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considered

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

copied
Lovell

August 3, 1998

Dorothy P. Moore
Post Office Box 306
Arkansas City, Arkansas 71630

Dear Dorothy:

Thanks for your letter and for sending the information about Arkansas City history. I will pass it along to Hillary and the staff at the Millennium Program. I'm so glad to have your interest in our "Saving America's Treasures" project.

It was great to see you in Little Rock last month. I hope you're having a good summer.

Sincerely,

RM

Dorothy P. Moore
Post Office Box 306
Arkansas City, Arkansas 71630

Dorothy P. Moore

P.O. Box 306

Arkansas City, Arkansas 71630

July 22, 1998

JP

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500-2000

Dear Mr. President:

It was unbelievably wonderful to have you come home! The excitement began at Little Rock Air Force Base when we saw you descend the steps from Air Force One, continued as we heard you speak and as you greeted us who came to welcome you home. Thank you for those memorable moments.

The excitement continued on Saturday when you met with the Democratic State Committee. Your presence and your words pumped much needed energy, and money, into our sagging party and revived our hopes for wins in November. We shall work to that end. Thank you, Mr. President.

Robert and I are so pleased that you and Hillary are focusing attention on the need to preserve our Nation's historic places and artifacts. The Mississippi River Delta was unheard of when the Liberty Bell rang in 1776, but as civilization slowly pushed westward the importance of the Mississippi River caused this area to develop.

With your permission, Sir, I am enclosing a write up of the history of old Napoleon and Arkansas City which I hope you will find interesting. Robert and I, with the help of County Judge McElroy and Mayor Rick Bixler, are desperately trying to restore and preserve the few remaining historic buildings in our little town in the hope of making it a place tourists would want to visit and enjoy.

The ultimate dream is to see a portion of the levee paved that would connect the attractions of the Delta Heritage Trail to the Lake Village State Park. How I wish you could see what we are trying to do to preserve our Nation's history.

This is long and I apologize, Mr. President, but as ever I Thank you.

My love to Hillary and to you.

Your friend,

Dorothy P. Moore
Dorothy P. Moore

Enc

DESHA COUNTY

COUNTY SEAT — ARKANSAS CITY



DESHA COUNTY

Desha County, the 40th county created in Arkansas, was formed from portions of Arkansas County on December 12, 1838. It was named for one of the area's leading citizens, Captain Ben Desha. A veteran of the War of 1812, Capt. Desha came to Arkansas from Kentucky in 1822 as a receiver of public moneys.

A temporary seat of justice for the county seat was set up at the home of William Sexton near the Arkansas River. In 1838, the prosperous town of Napoleon, located at the junction of the Arkansas and Mississippi Rivers, was selected as the county seat. Napoleon was founded in 1920 by Frederich Notrebe, a French general. It became one of the chief outlets on the Mississippi River and was the site of a United States Marine Hospital during the Civil War. Many of the official documentation on the earlier historical periods of Desha County were lost during the Civil War when they were transferred from Napoleon to the state of Texas for safekeeping. Only a few of these documents remain.

Desha County lies at the convergence of three major rivers of North America — the White River, the Arkansas River and the "Mighty Mississippi." Locks and dams on the Arkansas River provide the county with waterway connections from New Orleans to Tulsa. The Arkansas River joins the Mississippi River here, making Desha County a sportsman's paradise with excellent camping, boating and fishing opportunities. The White River National Wildlife Refuge, a portion of which is located in the northern section of the county, was dedicated in 1935 as a sanctuary for migratory fowl.

Historians say this area was the site of ancient Indian civilizations — perhaps before the birth of Christ. Indian burial mounds in the county are considered the oldest attraction there, with sites at Yancopin, Rohwer, McArthur, Tillar and Lucca Landing.

Arkansas City, the county seat, is a survivor of the steamboat era and is filled with memorabilia including the old Opera House, a museum, homes of the 1800s, store buildings with balconies, and two centuries-old churches. Ruins of the huge saw mills, the oil mill, cotton compress and bank from the industrial era in the town are still evident.



DESHA COUNTY JUDGE

MARK D. MCELROY

Robert S. Moore Avenue
Arkansas City, Arkansas 71630

DESHA COUNTY



(Editor's Note: This article was first published in the June 2, 1996 Travel Section of the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette by Marcia Schnedler.)

ARKANSAS CITY: AWASH IN HISTORY

By Marcia Schnedler

Arkansas City - Just past Trippe Junction east of McGehee, Arkansas 4 shoots arrow-straight across the Delta before a last-minute angle northward into this drowsy Desha County seat.

At Mona's Burger Bar (for sale) next to Grundy's Blue Front Cafe, the road makes a right turn and beelines to a massive earthen levee, 32 or more feet high, topped by a tidy gravel road.

On the levee's west side lies Arkansas City. On the east side is a shallow, forested lake.

Verna Reitzammer and Dorothy Moore, into their 80s, remember the early 1920s, when the lake was the channel of the Mississippi River, and the levee served as a landing bustling with passenger and freight boats. Arkansas City was a flourishing port and fuel stop then, linked to the surrounding countryside by railroad. It boasted a choice of hotels, groceries and banks, not to mention a hat shop, confectionary and other businesses.

But rivers are fickle. They give and take away prosperity from towns like Arkansas City, leaving behind history and memories.

Moore, born on a plantation nine miles from town, recalls masked balls held in the second-floor courtroom of the handsome county courthouse, built in 1890 a few blocks inland from the levee.

"My mother and daddy would bring my brother and me into Arkansas City for those balls," says Moore.

Reitzammer remembers that her father-in-law, John, who emigrated from Germany in 1882, opened the town's first bakery. With the help of his family, he later built the two-story Reitzammer building on De Soto Avenue (also called Front Avenue and Main Street as it parallels the levee). It's now empty, but a Red Star Grocery sign still hangs out front.

