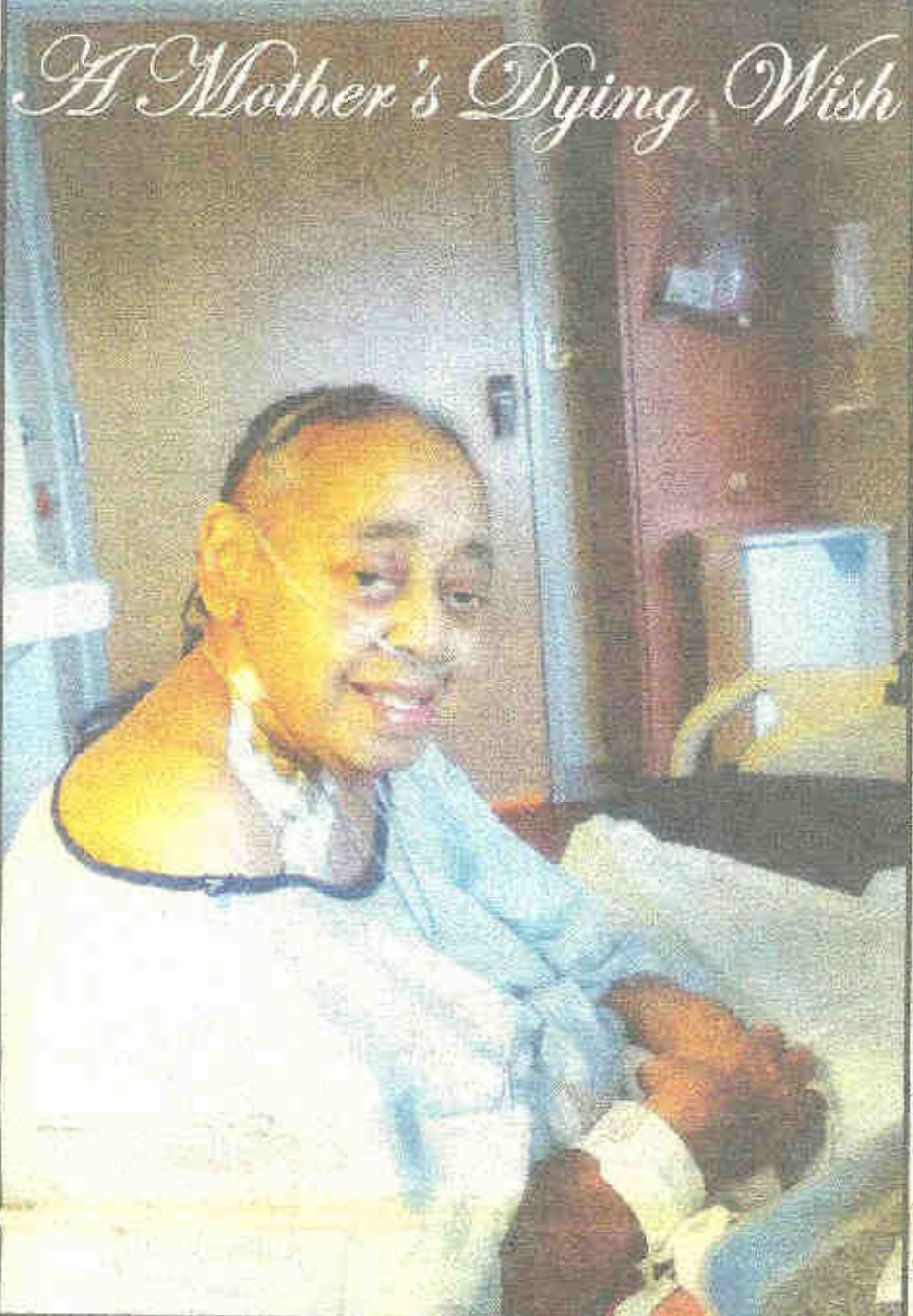


Valerie D. Lockhart

PORTFOLIO

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By Valerie D. Lockhart
SUN EXECUTIVE EDITOR

It's been 8 months, but it seems like yesterday that I lost my mom, Ollie Lockhart, 71. I've learned that time doesn't heal all wounds; it only makes us better at disguising the pain.

I stayed with my mom around the clock, holding her hand in Harper Hospital's ICU. Whenever, I would run home to refresh my luggage filled with clothing, I would have a friend sit with her. I never left her alone, except for when the nurses made me leave the room to bathe or change her. She was never afraid to use God's name, Jehovah, (Psalms 83:18), and doctors would use His name, when speaking to us. She was on a ventilator for the last month of her life.

