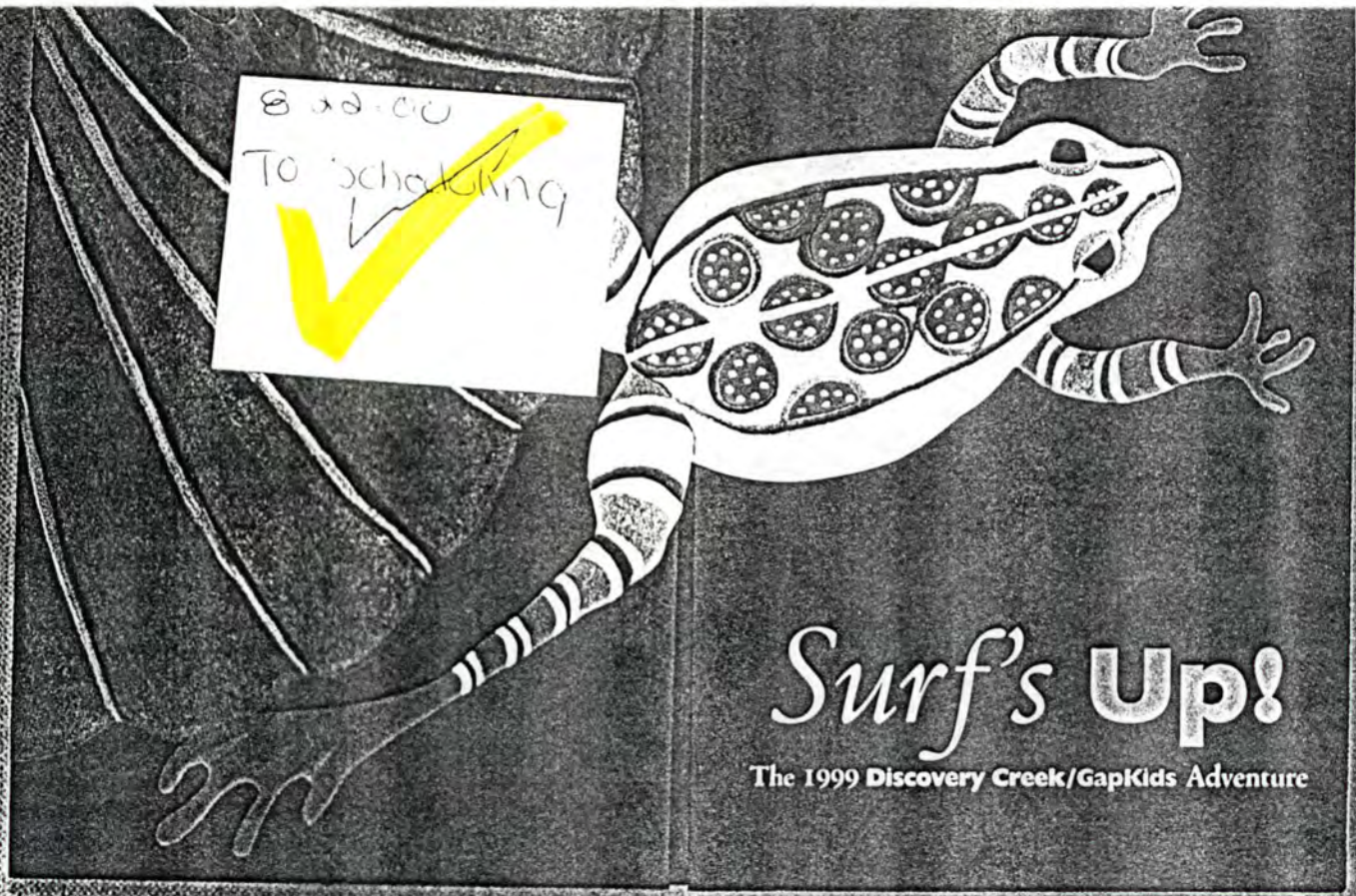
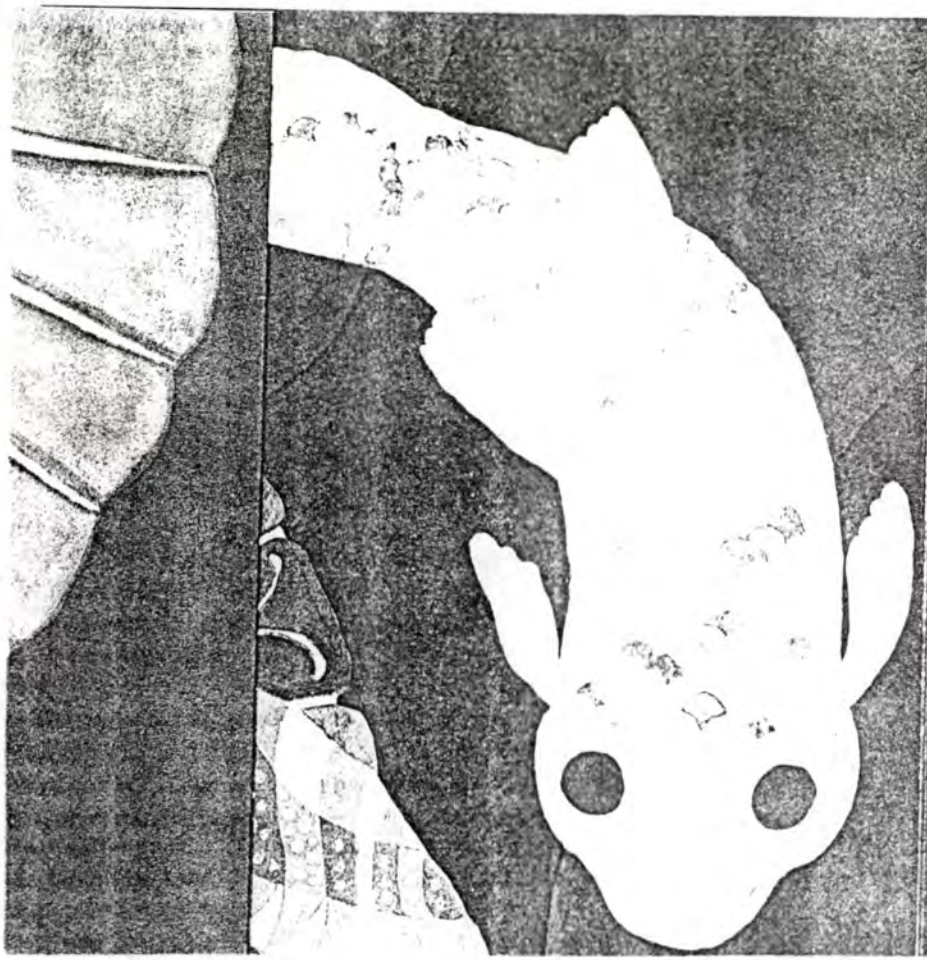
discovery creek
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF WASHINGTO

5125 MacArthur Boulevard NW, Suite 10
Washington, DC 20016
(202) 364-3111 fax (202) 364-3114
http://www.discoverycreek.org



Surf's Up!

