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University of Massachusetts at Boston University of Massachusetts at Boston

Volume 9, No. 87

June 29, 1976

New York Times: Nancy St. John

A recent New York Times Page 1 story stating that findings are scanty on the impact of busing on school work, and that "the future of busing as an instrument of school desegregation has come under political challenge at a time when experts agree that there is still a glaring lack of information against which to assess the educational impact of busing."

Reporter Gene L. Maeroff quotes UMass-Boston sociologist Nancy St. John in his extensive article. "Although desegregation is not to date a demonstrated success, it is not yet a demonstrated failure," Dr. St. John wrote in her book Desegregation Outcomes for Children. "In spite of the large number of studies, various limitations in design weaken the best of them," she wrote after examining 120 studies of desegregation. "Thus, in a sense, the evidence is not all in."

Psychology Today: Brian Mishara The June issue of <u>Psychology</u> Today has a report by Dr.Brian Mishara, Psychology, on a controlled and intensive study on the use of alcohol by senior citizens at a Belmont nursing home and a residence for senior citizens in Boston. The study, sponsored by the National Institute on Alcohol and Alcoholism, was held over an 18-week period with psychologists, psychiatrist, and physicians participating. Two types of parties were set up: one with alcohol, the other without.

"Changes in behavior and attitude were slow to come about," said Mishara, "but after the first few weeks matters improved noticeably. Residents perked up, became more physically active and spoke to each other more. There was a decrease in worrying. They said they slept better and medical tests showed that their pulse rate went down, not below normal, but decidedly down."

Chancellor Receives Funds For Foreign Students Chancellor Carlo Golino, in response to the needs of foreign students at UMass-Boston, was able to request and receive an anonymous and private donation of \$8000 to assist foreign students defray expenses while studying on this campus. The funds will be used as partial scholarships, averaging about \$400 per student and they will be granted aid on the basis of academic performance and need.

Revaluation

Prof. Raymond Torto, Political Economy, and Prof. Diane Paul, Politics, are coauthors of a Boston Globe essay on the good and bad of revaluation among residential neighborhoods.

(Continued to page 2)

Revaluation (Continued from page 1)

They point out one of the major realities of assessing practices:

The implications of uneven assessment of property between classes is not well understood by the layman. In general, commercial and industrial property is assessed at a higher rate than residential property, particularly single-family homes. The same mechanism which will erase the inequities among residential properties will erase the uneven assessments between classes of property. The final result of doing "something" through property revaluation, whether motivated by court order or political action, will be a shift of taxes paid by commercial and industrial property to residential. It is estimated that the shift will mean approximately a 20 percent increase in taxes on residential property. To see this in numbers, assume the average residential property tax bill in Boston is \$1500. Revaluation will increase this bill to \$1800.

Affirmative Action Program

UMass-Boston's 1976 Affirmative Action Program is in final preparation stages. The draft program is available for inspection by faculty, staff, and students at the Reference Desk, Fourth Floor of the Library, and at the Affirmative Action Office, Third Floor of the Administration Building. The opportunity to provide written comments on the draft is being offered by the Affirmative Action Office through July 16, 1976.

Counseling Issues in Retinitis Pigmentosa

Andrea Schein, Acting Director of the Resource and Counseling Center for Handicapped Students at UMass-Boston is the author of an article in the Spring edition of the American Archives of Rehabilitation Therapy on "Counseling Issues in Retinitis Pigmentosa." She gives background on the disease which is characterized by gradual degeneration of the retina whose initial symptoms are "night blindness and a diminishing field of vision, leading to tunnel vision and eventually blindness."

Ms. Schein notes that it is important for counselors to understand something about the disease in order to listen intelligently and supportively."

She notes that "one of the areas dealing with counseling issues is through changing the environment. Increased visibility of blind people in the mainstream going to regular schools, working in responsible jobs, will go a long way in changing sterotyped attitudes." She suggests that increased public awareness of the meaning of partial sightedness may help remove some of the stigma of being neither sighted nor blind.