"All the bricks were homemade," Reitzammer says. "My husband was 8, and his job every morning was to go out to the nearby farm where the clay was and turn those bricks - they were sun-dried."

Young Leonard "Rocky" Reitzammer ran the bakery and grocery until a year before his death in 1979. He and Verna, who was the town's postmaster for 42 years, lived in an apartment upstairs whose screened porch roofed the storefront.

A historic marker on the levee takes history back another century, pointing out that steamboat landing was here as early as 1834. It undoubtedly played second fiddle to the

colorful port of Napoleon at the mouth of the Arkansas River not far north.

In 1820, Napoleon was founded by Frederick Notrebe, a French immigrant who had served under the French emperor. Notrebe settled at Arkansas Post 20 miles up the Arkansas River in 1811.

The savvy entrepreneur encouraged the introduction of cotton as early as 1819.

"A Virginian making his way north with a boat-load of slaves noticed how good the land was around the Arkansas City landing and stayed to plant cotton," Reitzammer says.

Napoleon, however, became the Desha County seat, as well as the site of a 1000-bed U.S. Marine Hospital opened in 1855, Arkansas' only such facility in antebellum years. It also was a wide-open town filled with card sharks and rough river men.

During the Civil War, Union forces almost destroyed Napoleon during its capture. The Mississippi river finally finished it off, sucking it underwater in 1874.

Mark Twain, who'd first experienced Napoleon as an apprentice pilot in 1854, mourned its passing in "Life on the Mississippi," calling it a "town of innumerable fights - an inquest every day: town where I had used to know the prettiest girl, and the most accomplished in the whole Mississippi Valley;...town no more - swallowed up, vanished, gone to feed the fishes; nothing left but a fragment of a shanty and a crumbling brick chimney."

When Napoleon went under, the county seat moved to Watson for a few years, then in 1879 to Arkansas City. The town was ready - already incorporated in 1873, and served by the first of three luxurious and beloved packet boats named Kate Adams on regular runs to Helena and Memphis.

During the post-Reconstruction years almost through the 1920s, Arkansas City blossomed. Henry Thane led the way. The young entrepreneur, born in Germany and raised in Metropolis, Ill., moved to town in 1876, just ahead of the railroad.

Thane studied law, then handled legal affairs for the railroad company as it linked Arkansas City to Pine bluff and beyond. He served in numerous political offices and operated an important sawmill and lumber company. He came to control the Desha County Bank & Trust and other financial institutions in Southeast Arkansas. He played a leading role in forming the Desha Levee District in 1886, which built a system of drainage ditches, and in raising levees from six feet to more than 20 feet after 1917.

Some of the buildings from those glory days remain. During the 1880s, the oblong two-story Masonic hall went up on capitol Street. It also served as an opera house, supplementing the vaudeville performances, dances and other hoopla aboard showboats and excursion vessels for which most of Arkansas City's streets are named. Perched on concrete blocks, the hall is marked by the sign, "Riverton Lodge 296 F&M."

In 1882, the United Methodist Church, a prim white-frame structure, was built on the corner of Capitol Street and Kate Adams Avenue. Kitty-cornered across the streets, a small one-story elevated brick building went up the same year. After the turn of the century, Xenophon Overton Pindall's law offices were here.

Pindall served most of the gubernatorial term of J. Sebastian Little, who had a nervous breakdown shortly after his election in 1907.

Dwarfed by the nearby levee, the building was a duty museum for many years until the county auctioned it off. Moore's son, Robert, bought it, put on a new roof and hopes to restore it.

In 1900, Thane built St. Clement's Episcopal Church, a tiny frame building on Natchez Street, for his first wife, Fanny. After her death, he married her niece, Stella, for whom he built a fine Tudor home on Front Street.

But Thane's piece de resistance was the county courthouse.

The businessman put up \$10,000 in 1899 for its architectural plans in an adapted Romanesque style that took 40 train cars of Delta-made brick to complete. The street it faces was later named for Moore's husband, Robert S., a longtime and legendary county sheriff until his death in 1913. Dorothy Moore served out his term. The jail he ran is next to the county building.

Across President Street stands the solid three-story 1910 Arkansas City High School, closed years ago. Aerial photos of the 1927 flood, which devastated about one-third of the state, show the water lapping into the school's second story.

During that flood, the Arkansas River broke through the levee at Pendleton to the north. Water from the swollen river rushed south across the Delta and into Arkansas City.

John H. Johnson, the founder of Ebony magazine who was raised in Arkansas City recalled in his autobiography that the first message when the Pendleton levee broke was to grab valuables and pets and run to the local levee. Minutes later came the word: forget the pets and valuables - just run for your lives.

Reitzammer, stranded in her father's store, was rescued by boat. She remembers watching her piano floating out the front door in pieces.

Moore's high school graduation was that spring.

"My brother paddled me up to the second floor of a bank building and the president handed me my diploma out the window."