The 1999 **Discovery Creek/GapKids** Adventure



You and your family are invited to join Discovery Creek and our friends from **Sesame Street** as we **Sail the High Seas** Surf the Ice Wave **Stretch Water at the Bubble Bar** Uncover Ancient Sea Fossils **Climb Aboard a Boat-load of GapKids Fashions** Dive into an Out-of-This-World Lunch at

Surf's **Up!**

The 1999 **Discovery Creek/GapKids** Adventure to benefit educational programs at Discovery Creek Children's Museum

Sunday, November 21, 1999 at 11:30 a.m.
Lunch and show to be followed by
a Wild Water Extravaganza

Hilton Washington and Towers
1919 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC

Master of Ceremonies Kathleen Matthews
ABC-7 News Anchor

Special Thanks to GapKids, In Vision, the Hilton Washington and Towers and Merrifield Garden Center for their generous in-kind support.

thru
Staff Secretary

UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION
ONE COLUMBUS CIRCLE, N.E.
SUITE 2-500, SOUTH LOBBY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002-8002
(202) 502-4500
FAX (202) 502-4699

Diana E. Murphy, Chair

'00 AUG 22 AM9:22

June 5, 2000

To Burkhardt for reply
cc: Scheduling

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United State
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of all the commissioners, I would like to express our appreciation for the appointments you made last November to the United States Sentencing Commission. Less than six months later we sent to Congress proposed amendments for such serious crimes as sexual offenses against children, firearms offenses, the improper use of new technology in copyright and trademark violations, methamphetamine trafficking, identity theft, cell phone cloning, and telemarketing fraud. We want to do the best we can in our terms of service and are currently putting together the agency's short and long term agendas.

The commissioners are working well together and we are fortunate to have Michael Gaines and Laird Kirkpatrick as ex officio members from the United States Parole Commission and the Department of Justice. We have met with some members of Congress and Attorney General Janet Reno to discuss issues relating to federal sentencing policy, and we would very much like to meet with you to hear your views.

We understand you have limited time in light of your many responsibilities, but we hope you can find a spot on your agenda for this Commission of yours.

Sincerely,

Diana E. Murphy

Diana E. Murphy

Stop to see

A Letter to America

I believe the election this year will be decided by the Family Farmers, the less than 2,000,000 small Family Farmers who are still very closely associated to 10 to 20 million voters in the farm country. These farmers are asking for a new farm bill. I would think that whoever comes forth and supports a new farm bill could certainly make some friends with the Family Farmers this election year.

The Farm Aid concert will be at the Nissan Pavillion on Sept 17th, 2000 in Bristol Virginia, and will be broadcast on CMT. Farm Aid has invited every presidential candidate and several congressmen and representatives from every party to come to Farm Aid and stand up for the small Family Farmer, not necessarily for the votes but because it's the right thing to do.

Where I grew up in the town of Abbott, Texas, by back yard was 6 miles of beautiful farms and ranches all the way to the town of West. My playground was 20 square miles of cotton fields, corn fields, hay fields, grain fields, and home to everything from jack rabbits, deer, squirrels birds, snakes, scorpions, cattle, horses, chickens and hogs, right down to the small vegetable garden at my back door. I explored the whole 20 square miles on foot, horseback, bicycles, and pick up trucks. I had the best of everything. I worked on farms to earn money. My sister Bobbbie and I worked summers in the field to help pay our school expenses; clothes, etc. The farmers were prospering , and we were too.

This was during World War 2, when we were a strong nation. We took care of our farmers and all other raw producers in America by guaranteeing production and labor costs. We had 8 million small Family Farmers on the land. When the war was over, the bottom fell out for the small Family Farmer because the new farm bill only guaranteed 60 to 70 per cent of costs of production. We started losing the Family Farmer. When 5 Family Farmers go under, 1 business in that town also goes under. So as more farmers go out of business there goes the schools, hospitals and the disappearance of small country towns across America, displacing millions of families who not only lost their business, but their homes as well.

I would urge the voters and the candidates; while we are including everyone in this new millennium government and while we are planning on leaving no one behind, let's remember not to leave the small Family Farmer behind because I believe that they are, and always will be, the backbone of this country.

Thank you for reading my letter.

Yours truly,

Willie Nelson
President, Farm Aid

To Scheduling

BARBARA A. MIKULSKI
MARYLAND

SUITE 709
HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDIN
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-200

(202) 224-4654
TDD: (202) 224-5223

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2003

'00 AUG 22 AM11:47

August 21, 2000

8-22-00 NSC
TO ~~Leg Affairs~~
for Reply
~~cc: NSC~~
cc: Leg Affairs

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I understand you will be visiting Colombia, South America at the end of this month to determine how to implement America's generous contribution to Plan Colombia. In light of continued human rights abuses committed by the Colombian army and paramilitary groups, I urge you to deny Colombia the certification it needs to receive $1.3 billion in US assistance.

Congress conditioned US monetary and military assistance to Colombia on a certification by the U.S. Secretary of State that Colombia is taking concrete steps to improve the human rights record of its Armed Forces. I understand that review required for this certification is underway.

It is clear that at least two conditions required for certification have not been met. First, President Pastrana has not issued a directive to hold Colombian Armed Forces personnel accused of human rights violations accountable in civilian courts. Second, the Colombian military has failed to take clear action to purge human rights abusers from its ranks or to ensure that its personnel are not linked to paramilitary organizations. On the contrary, it is well-known that paramilitary groups responsible for so much political violence in Colombia today, operate with the acquiescence or open support of the military. As recently as July 2000 - soon after Congress passed this generous military and foreign aid package - Colombia's military knowingly allowed the murder of 36 people by paramilitary groups in El Salado, Colombia.

We must work with Colombia to combat its production and trafficking of drugs. But, in light of its continued human rights abuses, I believe that the Secretary of State cannot and must not provide Colombia with the certification necessary to receive $1.3 billion in US military and monetary assistance.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Mikulski

Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senate

BAM: rrb

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http://mikulski.senate.gov/

OFFICE OF SENATOR BARBARA A. MIKULSKI
UNITED STATES SENATE
709 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510-2003
World Wide Webpage http://mikulski.senate.gov

FAX TRANSMITTAL FORM

DATE: August 21, 2000

THE FOLLOWING 2 PAGE(S) (**INCLUDING** THIS FORM

IS/ARE FOR: President Bill Clinton (456-1210)

FROM: Senator Barbara A. Mikulski

IF THIS TRANSMITTAL IS INCOMPLETE, PLEASE CALL (202) 224-4654

****
(ADDITIONAL INFORMATION):

Please see attached letter

Stopp
See

PRESIDÊNCIA DA REPÚBLICA

DE/FROM:
H.E. Mr. Fernando Henrique Cardoso
President of the Federative Republic of Brazil

'00 AUG 22 AM11:55

PARA/TO:
H.E. Mr. William J. Clinton
President of the United States of America

DATE: 19 August 2000 ***PAGES: 01 (including this cover)***

dear Bill

Please accept my warmest congratulations on your birthday.

