

Happy Birthday!

SEE PAGE 7



PROPERTY OF
ACTION
LIBRARY

ACTION UPDATE

July 23, 1981

RPCV Conference Explores PC Role in the 80s

"...And to promote a better understanding of other people on the part of the American people."

The Peace Corps Act, 1961 (goal three)

More than 1,800 former Peace Corps volunteers and staff attended the National Conference of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and Staff, June 19 and 20 in Washington, D.C.

The forum capped a series of year-long events celebrating Peace Corps' 20th anniversary, and was designed to strengthen the network of some 80,000 former volunteers. It explored ways in which they could effectively increase awareness among Americans about the Third World and the role Peace Corps plays in international development. Further, participants were provided the opportunity to share perspectives and strategies in meeting those developmental needs over the next two decades.

"The real challenge," said Peace Corps Director Loret Ruppe, "is to let people know that Peace Corps has been and continues to be a success story. We need you to continue the job of educating your fellow Americans to the reality of that world out there," and she told the RPCVs, "I am counting on you... your influence... and your ideas on what we can do to make people want to share in the Peace Corps."

Speakers at the conference included Jamaica's Prime Minister, Edward Seaga, who cited Peace Corps' "development strategy of building from the bottom up. In this world of ordinary problems and ordinary folk, helping to build a water tank, teaching farmers in the field, bringing literacy to the unschooled, are mightier messages of international friendship than the treaties and concords which resolve conflicts and hostilities between nations."



Loret Ruppe addresses conference

Other speakers at the plenary sessions were: His Eminence Stephen Cardinal Kim Sou Hwan, archbishop of Seoul, Korea; Andre Wright, Niger's ambassador to the United States; Sargent Shriver, first director of the Peace Corps; M. Peter McPherson, AID administrator and a former volunteer who served in Peru; Senator Paul Tsongas (RPCV Ethiopia) and Calvin Williams (RPCV Niger and Morocco), now vice-president of Chase Manhattan Bank.

Talks by the former volunteers filled the large auditorium with warmth and laughter as they recalled their PCV days. But on a more serious note, they all reminded the RPCVs of their continuing obligation to the third goal of the Peace Corps. Tsongas urged them to get the word out, "You have a responsibility...you have a task. I'm asking you to 'volunteer' again, not only for the sake of the countries in which we served, but most of all for the sake of our own country."

Following the opening day addresses, conferees attended seminars on the countries where they served. "We selected panel members, experts in their fields, who could give the returned volunteers solid economic, political and social updates on the countries," explained conference Coordinator Bill Reese. Those initial meetings were followed on the second day by a series of development issue seminars on such topics as world environment, international economic policy, food, population, refugees, health, women in development and education.

(cont. page 4)

FROM THE DIRECTOR



ACTION came out of the House budget battle in surprisingly good shape.

While cutting \$38 billion from President Carter's January budget in the now famous "reconciliation" act, the House voted to restore important funds for ACTION programs.

The House Education and Labor Committee had earlier slashed the Older American Volunteer Programs by 26 percent, knocked out two-thirds of the support money needed to keep the programs going, cancelled funds for ACTION's Student Volunteer programs and eliminated all volunteer demonstration projects.

The Republican reconciliation amendment approved by the House brought most of the ACTION programs back up to the level of funding requested by the Reagan administration. The House action applies to fiscal years, 1982, 1983 and 1984.

Everybody at ACTION owes a big "thank you" to Congressman Bob Michel of Illinois, the Republican House leader, for his assistance in bringing ACTION's funds back in line with the administration's request.

We also owe a special debt to Congressman George O'Brien of Illinois, a member of the powerful House Appropriations Committee, who gave special assistance in clearing up the legislative intent of certain provisions of the ACTION portions of the "reconciliation" act.

The House bill must now go to conference with the Senate to settle differences between the two bills. Altogether, the complete "reconciliation" bill is more than 400 pages long. The Senate provisions for ACTION closely parallel the House bill. We're not out of the woods yet, but at least the trees aren't falling on us.

Best regards,

Thomas W. Pauken
Director

Agency Faces Reduction-in-Force

A general Reduction-in-Force (RIF) notice has been issued to all ACTION employees. Any agency-wide RIF would result from the elimination, curtailment and/or consolidation of some agency programs under the administration's 1982

budget proposals. All RIFs would be completed by September 1981, unless the current RIF notice is extended or a new one issued.

