

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 1/22 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 1/23

SUBJECT: WH Millennium Counsel

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	McCURRY	☐	☒
BOWLES	☒	☐	McGINTY	☐	☐
McLARTY	☐	☐	NASH	☐	☐
PODESTA	☒	☐	RADD	☐	☐
MATHEWS	☒	☐	REED 	☒	☐
RAINES	☐	☐	RUFF	☒	☐
BLUMENTHAL	☒	☐	SMITH	☐	☐
BERGER	☐	☐	SOSNIK	☒	☐
ECHAVESTE	☒	☐	SPERLING	☐	☐
EMANUEL	☒	☐	STREETT	☐	☐
GIBBONS	☐	☐	TARULLO	☐	☐
HILLEY	☐	☐	VERVEER	☒	☐
IBARRA	☐	☐	WALDMAN	☒	☐
KLAIN	☐	☐	YELLEN	☐	☐
LEWIS	☒	☐	BEGALA	☒	☐
LINDSEY	☐	☐	<u>Kagan</u>	☒	☐
MARSHALL	☒	☐	<u>Loval</u>	☐	☒
			<u>Clebs</u>	☐	☒

REMARKS:

Any comment?

RESPONSE:



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

98 JAN 21 PM 2:0

January 21, 1998

THE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

Franklin D. Raines
Director

SUBJECT:

Proposed Memorandum Entitled "White House Millennium Council"

SUMMARY: This memorandum forwards for your consideration a proposed memorandum that was prepared by the White House Millennium Program. The proposed memorandum would announce the formation of the White House Millennium Council.

BACKGROUND: The White House Millennium Council ("Council") would comprise representatives from the cabinet level agencies and such other executive agencies as selected by the Council. The mission of the Council would be to initiate and recognize national and local projects that commemorate the new millennium. To carry out the mission, the Council would, among other things: (a) mark the 200th anniversary of the occupancy of the White House by American Presidents and the 200th anniversary of the first meeting of Congress in the new capitol, celebrating these events in the year 2000 as milestones in our democratic system of government; (b) plan events to recognize the history and past accomplishments of America; and (c) encourage federal agencies to develop programs to celebrate the new millennium in ways consistent with their individual agency missions.

The Council would also make recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior regarding the provision of assistance from funds made available for Save America's Treasures in the Historic Preservation Fund to public and private entities that are protecting America's threatened cultural treasures. These treasures include significant documents, works of art, maps, journals, and historic structures that document and illuminate the history and culture of the United States.

The Council would be funded by the Department of Education.

None of the affected agencies object to the proposed memorandum.

RECOMMENDATION: I recommend that you sign the proposed memorandum.

Attachments

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE MILLENNIUM COUNCIL

Just three short years from now, the twentieth century will draw to a close and the new millennium will begin. This rare historical moment provides all of us with the opportunity and the responsibility to make this an occasion that unites Americans, connects us to our history, and allows us to imagine our future as a Nation.

As we prepare for the Nation to go forward into the twenty-first century, I call on the White House, the Department of Education, and the rest of the Executive Branch agencies to lead the country in a national and educational celebration of our culture, our democracy, and our citizenry. The events leading up to and marking the new millennium must tap the energy and creativity of every State, every community, every American. As leaders, we have a special responsibility to inspire the American people to reflect upon and commemorate the achievements of our past and to celebrate the possibilities of the future. To carry forward our great democratic tradition and enrich the lives of our children and the children of the twenty-first century, we must encourage Americans to make plans today to mark the new millennium in communities across America. By leading our country in a grand educational celebration of the past and future, we have an unprecedented opportunity to energize and unite our Nation with a renewed sense of optimism in the accomplishments and promise of America.

To enable the White House, the Department of Education, and the rest of the Executive Branch to provide national leadership in this historic time, I hereby announce the formation of the White House Millennium Council. The White House Millennium Council shall be composed of a Director, Deputy Director, administrative staff, and a representative from each of the following departments or agencies: (a) State; (b) the Treasury; (c) Defense; (d) Justice; (e) the Interior; (f) Agriculture; (g) Commerce; (h) Labor; (i) Health and Human Services; (j) Housing and Urban Development; (k) Transportation; (l) Energy; (m) Education; (n) Veterans Affairs; (o) Environmental Protection Agency; (p) Office of Management and Budget; (q) Small Business Administration; (r) United States Information Agency, and (s) the General Services Administration. At the Director's discretion, the Director may request other agencies to be represented on the Council. The Department of Education shall provide financial and administrative support for the Council. The mission of the Council is to lead the country in a celebration of the new millennium by initiating and recognizing national and local projects that contribute in educational, creative, and productive ways to America's commemoration of this historic time. To these ends, the Council shall:

- (1) Mark the 200th anniversary of the occupancy of the White House by American Presidents, the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the federal capital city in Washington, D.C., and the 200th anniversary of the first meeting of Congress in the new Capitol, celebrating these events in the year 2000 as milestones in our democratic system of government;