Ruth sends her regards as well.

Over the last several years, we have been working together on issues of direct interest for our two countries. This week I had an excellent conversation with Madeleine Albright, during her visit to Brasilia. As I said to her, what we have achieved so far in our relations is due to a large extent to the very close and friendly dialogue between us.

I regret not being able to be in New York on September 5th when you will be hosting our meeting on progressive governance. But I am sure that we will have many opportunities to talk in the months to come and beyond.

All the best

Fernando Henrique

8-22-00
TO NSC FOR
REPLY

PRESIDÊNCIA DA REPÚBLICA

Brasilia, 18 August 2000

Please find herewith a fax message addressed to H.E. President William J. Clinton by H.E. President Fernando Henrique Cardoso, of Brazil.

The President's Office
Palácio do Planalto
Brasilia

If there is any problem with the transmission, please contact (5561) 411-2118 or 411-2217

Strobe
Sgl

Embassy of Austria
3524 International Court, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008
tel. (202) 895-6701
fax. (202) 895-6747
obwas@sysnet.net

Office of the Ambassador

August 18, 2000

Ms. Nancy Hernreich
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director for Oval Office Operations
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

8-22-00
TO NSC FOR
REPLY
copy
orig forwarded
separately

'00 AUG 22 AM11:47

Dear Ms. Hernreich,

May I kindly ask you to forward the enclosed letter to the President. I have sent a copy of the letter to Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Stuart E. Eizenstat.

With my very best wishes, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

(Peter Moser)

Enclosure

Der Bundespräsident

Vienna, 16 August, 2000

Dear Mr. President,

It is with great satisfaction that I would like to inform you that the Austrian Federal Government has made good on its promise expressed in the inaugural statement of Federal Chancellor Dr. Wolfgang Schüssel on February 9, 2000 and that it has made great progress in its intentions to make voluntary payments to former slave and forced laborers of the National Socialist regime who were coerced to work on the territory of the present day Republic of Austria.

Only five months after the appointment of Dr. Maria Schaumayer as Special Representative of the Austrian Government for these issues, on July 7 and July 19, 2000 the Austrian Parliament unanimously passed the Austrian Reconciliation Fund Law which provides for the creation of a Fund which will disburse payments to former victims of slave and forced labor. Austrian business and industry as well as the Austrian Federal Government will make contributions to the Fund which will dispose of an overall amount of ATS 6 bio.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Deputy Secretary Stuart Eizenstat, Austria is within reach of signing an Executive Agreement with the United States which should bring about legal closure for Austria and Austrian companies for claims involving slave and forced labor. Austria expects a

H.E.
Mr. William Jefferson CLINTON
President of the United States of America
Washington

conclusion of these negotiations by mid-September which would allow a final event to be held in Vienna in early October. Bilateral agreements with the governments of Central and Eastern Europe which are the main countries of origin of former slave and forced laborers have been negotiated and are ready to be signed.

However, Austrian industry and businesses and their legal advisers have expressed serious concerns over the fact that the Executive Agreement to be concluded between the United States and Austria which includes the obligation for the United States to file a Statement of Interest for all pending and future lawsuits involving or related to forced or slave labor arising out of the National Socialist era or World War II will offer less legal protection than the Executive Agreement between the United States and Germany, the difference being perceived in the political weight of the Statement of Interest.

In the German case, you, Mr. President, the highest authority in foreign policy issues according to the Constitution of the United States, expressed in an exchange of letters with the German Chancellor that it would be in the foreign policy interest of the United States for the German Foundation to be the exclusive forum and remedy for the resolution of all asserted claims against German companies arising from their involvement in the National Socialist era and World War II.

In this exchange of letters, whose contents have been incorporated in the German Statement of Interest, you, Mr. President also declared that the dismissal of such lawsuits, which touch on the foreign policy interests of the United States, would be in the foreign policy interest of the United States, that the United States will recommend dismissal on any valid legal ground, and that the United States will explain that, in the context of the Foundation, it is in the enduring and high interest of the United States to support efforts to achieve dismissal of all National Socialist and World War II era cases against German companies.

The Statement of Interest in the German case will also be accompanied by a formal foreign policy statement of the Secretary of State which complements the strong commitment by the United States to secure legal peace. Although we understand that this statement would need to reflect the specific character of bilateral relations with each country, such a document would nevertheless be indispensable for our efforts to prove to Austrian industry and businesses that equal treatment with Germany has been granted as it was explicitly offered to the Austrian Government at the outset of the negotiations.

I am aware of the fact that at this point Austria can only achieve legal closure for all claims involving or related to forced or slave labor arising out of the National Socialist era or World War II. However, the Executive Agreement which Austria envisages to conclude with the United States will not only reiterate the commitment by the Austrian Government to actively and expeditiously continue to pursue discussions with involved parties concerning potential gaps and shortcomings in the restitution and compensation legislation enacted by Austria after World War II to address aryanization issues during the National Socialist era and World War II on the territory of present day Austria. It will also state that these discussions are conducted with a view to creating, in agreement with the United States, suitable potential remedies for all other issues which will correspond to a provision in the Executive Agreement (Article 2 paragraph 2) granting full legal closure for Austria and Austrian companies for all asserted claims arising from their involvement in the National Socialist era and World War II.

Austrian industry and businesses see it as precondition for their final commitment to contribute to the Austrian Reconciliation Fund that the legal peace achieved by the Austrian Government through the Executive Agreement with the United States and the Central and Eastern European countries does not differ in quality from the legal closure which has been granted to German companies.

In the interest of the victims of former slave and forced laborers of the National Socialist regime and in view of the need for speedy payments to the now elderly victims I would like to ask you, Mr. President, to extend the legal assurances which you have given to the German Government and German companies also to Austria and her companies.

With my sincere regards,

Iam truly yours

Thomas Klestil

Embassy of Austria
Washington, D.C.

The Ambassador

18 August 2000

Ms. Nancy Hernreich
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director for Oval Office Operations
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

8.22.00
TO NSC FOR
REPLY

Dear Ms. Hernreich,

I have the honor to transmit to you a letter by the Austrian Federal President, Mr. Thomas Klestil, addressed to President Clinton. An advance copy of this letter has already been forwarded to you.

With my very best wishes, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

(Peter Moser)

Enclosure

Der Bundespräsident

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H.E.
Mr. William Jefferson CLINTON
President of the United States of America
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With my sincere regards,

I am truly yours

Thomas Klestil

Embassy of Austria
Washington, D.C.