It has not yet been determined which employees may be affected, but specific RIF notices will be issued as soon as any decision is made, and at least five days prior to the effective date.

Employees have been assured that any RIF action will be in accordance with their rights under applicable law and regulation, and specific RIF notices will inform employees of their appeal rights. No RIF action may be appealed until after its effective date.

Veteran Recruiter Stresses Unique Talents of Seniors



Left to right: Tom Moore, Winnie Pizzano, Bea Alford, Tom Pauken.

A veteran of two tours as a Peace Corps volunteer (Belize and Jamaica) and an ACTION/PC recruiter for over ten years, Bea Alford, 78, has no plans to retire. In fact, what she'd really like is another PCV assignment. But, she explains, "I have a cataract problem, so I guess for now I'll stay in Los Angeles and go on recruiting."

And recruiting is something Alford does very well. She is admittedly partial to seeking out potential older volunteers. "I'm a firm believer that they have something special to offer, and often have an easier time being accepted by host country nationals. Maybe it's all that grey hair," she jokes.

Alford has never been reticent about expressing her conviction about the unique talents of older people... "Their experience and maturity is needed in this world." This belief is something she discussed with ACTION Director Tom Pauken during her recent trip to Washington. In a meeting with Pauken, ACTION Deputy Director-designate Winnie Pizzano, Recruitment Director Tom Moore and Alford, the four considered ways in which Bea Alford's expertise could be used to recruit older volunteers for the agency's new programs.

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Peace Corps and ACTION staffers:

I want to thank you for the impressive job done in the true spirit of both our agencies to make the Second National Conference of Former Peace Corps Volunteers and Staff such a tremendous success.

Your commitment and the number of hours you put in, helped me to focus once more on how fortunate I am to have such dedicated people working with me. I believe the conference speakers and participants conveyed to all of us how important Peace Corps is in the role of effecting world peace. It's a role we welcome and a challenge we must meet.

I call upon you to continue that spirit which was so evidenced at the conference. Based on our two-day reunion, I know that Peace Corps continues to make a difference throughout the world. Thanks to you.

Loret Miller Ruppe
Peace Corps Director



Peace Corps Visited by 4-H Students

Thirty high school and college students from Indiana, under the auspices of the National 4-H Center in Washington, D.C., visited Peace Corps headquarters on June 23 as part of a visitor's program. The program is designed to intensify the awareness of Peace Corps on a national scale.

The 4-H's were welcomed by staffers John Chromy, Franklin Moore, Myra Lewis, Nikki Vanasse, Calvina Dupre, Vira Jones and Peola Spurlock. They saw two films, "Peace Corps Partnership," and "Peace Corps in Africa." A question-and-answer session featured a lively discussion on agricultural techniques in the Third World and PC agricultural programs. The 4-H's requested more information dissemination on Peace Corps throughout Indiana.

D.C. Youth Working in Peace Corps

Twelve junior and senior high school students, age 15-18, are working at Peace Corps under the District of Columbia's Summer Youth Employment Program. The purpose of the program is to enable these youths to gain a valuable work-world experience and to learn about developing countries. They are assigned to one of seven offices: Personnel Management Division, Information Collection Exchange, Office of Peace Corps Placement, Office of Special Services, and the Africa and NANEAP regions.

A breakfast series is taking place each Tuesday, beginning June 30, until August 4, 9:30-10:30 A.M., during which guest speakers, facilitators, overseas staff and former volunteers will interact with the youths. Peace Corps films will be shown, and staff members are invited to participate.

Ruppe Welcomes Minority Interns to PC

Sixteen second and third year college students were sworn in as Peace Corps Minority Summer Interns by Director Loret Ruppe on June 11.

Elton King, project coordinator, said of the interns, "The group this year is ethnically diverse and comes from traditionally minority institutions. They are intelligent, serious individuals who are committed to working with the developing world and very interested in Peace Corps. I am proud of them."

The interns are at Peace Corps headquarters for eight weeks of structured work-study programs on development and international affairs. The first segment of the program consists of a series of guest speakers on "Voluntarism and Social Change," who are focusing on the international setting, the neighborhood, and the minority community. Guest speakers include: Edgar Maya, Organization of American States; Jim Thomas, Bureau of Indian Affairs; Dr. Joseph Kennedy, Africare; Dr. Doris Olivera, Tuskegee Institute (Ala.); and Dr. Lillian Beam, president of the Educational Cultural Complex, San Diego, Calif.

