

Chron

OK

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date 1/22

To: Mcole Pabner

From: The Staff Secretary

See Nancy Hennrich's note.

Do you think it is appropriate
to do a thank you note from

POPS for Dave Thomas? Let
me know
Phil

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

JAN 22 PM 1:25

MEMORANDUM

TO: Staff Secretary

DATE: 1/21/98

FROM: Chip Payson
Scheduling
184 OEOb
456-5306

ATTACHED:

___ Please advise on
how to respond

___ For your information

☒ For your action

___ As you requested

___ Please call me regarding
the attached

___ Please prepare
response per
instructions below

___ For your approval

___ For Surrogate
Consideration

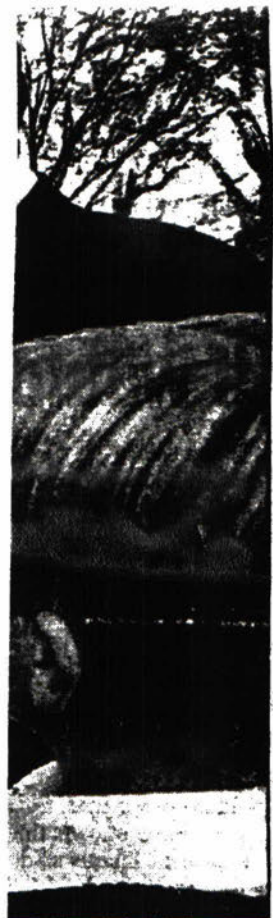
___ Please prepare
Scheduling
Proposal

COMMENTS:

I think Nancy's notes are
for you.

CC:

2000 Sec -
 CA 41 2000
 contact about
 doing letter
 of thanks to
 Dave Thomas



MARTIN SIMON/FOR THE TRIBUNE
 ant owner Dave Thomas
 tographs from President

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 ident.

Dear President & Mrs. Clinton,

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!

We enjoyed your Christmas card. Thank-
 you for thinking of us. Thank-you
 again for the lovely ceremony and re-
 ception at the White House. We shall
 always treasure those special memories.
 - Tim Scott & family

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MARTIN SIMON/FOR THE TRIBUNE

Celebrity encounter: Torin Scott, left, of Scottsdale and her adopted children get autographs from Wendy's restaurant owner Dave Thomas on Wednesday at the White House after the Adoption 2002 excellence award ceremony. The children also got autographs from President Clinton.

Wendy's founder treats adoptive mom

Scottsdale woman gets award at White House

BY MAUREEN GROPPE
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON — Scottsdale resident Torin Scott didn't wait to find a willing partner before starting a family; she became a foster single mom in her mid-20s.

She didn't understand why it was so difficult to adopt foster children. So she fought the system and adopted the first of five children in 1987.

Scott, now 45, didn't know how she would pay to fly her family to Washington, D.C., this week to be honored at the White House for her efforts. But she arrived on a credit card, a prayer and with \$7 in her pocket, and was quickly

rescued by Wendy's restaurant founder Dave Thomas.

Scott and Thomas were being interviewed by reporters on the White House lawn Wednesday about legislation President Clinton had just signed to make it easier to adopt foster children when an aide to Thomas overheard Scott's story.

"We'll pay for you," she told Scott before introducing the family to Thomas.

A national advocate for adoption rights and an adoptee himself, Thomas pulled out a wad of money and started handing over large bills.

The stunned Scott thanked him as her children clamored for autographs. Eleven-year-old Justin wanted Thomas to sign the back of his tie, the same place where he collected signatures

from the president and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

"So where are you going to dinner?" a reporter asked the family.

"They're going to Wendy's," Thomas deadpanned.

No matter where they ended up Wednesday night, the Scotts had a lot to celebrate. They were one of 13 families and organizations honored for their dedication to moving children out of foster care and into adoptive families.

The new law is supposed to make that process easier by giving states incentives to help find adoptive parents and by putting more emphasis on the child's safety than on family reunification.

"We know it makes a difference for children to have

permanent, loving homes," Hillary Clinton said.

Scott said she wished the law had been in effect when she took in her first foster child nearly 20 years ago.

When Scott got the message Monday that her family was receiving an "adoption excellence" award, she was told a private foundation would pay for their trip. But when the funding fell through at the last minute, she was left with five unhappy children and a lot of packed luggage.

Scott decided to go anyway and found a flight that got them to their hotel room at 2:30 a.m. A few hours later, the family was sitting among chandeliers and gold drapes in the East Wing of the White House, being praised by the president.

Thought you might like this -

Rita L. Besser
135 Frank Drive
York, PA 17402-7847



White House
Attn: Betty Currie, Executive Secretary
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms Currie,
My mother-in-law will be 95 yrs old on
February 7, 1998. She would be surprised & delighted
to receive a birthday card from the white house.
Please send to: Mrs. Hilda Besser
Room 120 - Country meadows
2760 Pine Grove Rd
York PA 17403

Thank you very much.
Mrs. Rita Besser
135 Frank Dr
York PA 17402-7847 (717) 840-0149

request sent to
Lynn Crable.

B

Send to Burkhardt?