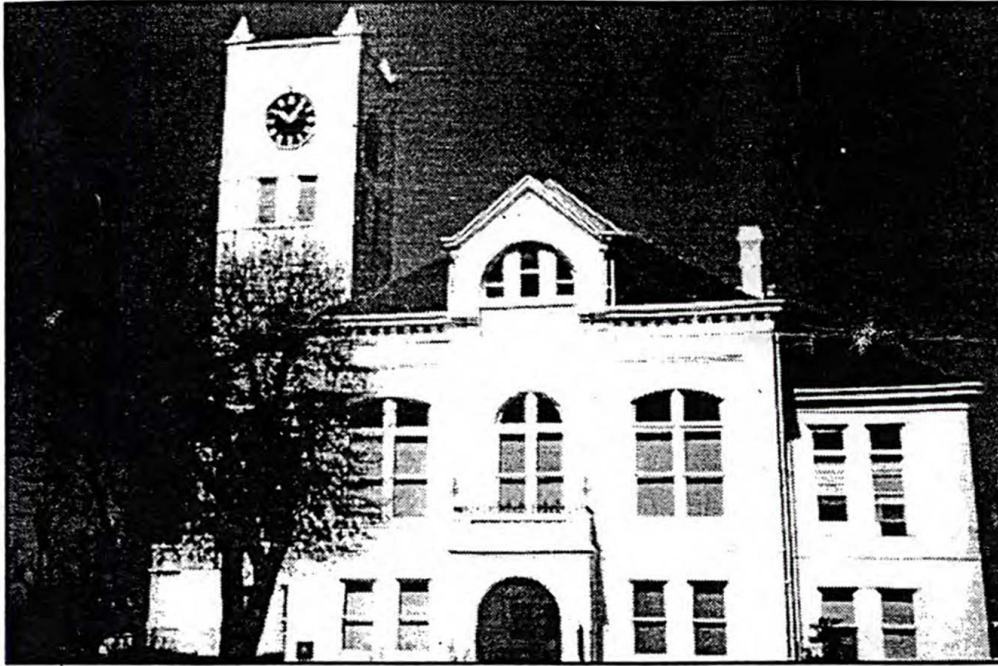
"The flood finished off Arkansas City," Reitzammer says. The Mississippi channel moved east, so the railroad's freight terminal was useless. Businesses and residents departed with many buildings gradually abandoned and demolished.

But Arkansas City, quiet as it is now, still has plenty of past to save. Plans are afoot to stabilize and restore the imposing old high school as a repository for county records, not scattered, and memorabilia. There may be a future for the old opera house, Episcopal Church and other storied buildings, too.

It should be wonderful to watch history come alive again.



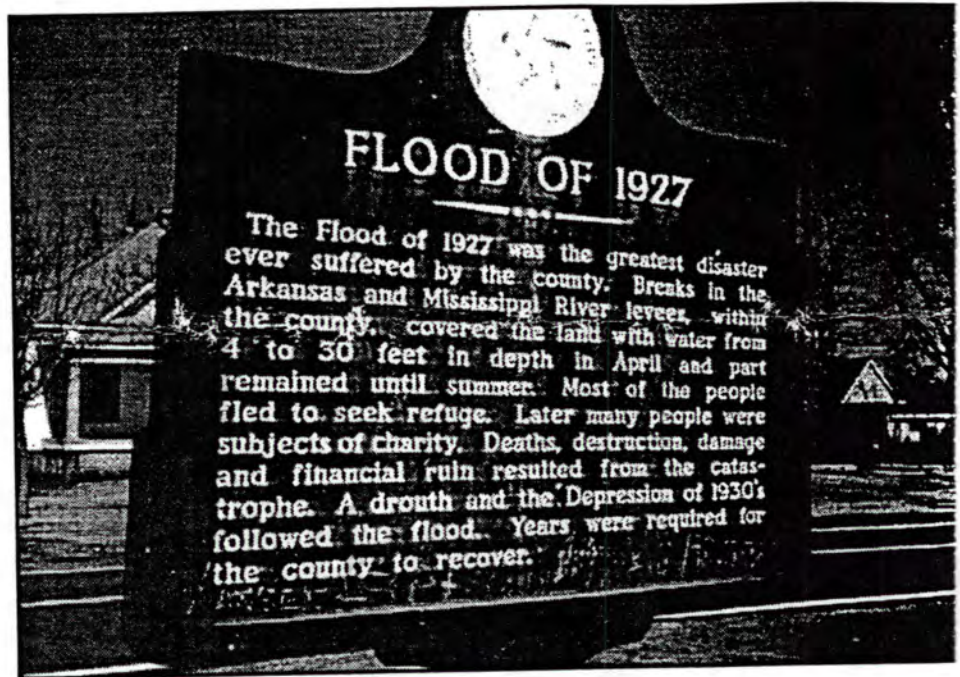
Old Museum
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OWNS - EXTERIOR
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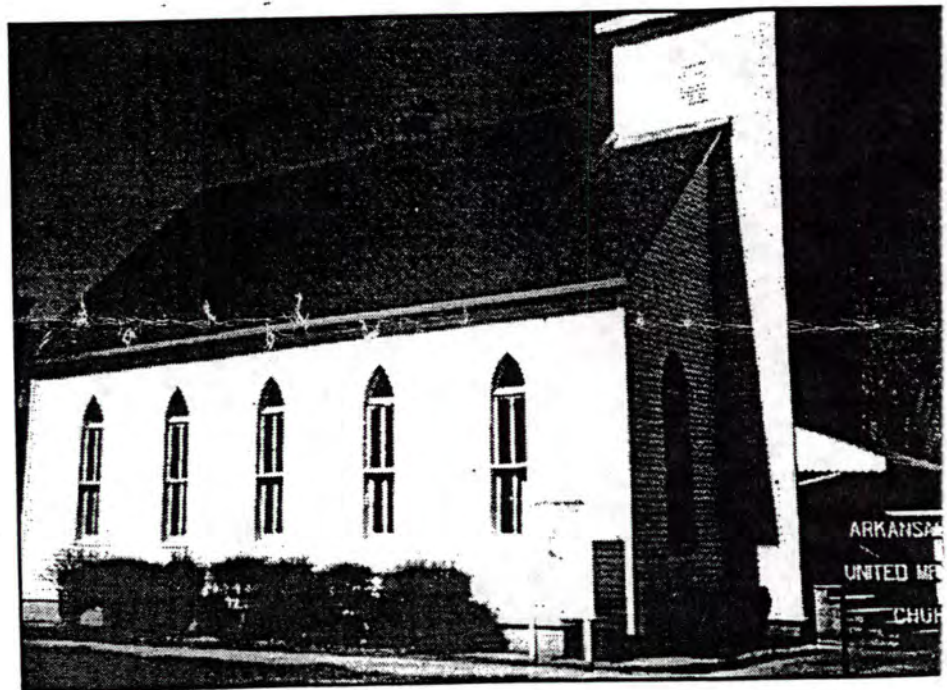
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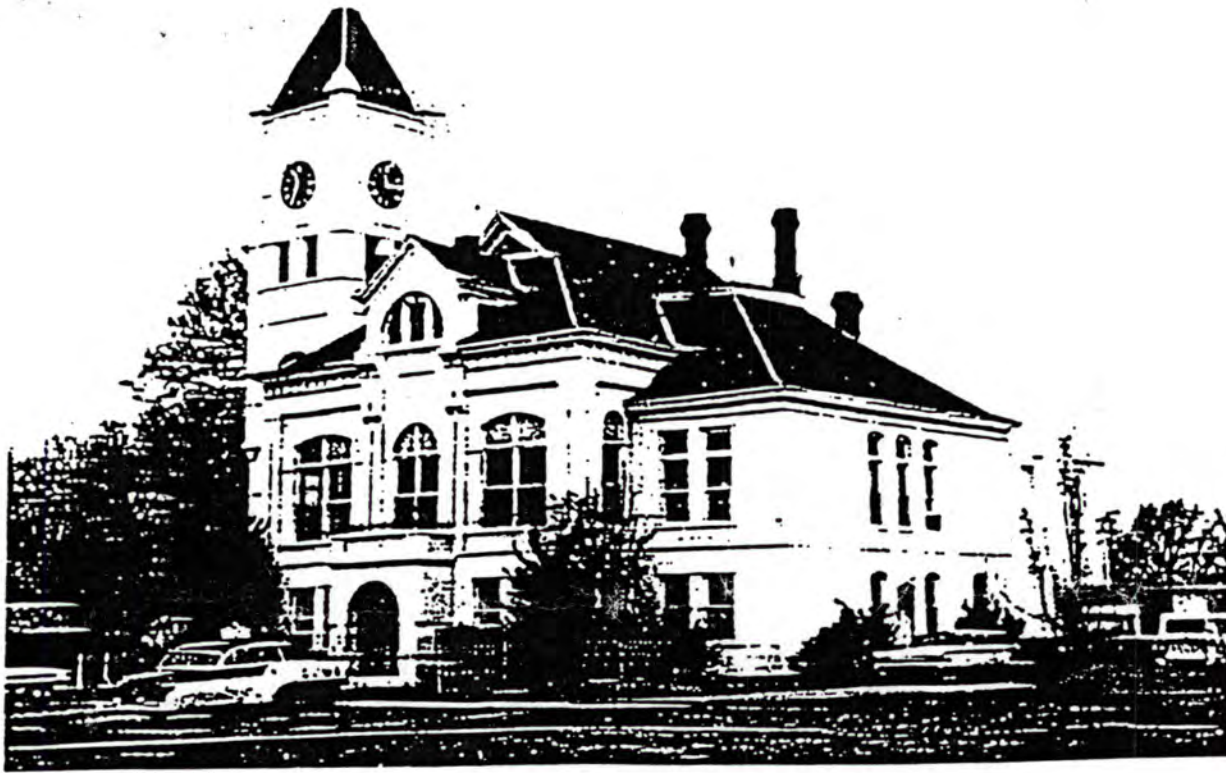