The Ambassador

18 August 2000

Ms. Nancy Hernreich
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director for Oval Office Operations
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

8-22-00
TO NSC FOR
REPLY

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Yours sincerely,

(Peter Moser)

Enclosure

8-22-00

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 21, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

'00 AUG 21 PM3:58

THROUGH: MARIA ECHAVESTE

FROM: MARY SMITH

SUBJECT: FEDERAL RECOGNITION OF NATIVE HAWAIIANS

This memorandum provides a brief summary of issues relating to Native Hawaiians including possible Administration support for federal recognition of a Native Hawaiian governing body similar to that of Native American tribes. In 1993, Congress passed and you signed the Native Hawaiian Apology Resolution which acknowledged the role of United States' officers in the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii. It also contemplated that the federal government would begin a "reconciliation" process with the Hawaiian people. As the result of hearings responding to the Apology Resolution and in light of a recent United States Supreme Court decision regarding Native Hawaiians, we are recommending that the Administration support a process that would lead to federal recognition of a Native Hawaiian governing body similar to that of Indian tribes. Senators Akaka and Inouye are holding hearings at the end of August in Hawaii on their legislation, S. 2899, which would establish a process for the organization of such a governing body. The Senators would like the Administration to testify in support of this legislation, and the Departments of the Interior (Interior) and Justice (DOJ) would like to release a report before the hearings supporting federal recognition of a Native Hawaiian governing body. Below is (1) a brief background regarding Native Hawaiians; (2) a summary of legislation affecting Native Hawaiians; (3) background on the Apology Resolution, which gave rise to the current Administration efforts at reconciliation, and a discussion regarding a recent U.S. Supreme Court case; and (4) a discussion of the implications of federal recognition.

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I. Background

The Native Hawaiian people are the aboriginal, indigenous, native people of Hawaii. They have lived in Hawaii for over 1,000 years, and their culture was based on a well developed system of agriculture and aquaculture. Between 1826 and 1893, the United States entered into several treaties of peace, friendship and commerce with the Kingdom of Hawaii, recognizing its status as an independent sovereign.

During the 1880s, western influence over the Kingdom of Hawaii increased. In 1893, as Queen Liliuokalani sought to restore the full authority of the Native Hawaiian monarchy (after it

had been reduced in 1887), the American and European plantation owners acting in concert with the U.S. Minister and military forces overthrew the Kingdom and replaced it with a provisional government. President Cleveland denounced the role of the American forces in the removal of the monarchy, and, therefore, refused to recognize the legitimacy of the provisional government. President McKinley, however, supported the call of the Republic of Hawaii for annexation, and Congress annexed Hawaii in 1898, without the consent of Native Hawaiian people. As a result of the overthrow, laws suppressing Hawaiian culture and language, and displacement from the land, the Native Hawaiian people suffered mortality, disease, economic deprivation, social distress, and population decline.

In 1898, President McKinley signed a Joint Resolution, sometimes called the Newlands Resolution, to annex the Hawaiian Islands as a territory of the United States. According to the Joint Resolution, the provisional government ceded all former Crown, government, and public lands to the United States. Two years later, the Hawaiian Organic Act established the Territory of Hawaii, and extended United States control over the ceded lands.

The Territory of Hawaii recognized that the condition of the Native Hawaiian people continued to deteriorate, and members of the territorial legislature proposed that Congress enact a measure to rehabilitate the Native Hawaiian people by returning them to the land and promoting agriculture under federal protections. In congressional hearings, the Secretary of the Interior acknowledged that the Native Hawaiian people were suffering a decline and that the Federal Government had a special responsibility to promote their welfare. In 1920, relying, in part, on the precedent of the General Allotment Act, which provided individual lands for American Indians under federal protection, Congress enacted the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HHCA) to rehabilitate the Native Hawaiian people by setting aside for Native Hawaiian settlement and agriculture use 200,000 acres of the "ceded" lands, i.e., the former Crown and public lands of the Kingdom of Hawaii. Later, in the State Admissions Act, Congress set aside the balance of the ceded lands, not reserved for federal purposes, in a public trust for five purposes, including the betterment of the Native Hawaiians.

II. Federal Programs for Native Hawaiians

The Native Hawaiian people, as a native community, continue to suffer from economic deprivation, low educational attainment, poor health status, substandard housing, and social dislocation. In response, since the early 1970s, Congress has enacted statutes that recognize these problems among Native Hawaiians and establish programs to address them. For example, the Native Hawaiian Education Act provides funding to Native Hawaiian schools and education councils to promote special education programs for Native Hawaiian students. The Native Hawaiian Health Care Act provides funding to Native Hawaiian health care providers to provide preventative health care to the Native Hawaiian community.

III. The Apology Resolution, the Reconciliation Process, and the Supreme Court Decision

As previously noted, against this background, Congress enacted in 1993 the Native Hawaiian Apology Resolution. Senator Akaka and the Hawaii congressional delegation requested that the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Interior appoint representatives to work with the Native Hawaiian people in furtherance of reconciliation. In December 1999, Interior and DOJ held a series of public meetings with Native Hawaiian people, as part of the reconciliation process. Throughout the meetings, Native Hawaiians repeatedly expressed the desire for increased self-determination concerning Native Hawaiian affairs, resources, and lands. In addition, Native Hawaiians have called upon the United States to assist them in improving economic opportunities, educational attainment, health status, and housing.

While the reconciliation process was ongoing, the Supreme Court rendered a decision regarding Native Hawaiians. In *Rice v. Cayetano*, 120 S. Ct. 1044 (Feb. 23, 2000), Rice, a non-Native Hawaiian, challenged the voting limitations contained in the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, which established the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Those voting limitations restricted voting for the Board of Trustees of the State Office of Hawaiian Affairs to Native Hawaiians and Hawaiians, as defined by ancestry. On February 23, 2000, the United States Supreme Court held that the Fifteenth Amendment barred the State from using Native Hawaiian ancestry as a voting requirement. The Supreme Court distinguished Indian tribal elections, which are conducted by "quasi-sovereign tribal governments" from the State-sponsored elections at issue in this case. In addition, the Court stated that "it is a matter of some dispute . . . whether Congress may treat the native Hawaiians as it does the Indian tribes," and indicated that it need not address that issue. The Court thus declined to address the argument made by the Solicitor General that Congress had exercised its Indian Affairs power in dealing with Native Hawaiians.

IV. Implications of Federal Recognition

Within the framework of federal law, there are established precedents to accommodate the Native Hawaiian people's desire for increased self-determination. American Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages exercise self-determination over native institutions, such as schools and health care institutions; over native affairs, such as language and cultural preservation; and over native lands and resources. They do so through recognized tribal governments and federally chartered native corporations in the context of the Federal policy of recognizing the unique government-to-government and special relationships that exist between the United States and its native peoples. American Indian and Alaska Native peoples value self-determination as an avenue for addressing their community, economic, educational, health, and social needs. Indeed, American Indian and Alaska Native peoples view the Federal Indian self-determination policy as recognizing their legitimate aspiration to transmit their distinct native values, traditions, beliefs, and aboriginal lands to their future generations.