My mom would squeeze my hand, whenever she wanted to pray. We prayed several times a day, drawing closer to God. My mom was always spiritually strong, so I think the prayers were more for me to be strengthened. We listened to an audio reading of the Bible and would play her favorite scripture over and over again.

"Do not be afraid, for I am with you. Do not be anxious, for I am your God. I will fortify you, yes, I will help you, I will really hold on to you with my right hand of righteousness." - Isaiah 41:10

My mom was a strong believer in the Bible's promise of a resurrection on a paradise earth. She believed that soon Revelation 21:4 would be fulfilled, "And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away."

Although my mom looked forward to the resurrection and being reunited with my grandparents, Bertha and Robert Barnes, there was another wish that she wanted to see fulfilled.

"I would be so happy, if Valerie and Tony got along," she told JoJo, our hairstylist at Terry's Place, her best friend, Syleata Green and several other people. "They act like strangers instead of brother and sister."

Little did we know that she would see her wish fulfilled, before she went to sleep in death.

My brother was wounded in the drive-by shooting on the freeway that killed two local rappers. He was taken

- SEE MOTHER'S WISH page 11

UNIVERSITY & ENLIGHTENING THE COMMUNITY

--MOTHER'S WISH from page 1

to Henry Ford Hospital and admitted as a John Doe at the same time that our mother was in the hospital. My niece called me to tell me what had happened, but of course I couldn't tell my mother. Besides, she had gotten use to him not visiting or calling her, whenever she was hospitalized. So, I tried to act as though everything was normal and focused on my mom's health. His eight children and mistress were with him at the hospital, so I didn't worry.

I later learned that he was on a ventilator and had undergone surgery to repair his lungs. My faith was truly being put to the test.

Although my brother knew his lifestyle was wrong, he remembered our mother's words at Psalm 55:22 that were instilled in us as children, "Throw your burdens on Jehovah and He will sustain you."

He said that he prayed, and suddenly his prayers were answered immediately. He quickly recovered and was told about our mother. He was able to get a medical pass to visit our mother at Harper Hospital. He had suffered a stroke during a surgery at Henry Ford, which impaired his speech. Our mother's eyes brightened when she heard him call out, "Momma, I'm here."

There we were standing on each side of her bed getting along and encouraging her to keep fighting. I was even able to go home to rest for a couple of hours, knowing that he was sitting beside her.

My mother's health continued to decline over the next two weeks. She would blink her eyes twice to indicate when she was in pain. I later learned that the hospital had caused her to get stage 4 bedsores from lack of turning her regularly.

I whispered in her ear that Tony and I would try hard to get along, and that she didn't have to worry about us. My mom knew that I would never break a promise to her, because it is like a vow witnessed by God.

My mom went to sleep in death on September 9, 2017 at 11:18 am. She was surrounded by family and friends. The last voices she heard were of my brother and me telling her, "I love you."

Today, I look forward to seeing my mom and grandparents on a paradise earth. The hope of the resurrection is as real to me as it was to my mother.

Her death has drawn me closer to God, I read his Bible daily and try hard to apply the principles in my life.

Many people say that they believe in God and hope to go to heaven, as a reward for their good works. But, the Bible teaches that the earth will be restored to a paradise condition, which was lost by Adam and Eve's deliberate sin. And, we know this hope will come true, because Titus 1: 2 says, "...the accurate knowledge of the truth that is according to godly devotion and is based on a hope of the everlasting life that God, who cannot lie, promised long ago."

My mom would often ask those who believed that going to heaven as our only hope, "Does the Bible tell of anyone dying or being sick in heaven?" When they answered no, she would point out how the scripture in Revelation 21: 4 refers to earthly benefits.

She would also point out, "This is what Jehovah says, . . . the One who formed the earth, . . . who did not create it simply for nothing, but formed it to be inhabited." - Isaiah 45:18.

As I cherish the memories of my mother, I hope others can look through my eyes and see that the resurrection hope is real. I cherish the day, when I can see her driving her new Kia Soul again. In fact, it's still parked in my driveway with barely 10,000 miles on it. Whenever I drive it, I can hear her saying, "Don't get too comfortable in my car. I'm going to drive again." If it survives the great tribulation, I will give it back to her.

I look forward to telling her how Tony and I got along, and how I even helped him to get a new apartment. Her eyes will shine brightly, when I tell her how I took him out to dinner and brought him food when he was short on cash. If he changes his lifestyle, I would love to have him standing by my side when we're reunited with our mother and grandparents.