The students are assigned to offices throughout the agency to gain exposure to Peace Corps. Their major activity will be a group project on Peace Corps. The program is administered by Howard University under a Peace Corps grant.

RPCV Conference *(from page 1)*

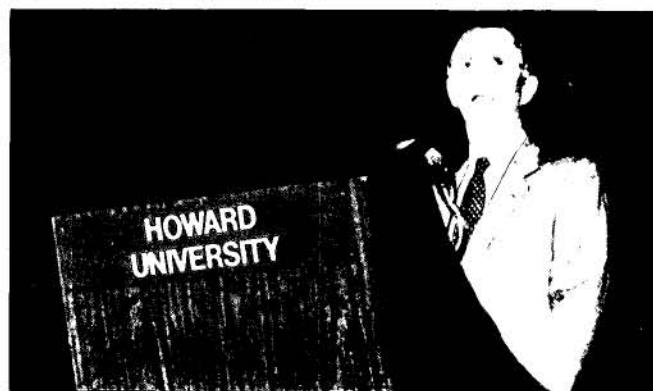
Those sessions gave the participants an opportunity to focus on specific issues and informed them of PC's current and future role in those areas," said Reese. "Follow-up workshops on media, fundraising, building former volunteer groups, among others, provided RPCVs with practical, how-to ways in which to mobilize other former volunteers and to reawaken public awareness of the Peace Corps," he concluded.

At an evening reception hosted by Ruppe, the participants were joined by an additional 1,000 guests-friends of the Peace Corps, Washington's diplomatic community, officials of the Department of State, AID, the World Bank and other development agencies, as well as all the former directors of the Peace Corps with the exception of Jack Vaughn who, explained Ruppe, "had a long-standing commitment to his wife for a well-deserved vacation."

Joseph Blatchford, who was Peace Corps director from 1969 to 1972, told the guests he planned to "be back in 20 years for Peace Corps' 40th anniversary. Since I got the invitation to come here, I've been thinking a lot about the Peace Corps, and I believe that over the past 20 years it was here where idealism met realism... The dream worked."



Andre Wright



Edward Seaga



Calvin Williams



M. Peter McPherson



With Loret Ruppe are former Peace Corps directors. Left to right: Joseph Blatchford, Nicholas Crow, Richard Celeste, Carolyn Payton, John Dellenbach, Sargent Shriver, Kevin O'Donnell and Donald Hess.

Conference Highlights

Reagan Salutes PC

At the RPCV conference, Ruppe read the following message from President Ronald Reagan:

During the past twenty years, more than 80,000 American men and women have left their families, their jobs, and the security and familiarity of their homes to help the people of other lands under the banner of the Peace Corps.

For twenty years, these citizens have volunteered their time, their talents, and their goodwill to help others help themselves.

I congratulate the men and women of the Peace Corps and Loret Ruppe, your new director. May this Twentieth Anniversary Conference on the campus of Howard University, underscore a continuing dedication to involved citizenship and serve as an inspiration to all of us.

You have my best wishes for a successful conference.

Reception for Minority Volunteers

An evening reception on June 18, in the Sam Rayburn House Office Building, was hosted by the Congressional Black Caucus to honor members of MINORITIES IN ACTION, the national group of over 500 minority former Peace Corps, VISTA and U.N. volunteers. Some 300 people attended the reception, including ACTION/PC staff and former volunteers. Special guests included C. Payne Lucas, director of Africare; Andre Wright, Niger ambassador to the U.S.; and Joseph Guannu, Liberian ambassador to the U.S.

Peace Corps Director Loret Ruppe welcomed participants to the reception and to the RPCV conference, slated to begin the next day. She reaffirmed Peace Corps' commitment to involve minorities at both volunteer and staff levels, and said, "Former volunteers like yourselves are playing a major role in the continuing awareness, recruitment and involvement of minorities in ACTION and Peace Corps programs. This is a role that must continue."

Media Events

The conference was also highlighted by several media events. Ruppe was interviewed on the CBS national "Nightly News," on Saturday, June 20, and by the New York Times for an article in the June 20 edition.