Jan Keim

The farewell reception for Jan Keim, Associate Director of Admissions, brought out many people from all departments and functions of UMass-Boston to pay tribute to an outstanding member of the University community. After eight years' dedicated service to UMass-Boston, it was best summed up in the poem written for the occasion by Prof. Duncan Nelson, English. Our very best to Jan in her new duties.

June 22, 1976

If Henrietta Ball's upset If Mike Donahue Looks a little blue If Betty Richardson's eyelids twitch And Cathy Dwyer becomes a sigher And Minincleri Eyes grow teary And Helen Kelley Turns to jelly And Mary O'Brien Starts in cryin' And Hilton Hall Begins to bawl The source of all this grieving Is Jan's leaving So if Ann Fay Be far from gay If Angie Hines Just sits and pines If Mr. C Is in misery And Jack Beatty Thinks it's a pity And Bridget Mulkern Shows deep concern And Sarah Levine Begins to keen And Nick Lammermon shouts "Damn!" What can we do but say "Amen" For we shall not see your likes again

Patron Soint of our transfer pupiling Midwife to College IV's quadrupling Mother to students from over the sea Yourself your own best study in Validity But enough about the things you do The best thing about you is you Jan Keim You even rhyme! And yours hos ever been the voice of reoson In every council, in every season Positive, giving, affable Unflappoble, unbaffleoble Fair and firm in all your overseeing Here's to a really great UMBeing! O the town and people of Bethlehem Will be glad to have you back with them A rich homecoming bounty For the Community College at Northampton County You are the very model of an Officer of Admission And a model, too, suitable for Rubens or for Titian Jan, let me kiss you Like everyone else here, I'm going to miss you...

The Real LBJ

Richard Chestnut

Summer School Concerts and Gallery Show

Robinson Award

Prof. Richard Robbins, Sociology, was the reviewer for the Boston Herald-Sunday Advertiser of Doris Kearns' Lyndon Johnson and the American Dream and says "she has written the most astute and readable account I have ever seen not only of LBJ's political career but of his special mastery, over the years, of the Congressional system."

Kearns, a professor at Harvard, has written a book, says Robbins, that "is a pleasure" and "first-rate as informed political analysis as well as a fascinating study of the intersection of private personality and public policy."

Johnson, a man of contradictory greatness, is all caught up in the book on "his compassion and courage; his deviousness and his powerful need to humiliate, his earthy realism and wonderful high humor...and his striking successes--Civil Rights, anti-poverty, Medicare, immigration, voting rights (granted the serious problems of implementation, some his responsibility and some not)--as well as the terrible, tragic failure in Vietnam."

In an era when we have corruption of language, and at times a corruption of spirit, it is a pleasure to describe someone as a "Good" man. Such is Richard Chestnut, the custodian for the Administration Building, who is retiring on July 1. He believes and lives up to the maxim that an honest day's pay is worthy of an honest day's labor, and that is how Richard impresses you. A man of high ideals and sensitivity he is one to be missed at these precincts. His colleagues are hosting a farewell reception at 3 p.m. on July 1, at the Physical Plant Conference Room. Come by and wish him well.

Maria Luisa Roberts, Director of the Summer School, announced that two faculty concerts will be presented outdoors on campus as part of the Summer School enrichment program.

Prof. Kenneth Wolf of the UMass Medical School, will play piano Selections of Beethoven on July 13, 7:30 p.m., 020 plaza.

Prof. John MacCombie, French, will give a concert at 7:30 p.m., July 20, 020 plaza, performing works of Bartok, Brahms, Chopin, and some of his own compositions.

A gallery showing of paintings by Edward Ballo, Robert Branson, and Robert Lurtsema, will be held from July 7 through July 21.

For further information, call Ext. 3209.

Prof. Eric Robinson, History, has been awarded a Grant-in-Aid by the American Council of Learned Societies for continuing research for an edition of the poetry of John Clare for the Oxford Critical Texts. He is among 130 scholars at 82 academic institutions in the humanities who received these grants which are funded by the Ford Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Prof. Charles Bowen, English, received one of these grants, announced earlier in the Bulletin.