

Dear Friends:

Giving honor and glory to God as always, I greet this day joyfully because it's another day God has made. Each morning when we awake to a new day we must move forward understanding that this shiny new day is given us - imperfect and confused beings that we are - to use as we see fit.

Sometimes we feel totally alone, like we're swimming against the tide. Well, I'm here to tell you this was not the feeling on April 10th. On that day you, yes you beautiful humans, marshalled your forces and boldly made known your decision at the polls; your statement, loud and clear, was that your City was not for sale.

We admire those among us who can look at situations from different perspectives, who after considering all the facts can filter through them to the correct decision. It is our collective belief that Judge John Cruikshank is such a person. On Wednesday, 25 April 1984, oral arguments were presented in the Appellate Court in San Francisco relating to the appeal of cityhood opponents against the decision Judge Cruikshank rendered in favor of the City of East Palo Alto and four council members, Abrica, Blakey, Satterwhite, and Mouton. Tom Adams represented the City and was supported by Dan Dailey representing the County; "Pete" McCloskey represented the opponents. The Appellate Court decision should be forthcoming soon.

I was privileged to attend the 10th anniversary convention of the National Conference of Black Mayors in St. Louis, Missouri, last week. Many of you may not realize that there are 254 Black Mayors in the United States, 31 of whom are women. The conference theme, "A Decade of Service Spanning the Cities, the Nation, and the World," reflected the extent of programs sponsored by this august body in its efforts to ensure equal opportunity for all Americans through economic development in the nation's communities.

Perhaps many of you have not had the opportunity to travel down University Avenue, East Bayshore and Bay Roads in the past several weeks. Thanks to the work crews in the City's first Spring Clean-up Campaign these streets are free of litter and debris and are a pleasure to drive through.

Some of you may not be aware that the Community Law Project is now open; it provides legal assistance to community residents at 1395 Bay Road, next to St. Francis de Assissi Church. There is a sliding fee schedule so your income, or lack of same, will not be a barrier when you need legal help in your civil matters. A consultant on criminal matters is available one afternoon a week. Phone 853-1600 for details.

The City salutes all the mothers, grandmothers, and great grandmothers in the community; of course, you know this includes all of you magnificent beings who became mothers to other people's children. May is your month, and May 13th your special day. Our love and thanks to all of you. Peace.

*Barbara C. Mouton*