The *Rice* decision highlights the importance of legislation to provide a statutory basis for a government-to-government relationship with Native Hawaiians as an indigenous, aboriginal people. Enacting and implementing such legislation would clarify the political status of Native Hawaiians as an indigenous, aboriginal people with a special trust relationship with the United States. In passing such legislation, Congress would clarify that it is exercising its authority under

its Indian affairs power to enact legislation for the benefit of Native Hawaiians as an indigenous, aboriginal people.

In furtherance of reconciliation process and in light of the *Rice* decision, Interior and DOJ believe that Native Hawaiian people should be afforded the opportunity to organize a native governing body. A Native Hawaiian Governing Body, organized against the background of established precedent, would serve as a representative voice for the Native Hawaiian people, focus community goals, provide governmental services to improve community welfare, and recognize the legitimate aspiration of the Native Hawaiian people to transmit their values, traditions, and beliefs to their future generations. Federal recognition would improve the Government's ability to defend the constitutionality of programs benefiting Native Hawaiians under the Indian Affairs power, though it may also create possibilities in litigation in which the Court is asked to look behind the fact of federal recognition to determine whether Congress acted constitutionally in treating a people as an Indian tribe, both for Native Hawaiians and for other groups. In recognition of the United States special trust relationship with its native peoples and in furtherance of the reconciliation process, we believe that the United States should assist the Native Hawaiian people by supporting reorganization efforts and clarifying its unique legal and political relationship. (It should be noted, however, that support for a Native Hawaiian Governing Body by itself will not automatically extend benefits, not presently available to Native Hawaiians, in federal programs for American Indian and Alaska Natives. These statutes would need to be amended, and we are not recommending that course of action at this time.) Legislation sponsored by Senators Akaka and Inouye, S. 2899, would set up a process for establishing such a Native Hawaiian governing body. DOJ has worked with the Senators to provide technical assistance on this legislation.

Recommendation

Interior, DOJ, Counsel's Office, OMB, and the Chief of Staff's Office recommend that the Administration support the establishment of a Native Hawaiian Governing Body, and testify in favor of S. 2899.

Approve ✓

Disapprove ____

Discuss ____

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 17, 2000

Information

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: NEAL LANE neal

SUBJECT: British Government Report On Stem Cell Research and Therapeutic Human Cloning

A report released yesterday by an expert group chaired by Britain's chief medical officer recommends extending the scope of currently permissible human embryo research to include stem cell studies. The experts also recommend allowing embryos to be produced via cloning technology for the purpose of deriving stem cells that are less likely to be rejected by transplant patients' immune systems. In accepting the expert group's recommendations *in toto*, the British government has signaled its intent to move forward aggressively on realizing the potential medical benefits of stem cell research.

In order for the recommendations to become policy, the British government will introduce regulations for debate in both Houses of Parliament. Included in the package will be a legislative proposal to reinforce the existing ban on "reproductive cloning" or cloning for the purpose of producing a child, as opposed to "therapeutic cloning."

By contrast, the British government's actions make the U.S. position appear more middle-of-the-road, as noted in several of today's press reports. British law has allowed research on human embryos under tightly controlled conditions for the past decade, whereas Congress has for the past five years prohibited Federal funding for such studies. The new British expert group supports the creation of embryos for research purposes, which you prohibited in 1994. One year ago, your National Bioethics Advisory Commission recommended allowing the use of Federal funds for research involving both the use and derivation of human stem cells from embryos. Taking a more restrictive course, NIH will shortly publish new guidelines that allow only the use of stem cells that are derived by private sector sources, in accordance with stringent ethical and legal requirements. Patient advocacy groups are ready to defend the NIH guidelines against attack from antiabortion forces in Congress.

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In a related story, this week, neurologists reported success in inducing bone marrow cells to transform into nerve cells. Christopher Reeve, who has been a powerful voice in support of stem cell research, was a sponsor of this research through his Paralysis Foundation.

Attachments

cc: John Podesta
Chris Jennings
Karen Tramontano

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2000

Put to the Test

GOP Avoids Abortion For Now, but Science Is Stirring the Debate

Research That Kills Embryos But May Fight Diseases Prompts Reassessments

A Senator and His Conscience

By BOB DAVIS
Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

PHILADELPHIA—Republicans may have called a truce in their civil war over abortion, but don't expect it to hold. Scientific advances are reshaping abortion politics.

Consider Sen. Gordon Smith. The National Right to Life Committee says the Oregon Republican voted the right way on abortion every time last year. But when an Oregon antiabortion activist asked him a few weeks ago to defend a prohibition on extracting stem cells from human embryos because the procedure kills the embryos, he declined. Someday, he told her, researchers might be able to turn such cells into neurons that would relieve the Parkinson's disease that has ravaged his family.

"I've had many people who have died slowly," he told the activist. "Part of my pro-life ethic is to make life better for the living."

Gordon Smith

The debate over abortion has roiled Republican conventions since the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision of 1973. This year, George W. Bush persuaded delegates to bury the issue by leaving unchanged the antiabortion language included in previous party platforms. The less time taken up with the abortion question, he and other Republican leaders felt, the better. The platform committee voted down all proposals by abortion-rights advocates, including one to simply "welcome people on all sides of this complex issue." Mr. Bush, says Maryland delegate Ellen Sauerbrey, "was trying to avoid abortion becoming the center of the campaign."

Even if he succeeds, new fronts are opening in the debate. Genetic technology is deepening ethical dilemmas and opening fissures within the antiabortion movement, and even within the abortion-rights side.

Over the next few years, for instance, prenatal tests will be developed that can detect whether fetuses are prone to develop breast cancer and other maladies when they become adults. Unlike the familiar Down's syndrome test, which gives a yes or no answer, the new tests will reveal only the odds for developing a condition, and one that wouldn't arrive for years. While the new tests won't change anything for those dead-set against abortion, they could complicate the issue for others.

Stem Cells

There is also a gathering controversy over so-called therapeutic cloning. Scientists would clone an embryo of a patient, which would essentially be used for spare parts or to test new treatments, and be destroyed in the process. A British biomedical advisory group is expected to recommend that the U.K. government endorse work on the technology.

In the U.S., the next big abortion fight is likely to focus on the discovery in late 1998 that stem cells—precursor cells that can develop into brain, blood and any other tissue—can be harvested from human embryos stored at fertility clinics. Since the harvesting kills the embryo, the technology raises in a new way the intimate question at the heart of the abortion debate: When, if ever, is it acceptable to sacrifice the unborn?

The presidential candidates line up in predictable ways. Gov. Bush, an abortion foe, opposes the new technology. Vice President Gore, an abortion-rights advocate, supports it. But some others in the antiabortion and abortion-rights camps are struggling with the issue and re-examining their views.

