

Cities and computers . . .

bases the city uses "are so long that they can't fit on a floppy disc," he explained.

Such long data bases, he said, are "mounted on the Santa Monica computer."

He said word processing is one example of "time saving," especially when large documents or reports with several divisions are required.

The computer to store a "large portion of its budget, its housing/rehabilitation programs, general census reports" and tax roll reports."

In 1982, the city paid \$1,000 to have its tax roll report done by an outside firm. This year, the city plans to do its own tax roll.

The computer and its supplies cost approximately \$4,000, Borton said.

But the computer, despite the tremendous constructive changes it has brought to the department, has its drawbacks.

Borton said they are still trying to figure out why some of the data usually gets displaced.

"You've got to be careful when showing people how to use the machine," he observed.

POTIER, KENNEDY, BROWN

Compton radio-thon draws celebrities

BY IVAN CROSSBIE

Academy award-winning actor Sidney Poitier, actress Jane Kennedy and State Assembly Speaker Willie Brown Jr. have been selected to participate in Compton Stickle Cell Center's live ten-hour Radio-thon Sunday, Sept. 25 over stations KACE-FM and KDAY-FM.

The Radio-thon, which will begin 9 a.m. at 3339 43rd St., Los Angeles, is geared to raise \$100,000 to help the center finance its various free-of-charge sickle cell treatment and educational programs, said Dr. Betty Jackson, director of the center.

The center provides free sickle cell services to various neighboring cities including Lynwood.

The three prominent individuals are participating as general co-chairpersons of the Radio-thon. During the broadcast, they are expected to interview sickle cell specialists and victims of the disease.

Sickle cell only plagues millions of black Americans, but also affects people of Spanish, Greek, Sicilian, Turkish and Mediterranean descent, Dr. Jackson said.

She said statistics show that one out of every 500 blacks has the disease, and one out of every 12 has its "trait."

Among Mexican-Americans, she continued, one out of every 50 has the SCA trait, while one out of every 200 whites is affected by it.

The Radio-thon is a community project of the One Hundred Black Men of Los Angeles (OHBMA), a black professional group in the county, said Louis White, chairman of the Radio-thon.

It is being sponsored by the Los Angeles area wholesalers of Andersen Busch, Inc., and the aircraft division of Northrup Corp.

The OHBMA, a non-profit organization, usually provides financial contributions as well as actual manpower service to aid "credible, worthwhile" organizations in the area, White said.

He said the organization has approximately 200 volunteers, who usually attend its meetings and who could be counted on for support.

As general co-chairpersons, he explained, each of the celebrities was responsible for informing their friends and colleagues about the Radio-thon.

Kennedy, he continued, will be at the site around 2 p.m. Potier, Brown and other celebrities will be there shortly thereafter.

Both KACE-FM and KDAY-FM will begin airing at 9 a.m. simultaneously, White said.

He said "no" entertainment will be provided. But, besides its fundraising aspect, the program will be geared at enhancing community awareness of the disease and drawing support for the center's educational activities.

Jackson said that while there is "no medical cure" for the disease, it can be "controlled" through good preventative health care.

She said a person who suffers from the disease usually experiences symptoms such as "painful joints"—called "Stickle Crisis"—jaundice, frequent infections or slow growth pattern, and other medical problems.

One problem, he said, is training employees—especially older employees—who feel they are incapable of learning its operation.

To Ronald Zapf, director of the Huntington Park Public Works Department, each of the three word processors the city has is "worth one person per year."

Zapf said the "turn-around time is quicker, correction and compiling time are also quicker" than typing.

One of the interesting features about most word processors, he said, is that "they are expandable."

One of the areas the department explored prior to acquisition of the machine is its "user friendliness" — the ease

with which an untrained person can operate it.

Zapf said his secretary, who had no previous experience operating a word processor, was able to operate it within an hour

and began to produce twice the amount of work she would normally turn out on a typewriter.

Zapf's word processor, which costs as much or more than some microcomputers, is unique in that it has the capability to use two keyboards at the same time.

City Clerk Marilyn Boyette, whose office has another of the city's three word processors, said "it's marvelous."

She said she is a "firm advocate" of word processors being used in the city's departments.