Ruppe was also interviewed for two Voice of America broadcasts, aired June 23 and June 25 -

in sub-Saharan Africa, and worldwide on four different transmissions: Far East; South Asia/Mid-east; Europe/Mid-East/Africa and Latin America.

On June 19, Ruppe was interviewed for the 5:30 news on WJLA-TV, Washington, D.C. along with PC Deputy Director-designate Everett Alvarez, and Bill Reese and Arthur Edmonds of the PC 20th anniversary office.

PEOPLE magazine interviewed Ruppe and a number of RPCVs for a feature article in their July 20 issue.

ACTION Regional Directors Sworn-In at Headquarters



Personnel Management Division Director Julian Najera swore in six new ACTION regional directors on June 29 at a special ceremony at ACTION/Peace Corps headquarters. From left to right: Herbert Stupp, Region I (New York); Paulette Standefer, Region VI (Dallas); Naomi Bradford, Region VIII (Denver); Phillip Brady, Region IX (San Francisco); Robert Winston, Region IV (Atlanta); and Eugene Pasymowski, Region III (Philadelphia).

"We are very excited that you are here," ACTION Director Tom Pauken told the group. "In our judgment, the job of regional director is critical to this agency, and we gave extremely careful consideration to finding the right people for the job." Pauken said he looked forward to working "closely and in a spirit of cooperation" with the new directors.

The group remained in Washington until July 2, "learning how ACTION functions as a government agency," said Domestic Operations Director Lawrence Davenport. During that time, they met individually with Pauken, Davenport, ACTION Deputy Director-designate Winnie Pizzano and other officials, and in special sessions with directors of

(cont. page 8)

PEOPLE IN PLACE



Lawrence F. Davenport, 36, has been named associate director of ACTION for Domestic and Antipoverty Operations. A native of Lansing, Mich., Davenport is interested in establishing new programs for ACTION's domestic volunteers with a focus on runaway youth, victims of drug and alcohol abuse and Vietnam veterans. He would also like to see Foster Grandparents and other Older American Volunteer Programs expanded.

"Generating interest in voluntarism among, and forming partnerships with, corporations, business firms, unions and other private organizations can bring about growth and support for our initiatives," Davenport says. "Also, whether expanding current activities or initiating new ones, we want to develop self-sufficient projects that will continue to function and thrive when the volunteers leave. Our main objective should be to help people become independent by assisting them in moving up from one stage to another, economically and socially."

Prior to his ACTION appointment, Davenport had been the chief provost, serving as academic officer, for the San Diego Community College District, the third largest district in the country, for nearly two years. From 1974 to 1979, he was president of the San Diego Community College Educational Cultural Complex. During the previous two years, he served as vice president for development at the Tuskegee Institute in Tuskegee, Ala.

He began his academic career as assistant director of student activities at Lansing Community College in Lansing, Mich., in 1968, becoming director of special projects at the University of Michigan in Flint, a year later, and assistant dean for special projects in 1972.

A 1964 graduate of Lansing Community College, Davenport received a bachelor's degree in social work in 1966 and a master's degree in adult and continuing education in 1968 from Michigan

State University in East Lansing. He received a doctorate's degree in education from Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck, N.J., in 1975.

Named Outstanding Young Citizen of San Diego by the San Diego Jaycees in 1978, Davenport was listed in Who's Who Among Black Americans from 1975 to 1981 and in the Directory of Distinguished Americans the 1981 edition. He was among the Outstanding Young Men of America from 1975 to 1980.

Davenport was appointed by President Richard Nixon as chairman of the National Advisory Council on Vocational Education and as a member of the National Advisory Council on Equality of Educational Opportunities. He was elected vice-chairman of the latter.

He is chairman of the board of directors of the Urban League of San Diego, a member of the board of directors of the San Diego Opportunities Industrialization Center and the Neighborhood House Association of San Diego.

Co-author of the book, Career Education and Minorities, published by the Educational Community Publishers in Columbus, Ohio in 1973, Davenport has written numerous magazine articles, book chapters and academic papers. He and his wife, Cecilia, have three children.

■ ■ ■
Terry Landolt, 30 is the new director of the Office of Communications at ACTION. For the past two years, she has been on the senior management staff of the Fleet Street Corporation in Gaithersburg, Md., a national publishing corporation of books, magazines and business newsletters.