Using stem cells, scientists are working to develop replacements for tissue damaged in Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's, diabetes and other conditions. The cells also might be useful following chemotherapy for cancer. Thus, the abortion debate doesn't involve just a woman and her embryo or fetus. This new technology brings in another party: a disease-sufferer who might benefit from tissue collected from embryos or fetuses.

Support for Research

Citing the promise of the new technology, Sen. Smith and a few other antiabortion Republicans whose families have been battered by disease have declined to support a blanket opposition to stem-cell research with embryos. They include Sen. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, whose daughter has diabetes, Sen. Connie Mack of Florida, whose family is riddled with cancer, and Rep. Duke Cunningham of California, a prostate-cancer survivor. Some other antiabortion Republicans are privately offering their backing for embryo research, as well.

"There's a weakening on the part of pro-family groups on this issue," agrees conservative activist Paul Weyrich.

Opponents of embryo research see it as an especially pernicious assault on life and sometimes cast their foes as sellouts. "Where are you ethically when you have an emotional hurt [because of disease] and you abandon your ethics?" asks Rep. Tom Coburn, an Oklahoma Republican, who is also a family doctor. Kansas Republican Sen. Sam Brownback says that if the government endorses research that destroys embryos, it will be categorizing a form of human life as "property" that can be used guilt-free for experimentation. The Republican platform applauds GOP lawmakers "for the steps they have taken for the protection of human embryos" but doesn't mention the stem-cell controversy.

Meanwhile, a staunch supporter of abortion rights, the United Methodist Church, has come out against stem-cell research. "Human embryo research is a big step toward making human life a commodity," says Jaydee Hanson, senior staffer on the church's bioethics task force.

Sen. Smith's struggle to find his way in this scrambled abortion debate shows the splits that are beginning to develop among Republicans. The 48-year-old Mr. Smith is a devout Mormon who served two years as a missionary in New Zealand. He keeps an ornate Bible by his desk and consults it regularly. Noting that two basic Mormon tenets are free choice and the sanctity of life, he says that "there's no issue that brings these two principles in conflict as much as abortion."

Abortion politics have played a central role in Mr. Smith's career. He rose to prominence in Oregon by pushing through the state Senate a law requiring minors to get parental consent for abortions. In his first U.S. Senate bid in early 1996 (when Bob Packwood resigned), Mr. Smith allied himself with the right wing, attacked abortion and gay rights, and lost. Later that year, he ran for Oregon's other Senate seat, soft-pedaled abortion—and won.

He arrived in Washington with a zealot's reputation. But he was always a more complicated political figure, particularly on abortion.

As a child, Mr. Smith had seen his mother, who had already given birth to seven children, grow resentful over not having a legal option for ending an especially difficult pregnancy. "She felt devalued," he recalls.

He is also haunted by the specter of Parkinson's disease. It took the lives of his grandmother and a cousin, Rep. Morris Udall, and some other Udall family members. A favorite uncle is now incapacitated with it. Sen. Smith sees research on embryos as a source of hope for Parkinson's patients. But he worries about whether he is being true to his antiabortion views. "There's a human life, a child of God at stake," he says.

The stem-cell debate mirrors one on research involving fetal tissue. The Bush adminstration imposed a ban on fetal research, which Bill Clinton lifted when he took office. Since then, researchers have tried implanting fetal tissue in the brains of Parkinson's sufferers, hoping to ease a deficiency of the neurotransmitter dopamine. Thus far, younger patients have benefited somewhat, but not people over 60.

A more promising idea arrived in late 1998. In a feat that Science magazine called the breakthrough of the year, two scientifc teams harvested stem cells from embryos (from fertility clinics) and aborted fetuses, and coaxed the cells to grow in the laboratory. Parkinson's researchers believed that if they injected stem cells into patients, the highly flexible precursor cells might grow into dopamine-producing neurons. Ron McKay, a National Institutes of Health researcher, has done this with mice and alleviated Parkinson's-like tremors.

But 1996 legislation, which has been renewed annually, bars federal funding for research that destroys embryos, so Dr. McKay can't try his technique in humans. To him, "It's a pity to take the vast government research effort and prevent it from being applied to this useful technology."

Now, the NIH has plotted a way around the restriction. The agency has proposed new rules allowing it to give grants to researchers who get their stem cells from other, non-federally funded scientists. Abortion foes, considering this hairsplitting, have organized letter-writing campaigns that have deluged the NIH with complaints. But the agency is expected to adopt the rules this summer.

At the same time, Republican Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania and Democratic Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa are pushing a bill to lift the ban on federal funding of embryo research. It might come to a vote in September.

A Constituent Calls

On a recent day, this brewing battle brings Gayle Atteberry, executive director of the Oregon Right to Life Committee, to Sen. Smith's office. A longtime friend of Mr. Smith, she begins to draw a diagram for him of how an impregnated egg develops into an embryo. She stops suddenly, looks him in the eye and says: "A fertilized egg that has divided is being snatched away. It's dead."

"Is there no room in your view" for another opinion, the senator asks.

How could there be, she replies. She reads a verse from Psalm 139, where the psalmist says of God, "Your eyes saw my unformed body." Even when a human is an "unformed substance," she says, it is divinely blessed.

Sen. Smith, a soft-spoken man who shuns confrontation, tries to explain his own theology, influenced by a Mormon Church elder who is a heart surgeon. The senator believes the soul infuses a fetus around the time its blood starts circulating, or about six weeks after conception. His interpretation would allow scientists to destroy embryos without violating religious injunctions. "When He put the spirit in the body is the critical question for me," Sen. Smith says. "I have never thought of cells frozen in a refrigerator as human life. If it isn't life, it isn't killing."

"What else is it?" Ms. Atteberry asks.

"If I cut my finger, I'm not ending life."

"But that finger can't develop into a human life," she replies.

Nonplused, she unwraps a gift she has brought the senator: Dr. Seuss's "Horton Hears a Who." She quietly repeats the refrain, "A person's a person, no matter how small." In the same way, she says, even tiny embryos deserve protection. The book is a favorite of his, too, he tells her, and leaves it at that.

Ms. Atteberry tries a more pragmatic approach. Scientists have discovered stem cells in adults, too, she says. Why not focus research on those, rather than ones found in embryos? He listens but is noncommittal. After she leaves, he says he wants to move forward on stem cells no matter what their origin, and plans to fight for the Specter/Harkin bill. Scientists worry that stem cells from adults won't be as adaptable and long-lived as those taken from embryos. "We need to do what works," he says.

The stance may cost him politically among antiabortion conservatives, but gain him support among the state's more-numerous moderates. "Smith doesn't have solid principles," says Lon Mabon, chairman of the Oregon Citizens Alliance, a conservative group that backed his first Senate run and opposed his second. But Mr. Mabon acknowledges that "a lot of the pro-life community in Oregon is moving to where Sen. Smith is."