- (2) Plan events to recognize the history and past accomplishments of America, to reflect upon the present forces shaping society, and to encourage thoughtful planning for the future;
- (3) Produce informational and resource materials to educate the American people concerning our Nation's past and to inspire thought concerning the future;
- (4) Encourage communities and citizens to initiate and to participate in local projects that inspire Americans to remember their past achievements, understand the present challenges to society, and make concrete contributions to the next generations of their families, communities, and country;
- (5) Work with federal agencies, Congress, elected officials, and all citizens to plan activities and programs that will unite the American people in contemplation and celebration of the next century and the new millennium;
- (6) Make recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior regarding the provision of assistance from funds made available for Save America's Treasures in the Historic Preservation Fund to public and private entities that are protecting America's threatened cultural treasures. These treasures include significant documents, works of art, maps, journals, and historic structures that document and illuminate the history and cultural of the United States;
- (7) Encourage federal agencies to develop programs to commemorate and celebrate the new millennium in ways consistent with their individual agency missions and that advance a more unified America in the twenty-first century;
- (8) Encourage federal agencies, through local branches and offices, to reach out into communities and inspire citizens to participate in grass-roots activities and to give permanent gifts to the future;
- (9) Work in partnership with private-sector and non-profit entities that initiate productive and worthwhile national and community-based efforts to commemorate the new millennium and encourage citizen participation, volunteerism, and philanthropy;
- (10) Highlight public and private millennium initiatives that promote the goals of the Council; and
- (11) Cooperate with other Nations that are planning millennium events to expand the opportunities for international communication and understanding.

By emphasizing our creative achievements and our special talent for exploration, innovation and discovery, the Council can help us carry those qualities into the future. And by educating our people, especially children, about our history, our democracy, and our civil society, we will ensure that our values and traditions endure into the new millennium.

With leadership from the Council and the Executive Branch agencies, I am confident that America's millennium celebration will be a fitting and memorable tribute to the rich history of our Nation and will lead us into the twenty-first century with a renewed sense of the promise of the future.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

McCulloch

November 6, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
ELLEN McCULLOCH-LOVELL

SUBJECT: Save America's Treasures Act of 1998

When you announced the Millennium Program at the National Archives, you said we would, as a nation, seek ways to "honor the past and imagine the future". One way to translate that theme into practical action is for you to champion a national, bipartisan, public-private effort to save America's treasures.

Our past is literally crumbling, chipping and disintegrating away in our libraries, museums, archives, historic sites and private holdings. There is a truly urgent need to save the papers, art, publications, artifacts, buildings and sites that tell our history and preserve our identity as Americans -- from the Star Spangled Banner, to the Declaration of Independence, to the archives of historically black colleges, Native American archeological sites, and ancestral portraits in unheated New England historical societies.

As the White House Millennium Program and Congress plan for ways to mark both the 200th anniversaries of the White House and Capitol and the millennium, there is a unique opportunity to create a new preservation program to "Save America's Treasures".

A compelling list of records, monuments, sites and other artifacts that need to be "saved" could be quickly compiled, and a strong case made for the urgency of the need. For example:

- The Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and Bill of Rights are at risk if their storage problems are not solved within three years.
- The restoration of the Star Spangled Banner, the flag that flew over Fort McHenry that inspired Francis Scott Key's poem, is the first preservation priority for the Smithsonian Institution, at a cost of \$15 million.
- The National Park Service, which manages Thomas Edison's laboratory and house in New Jersey, describes their condition as dire -- all of his papers must be catalogued and conserved. Large numbers of artifacts at the Gettysburg Battlefield site are undocumented and disintegrating for lack of proper storage. At Gettysburg, twenty-nine monuments and

outdoor sculptures, some designed by renowned artists, are in grave danger. Some have fallen, like those they commemorate: others are worn by weather and defects. Together they comprise the largest collection of sculpture at any Civil War battlefield and they must be saved.

- The National Endowment for the Humanities reports that 80 million brittle books in libraries and other collections need to be saved through repair and digitization; NEH has set a goal of preserving three million of the most valuable by 2010.
- Both the Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Arts describe the urgent need to save America's classic films, as well as photos and historic field recordings, by transferring them to more stable media.
- The Library of Congress must find ways to conserve their collections from historic figures, such as Ralph Ellison and Leonard Bernstein.
- Among the "eleven most endangered historic places" listed by the National Trust of Historic Preservation in 1997 are: the Ellis Island National Monument, where decay and lack of maintenance threaten the historic buildings of the main gateway to America from 1892-1954; Congressional Cemetery in Washington, DC, the final resting place of American tribal chiefs, Revolutionary War heroes and members of Congress -- which is in serious decline from neglect, vandalism and theft; and Vicksburg Campaign Trail, where landmark buildings are crumbling and development threatens unprotected areas surrounding the Military Park.
- The non-profit National Institute for Conservation reports instances of pending loss all over the country. For example, 50,000 glass plate negatives of major sites in Egypt that no longer exist are in need of preservation at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Over half our outdoor sculptures in major parks and small towns across the nation are in need of repair, including the statue of Wyoming Territory's equal rights advocate, Esther Hobart Morris, in Cheyenne.

Federal agencies are currently carrying out preservation programs but at a lower level of activity than what is urgently needed.

NEH has invested \$50 million since 1989 in preserving brittle books. IMLS spends \$2.5 million annually on conservation grants for museum collections, one of its major programs. The Library of Congress has the largest conservation lab in the world -- and spends \$5 million a year. The Library also runs the largest film preservation lab and is the major restorer of our motion picture heritage. The Library recently restored its two copies of Lincoln's Gettysburg address and the Thomas Jefferson draft of the Constitution. The National Endowment for the Arts allocates about \$4.5 million a year for preservation funding projects, such as grants to restore historic adobe churches, conserve a Rembrandt Peale portrait housed in Ohio, resurrect old musicals that would be lost, and save archival tapes of legendary performances by Woodie Guthrie and Jelly Roll Morton. The 20th century was the American century in dance, but without preservation the

works of master choreographers will die with them.

