

\$65,000 East PA study aimed at forming new city, school

By BILL SHILSTONE

The incorporation of East Palo Alto and the establishment of an experimental school district are the twin goals of a \$65,000 black community project approved this week by the John Hay Whitney Foundation of New York.

Barbara Hatton, one of four co-directors, said the project seeks to establish the means for improving the educational and political position of the black community of East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park.

Miss Hatton, 31, and Robert Newby, 36, both doctoral candidates and teachers at Stanford University, will make a year-long study of the feasibility of establishing a unified school district to include all 11 schools of the Ravenswood Elementary School District, Ravenswood High School (of the Sequoia Union High School District), and any private educational venture in East Palo Alto and eastern Menlo Park.

Ron Bailey, a third-year graduate student in black studies at Stanford, and Joan Saunders will work on incorporation of the black community, which is now unincorporated and governed by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors.

The Whitney grant was solicited by Henry P. Organ, chairman of the board of the private Nairobi Schools of East Palo Alto.

"We have a group of people with a common educational problem, and there should be a continuous, coordinated program from A to Z," Organ said. "Now you have the community split between two districts—Sequoia and Ravenswood elementary—who don't even talk to each other."

"Black kids that come out of the schools

in that community can't cope in the same way other kids from the same kind of schools can," Miss Hatton said. "If it isn't because their skin is black, what is it? We want to find out."

The project is titled "An Initiative for the Improvement of Education and Governance." According to the directors, it is to consist of a documentation of the situation as it exists, a study of community preferences and a feasibility investigation on the establishment of the experimental district and of incorporation.

Explaining the purpose of incorporation, Bailey said, "A lot of things have happened recently to indicate problems created by a lack of self-government in East Palo Alto."

He cited the fatal shooting of 17-year-old Greg White by a sheriff's deputy, calling it an example of lack of community control of police. He mentioned the storm drain controversy, in which a Superior Court judge last week killed a project which would have required \$4.2 million in property assessments from low-income persons in the east-of-Bayshore area.

He also mentioned the 1962 land transfer involving the Palo Alto Airport and golf course, which undercut the already slim tax base of the Ravenswood Elementary School District.

"Real local self-government is needed," Bailey said. "There has never been a vote on incorporation. There has never even been a thorough feasibility study. We'll gather together all the tax-base figures and other statistical information, which is lacking."

The fact that the proposed unified school district would be at least 80 per cent black does not concern the directors.

"We're dealing with an area of concern as we find it," Miss Hatton said. "Desegregation is an option available to school boards, not to us. It wouldn't be 80 per cent black if school boards had desegregated."

Would she rather have desegregation than a unified, mostly black district?

"No, because we aren't sure that will solve the problems," she said.

One of the purposes of the experimental unified district project is to discover what are the things which might solve the problems.

"We'll elicit the thinking of the people involved in education and of the parents," said Miss Hatton. "We'll find out what other community-based schools are doing."

"I think increased involvement of parents and community is one thing that's needed, 'How' is the question."

"There has never been anybody from East Palo Alto elected to the Sequoia board," Organ said. (Two former members, including himself, were appointed.) "The Ravenswood board has never had a majority of members from the black community."

The financial weakness of the Ravenswood district because of the low tax base is another problem, Miss Hatton said.

"If you're a poor district, you have to do something different," she said, "like assigning priorities more efficiently."

"We really don't know what solutions we're going to suggest or what roadblocks we're going to run into. But the goal is setting up a vehicle by which some improvement in the historical pattern of school achievement can be changed. Classroom efforts are doomed to failure unless there is a systematic effort."

WEATHER REPORT

Forecast Nationwide temperatures

San Francisco Bay Area: Fair through Sunday but patches of low clouds night and morning. Slightly warmer. Highs today and Sunday from the mid 60s to mid 70s. Lows tonight in the 50s. West to northwest wind 10 to 20 m.p.h.

Northern and Central California: Mostly fair through Sunday except patchy low clouds near the coast night and morning. Warming trend inland and slightly warmer near the coast.

Northwestern California: Mostly fair through Sunday except patchy low clouds near the coast night and morning. Slightly warmer inland. High today low tonight and high Sunday at Ukiah 78, 48 and 52. Fort Bragg 69, 48 and 58.

Sacramento Valley: Fair through Sunday. Warmer days. Highs today from mid 70s to low 80s, and Sunday in the 60s. Lows tonight in the 50s. Light wind.

Mount Shasta-Siskiyou area: Partly cloudy today then fair tonight and Sunday. Warmer Sunday. High today, low tonight and high Sunday at Shasta Dam

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

	High	Low	Pr
Albany, cldy	89	54	.77
Albuquerque, clear	88	57	.22
Amarillo, cldy	84	66	.02
Anchorage, cldy	57	47	.21
Asheville, clear	75	50	
Atlanta, clear	79	54	
Bakersfield, clear	81	60	
Birmingham, clear	84	54	
Bismarck, cldy	71	56	.53
Boise, cldy	75	50	
Boston, cldy	75	57	.17
Brownsville, clear	90	79	
Buffalo, cldy	66	54	.17
Charleston, cldy	54	49	.15
Charlotte, clear	76	55	
Chicago, cldy	59	47	
Cincinnati, cldy	61	49	
Cleveland, rain	59	55	.76
Denver, clear	85	51	
Des Moines, clear	75	53	
Detroit, cldy	64	54	.07
Duluth, cldy	66	38	
Faribault, rain	69	51	.01

Las Vegas, clear	92	71	
Little Rock, cldy	86	65	
Los Angeles, cldy	74	63	
Losville, clear	77	53	
Marquette, cldy	55	44	.03
Memphis, clear	66	61	
Miami, cldy	96	80	
Minneapolis, cldy	63	50	
Minneapolis-St. Paul, clear	74	44	
New Orleans, cldy	90	72	.23
New York, cldy	63	56	.42
Oakland Airport, cldy	64	54	
Oklahoma City, rain	81	68	.62
Omaha, cldy	83	55	
Palm Springs, clear	109	70	
Philadelphia, cldy	58	55	.04
Phoenix, clear	95	70	
Pittsburgh, rain	56	54	.77
Portland, Ore., cldy	67	55	.06
Portland, Me., rain	64	55	.15
Rapid City, cldy	83	62	
Red Bluff, clear	70	55	
Reno, clear	77	56	
Richmond, clear	62	52	.12
Sacramento, clear	73	49	
Seattle, clear	87	50	

Restricted use of flu shots urged

ATLANTA, Ga. (AP) — The Center for Disease Control says influenza shots have proven of limited value for the masses but still should be given to the chronically ill and the elderly.

The CDC said its recommendations resulted from the ineffectiveness of the vaccine in some cases, unpleasant reaction in some persons and periodic changes in influenza virus.

Because of the seriousness of influenza, the CDC recommended Friday that the vaccine be given to "the popu-