Leading the Opposition

Sen. Smith's main foe in the stem-cell debate is Sen. Brownback of Kansas. An earnest Methodist, the Kansan says he prayed before testifying in April at a hearing chaired by Sen. Specter. "At the very center of the debate," he testified, is the question: "Is the young human a person or property?"

Two months later, he made a similar plea to a weekly meeting of Senate Republicans. The government should focus on adult-stem-cell research, he told them, and let embryos alone. After he was done, participants say, Sen. Mack of Florida replied: "I have many of the beliefs of Sam, but the door should be left open to research," including that involving embryos. Sen. Mack didn't mention that he, his wife and his daughter are cancer survivors, but Sen. Smith says other lawmakers knew of Sen. Mack's struggles with the disease.

Thus far, the stem-cell supporters have been quietly effective. Rep. Jay Dickey, an Arkansas Republican who sponsored the ban on embryo-destroying research, hasn't taken action on his threat to broaden it to halt NIH's rule-making. His aides say he has decided to rely on the courts to upset the new NIH rules. But some conservative activists and other congressional aides say Mr. Dickey doesn't have the votes.

Medical-research lobbyists who want the ban lifted are keeping their distance from abortion-rights groups, to avoid scaring off pro-life Republicans. Instead, they recruit patients as advocates for their position. Sen. Smith had a visit two weeks ago from one such advocate, Joan Samuelson of the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research. Sitting on one of her hands to make a tremor from Parkinson's less noticeable, she expressed her frustration that the NIH wasn't making more progress against the disease.

The senator promised to do what he could, mindful of the toll that Parkinson's is currently taking on a 79-year-old uncle of his, Addison Udall. Mr. Udall is so ill he can no longer walk or talk. Yet in an indication of how difficult the issue is, Mr. Udall's wife, Ada, says that she has "mixed emotions" about stem-cell research, even though that could combat the disease ravaging her husband. "That fertilized embryo could become a person," she says.

British measure would allow human cloning

Focuses on embryos for medical research

By Joyce Howard Price A1
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The British government said yesterday it will introduce legislation to allow scientists to clone human embryos for use in medical research.

If approved, the legislation would make Britain the first country to authorize cloning of humans.

But the measure to be introduced — which is based on recommendations by a government-commissioned panel led by the country's chief medical officer — would not allow human cloning to create babies.

"The transfer of an embryo created by cell nuclear replacement into a woman's uterus should remain a criminal offense," the government report said.

The British government wants to lift the ban on human cloning for research in order to gain the potential medical benefits of what are known as embryonic "stem cells," the parent cells of the human body that go on to form most types of cells and tissues.

"We're talking about research at this stage, not treatment. There is major, major medical potential, but we need medical research to see whether this potential can be realized," said Dr. Liam Donaldson, the chief medical officer.

Officials at the National Institutes of Health yesterday had no official response to the news. Pressed for reaction, an NIH spokesman said, "Human cloning is an anathema to President Clinton."

An embryo is a living clump of stem cells that evolves into a fetus when the stem cells start specializing to create a nervous system, spine and other features — at about 14 days. Scientists hope that by extracting the stem cells from the embryo before they start to specialize, they can be directed in a lab to become any desired cell or tissue type for transplant.

Under current law, Britain allows scientists to conduct research on embryos up to 14 days old for fertility, congenital and other disorders. But it does not permit them to be used for the study of diseases acquired in adulthood. The cloning of humans either to create babies or embryos for research was banned in 1990.

The report by the Donaldson panel, released yesterday, recommended the 14-day law remain and that legislation be introduced to ban hybrid animal-human embryos. It also reaffirmed the ban on creating cloned babies, but endorsed the cloning of embryos for strictly controlled medical research.

Thomas H. Murray, a member of the presidentially appointed National Bioethics Advisory Committee [NBAC], which has issued position papers on both human cloning and stem cell research in this country, said, "The British report goes significantly beyond what NBAC has recommended." NBAC did not endorse using federal funds for creating embryos for medical research.

"It wasn't that the commission thought it was wrong . . . it thought there was no compelling public policy case for federal funding," Mr. Murray, president of the Hastings Center, a bioethics research institute in New York, said yesterday in a telephone interview.

Congress has blocked federal funding of embryo research. But NIH officials have made it clear they will fund pioneering but controversial stem cell research that may provide cures for diabetes, Alzheimer's and other diseases under soon-to-be-released guidelines that will prohibit tax dollars from being spent to acquire embryos.

Former NIH director Dr. Harold Varmus told NBAC last year that a ban on federal funding of human embryo research does not apply to stem cell research because the cells used in such experiments come from nonliving fetuses.

Both Mr. Murray and Arthur Caplan, director of the Center for Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania, said it's too soon to know if the British action will have any impact in the United States or elsewhere.

In the United States, "abortion drives this subject — nothing more, nothing less," said Mr. Caplan, reached in Minnesota.

"The British do not have the same abortion polemics and politics," he said.

Mr. Caplan said the United States would not follow Britain's lead if Republican George W. Bush is elected president in November. "But if [Al] Gore is elected, it will," he said, predicting an executive order.

The bioethicist said he understands both sides of the debate. "One side says destroying a cloned embryo for science is murder. The other side says, 'If we don't do something, that person will never get out of a wheelchair,' " Mr. Caplan said.

"I think the truth is somewhere in the middle," he said.

Mr. Caplan added, "It's tragic and sad to have to explore some avenues of research by sacrificing an embryo . . . but it doesn't make sense that the destruction of a frozen embryo is put on a par with a human being."

Embryonic stem cells, which have been called "primitive" and "immortal," have the ability to divide without limits and to give rise to specialized cells that eventually develop into toes, ears, brain cells, blood and other body parts.

Scientists speculate that further experimentation will lead to developing the ability to direct stem cells to grow into certain types of tissue that can be used to repair disease- or accident-damaged bodies. Injecting stem cells might delay certain aspects of aging, and the research appears likely to create a new form of medicine.

However, Mr. Caplan acknowledges that stem cell research is a "continent away from curing anything."

As for those who worry the British legislation could be a springboard for Frankenstein-type abuses, Mr. Murray said such "dangers are not relevant" to stem cell research.

In Britain, the vote on the legislation is expected in Parliament this fall. Individual members will be allowed to vote their conscience instead of being made to follow the party line.

• *This article is based in part on wire service reports.*

The Washington Times
THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2000

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON
August 21, 2000

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

SUBJECT: Lederberg Letter on Mycoherbicides and Colombia

Purpose

Respond to a letter from Nobel Laureate Josh Lederberg on the possible use of mycoherbicides against the Colombian coca crop.

Background

Josh Lederberg has written you to express concern about a U.S.-funded plan to test the safety and efficacy of mycoherbicides -- living fungi -- against the coca crop in Colombia. Lederberg terms the proposed plan "ill-founded," arguing that it could do "great harm to our national security and international relations." In particular, he is concerned that the plan not go forward without a careful review by all the relevant agencies of both the scientific and national security issues involved, including whether a successful mycoherbicide campaign in Colombia could encourage others to consider similar, anti-crop attacks against targets in the United States.