From November, 1977 to April, 1979, Landolt was copy editor of EQUUS, a national, award-winning magazine on equine care published by Fleet Street. Previously, she was an assistant editor of PILOT, a magazine published by the Aircraft owners and Pilots Assoc. in Bethesda, Md.

She was press director for the Republican presidential campaign in Illinois under former Governor Richard B. Ogilvie, who served as the state chairman of the 1976 campaign. In 1974 and 1975, she managed Cass Consumer Service, Inc., a family-owned petroleum corporation in Virginia, Ill.

A 1974 graduate of MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Ill., Landolt majored in philosophy and political science and minored in communications. She also attended the San Francisco College for Women/University of San Francisco in California for two years.

■ ■ ■
Myrta K. (Chris) Sale is the new director of the Peace Corps Office of Policy, Planning and Budget. She joined the agency in 1979 as a budget officer. Before that she was acting budget officer for the Office of Personnel Management for about three years. During that time she worked on the U.S. Civil Service Commission's Reorganization Task Force. She has an MBA from American University in Washington, D.C. and a BA from Boston University.

FGP Conference Emphasizes Growth Through Private Efforts

Little did she know that her concluding address to participants at the first Foster Grandparent National Conference in Arlington, Va., would turn into a surprise party for her July 6 birthday. There, amid TV cameras, reporters and some 350 FGP project directors and volunteers, First Lady Nancy Reagan graciously expressed her appreciation as a large crowd sang "Happy Birthday!" and a cake with one candle was presented to her.

The First Lady, who has pledged her support to the Foster Grandparent Program and to its continued growth, is FGP's most famous fan. "I talk about it wherever I go," she told participants on July 2 at the conclusion of the five-day Foster Grandparents conference. Her involvement goes back 14 years when her husband was governor of California. Since then, she said, "FGP feels like my baby—it's like watching your own child grow and take form. I only wish more people could become involved in it."

Earlier, ACTION Director Tom Pauken said that several companies have expressed interest in helping expand the program. Mrs. Reagan agreed that through the private sector's interest, FGP could grow and reach the 400,000 senior citizens and two million children who could potentially benefit from it.

Earlier in the week, Health and Human Services Secretary Richard Schweiker told conference participants that President Reagan will look to the voluntary sector and to programs, such as FGP, in providing services and solving local problems. Because of the growing numbers of older people, Schweiker said that this segment of the population

could help accomplish the goals of a new volunteer movement. "The elderly have a great self-pride and they want to contribute," he pointed out. He said that the president has a positive aging policy and that the elderly will not be forgotten in the wake of budgetary cuts.

The significance of the rapidly growing older population was reiterated throughout the conference. One program most often associated with the elderly is that of Social Security, which many say has a grim future. Robert Myers, deputy commissioner for programs of the Social Security Administration and a member of the administration's task force to study Social Security, assured participants that the system is not headed for bankruptcy, but some critical changes must be made. Proposals suggested by the task force include: encouraging people to retire at age 68 rather than the current 65 to receive full benefits; moving increases in the system to a fiscal year calendar (now, increases occur during July); and gradually reducing the benefit level by eight to 10 percent.

STAFF EXCHANGE

Personnel Management Division Chief Tom Hyland just returned from Kinston, N.C. where he spent a one-week "vacation" working on the business management side of the Kinston Eagles Minor League Class A Baseball Team, (Kinston is a small tobacco farming town of about 20,000 in North Carolina). "Business operations on a minor league team run every day from 9 A.M. until midnight, except for Sundays when we begin at noon," Hyland says. During the week, Hyland also worked on ground maintenance, in the ticket office, and at the concession stand during the game. He has been involved in amateur baseball for the past 30 years, and hopes to own and manage a minor league team after his retirement.

Condolences to the ACTION Northern California open tennis team, which on July 1 was badly beaten, 6-2, 6-4, 6-2, by the East Bay Tennis Club in Marin County in the Northern Bay Area. "'Ace' (San Francisco Service Center Director Pete Johnson) did a tremendous job hitting seven aces," said Mike Berning, S.F. area recruitment manager, "but I didn't hold up my end." Better luck next time, folks! (Other team members are Mike Philson, placement specialist; Phil Bernstein, public information officer; and recruiters Tom Gerhardt and Bob White).

