

Cover to Cover

Broussard offers sound advice

Continued from 14A

Guide to Financial Independence," Broussard gives sistans a road map to financial independence and success that begins, of course, with realizing your potential.

Broussard knows her audience well.

In addition to a how to guide for choosing and beginning a busi-

ness, Broussard also encourages new female entrepreneurs to have faith in not only themselves, but a "higher spirit."

Broussard includes "Sister CEO Advice" from other successful women business owners, which serve as a great guide to building a business. Tips range from never turn down a job to work in the field before beginning a business.

What I like about Broussard's book, is that its based on common sense and encourages women to take advantage of cottage industries - from in-home hairbraiding to services for senior citizens.

She also includes lists of franchises that are black woman friendly.

If your New Year's resolution is

to finally get a business started - The Black Woman's Guide to Starting Your Own Business is definitely the book for you.

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Sinclair

Study asks: Can Fido detect a seizure

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GAINESVILLE, Fla. - Can dogs really detect seizures about to occur in their owners and warn them of coming trouble?

A study by the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine plans to separate fact from fiction on the value of seizure-alert dogs.

Dr. Roger Reep, associate professor of physiological sciences at the veterinarian school, said if dogs can actually detect seizures it might give the stricken person time to find a safe environment prior to the seizure's onset, take seizure-blocking medication or contact a care-giver or emergency medical help.

"If these phenomena are real and occur reliably, this offers great hope to people who experience seizures," Reep said, who added he is "cautiously optimistic" about the ability of dogs to detect seizures.

The Epilepsy Foundation of America said that about 25 million, or one in 10, Americans have had, or will have, a seizure at some point in their lives.

Despite reports about the dogs in the media, Reep remains somewhat skeptical.

"We want to see," he said in a telephone interview.

About 300 questionnaires have been sent to epilepsy patient at the Shands Hospital Administration Medical Center asking them if

they had dogs who have alerted them to an oncoming seizure or a dog that stays with them to comfort and protect them when they are having a seizure.

Those questionnaires will be analyzed early next year before the study moves into its second phase.

"Our preliminary findings suggest that dogs respond in a variety of ways - barking, nudging, vocalizing, licking, etc. - before, during and after a seizure," he said.

Working with a \$31,000 grant from the Able Trust, a private, Tallahassee-based foundation that helps people with disabilities find employment, Reep and his colleagues, Paul Davenport, also an associate professor of physiological sciences, canine information specialist/trainer Deb Dalziel and neurologist Basim Uthman will study not just anecdotal evidence from people who say they have such dogs, but also the groups that claim to be able to train them.

Previous VA research has shown that certain events occur in the brain prior to a seizure, Uthman said.

"It's possible, however, that these changes in the brain might be sensed by a dog."

In addition, it also has been suggested that epileptic patients may emit certain odors just before a seizure, Uthman added.

Later, the focus will shift to organizations that work with seizure-alert/seizure-response dogs.

Researchers want to know what dog trainers have to say about the reliability of training dogs to "detect and alert."

Among the questions team members hope to answer are whether the ability to detect seizures, if some dogs do have it, is a spontaneous reaction or a trainable behavior.

Eventually, the team hopes to bring dogs into the clinical setting where patients can be physiologically monitored, to determine the cues to which dogs may be alerting.

"We felt this was a great opportunity to study in more detail how these dogs act with patients who have epileptic seizures," said Kristen Encizo, Able Trust spokeswoman, who added that the trust's primary goal is finding jobs for disabled peoples.

"If you are able to alert people to when seizures are going to occur, you have more control in the workplace," Encizo said. "Lots of times, there's that stigma, 'I can't hire this person, because what if they have a seizure?' But if they have a dog that can alert them, that would put that fear to rest."

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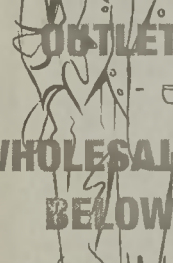
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December 3, 1997

Dear Mr. Brown,

I am sending this letter to say how much I have enjoyed listening to **WGIV 1600AM**. I love the station's format. I travel all over the country and it is wonderful to know that there is a station "at home", that is concerned about ministry.

Along with being a full time pastor of the New Life Fellowship Center, I am opening up several businesses in the Charlotte area. I will certainly support your station with my finances in the area of advertising.

Continue to keep up the great work. Your radio ministry is reaching thousands of lives with a positive message. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Pastor John P. Kee

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