Boyette uses the machine to store indexes and resolutions, among other things.

She said she is currently undertaking a special project, which involves the storage of the city's in-

crease dating back to 1966.

The city of Bell Gardens installed its first microcomputer in December of last year, according to Mark Withcomb.

The computer, which costs \$50,000, is connected to six terminals and two printers, Withcomb said.

Currently, the computer is used for financial reports, accounts payable, purchasing, business licenses, payroll, personnel and word processing.

The city plans to expand the computer use to cover its parks and recreation police and planning departments, he said.

Compton is also in the process of installing a new computer—an IBM 3620.

Its cost ranges from \$80,000 to \$250,000, said Leonard Jackson of the city's controller's office.

Although the city has another older computer, it does have the expandable capability desired by city officials, he said.

Some of the chores the new computer will do include processing payroll, accounts payable and utility billing.

Earlier this year, the city of Bell also bought an IBM computer.

Bell uses it for payroll, accounts payable and business licenses, according to a spokesman.

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Cities use Thanksgiving time to promote family importance

By Ivan Crossbie

With Thanksgiving less than a week away, families in the Southwest will come together to celebrate this unique, once a year experience.

But the traditional family foundation is beginning to weaken. Family ties are being severed as national and area divorce rates continue to increase, forcing single parents to head households they once shared with their spouses.

Realizing this fact, several area cities have proclaimed the week of Nov. 20-26 as "Family Week."

Proclamations were issued as an attempt by cities here to help reinforce traditional family ways.

In Lynwood's proclamation, for instance, Mayor Louis A. Thompson indicated that "families are the foundation of all successful and enduring societies."

Proclamations were made to coincide with President Ronald Reagan's declaration of the week, including Thanksgiving day, as "National Family Week."

Mayor Henry C. Gonzales of South Gate indicated in his proclamation that "strong families make a strong America."

Gonzales said, "Families nurture the children who are society's hope for continuing beyond the present generation."

The City Council adopted the proclamation Nov. 14 during its regular session.

Bell Mayor Lou Ila Caster described the family as the "basic foundation of every free and orderly society and its chief school of human virtues."

"It's fitting that special recognition be given to the importance of wholesome family longevity and ties," the mayor indicated.

Paseball journey continues

Excitement is continuing to mount as the eight baseball teams competing in the Connie Mack Pacific Regional Baseball Tournament, now taking place at Jackie Robinson Stadium, Gonzales Park in Compton, vie for the championship of the West.

The Compton Moose lost one of their two elimination games to Norwalk on Saturday. The Moose were expected to play their second game Tuesday against Mary Star, a team from San Pedro.

The other six teams competing in the tournament are: Washington Awards from Seattle; J&K Supply also from Seattle; Motor Patrol from Long Beach; the Cardinals, also from Long Beach; the Stars from Arizona; and Norwalk from the city of Norwalk.

Each of the eight teams played their first elimination game either Saturday, July 30 when the games officially began, or Sunday.

During the Saturday games, Mary Star scored 8 runs to Washington Awards' 2; Motor Patrol edged J&K Supply 6-5; the Cardinals slashed the Stars 12-1; and Norwalk outscored the Moose 8-5.

In the losers' games Sunday, the Moose made a comeback by eliminating Arizona Stars 6-5; and Washington Awards eliminated J&K Supply 2-1.

In the winners' games Sunday, the Cardinals successfully eliminated Norwalk 12-2; and Motor Patrol overwhelmed Mary Star 9-3.

Monday night, Norwalk eliminated Washington Awards 7-5. As a result of Monday night's game, all out-of-state teams have been eliminated from the tournament. They all had lost two games.

The remaining games will take place on Wednesday and Thursday nights with the championship game tentatively scheduled for either Friday night or Saturday.

The victor in this year's tourney will go on to Farmington, N.M. to compete in the Connie Mack World Series, according to Charles Sier, regional director of the Western Amateur Baseball Congress.

Sier, who is also the founder of the Connie Mack league, said this is the third time the regional tournament has taken place in the city.

Since the games began 18 years ago, he said, Compton has won the World Series three times, and participated in the finals nine times.

It's most fitting and proper that the family unit be acknowledged, encouraged and honored as an essential and primary social element," the mayor wrote.

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