The General Services Administration is a major conservator of buildings and art. Among its holdings are 200 buildings that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places; GSA also maintains the government's collection of WPA art and the works commissioned with new construction.

The National Archives and Records Administration presents a special challenge, as there is a backlog of work needed to salvage deteriorating records, convert many to more stable media, expand storage and renovate facilities. It has submitted a strategic plan with a significant budget increase that should be considered on its own. The needs of the National Archives, however, are entirely consistent with this recommendation of a major administration preservation program and could be presented with other urgent needs. For example, to save the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, Archives proposes a series of steps -- removing the Charters from their deteriorating cases, placing them in new state-of-the-art cases, renovating the vault system and renovating the National Archives building. The cost estimate for FY 99 is \$87 million; for FY '00 it is \$121 million. In addition, Archives proposes to save electronic records (\$2.3 M); improve storage and preservation (\$3.6 M); expand public access to collections (\$5.6 M); and promote records management by federal agencies (\$2.3 M).

The needs of the National Park Service are compelling; the National Park System that President Roosevelt created a century ago now suffers from neglect in maintenance and in preservation -- needs that must begin to be addressed. NPS owns 15,000 buildings and 35 million artifacts; only about seven percent receive conservation each year. Work on even a selective list of endangered sites would cost at least \$64 million. Yet, work must begin -- and with the federal impetus and the spotlight of attention, many of the projects could attract private support.

We could have a major impact by including at least \$100 million in the FY 99 budget and between \$100 million and \$200 million in the FY '00 budget to "Save America's Treasures". These amounts would be allocated proportionate to need, and capacity to regrant new funds, through the federal agencies and the major preservation non-profits. Because a number of agencies and NGOs are already "in the business" of preservation, we should be able to begin a well-organized preservation program on October 1, 1999.

Federal funding should be made available to institutions and citizens' groups on at least a one-to-one matching basis. There is strong evidence that there would be substantial support in the private funding sector: corporate, foundation and individual donors. One recent example of the private focus on preservation is the five million dollars granted by the American Express Foundation to help create the World Monuments Fund. The J. Paul Getty Trust has invested \$24.8 million in 1996 alone in national and international preservation projects. (Yesterday, the Getty and the World Bank signed an agreement whereby the foundation will provide expertise on the role of cultural heritage in the Bank's sustainable development funding.) Just last week a major U.S. foundation called to say that, inspired by the White House Millennium Program, they were ready to commit at least \$5 million to the Smithsonian and the National Archives for their preservation priorities.

A national "Save America's Treasures" program could stimulate a private fund-raising campaign to capture the commitment and dollars of citizens. A non-profit organization, such as the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which already has state chapters and thousands of members, could help launch both the national campaign and local versions. School children could learn their history as well as the value of philanthropy by participating in fund-raising: perhaps by collecting 2,000 pennies.

A national preservation program will link strongly to a public-private partnership to digitize intellectual and cultural material, to enrich the content of the national information infrastructure. While digitization is not the only -- nor permanent -- method of preservation, it does capture images and content, making records and objects accessible to a wide public of students, parents, teachers, writers and researchers. Additional funding for digitization would help the Smithsonian Institution digitize parts of its collection and allow other federal institutions with collections, such as the National Archives, to enrich the content of the Internet. In addition, small amounts (\$2 - \$4 million each) to NEH, NEA, and IMLS will stimulate projects in non-profit institutions to digitize their own collections, and to develop curricula around this material. A national digitization project is similar to, although not identical to, a preservation program; however, one supports the other. Together they would be a significant gift to the nation: to save and create access to our history and culture.

M. Jeter



Anthony Edwards says his son "needs to see me . . . cooking, cleaning, ironing."

Making Family A Man's World

Welfare Reform Brings Emphasis on Fathers

By Jon Jeter

Washington Post Staff Writer

BALTIMORE—Leaning over a conference table, 21-year-old Anthony Edwards fixed his gaze on the 12 young men before him and, in a soft voice, began to describe his long journey to manhood and the joys of learning to be a father.

He had been a child for so terribly long, he said, "caught up in that drug life," squandering his time on this city's unforgiving streets. But after a stint in prison, he stumbled two years ago onto a city program designed to help absent fathers become better parents. Since then, he's turned his life around, going to work every day, enrolling in college, and spending time with his son. Only the week before, he said proudly, his son's mother agreed to let the boy spend the summer with him. "I felt like Superman," he said, his voice growing stronger as he re-

called the moment for the group of men in Baltimore's Young Fathers/Responsible Fathers Program. "I felt like I was stepping up to the plate and being a man, finally. My son needs to see me a little more often—cooking, cleaning, ironing and taking care of the stuff that I need to do."

With his earnest, youthful face and his story of responsibility and redemption, Edwards is a model for Maryland's new approach to helping the poor. As states across the country begin to recalibrate their anti-poverty efforts, they are emphasizing a variable that has often been ignored: men.

Since its emergence nearly a century ago, public assistance has focused almost entirely on the plight of unwed or abandoned women with children. But the federal welfare overhaul that President Clinton signed into law last August gradually

See MEN, B8, Col. 1

New Welfare Approach Is Helping Men Help Their Families

By **JOHN H. COHEN** and **JOHN J. HARRIS**

MEN, From B1

...pende the notion of cash benefits for single mothers, and mandates instead that states promote stable, two-parent households that can make it on their own.