Robert DUNE
these, we are
trying to restore
LACK of Money
stops us.



SERVICES HELD
EACH WEEK-
IN EXCELLENT
CONDITION





DESHA COURTHOUSE

Arkansas City

Pseudo-French Renaissance Revival — 1900

One of Arkansas' most accessible courthouses during the steamboat's heyday, this red-tiled brick building is now the most remote. The courtyard, encircled with a distinctive wrought iron fence, is located just inside the levy of the Mississippi River, and is the only courtyard in the state that is entered over a stile. In late summer, the courtyard's pear trees bear fruit and it is covered with many red crepe myrtle trees complimenting the building's red-tiled roof. The brick exterior of the building, now painted white, stands 2½ stories high on a brick foundation — high enough to withstand rising waters from the nearby Mississippi. Exposed earthquake rods provide protection from another of nature's threats. The building's four-story clock tower and its five chimneys consumed part of the forty freight car loads of brick required for construction. In 1943, the original hallway behind rounded arches was enclosed for offices.

The second-floor courtroom must be one of the most unusual in America. Entered directly by a wooden staircase, it has a twenty-three-foot pressed tin ceiling from which hang ceiling fans and milkglass lighting fixtures. The "bench" is a table which sits behind a beautiful convex curved rail supported by hand-turned balusters. Four 3½-inch wood balls are affixed to the top of the rail. The jury box and bar have similar rails. However, the jury rail has flat square posts on top; the bar rail has twelve-inch high posts topped with similar wood balls. The wide trim around the massive arches over windows and doors as well as shiplap wainscoting are painted a darker green than the plaster walls. The ends of the spectator benches, painted grayish-green, are elaborately carved. Entry to the Circuit Clerk's office can only be obtained by a walk through the courtroom.

Arkansas Postcard Past By Steven Hanley



Arkansas City, 1911 The steamboat Kate Adams was a prominent feature on the Mississippi River for a number of years as it plied a regular route between Memphis and Arkansas City carrying mail and freight. The boat was destroyed by fire in 1927. If you have questions or comments, write: Arkansas Postcard Past, P.O. Box 2221, Little Rock, Ark. 72203.

Copied
Nash

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

cc: Nash
His a good man - was
in '74

August 3, 1998

Joe D. Bennett, M.D.
Post Office Box 969
Harrison, Arkansas 72601

Dear Joe:

Thanks for your letter. It was great to see
you in Little Rock last month.