Yes ☒
No ☐

1/20/98 10:45pm

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS
UNITED STATES CAPITOL
January 27, 1998**

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice President, members of the 105th Congress, distinguished guests, and my fellow Americans:

For 209 years, it has been the President's duty to report to you on the State of the Union: Tonight, it is a duty any citizen would cherish. Thanks to the hard work and strong values of the American people, these are good times for America. With our economy growing, our incomes rising, our social fabric mending, and our leadership in the world unrivaled, the state of our union is strong. [Paul suggests: *And in the words of that great American, Frank Sinatra, "The best is yet to come. And won't it be great."*]

Yet with barely 700 days left in the 20th Century, this is not a time to rest; this is a time to build. Think of the America within our reach: An America in which medicine will allow victims of spinal cord injuries to stand up and walk. An America in which every child has within reach every book ever written, every painting ever painted, and every symphony ever composed, all within an electronic instant. An America in which scientists find cures for diseases from Alzheimers to AIDS. A time when a strong America, which saved civilization in this century, makes the peace of the new century.

Let us count our blessings. Let us summon our resolve. And let us rise to the challenge of this moment: strengthening our nation for the 21st Century.

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We are a people born in the greatest revolution in human history, and at every turning point in our destiny we have extended the American revolution by renewing the idea of America.

This, I am convinced, is what our founders meant when they committed themselves and their descendants down to the present day to form a more perfect union.

*the people
are calling for
a new
beginning*

George Washington summoned our people to move beyond separate states, to become, as he put it, "an indissoluble community of interest as one nation." Abraham Lincoln gave his life to move beyond division and slavery to one nation. Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson pushed us to reap the benefits, yet curb the abuses, of the Industrial Revolution -- so that we could remain one nation. FDR, battled economic Depression and tyranny and fear itself, a triumph won by America as one nation. Fifty years of Democratic and Republican leaders from President Truman to President Bush stood strong throughout the Cold War, and built the world's greatest middle class at home, lifting America to new heights as one nation.

But by 1992, America faced a new challenge. The world was changing again, and more rapidly than ever before. A new global economy, the end of the Cold War, the eruptions of new nations and old hatreds, and revolutions in science, technology and information were presenting our people with a whole new project. Change declared new winners and losers -- opened new possibilities as it raised new perils. We lacked a framework for understanding it, and a plan to master it. Our economy was in recession, our political system was paralyzed, and our problems mounted. ~~Our leadership was divided and drifting.~~ Too many hardworking honest Americans were struggling to survive and make sense of a world moving beyond their control.

[alternative: Slowly but with gathering force, the ground shifted beneath our feet, as we moved into an information age, a global economy, a world in which the collapse of communism spawned new nations and let loose old hatreds. These changes upended old arrangements, declared new winners and losers, opened new possibilities etc.]

For five years, our people have risen to the challenge of change -- acting, to redeem the promise of America, to forge a more perfect union, to widen and deepen the meaning of our freedom. We have moved with new confidence, in a renewed spirit of hope, once again taking the path of "bold persistent experimentation."

And at every step, our actions have been grounded in three principles: Opportunity for all Americans. Responsibility from all Americans. A community of all Americans.

To make these principles real, we have moved past the sterile debate between those who say government is the enemy and those who say government is the answer. We recognized that government is but one instrument by which a free people fashions its future -- nothing more, nothing less. We have forged a new kind of government. Smaller. More flexible. Focused on giving the American people the tools to make the most of this new era. On being a catalyst for new ideas. [On protecting the defenseless, and empowering the disadvantaged]?

In this we have had great success, thanks in large measure to the guiding work of the Vice President in giving us the smallest government in 35 years, but one even better designed to move us forward. As our government has grown smaller, our nation has grown stronger.

We cannot shrink from this world of change -- we must master it. Yet we cannot tell our people to fend for themselves -- we must act to make sure all Americans can reap the rewards of change. And we cannot shrink from the the world -- we must act the way America has acted at its moments of greatness, one nation among many, leading the world toward new heights of freedom and peace.

We must recognize that in this new era, a strong nation requires robust leadership of the world -- our freedom and independence enriched, not diminished, by our interdependence with the people of other nations. That is why I have sought to persuade Congress and the American people that what happens beyond our borders affects our security, our well being, and our children's future. In the 21st Century, a central fact of our world is this: in advancing trade, in keeping the peace and preventing war, combating climate change and the spread of disease, stabilizing the global financial system -- American leadership matters . . . not only to the world, but to America.

And we must recognize that in the 21st Century, America will be challenged, as we have always been, by the divisions of race and ethnicity, by the challenge of living out the true meaning of our creed. If we are to build one nation, then we must truly be one nation. If we are to deepen the meaning of our freedom, then we must live by our ideals.

So tonight, with the state of our union so strong, with our prospects so bright, let us embrace with optimism and vigor the remaining challenges to building our bridge to the 21st

Century.

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[We believe that it is not necessary to do the "challenges we face" here, as envisioned in the memo from Al From. If you think it necessary, we could craft a billboard paragraph that reflects the structure of the speech.]

Let us debate our differences in a spirit of goodwill and civility. And let us determine to do whatever it takes to build an economy based on opportunity -- a society that rests on responsibility -- a union rooted in community -- here and around the world.