The result is that officials in Maryland, Virginia and dozens of other states are devising strategies to keep fathers in the home or reengage them once they've left. That includes a nationwide crackdown on fathers who fail to pay their child support. States such as Maryland also are trying new, aggressive methods—suspending driver's and professional licenses, for example—as leverage to extract late payments.

But officials in many states also are discovering that hardball tactics alone won't restore two-parent families. The task also requires government resources to fortify aimless, jobless men through intensely personal counseling and mentoring programs such as Young Fathers/Responsible Fathers, a bit of social engineering that some worry borders on the intrusive.

Yet the people who run such programs say they are necessary for one simple reason: To build better families, you must build better men.

"For years, almost all of our programs have centered on female heads of households," said Alvin Collins, secretary of Maryland's Department of Human Resources. "And the policy so far has not brought us the results we wanted. It's an unbalanced system. What we're saying now is that we have to get the man involved in his family, not just for the economic resources that he can bring to the table, but also the child-rearing role that he can play in his children's lives."

An infusion of state and federal dollars has helped nationwide programs entice Young Fathers/Responsible Fathers to proliferate. Since 1992, the Manpower Demonstration Research Corp. has been the catalyst for an effort called the Parents Fair Share Project in seven cities from Los Angeles to Trenton, N.J., to help jobless fathers find work and happiness in changing diapers.

The federal welfare overhaul last year eliminated the "man in the house" provision of public assistance, which essentially made a family ineligible for cash benefits if a man was living in the home. Perhaps more than any other, that requirement defined welfare for many communities—particularly African American ones—and conjured up the image of the noisy social worker searching the closets and under the beds of poor, unwed mothers to detect if a man had been there recently.

That provision, federal and state lawmakers agreed, discouraged the formation of families, and 24 states so far have chosen to extend welfare payments to households where two parents are present as long as their combined income doesn't exceed eligibility limits. In West Virginia, nine counties parcel out a "marriage bonus" of 10 percent to married couples on welfare.

In encouraging marriage and greater responsibility from men, Collins said, state officials are not trying to proselytize so much as sharpen a powerful, and proven, tool to help families steer clear of the dole.

But Collins and other policymakers recognize that keeping relationships intact is a colossal task that is exponentially more complicated for poor women and men whose real wages have been falling steadily for 15 years.

"It's really a complex world," said Gordon Berlin, senior vice president for MDRC, a New York-based research organization. "You're dealing with issues of race and gender" and the delicate balance of power that exists in any relationship, he said.

"We're really sticking our noses

into such a personal issue," Berlin said. But it can pay huge dividends, as Edwards's journey demonstrates. Raised by his mother, Edwards didn't lay eyes on his father until he was a teenager, he said. "To tell you the truth, I don't even remember his name right now," he said.

The absence of a father shaped his own notions of fatherhood, he said. "Prior to coming to the [fathers] program, my whole concept of fatherhood was maybe buying my kid a pair of Nike tennis shoes or a Sega Genesis [video game]. That's what I thought fatherhood was."

But after Edwards's last run in with the law nearly three years ago, a pastor told him about the newly started program run by the city. With support from mentors and other

young men in the program, Edwards now seems wise and responsible beyond his years. He's enrolled at Coppin State College, works at a city-run nutrition and educational program for mothers and rents an apartment and has started a literacy program for school children.

As Edwards returned to his after recounting for the young men in the program his conversation only days before with his son's mother, the group applauded enthusiastically. Sheridan Stanley, who helped start the program three years ago, stood and walked to the front of the room.

"We're men in here," he said. "Let's feel it."

For Christina Rathburn and her husband, Bruce, that means a monthly payment of \$284—about \$30 more than an unmarried couple would get—and more "meat, milk and bread" for their two children.

"I guess 10 percent is not a lot, but it does help," said Christina Rathburn, 42, who lives in Princeton, W.Va., an old coal mining town that has fallen on hard times.

State officials have not decided whether to extend the bonus to the 46 other counties, but 407 of the 42,818 families on welfare in the nine selected counties were receiving the benefit in May, said Sharon Paterno, director of the office of family support for the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.

"Those of us who are married joke that marriage isn't worth the extra money," Paterno said. "But we were concerned that the old cash assistance rules encouraged the father to desert the family. We did not want husbands to abandon their families and follow welfare payments."

States are trying to get fathers together, and Maryland has been a leader in that effort. In the state, at least at this early stage, the state is paying Lockheed Martin Corp. millions of dollars to use its state-of-the-art software to track down fathers who owe child support and to join forces with the Baltimore Urban League to help fathers find jobs.

And this year, Maryland's Department of Human Resources began an aggressive media and outreach campaign aimed at recruiting men, particularly black men, to adopt the growing numbers of children in foster care.

Carrot & stick →

now about this →

Year 2000 / MILLENNIUM

Year 2000 Celebration in the State of the Union Address

On February 4, 1997, the President said, "Our economy is measured in numbers and statistics, and it's very important. But the enduring worth of our nation lies in our shared values and our soaring spirit." You challenged "our artists, musicians, and writers, our museums, libraries and theaters, to join with all Americans to make the year 2000 a national celebration of the American spirit in every community - a celebration of our common culture in the century that has passed, and in the new one to come in the new millennium, so that we can remain the world's beacon of liberty and creativity, long after the fireworks have faded."

The President's State of the Union statement sets the themes of "celebrating our common culture" and "remaining the world's beacon of liberty and creativity" for a national millennium celebration.