I'm glad you had the opportunity to meet Bob
Nash. I've passed along a copy of your letter
to him -- I know he is working on your request
to serve on one of our advisory boards.

Hope the rest of your summer is pleasant.

Sincerely,

Bill

Joe D. Bennett, M.D.

P. O. Box 969
Harrison, Arkansas 72601

Reply 30/✓
Nash take care of room.

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Bill,

Just a short note to tell you how much I enjoyed seeing you again at the fund raiser for Blanche. I have to say that it is kind and thoughtful of you to take so much time visiting with so many of your old friends here at home. We're all proud of the job you're doing!

I had the opportunity to meet and visit briefly with Bob Nash at the fund raiser. Since February he has been trying to help find a place for me on a non paying board or commission pertaining to health care such as the National Cancer Advisory Board or President's Cancer Panel. So far he hasn't been able to find anything that I would be able to make a contribution to.

I have time to devote to something like this since I have retired and would like very much to serve you and the country in some meaningful way.

Sincerely,
Joe

Joe D. Bennett, M.D.
Post Office Box 969
Harrison, Arkansas 72601

7-30-98

24 July 98

Sir,

Are you aware that
 Luke Martin, the son of Marine Captain
 Martin, died Tuesday night in a
 car accident just outside of
 Camp David? Apparently, the entire
 Camp David community is still in
 shock/mourning.

He will be buried in Arlington
 National Cemetery next week.

V/R,

LTC Pittard

Parents just
 married
 I should
 write them

R

Dan Burkhardt:
 Please coordinate
 the reply.

Case work

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
7-30-98

Ronald Byrd, Jr.

M.A. in English

looking for

worthwhile

challenging

work

7-30-98
Send to Burkhardt?

Yes ☒

No ☐

C

(501) 835-5067

ask to receive resume

copied
VP
HRC
COS



THE PRESIDENT

8/3/98

David -

Thanks for your very thoughtful
proposing letter which I have read
several times - and for the Wilson
book which I am working through.
I think you're on to something.

Sincerely Bill Clinton

HRC

Should
we have a
bill serving
on future of
communication?

cc: VP / HRC

interesting

① VP

~~about~~
What about his
hypotheticals -
would you
be a really
new

133 Kearny Street
Suite 300
San Francisco, California 94108-4811

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE

MARKING INITIALS: M DATE: 1/18/22
2019-0803-5

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dearest Bill,

I and many of my friends and colleagues (and apparently most Americans) are very proud of the way you are holding your ground against the withering assault of your adversaries. Make no mistake about it, it is obvious that the assault you are experiencing, while disguised as a right wing conspiracy, originates with more than partisan resentment. It is an attempt by those threatened by the inevitable decline of traditional prescriptive morality to undermine the moral authority of your presidency.

As you know, I consider your presidency to be part of the evolutionary destiny of our generation and through it our nation. You are the first president to come of age during the awakening of the sixties. You have used this opportunity brilliantly to combine left and right in substantive ways and to capture swing voters by redefining so-called Republican issues as opportunities for Democratic innovation. In spite of the threat this poses to those who are invested in the old orthodoxies, you have done a marvelous job of keeping American citizens focused on the country we want America to be in the century to come.

Notwithstanding, I think you must now take on an expanded leadership role in the culture wars to maximize the historical contribution of your presidency. You already know the battle to define the future of America cannot be won on the terrain between left and right. It also cannot be won on the terrain between freedom and order or between the modern Enlightenment and the remnants of the premodern world. Neither modern science nor premodern religion offers a moral authority sufficient to realize the historical destiny of our generation or your presidency. You must articulate something that transcends and integrates both.

It was in this larger context that I gave you John Gray's *Enlightenment's Wake: Politics and Culture at the Close of the Modern Age* and gave Hillary Ken Wilber's *Sex, Ecology, and Spirituality*. Both are important, though partial, examinations of the forces shaping the historical moment in which you are leading America. I appreciated your kind letter about keeping you so well read.

The greatest opportunity for leadership in this historical moment is easily missed. You are leading the nation at the midpoint between a cultural awakening and a political or institutional restructuring. Most of our great presidents, including Washington, Lincoln and FDR, have lived through a cultural awakening in their formative years and later led the nation during a restructuring. Their presidencies succeeded based on transforming crisis into new forms. While this requires bold leadership, it is more straightforward than the transitional challenge we now face.

The transition between an awakening and a restructuring is characterized by the growth of new structures and the breakdown of traditional structures. This historically culminates in crisis and transformation. This transition is a primary source of the insecurity, fear and anger fueling the

assault on you and your presidency. This means that providing a context for orchestrating conflict toward synthesis is more crucial than any single initiative. The boldness required is more subtle. It involves calling the parties to the inevitable conflicts to the highest level of engagement and idealism.

I vividly remember the night you were nominated in 1992. You told me and a few of your friends that you were going to "give the sixties a good name if it's the last damn thing we do." Your lighthearted comment may have presaged an essential aspect of your historical opportunity.

Giving the sixties a good name requires integrating the new ideals and behaviors that originated during the awakening with the best aspects of traditional values and structures. The new must be assimilated without destroying the foundation provided by the old. After a cultural awakening, the clash of apparently irreconcilable ideals and principles first produces conflict, then discourse, and ultimately the emergence of new and more integrated ideals and principles. Although the gridlock and bitterness we have is unusual, it has precedent in the acrimony that preceded the Civil War.

The historical moment calls for achieving the highest possible synthesis of the opposites that have defined the Enlightenment so we can get on with restructuring our institutions and communities. The quality of this conflict and the resulting shift in public consciousness will determine the shared principles that guide the next restructuring. And that will determine the quality of the new structures throughout government and society.