Congrats to Anne Pirie and Kelley McCready of Peace Corps' Office of Special Services, who were married May 2, and to Linda Headen and Bradley Morse, of Computer Services, who were married on June 27.



Nancy Reagan and Foster Grandparents at her Birthday Party.

FROM THE FIELD...

PORTLAND, MAINE... A one-day forum titled "Older Americans in the Community: Education, Voluntarism, and Jobs" took place on June 25, in the Luther Bonney Auditorium at the University of Southern Maine in Portland. The keynote speaker was chairman, Dr. Jarold Keiffer, staff director, White House Conference on Aging. The main sponsor of the forum was ACTION's National Center for Service Learning.

NORTH CAROLINA... VISTA Director Jim Burnley's recent visit to his home state received lots of media coverage in Winston-Salem and Greensboro, thanks to the efforts of Washington, D.C.-based PIO Tom Brown. Burnley spoke to the Winston-Salem Kiwanis Club on the new directions of VISTA. A highlight of the visit for Burnley was his helicopter flight between Winston-Salem and Greensboro. The flight, provided by WFMV-TV, was necessitated by Burnley's tight schedule and allowed him to beat the afternoon highway traffic and make a scheduled TV news interview at the station.

ATLANTA... This summer, 60 additional Foster Grandparents will join volunteer contingents of the Georgia Association for Retarded Citizens (GARC), to assist in youth-offender rehabilitation. ACTION has awarded \$118,000 to the association. The 60 "grandparents" will work in the area of juvenile justice. The new volunteers will serve as "role models" to youths at centers in Augusta, Macon, Milledgeville and Savannah. Other volunteers will work with youths at the Community Treatment Centers in Bainbridge, Macon and Thomasville.

KANSAS... ACTION State Director Jim Byrnes, recently held a conference with all Kansas OAVP directors in Topeka, the state capital, on June 24-25. During the conference he explained the goal of expanding the role of OAVP programs into ACTION's new areas of troubled youth and work with Vietnam veterans.

Swearing-In (from page 5)

Foster Grandparent programs from their respective regions. The FGP directors were attending a national conference in honor of the 10th anniversary of FGP. (See story on page 7).

The major portion of the regional directors' visit was spent in a training and orientation conference, held June 29-July 2, where they reviewed the current structure and function of Domestic Operations. Topics and programs reviewed included

new program initiatives, the Community Energy Project, Fixed Income Consumer Counseling, DO management systems, regional and state roles and functions and headquarters roles.

HERBERT STUPP, 31, director of Region II, is the former editorial director of WOR-TV in New York City, serving in that position since December, 1977. He joined the station in 1975, as an editorial writer. He received a master's degree in American government and public administration from St. John's university in 1974.

PAULETTE STANDEFER, 38, director of Region VI, has been involved in the Right to Life movement in Texas and Oklahoma. She helped established the National Right to Life Committee in Oklahoma, and directed the program in that state from 1972-74. During the past seven years she served as president of the Dallas Right to Life Committee.

NAOMI BRADFORD, 41, director of Region VIII, has been a member of the Denver Public School Board in Colorado since 1975, serving as vice-president of the board since May, 1981. In 1980 she was the Republican nominee for the first congressional district in Ohio.

PHILLIP BRADY, 30, director of Region IX, was deputy attorney general of California in 1978 and 1979, representing the department of real estate and corporation in the Business Law Section of the California Department of Justice. During the past two years, he was legislative counsel for Rep. Dan Lungren (R-Calif.).

ROBERT WINSTON, 39, director of Region IV, was superintendent of the Oxford Orphanage in Oxford, N.C. from 1975-81, where he was responsible for the care of 170 children, ranging in age from three to 18. For the previous 6½ years, he worked for Burlington Industries in Clarksville, Va. He established an industrial cooperative training program at an Oxford high school in 1966, and another in Falmouth, Va. in 1964.

EUGENE PASYMOWSKI, 39, director of Region III, was ACTION district program director, for the past seven years, for Eastern and Central Pennsylvania. Before that, he worked for the U.S. Department of Labor from 1971-74. He has long been active in Philadelphia civic affairs, receiving an award from the Coordinator's Commission on Human Relations in 1977, and being honored by Mayor Frank Rizzo for his work during the Bi-Centennial.

ACTION UPDATE

Editor Judy Kusheloff
Editorial Assistant Eileen Gwynn
Graphics Designer William Johnson