A Once in a Thousand Years Opportunity

This administration's second term extends into the milestone year of 2001. At the convergence of a new millennium and the next century, America will reflect on its past and imagine the future. The inevitable turn of the calendar offers a moment in history when humankind reassesses our progress and thinks about the legacy we leave to the next generations, while at the same time envisaging the time to come. As this administration leads our nation into the next era, we have a unique opportunity to educate and to lead a celebration that engages all Americans. Beginning in 1997, through the year 2000, the White House can provide special leadership of a national Millennium Initiative for the American people to appreciate our common heritage and rejoice in our creativity.

The overarching goals of the White House Millennium Initiative should include:

- ▶ Stimulating, through White House leadership, a sense of optimism and renewal and the faith that Americans can build a better future;
- ▶ Setting some concrete, attainable objectives to marshall our collective will and resources, such as preserving our cultural heritage for the next generation, renewing our great tradition of philanthropy, or getting better educational content on the Internet.
- ▶ Recognizing the creativity and inventiveness of Americans and our gifts to the world.
- ▶ Valuing the diversity of our peoples and forging greater unity as Americans as we enter the 21st Century.

By late July 1997, the White House will develop a plan for its Millennium leadership, addressing themes, goals, structure, events and the ways we will involve citizens, the private sector, nonprofit organizations, and other levels of government. This memorandum summarizes the thinking that has been devoted to the Millennium, the factors that need to be considered and a planning process that will result in decisions for our directions over the next three and a half years.

Historical Precedents

Historical precedents - such as the Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago, or the opening of the Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress in 1897, or the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair - demonstrate

that anniversaries and ambitious projects can both affect the popular imagination and leave lasting marks on the nation's cultural landscape. The Chicago Exposition, for example, commissioned new works by America's leading artists and architects and convened an international congress of scholars which influenced design and intellectual exploration for decades.

The year 2000 also marks the 200th anniversary of the White House as the President's home. John and Abigail Adams first occupied the White House in 1800, the first peaceful transition of government in the United States after an election. In 1900 President McKinley was President and the official turn-of-century celebration was focussed on the White House, its history and expansion.

Other national commemorations offer lessons to learn. The 1976 American Revolution Bicentennial, the 1987 - 1991 Bicentennial of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and the 1992 Columbus Quincentenary all provided occasions for national and local events, and for educational and media projects. Each was led by a commission formed years in advance which drew on both a Congressional appropriation and private funds. The 1976 Bicentennial commission had an elaborate endorsement procedure, whereby events and projects got designated as 'official' and were allowed to use the official logo.

Developing a White House Millennium Plan

By late July, we hope to develop a White House plan for the Millennium Initiative addressing the following elements:

Themes - What overall theme and purposes are conveyed to the public? If we articulate clear themes, and illustrate them with our events, appearances and speeches, then White House leadership could unleash the creativity of other leaders at the state and community levels, stimulating thousands of activities across the country. Some suggested themes are: harnessing American optimism for the age of renewal; promoting American creativity and innovation - recognizing our cultural and scientific accomplishments; and celebrating a world at peace and the spread of democratic values.

Objectives - What do we want to accomplish for the Millennium, through 2000 and beyond? What lasting results, monuments, and public attitudes do we hope to leave as a result of our leadership and national commemoration? Should we define and announce four to six projects that will become our lasting legacy for the 21st century?

Possible objectives include:

- ▶ Engaging citizens at the community level in some shared projects and activities such as collecting and preserving their family stories; creating new civic spaces such as town greens and community centers; and producing plays and pageants based on local history or shared concerns; participating in science/technology fairs;
- ▶ Identifying the White House with high-level scholarship and art; showcasing new work commissioned for the new era;
- ▶ Preserving the White House and the President's Park area, and improving it for future First Families and administrations;
- ▶ Increasing philanthropy and reinforcing the ethic of giving as a great American tradition, perhaps setting a measurable goal;
- ▶ Convening a world leaders' teleconference on January 1, 2000 to express the world's hope for

- peace;
- ▶ Inviting leaders of religious communities to discuss faith at this time of reflection and change.

Other Elements - Planning a structure for the Millennium initiative will include organizing groups in the White House and federal agencies as well as consulting with outside experts. Other elements to be studied are using the White House as a venue, the participation of the President and the First Lady, and partnerships with outside sources.

MEMORANDUM

**TO: BRUCE REED
ELENA KAGAN**

**FROM: TOM FREEDMAN
MARY L. SMITH
DREW HANSEN**

RE: MILLENNIUM PROJECTS

DATE: AUGUST 7, 1997

SUMMARY

This is a sample of some national and international initiatives, campaigns, and events for the year 2000.

INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES/CAMPAIGNS

- **Jubilee 2000.** Building on the Pope's November, 1994 call for the reduction or forgiveness of debt in keeping with the tradition of the year of Jubilee, this group unites organizations from around the world in a campaign to cancel the unpayable debt owed by third-world countries.
- **World Peace 2000.** Representatives from 30 different countries have called for a 24hr, worldwide ceasefire on January 1, 2000. **World Without Wars** calls for a seven-day ceasefire during the first seven days of the new millennium.
- **Nuclear Abolition 2000.** Over 250 peace, disarmament, and internationalist groups are campaigning to conclude negotiations by the year 2000 on a convention to abolish nuclear weapons.
- **Year 2000 Campaign to Redirect Military Spending to Human Development.** Organizations such as the Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress and Demilitarization for Democracy support regional talks to encourage disarmament by the year 2000.
- **Great Millennium Peace Ride** organizes teams of bicyclists from around the world to participate in a round-the-world bike ride, ending in Sydney on January 1, 2000.
- **Mayflower 2000.** A historically accurate replica of the Mayflower will be built on the Thames beginning in 1998 for a goodwill voyage to the "New World."