In our contemporary world, an important list of issues will require such a shift in consciousness. In America, the clash between the self-fulfillment ethic and the duty ethic since the awakening of the 1960s has fanned the flames of the culture wars. Worldwide, a similar conflict between religion and science as authorities for moral criteria underlies the discord between mythic Islamic nations and secular Western democracies. The perceived conflict between preserving our national identity and globalization surrounding immigration policy is a mirror image of this. All these issues will require a new source of authority beyond religion or science.

The book I am giving you now, *The Marriage of Sense and Soul: Integrating Religion and Science*, also by Ken Wilber, is another important, though partial, window into the historical moment that is reshaping our institutions and communities. Parts of his work are consistent with the new paradigm leadership courses I have taught over the years and with the perspectives I have offered you and, through Morley Winograd and others, members of your administration.

While I have important disagreements with Wilber, especially his tendency to overlook essential intermediate steps toward an authentic synthesis of the opposites that define our contemporary politics, and his unduly Eastern orientation, he does offer some important ways of thinking about our historic challenge.

The remnant of the premodern world in American politics is the prescriptive right which seeks to constrain cultural freedom with an imposed order rather than expanding responsibility. The remnant of the Enlightenment appears to be the prescriptive left which seeks to impose economic outcomes rather than expanding responsibility.

The great opportunity of your moment in history is to transcend the prescriptive economic legacy of the New Deal with a postprescriptive economics and the prescriptive cultural legacy of our earlier history with a postprescriptive morality. Your synthesis of opportunity and responsibility is a major step toward a new economic synthesis. A similar synthesis in the cultural arena is needed. Its polarities may include liberty and community, choice and caring, with an expanded sense of responsibility that is beyond duty or obligation.

Another part of this challenge is to encourage the development of what I call decentralized and integrated governance. This is already beginning without guiding principles as a response to events. States and regions are demanding power. With the National Partnership for Reinventing Government, you are beginning to give them power in ways that ask them to remain active members in a national community.

The evolution of a decentralized and integrated civilization is intimately linked with another issue that may be central to your legacy. No tools are more important to broaden participation in our emerging global economy and culture than computing tools. No computing tools are more important than the operating system and microprocessor that constitute a computing platform.

It is very reassuring that your Justice Department and FTC have begun to challenge the hegemony of the Wintel platform. Yet a narrow legal success against Microsoft and/or Intel might accomplish less than we want unless grounded in a broader postprescriptive cultural context.

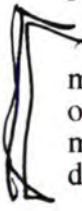
The larger context is what my colleague Michael Vlahos calls the Infosphere, an extension of cyberspace combining the power of television, telephone, Internet, videoconferencing, virtual reality, and other information-rich tools. This Infosphere will be as far beyond the graphical World Wide Web as the Web is beyond the text-based Internet.

The Infosphere will create a rich mosaic of diverse transnational communities organized around shared interests. These will become as important to the progress of humanity as the geographic communities on which we rely for security or the economic communities on which we rely for prosperity.

Individual citizens will need two things to access the Infosphere. One is bandwidth. The other is a new generation of computing platforms. Combinations of operating systems and microprocessors are called "platforms" precisely because they are the foundation for other computing tools. They are to applications as earth's biosphere is to our rich diversity of life forms. Just as the delicate balance of the carbon/oxygen cycle defines what life forms can evolve on earth, the operating system and (to a lesser extent) the processor architecture set the parameters within which software applications are written.

Operating systems and microprocessors beyond anything Microsoft or Intel have are already available, though forced to survive in small niches. And given their narrow and immediate economic interests, it is safe to predict that forthcoming Microsoft operating systems and Intel processors will reflect more interest in protecting their installed base than in departures that serve the progress of humanity.

All Americans should have access to a wide choice of computing platforms. It is fashionable for Microsoft apologists to focus on the diversity of applications available for Windows. This evades a central issue. Applications written for Windows are a monoculture. What is lost is the rainforest of applications that are not available because there are so few incentives to write software for niche platforms.



The Justice Department to date has focused on the symptoms of the operating system monopoly, not its cause or its effects. If this challenge is upheld by the courts, the most successful outcome envisioned might be equivalent to the 1911 breakup of Standard Oil. Alone, this will be no more successful in seizing the historical moment than the Standard Oil case was in catalyzing the development of alternative energy sources.

Fortunately, there is much that can be done to address this issue in ways that reach beyond the scope of the Justice Department. Social policy should begin with a compelling vision of the cultural and economic benefits of innovation. We need a national collaboration to provide rapid and

widespread access to the Infosphere. A Manhattan-like project could provide incentives to discover and encourage the best mix of competition and cooperation.

In pursuit of this outcome, the real battle is between the Microsoft/Intel duopoly and open platforms. If this monolith persists, it could inhibit progress as much as the oil oligopoly prevented development of alternative energy. With appropriate policies, we could ensure that contributions from currently dominant players like Microsoft and Intel are balanced by those of the most gifted technical and social innovators.

Few legacies would make more difference to the emerging world than empowering the average American to participate fully in the Infosphere. If by January 20, 2001 a mere twenty five per cent of desktop computers sold were based on non-Wintel platforms it would give developers a tremendous opportunity to write more innovative applications. The availability of tools needed to access, participate in, and contribute to the Infosphere would accelerate, much as telephone availability and technology accelerated in the early 1900s when universal service became the standard to which inventors were called.

The richness of software choices and the robustness of some of the systems that would comprise this modest dent in the Microsoft/Intel hegemony would markedly impact the future. Presented properly, this idea would likely catch the imagination of other leaders in the contemporary computing market which is relatively limited compared to the potential of the Infosphere. It might even seem attractive to a beleaguered Microsoft looking for redemption. And seventy-five percent of the Infosphere will economically dwarf the linear progress of an essentially monopolized computer market.

For a long time, I have attempted to serve you by evangelizing your agenda and your virtues to my audiences and by encouraging you to broaden the contexts within which you lead. These informal efforts were obviously limited in scope.