We discussed the issues raised in Lederberg's letter with the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the State Department and other relevant agencies. As a consequence, they have agreed that three conditions related to safety and effectiveness, national security, and Colombian government approval would have to be met in order for the United States to support the actual use of mycoherbicides against the Colombian coca crop.

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WW Desk

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the proposed response at Tab A.

Attachments
Tab A Proposed Response to Josh Lederberg
Tab B Incoming Correspondence

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Josh:

Thank you for your letter on the proposal to test the safety and efficacy of mycoherbicides against the coca crop in Colombia. You raise a number of important questions about the scientific and national security impact of both the proposed tests and any subsequent use of mycoherbicides in Colombia.

The United States will not support the use of mycoherbicides against the Colombian coca crop unless three conditions are met: first, a rigorous, carefully supervised research and test program in Colombia determines that mycoherbicides are safe, effective, and superior to existing chemical eradication methods; second, a broader national security assessment, including consideration of the potential impact on biological weapons proliferation and terrorism, provides a solid foundation for concluding that the use of this particular drug control tool is in our national interest; and, third, the Colombian government agrees with proceeding with the mycoherbicide program.

Due to the magnitude of the cocaine problem confronting Colombia and the United States, I believe we have a responsibility to explore every reasonable tool against the Colombian coca crop. Our decision to provide funds to the United Nations Drug Control Program and the Colombian Government to test the safety and efficacy of mycoherbicides is but one part of a larger program aimed at supporting Colombian anti-drug efforts.

Thank you again for your views on such an important issue.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
University Professor
The Rockefeller University
1230 York Avenue
New York, New York 10021-6399

5401

THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

pro bono humani generis

1230 YORK AVENUE - NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10021-6399

CC: Sam Berger,
Yes one more thing I crave your personal attention.
Joshua.

Joshua Lederberg
UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

May 28, 2000

Mr. William J. Clinton
President
The White House
Washington DC 20500

⇒ GARY
brief response
B

Dear Mr. President

This is about mycoherbicides.

I think you know I would not detain you on any matter of less than national importance.

Mycoherbicides may sound like a chemical weed killer, but they are living fungi intended to destroy a crop by intentional, contagious plant disease. Mycoherbicides have been intensively developed by the USDA, at the initiative of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Particular attention in ongoing R&D is given to Fusarium oxysporum, a fungus designed to eradicate the coca crop in Colombia. It now appears in the bill recently passed by the House, H.R.3908 - 2000: Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act: see enclosure.

This is one of a series of actions that appears to be converging on the large scale application of Fusarium in Colombia. You will see from the House bill the financial pressure being exerted on Colombia to ensure their sovereign acquiescence to this project, and hence avoid overt violation of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC).

Nevertheless I submit that this proposed policy is ill-founded, and could do great harm to our national security and international relations. It thereforefore warrants your personal attention to assure that it does not slip by without the appropriate interagency and technical review. I can assure you I know of many people in the defense, intelligence, law enforcement and agricultural communities who are either totally unaware of what is burgeoning, or are opposed but have been silenced.

Here are my concerns:

1). Will the Fusarium restrict its attack to the illicit coca plantations, or might it spread (or appear to spread) to other crops? Testing environmental safety of an aggressive pathogen is very difficult on small plots at best, and requires close attention to matters of local climate, native insects and bridging weeds. Conversely how quickly will Fusarium-resistant strains of

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coca emerge and negate the intended benefits? Who will determine that environmental safety, and how credible will that determination be?

2). It will set an example, and if successful, a proof of principle about ways to attack our own agricultural economy -- avenues to which we are already exquisitely vulnerable. It is all too well known that the importation of a single sick cow with Foot and Mouth disease -- or parts thereof -- could initiate an outbreak in this country with devastating consequences. Please do request a briefing on what has happened lately in Taiwan. And imagine if the Nipah virus which has eventuated in many human casualties and the slaughter of at least a million swine in Malaysia were to be brought to our soil.

3). Our homeland security against bioterrorist and other bioattack depends on cooperation with many other countries, many of them not necessarily closely aligned. We try to bolster the high ground mapped by the BWC that biological weapons are a special threat to all humanity, that they should be regarded with special opprobrium. That will be eroded if we pursue unilateral decisions concerning the occasions that justify the use of biological agents in support of other policy objectives.

4). A successful attack, with the example noted, will provoke exactly the kind of people who would be motivated to exact revenge; and we had better steel ourselves to greatly enhancing our preparations for managing bioattacks on our own agriculture, and for recriminations about the Pandora's Box we will be opening.

Mr. President, I do not ask you to take definitive or public action on this matter. I do beg you to establish an independent, executive inquiry as to the merits of these concerns, weighing them against the gains expected. Whatever action is taken should be a deliberate one taking account of the broad policy stakes.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

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Agricultural Research Service

TEKTRAN

LIQUID FERMENTATION TO PRODUCE BIOMASS OF MYCOHERBICIDAL STRAINS OF FUSARIUM OXYSPORUM

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Interpretive Summary:

Some of the major diseases caused by Fusarium are the vascular wilt diseases caused by formae speciales of Fusarium oxysporum. recently these vascular wilt pathogens, which are highly specific hosts, have been suggested for use as mycoherbicides of weeds and narcotic plants. One of the major requirements for successful application of a mycoherbicide is the large scale production of fungal propagules resistant to desiccation and temperature extremes. In nature, chlamydospores, resting and survival spore structures produced by several species of fungi including Fusarium, serve a similar function, and play an important role in the long term survival of the pathogen, and in their subsequent infection of host plants. Very little research has been done on chlamydospore formation in the mycoherbicidal strains of Fusarium oxysporum. Current methods require 3 to 5 weeks before substantial numbers of chlamydospores are obtained, This work describes a rapid (2 week) liquid fermentation method to optimize conditions required for the production of chlamydospores. The optimum fermentor conditions for growth and formation of chlamydospores was low dissolved oxygen (DO) with a final increase in fermentor pH from 7.0 to between 9.0-10.0. This procedure will be used by scientists and industrial microbiologists for production of Fusarium chlamydospores.

Keywords:

biological control herbicide mycoherbicide phytotoxin mechanism narcotic plants weeds

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H.R.3908 - 2000

Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act
Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities
Defense (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for 'Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense', $185,800,000, to remain available for obligation until expended:

SEC. 1501. (a) CONDITIONS ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR COLOMBIA -
(1) CERTIFICATION- None of the funds appropriated in this title for military assistance may be made available to the Government of Colombia until the President submits to the Congress a certification that--
(A) the Government of Colombia has agreed to and is implementing a strategy to eliminate Colombia's total coca and opium poppy production by 2005 through a mix of alternative development programs; manual eradication; aerial spraying of chemical herbicides; tested, environmentally safe mycoherbicides; and the destruction of illicit narcotics laboratories on Colombian territory;