INITIATIVES/CAMPAIGNS BY AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS

- **Smoke Free Classroom 2000.** The American Lung Association, the American Cancer Society, and the American Heart Association are following C. Everett Koop's call for a smoke-free society by 2000 by focusing their efforts on the United States high school class of 2000. They have produced a curriculum for high school teachers to discourage this class from smoking, and have seen the curriculum used by about 120,000 teachers and over 2 million students in 1994-1995.
- **Goals 2000.** Department of Education initiative to meet goals for the nation's schools by the year 2000, including school readiness, a 90% graduation rate, and safer schools.
- **Four Worlds Development Project.** A coalition of North American Indian communities is promoting a comprehensive education and development initiative to end alcohol and drug abuse on reservations by the year 2000.
- **NASA New Millennium Program.** Allocated \$30 million in FY 1996, the New Millennium program aims to use smaller, more automated spacecraft to create a "virtual presence in space." Possible programs include a Mars network of spacecraft, outer planet orbiters, and landers on satellites.
- **Pneumonia/Flu 2000.** HCFA, CDC, and the National Coalition for Adult Immunizations aim to reach a 60% flu immunization rate among Medicare beneficiaries by the year 2000.
- **National Council of Catholic Bishops** is calling U.S. Catholic churches to engage in spiritual and communal renewal and the development of initiatives to create a just world in the years leading up to the "Great Jubilee" of 2000.
- **Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey Millennium Club** is an association of supporters pledging \$1 each for each of the last 1,000 days before the millennium.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- **Sydney Olympics** will occur in the year 2000. Also, Hannover, Germany will host **Expo 2000**, the world's fair, around the theme of "Mankind, Nature, and Technology."
- **Greenwich 2000.** Advertising "The World's Biggest Dome for the Millennium," Greenwich intends to draw an estimated 12 million visitors to a millennium exhibition. This program is perpetually in financial and political trouble, but was recently (June) backed by Tony Blair, though with new restrictions.

Year 2000 / MILLENNIUM

Year 2000 Celebration in the State of the Union Address

On February 4, 1997, the President said, "Our economy is measured in numbers and statistics, and it's very important. But the enduring worth of our nation lies in our shared values and our soaring spirit." You challenged "our artists, musicians, and writers, our museums, libraries and theaters, to join with all Americans to make the year 2000 a national celebration of the American spirit in every community - a celebration of our common culture in the century that has passed, and in the new one to come in the new millennium, so that we can remain the world's beacon of liberty and creativity, long after the fireworks have faded."

The President's State of the Union statement sets the themes of "celebrating our common culture" and "remaining the world's beacon of liberty and creativity" for a national millennium celebration.

A Once in a Thousand Years Opportunity

This administration's second term extends into the milestone year of 2001. At the convergence of a new millennium and the next century, America will reflect on its past and imagine the future. The inevitable turn of the calendar offers a moment in history when humankind reassesses our progress and thinks about the legacy we leave to the next generations, while at the same time envisaging the time to come. As this administration leads our nation into the next era, we have a unique opportunity to educate and to lead a celebration that engages all Americans. Beginning in 1997, through the year 2000, the White House can provide special leadership of a national Millennium Initiative for the American people to appreciate our common heritage and rejoice in our creativity.

The overarching goals of the White House Millennium Initiative should include:

- ▶ Stimulating, through White House leadership, a sense of optimism and renewal and the faith that Americans can build a better future;
- ▶ Setting some concrete, attainable objectives to marshal our collective will and resources, such as preserving our cultural heritage for the next generation, renewing our great tradition of philanthropy, or getting better educational content on the Internet.
- ▶ Recognizing the creativity and inventiveness of Americans and our gifts to the world.
- ▶ Valuing the diversity of our peoples and forging greater unity as Americans as we enter the 21st Century.

By late July 1997, the White House will develop a plan for its Millennium leadership, addressing themes, goals, structure, events and the ways we will involve citizens, the private sector, nonprofit organizations, and other levels of government. This memorandum summarizes the thinking that has been devoted to the Millennium, the factors that need to be considered and a planning process that will result in decisions for our directions over the next three and a half years.

Historical Precedents

Historical precedents - such as the Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago, or the opening of the Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress in 1897, or the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair - demonstrate

that anniversaries and ambitious projects can both affect the popular imagination and leave lasting marks on the nation's cultural landscape. The Chicago Exposition, for example, commissioned new works by America's leading artists and architects and convened an international congress of scholars which influenced design and intellectual exploration for decades.

The year 2000 also marks the 200th anniversary of the White House as the President's home. John and Abigail Adams first occupied the White House in 1800, the first peaceful transition of government in the United States after an election. In 1900 President McKinley was President and the official turn-of-century celebration was focussed on the White House, its history and expansion.

Other national commemorations offer lessons to learn. The 1976 American Revolution Bicentennial, the 1987 - 1991 Bicentennial of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and the 1992 Columbus Quincentenary all provided occasions for national and local events, and for educational and media projects. Each was led by a commission formed years in advance which drew on both a Congressional appropriation and private funds. The 1976 Bicentennial commission had an elaborate endorsement procedure, whereby events and projects got designated as 'official' and were allowed to use the official logo.