Now some of my colleagues and I may be able to assist you more concretely. We are organizing several projects to serve as a base for a search for these larger contexts and the perspectives and principles needed to develop an integrated approach to culture and politics. We have discovered individuals from diverse backgrounds, with intellectual and material resources, who believe the country would benefit greatly from a national conversation on the connections between cultural, economic, and technological evolution and the lives of Americans.

As the First Minister, it would be appropriate for you to lead such a conversation. The conversation could begin informally, perhaps as part of your series of Millennium Evenings, and become more formal, including public forums similar to those in your initiative on race. My colleagues and I would be pleased to explore and, if appropriate, to assist in planning and organizing such a program.

I am optimistic about its prospects for making a worthwhile and enduring contribution.

In your last letter you said you looked forward to seeing me again soon. Perhaps these reflections will begin a dialogue. You may reach me at (415) 440-1111.

Kindest regards,

Drexel

Spencer

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
August 3, 1998

Copied
Waldman
Podesta
Echaveste
COS

Mr. President:

Maria has signed off on this new hire.

Phil Caplan

him him
+ bring him in
to get him

THE PRESIDENT

8-3-98

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

8-3-98

98 AUG 3 AM 11:17

August 3, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: MARIA ECHAVESTE
FROM: MICHAEL WALDMAN /MW/
SUBJECT: NEW SPEECHWRITER

As you may know, we have been moving forward to hire a new speechwriter, to fill a position that has been open for nearly a year. I want to hire Paul Glastris, a Senior Writer at *U.S. News and World Reports*. He has been a bureau chief, editor and writer there for 10 years, and was an editor of *The Washington Monthly* before that. He is a strong New Democrat who edits *U.S. News'* annual issue of new and innovative policy ideas. (That is one reason Jim Fallows strongly recommended him to us.)

Paul has been able to achieve all this while overcoming a serious physical disability -- he does not have use of his hands, which were injured in an accident when he was young. He operates a computer keyboard, instead, using a pen wedged in between the fingers of his non-prosthetic hand.

For your information, we have conducted our widest-ever search to fill this position, with an eye toward maintaining the diversity of the speechwriting department. We tested 25 candidates, 10 of them minorities, over the past months. At one point we made an offer to Ron Stodgill, an African-American journalist; he accepted, but then was given a better offer by *Time* and stayed there. Another African American journalist, Wil Haygood, pulled out shortly before he could be given an offer. We are committed to continuing the effort toward diversity as we fill other jobs that will, in the future, inevitably open up. In any event, a person who has overcome severe disabilities -- as Paul has -- would add his own, unique perspective to the mix of views and voices.

If you are interested, we can bring Paul Glastris in to meet with you before we make him a final offer. Or, if you do not have time, we can proceed to hire him. Please let me know which course you prefer.

8-3-98

Reed / Reed Mr. President Clinton
- YOUTH Violence Letter from Oregon
- cc: HRC

Dan Burkhardt:
Please coordinate
the reply.

Reed reply

copied
Reed
Emanuel
COS

teacher I have reported gun possession and even confiscated weapons, so I know how the reporting system does and does not function. As a relative of Mikael Nickolauson and colleague of the Kinkel's, I know both a victim and the perpetrator. As a parent, I want students to have rights, but also to be protected from those who are prone to violence.

So how do we prevent this tragedy from occurring again?

1. Add to the list of criteria for detaining at-risk children in a juvenile facility. Under currently proposed guidelines, Kip would not have been detained: he had friends, good grades and only an incident with rocks on his record. Cruelty to animals, arson (even where no one was hurt), receipt of counseling for psychological disturbance and being medicated for emotional reasons need to be added to the list. Bragging about cruelty to animals or boasting about using weapons and explosives are also red flags. We need to apply current research on the subject.

2. Require an intervention and a system of record-keeping for violence or threats of violence. Every person with input needs to be assembled around one table -- the student's teachers, school counselor, juvenile officer, doctor or psychologist, even concerned friends. Only then can a pattern of violent behavior be determined or denied. But currently such decisions are made by isolated individuals, such as the school disciplinarian or the police officer. Then that individual lacks sufficient information for a good determination and pertinent information becomes lost or scattered.

3. The process for consultation needs to also include all pertinent concerns, not just actual violations. On one hand, teachers, parents and students fear being either ignored or sued for reporting "merely" a troubling journal entry, a speech about bombs, threatening comments, a "hit-list", etc. -- all actually reported about

June 1, 1998

Dear President Clinton:

Thank you very much for your kind words directed to Thurston High School after the shooting May 21. We also appreciate your interest in our views on protecting schools from violence. Being on the front lines, we teachers are in a unique position to recognize troubled students and to possibly prevent tragedies before they happen. But recent events show that schools have little control after a student is suspended or expelled. Furthermore the network of those who could do something is fragmented, so that the right hand does not know what the left hand is doing. Consequently I'd like to propose additional changes urged by teachers, parents and those directly involved.

I believe I am in a particularly good position to represent the issues and facts. As a teacher I have reported gun possession and even confiscated weapons, so I know how the reporting system does and does not function. As a relative of Mikael Nickolauson and colleague of the Kinkel's, I know both a victim and the perpetrator. As a parent, I want students to have rights, but also to be protected from those who are prone to violence.

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Kip. While on the other hand those who do report are often told nothing can be done until a crime is committed. We clearly need to take steps to encourage teachers and students to report concerns, without fear of rejection or retaliation and with the certainty that something will be done. Then those in charge can make the final judgment as to the seriousness of a situation and the appropriate consequences.

4. Identify which agency is ultimately responsible for coordinating these decisions and precisely which steps must be taken for which violent acts or threats. For example, when teachers suspect possible child abuse, there are clear procedures to follow. A brochure outlines what is considered abuse, that those in charge of children must report it and that subsequently the burden of proof or determining appropriate action rests squarely with Children's Services. Nevertheless there is no such agency governing the handling of violent children. Worst of all, there is no clear policy for either parents or teachers: Do we report first to the school counselor, the disciplinarian, the principal or the police? Do ministers, family doctors and others in authority have the obligation to report children who are dangerous or is it to be considered a private or family affair? Furthermore what constitutes a violent threat? Will possession of knife under the car seat merit the same punishment as a loaded gun in a back-pack? And once violent students are counseled, suspended or detained, what is next? The procedure needs to be clearly defined and widely known to those dealing with children.

5. Increase the bed-space at juvenile detention centers. In that way students who "only" bring guns or bombs to school or who threaten to do so can be detained for at least three days to a week. Time is needed for evaluation of the student's intentions, background, or emotional stability, as well as to assemble the adults who know the child. But if the student turns out to have no other risk factors, detention then serves as a deterrent for bringing weapons to school or making drastic threats. In any event, a one hour interview, such as Kip is said to have received, is not adequate to evaluate an at-risk child.

5. Increase the funding to help violence-prone kids. One special-education teacher at Thurston reports that there is not even therapy or regular counseling for kids identified as severely emotionally disabled, let alone as "merely" dangerous. The violent are required to be integrated into our public schools, just as are the mentally or physically disabled. Yet they receive fewer resources and less funding. Furthermore there is a waiting list for special programs outside the public school (i.e. The Child Center, Jasper House). Meanwhile seriously troubled students must be allowed to attend public school until admitted to a special program or committing a crime severe enough for expulsion. Then it is too late for the victims, as well as for the perpetrator to turn his or her life around. While the agony of this tragedy is still fresh, now is the time to request funding for prevention.

6. A student's or parent's right to privacy should end with violent acts or threats. It is understandable that a student caught stealing from someone's locker,

while deserving punishment, does not want to be branded for life; there should not be a public announcement of every disciplinary action in a school. However, since most of the staff and students did not know Kip was suspended for bringing a gun to school Wednesday, he was not detained or reported as he entered the school Thursday morning. At least the staff, if not the students, should be aware of any dangers in order to protect themselves.

7. The definition of probable cause for a search warrant also needs to be redefined. If a student is caught with a weapon or explosives, his home, belongings, locker and even computer should be searched for related activities. An expert needs to be called in, since kids such as Kip seem to be able to fool parents, teachers and police. After his expulsion, Kip is said to have earnestly explained to the authorities that he only wanted to collect guns, not use them. Yet a search of his house would have proven otherwise.

8. Finally it appears that violence, like addiction, strips parents of objectivity and reasonable control over their children. Consequently the authority to deal with violent children should not rest so much in the parents' hands, who have blind love for their children. Children who make threats or bring weapons to school should not ever be returned to their parents until the detention period, group consultation and evaluation are complete. Additionally the availability of guns in the home should be considered a risk to mitigate before returning a student to his or her family; the family's guns need to be removed from the premises if a family member is violence-prone. We cannot afford to err too much on the side of parents' rights, since even the parents can become victims, as did Bill and Faith Kinkel.

I ardently hope that you will take these comments into consideration. They represent my views as well as those of my husband, our family and most of the students and parents with whom I have spoken. Some issues, such as the all-pervasive influence of violent video games and television, are so large it will take eons to solve. However now is the time to take small, practical steps within our schools in order to prevent youth-violence.

Sincerely yours,

Rachel Beckley-Rich
36273 Camp Creek Road
Springfield, Oregon 97478

hm. 541-746-2943
wk. 541-744-5000

FAX 541-744-5029



LIGHTHOUSE

COMMUNITY
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL

4750 155TH LANE N. • JUPITER, FL 33458 • 561-745-7261 • FAX 745-7265

Una Hukill
Principal

Susan Atherley
Assistant Principal

July 28, 1998

President Clinton
The White House
Washington DC 20202
c/o Betty Currie, Presidents Personnel Secretary

'98 AUG 3 PM 12:53

8-3-98

Dear Mr. President,

The stakeholders of Lighthouse Community Elementary School have the spirit of excitement which you left with us at our school. The enclosed special keepsakes have been given to you to encourage and challenge our students to give back to their families, communities and the world.

In spite of serious overcrowding at our school, we have significantly above national, state and local standards (81% tile). As you challenged each of us to do our part to promote high standards by your example, we will be.

You left us with a second message, perhaps more important than academic achievement, that is one of honesty and commitment to one's promise. If there has been one consistent comment summarizing your visit to our school, it has been that you kept your word when you promised the children that you would return to their school once your knee had healed.

Thank you for giving our children, staff and parents a personal example of integrity.

We hope you receive as much delight from our video "A Promise Kept" and school yearbook as we do.

Fondly,

Una Hukill

Una Hukill
Principal

Send to Burkhardt?

Yes

No

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LIGHTHOUSE

COMMUNITY
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July 28, 1998

'98 AUG 3 PM 12:53

President Clinton
The White House
Washington DC 20202
c/o Betty Currie, Presidents Personnel Secretary

Dear Mr. President,

The stakeholders of Lighthouse Community Elementary School continue to share the thrill and spirit of excitement which you left with us following your October 31, 1997 visit to our school. The enclosed special keepsakes reflect but a small part of how meaningful it was to have you encourage and challenge our students to not only excel academically, but also to give back to their families, communities and country.

In spite of serious overcrowding at our school this past year, our 1200 students scored significantly above national, state and local test scores in mathematics (90% tile) and reading (81% tile). As you challenged each of us, we continue to raise the educational "bar" and do our part to promote high standards by working hard and striving to be the best that we can be.

You left us with a second message, perhaps more important than academic achievement, that is one of honesty and commitment to ones promise. If there has been one consistent comment summarizing your visit to our school, it has been that you kept your word when you promised the children that you would return to their school once your knee had healed.

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