Developing a White House Millennium Plan

By late July, we hope to develop a White House plan for the Millennium Initiative addressing the following elements:

Themes - What overall theme and purposes are conveyed to the public? If we articulate clear themes, and illustrate them with our events, appearances and speeches, then White House leadership could unleash the creativity of other leaders at the state and community levels, stimulating thousands of activities across the country. Some suggested themes are: harnessing American optimism for the age of renewal; promoting American creativity and innovation - recognizing our cultural and scientific accomplishments; and celebrating a world at peace and the spread of democratic values.

Objectives - What do we want to accomplish for the Millennium, through 2000 and beyond? What lasting results, monuments, and public attitudes do we hope to leave as a result of our leadership and national commemoration? Should we define and announce four to six projects that will become our lasting legacy for the 21st century?

Possible objectives include:

- ▶ Engaging citizens at the community level in some shared projects and activities such as collecting and preserving their family stories; creating new civic spaces such as town greens and community centers; and producing plays and pageants based on local history or shared concerns; participating in science/technology fairs;
- ▶ Identifying the White House with high-level scholarship and art; showcasing new work commissioned for the new era;
- ▶ Preserving the White House and the President's Park area, and improving it for future First Families and administrations;
- ▶ Increasing philanthropy and reinforcing the ethic of giving as a great American tradition, perhaps setting a measurable goal;
- ▶ Convening a world leaders' teleconference on January 1, 2000 to express the world's hope for

- peace;
- ▶ Inviting leaders of religious communities to discuss faith at this time of reflection and change.

Other Elements - Planning a structure for the Millennium initiative will include organizing groups in the White House and federal agencies as well as consulting with outside experts. Other elements to be studied are using the White House as a venue, the participation of the President and the First Lady, and partnerships with outside sources.

Clinton lays plans for millennium festivities

By Susan Page
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — President Clinton will launch a federal effort today designed to spark celebrations nationwide in 2000 to mark the millennium.

Clinton will describe the arrival of a new century as a rare opportunity for assessment and renewal. In a speech at the National Archives being carried worldwide on the Voice of America, he'll unveil:

► "Millennium Minutes," a series of 60-second TV spots by the National Endowment for the Humanities on the USA's

cultural heritage. They'll be modeled on 1976's popular "Bicentennial Minutes."

► A "Worthy Ancestors" project to identify and preserve oral histories and family pictures. The joint private-public program will be organized by the President's Commission on Arts and Humanities.

► "Millennium on the Mall," sponsored by the Smithsonian, an expanded version of the folklife festival featuring children from around the world.

► A "Millennium Communities" program to recognize localities with projects pegged to the new century's beginning.

His theme: "Honor the past, imagine the future."

The activities will last throughout the year, skirting the debate over whether the millennium starts at the beginning of 2000 or 2001.

Clinton will outline three broad goals: preserving U.S. culture and history, encouraging creativity and exploration, and extending the bonds of international understanding.

Hillary Rodham Clinton will announce a White House lecture series and an "American cultural showcase."

The project will post a Web page at www.whitehouse.gov.

Oldest known human footprints found

By Anita Manning
USA TODAY

About 117,000 years ago, someone who lived in what is now South Africa walked across a rain-soaked dune toward a lagoon, leaving footprints in the sand.

On Thursday, scientists at the National Geographic Society headquarters announced the discovery of the fossilized prints — the oldest known footprints of an anatomically modern human being.

They were found two years ago embedded in rock near the Langebaan Lagoon, 60 miles north of Cape Town, by geologist David Roberts. A fiberglass cast of the prints goes on exhibit today at the society's Explorer's Hall in Washington, D.C.

Lee Berger, a Johannesburg paleoanthropologist who, with Roberts, announced the discovery, says the person was small — 5-foot-3 or 5-foot-4 — and probably female. Her foot was 8½ inches long, "about a size 7 or 7½ ladies' shoe," he says.

She lived at a time when modern humans emerged: 100,000 to 300,000 years ago. Few fossils exist from this period.

Every human "descended from ... possibly a single woman who lived in Africa — the genetic Eve — in that critical time period," Berger says. While it's "almost certain" the prints did not belong to that ancestor, "they were made at the right time and right place to be made by a person who carried the right genetic material to give rise to every living person today."

COVER STORY

Doctors have prenatal test for 450 genetic diseases

By Kim Painter
USA TODAY

AI

Genetic testing is changing who gets born in America.

More than 25 years after amniocentesis first was offered to a few high-risk pregnant women, prenatal genetic testing has become so widespread that at least half the pregnant women in the country will have preliminary genetic tests this year. In California, the only state to keep exact figures, the figure is 70%.

Each day, genetic tests allow women to learn that the children they carry will be born free of disorders from Down syndrome to hemophilia.

But they also mean that, each day, a growing number of parents face the agonizing responsibility of deciding whether their children will be too disabled, too retarded or too chronically ill to be born at all.

And with new genes discovered every month — there now are prenatal tests for at least 200 inherited conditions, perhaps 10 times as many as when testing began — opportunities for both relief and agony only grow.

"The pace of discovery is continually escalating," says Aubrey Milunsky, a prenatal testing pioneer who directs the Center for Human Genetics at Boston University School of Medicine. "It is now possible to detect a much larger number of genetic defects in a fetus earlier in a pregnancy than has ever been possible before."

The progress has raised a painful question even among people not directly involved: does prenatal testing and abortion of affected fetuses send the message that the lives of people with mental and physical disabilities are not worth living?

USA TODAY examined the state of prenatal genetic testing in interviews with doctors, genetic counselors, ethicists and parents nationwide. It found a booming field in the midst of a string of scientific breakthroughs, but also one torn by wrenching ethical debates. In 1997:

► At least half the women who learn their fetuses have serious genetic disorders will end their pregnancies.

No one, except the state of California, keeps

► Doctors have tests for 450 specific genetic diseases. The field is growing so quickly no one knows how many tests are done on unborn babies. Best estimate: at least 200.

The boom means couples carrying mutated genes for everything from cystic fibrosis to Duchenne muscular dystrophy can, for the first time, avoid the births of affected children. As a result, some of these diseases may become much less common.

► A few doctors, using cutting-edge techniques, are performing genetic tests on eight-cell lab-dish embryos. It's complex and costly, but allows genetic selection of one embryo over another before physical pregnancy even begins.

Others are working toward the ultimate goal: A simple blood-test for pregnant women that reliably will diagnose genetic disorders in the first few weeks of pregnancy.

Taken together at their most extreme, these advances raise the specter of a world where both diseases and differences, from sexual orientation to height, become matters of parental choice.

"The potential to test for a very wide range of traits is real," says Thomas Murray, a bioethicist at Case Western Reserve University. "Are we going to create a market in prenatal testing so that you can select the characteristics of your child?"

Testing boom

The Genetics & IVF Institute in Fairfax, Va., is a monument to the testing boom.

Each year, its labs process 7,000 samples of amniotic fluid from the wombs of pregnant women all over the East Coast and Europe.

Inside each tube of pale yellow fluid are fetal cells that can be analyzed for genetic defects; behind each tube is a worried woman.

The labs run up to 18 hours a day, 6 days a week, because "there are anxious women hanging on every result," says lab chief Wayne Stanley.

Often, the mother-to-be is over age 35 — a growing group. All such pregnant women are offered testing because their babies have an increased risk for abnormal chromosomes, the threadlike strands of DNA that write each person's unique genetic code on every cell of the body.

But many pregnant women of all ages now have genetic testing if preliminary blood tests show a heightened risk of problems.

Others seek testing when troublesome signs show up on increasingly sophisticated ultrasound scans.

Finally, a growing number have testing for inherited diseases caused by mutated genes that run in their families or ethnic groups.

This is where the concentrated push to decode all human genes has made a huge difference.

The list of newly detectable diseases includes everything from Fragile X syndrome, a common cause of mental retardation, to neurofibromatosis, a rare cause of disfiguring tumors.

The Fairfax labs, and labs like them nationwide, run most tests on fetuses 16-20 weeks old; that's the usual timing for amniocentesis, the procedure in which amniotic fluid is drawn from the womb.

But an alternative procedure, chorionic villus sampling (CVS), can be done at nine to 12 weeks. And a few centers, including the one in Fairfax, test 3-day-old embryos in test tubes.

The end result? "We give good news to most couples," says Mark Evans, an expert on fetal diagnosis and treatment at Wayne State University in Detroit.

For example, a 35-year-old woman has about a 1-in-200 chance of having a baby with a chromosomal abnormality, such as Down syndrome; at age 40, the risk still is under 1-in-50.

Even when both parents carry a gene mutation for Tay-Sachs disease, they still have a 75% chance of having a healthy baby.

Yet without tests, many wouldn't dare have children. "There have been many more babies born as a result of prenatal diagnosis than pregnancies that have been terminated because of it," Evans says.

Hard decision

Meredith and Jim Margolis wish they'd had genetic testing during their first pregnancy in 1986.

Meredith remembers asking her doctor if she and her husband should be screened for the Tay-Sachs gene. Jim is Jewish, and the fatal neurological disorder is transmitted by a gene most common among Jews and groups including French Canadians and Cajuns from Louisiana.

The doctor said not to worry: After all, both parents must give a child a copy of the defective gene for the disease to occur.

Then genetic lightning struck: Mollie Margolis was diagnosed with Tay-Sachs at 10 months old.

"That's when our world caved in," Meredith says.

The news meant Mollie would die. It also meant her parents were carriers and that any other children they had would have a 1-in-4 chance of dying from the same disease.

Over the next three years, Mollie stopped smiling and laughing and went blind. Toward the end, her immobile body was plagued with infections and seizures.

But the couple, both psychologists, had dreamed of a large family. So even as they watched Mollie decline,

they decided to have more children — but only after testing.

"Having lived with one child like this, I did not want to bring another into the world," Meredith says.

In the 10th week of each of her subsequent four pregnancies, she had CVS testing. As a result, the couple have three healthy children — Michael, 8, Rebecca, 6 and Daniel, 4.

But one 10-week-old fetus was diagnosed with Tay-Sachs. Margolis had an abortion. It happened just a month after Mollie died at age 4.

"Even now I just feel terrible that I felt I had to do this," she says of the abortion. "But this was a case where the child was going to die early and was going to suffer."

Jim Margolis says: "I couldn't live through it again, but still it was a difficult decision."

Please see COVER STORY next page ►
Continued from 1A

exact numbers on how many women get prenatal tests, find problems and have abortions, though it's clear such abortions are a tiny fraction of the nation's 1.4 million per year.

But the California data and anecdotal reports from doctors and genetic counselors suggest the abortion rates range from at least 50% to as high as 90% in some parts of the country for fetuses with Down syn-

COVER STORY

drome. Down syndrome, caused by an extra chromosome, results in a mix of retardation and health problems, but is not fatal.

For such fatal disorders as anencephaly (absence of a brain), Trisomy 18 (a chromosome disorder that usually kills within two years) or Tay-Sachs (fatal in five years), the abortion rate approaches 100%.