And, most of all, I hope to tell my mom that her dying wish was fulfilled.

WWW.DETROITNATIVE.COM

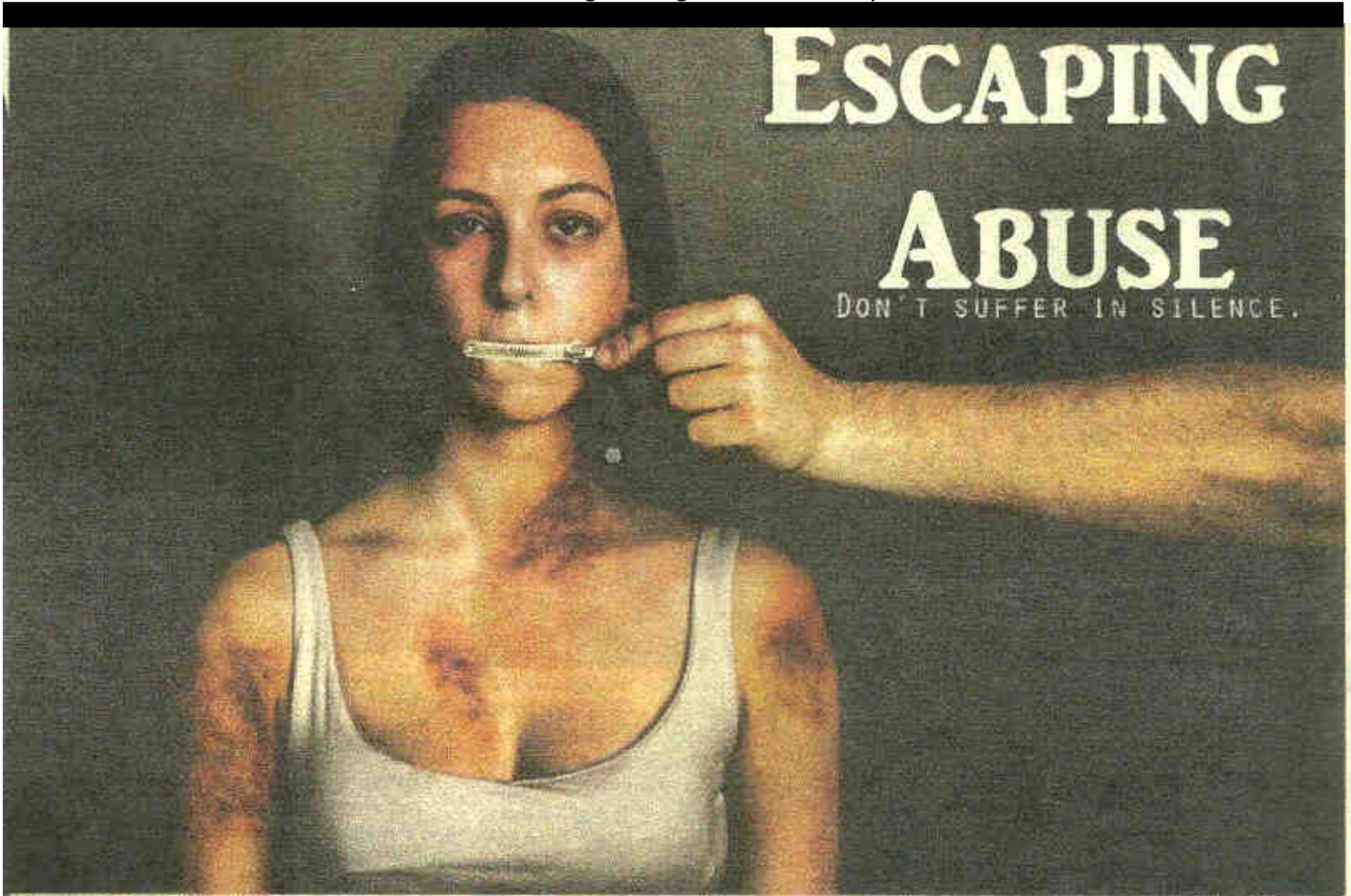
Happy Mother's Day

By Melody Thompson
SUN COLUMNIST

This month's article is dedicated to my mother, Laura Thompson in honor of Mother's Day. It is impossible for me to think of any one thing say when honoring my mother. The best way to describe how important she is to me comes from an excerpt from the book, "All I Really Need To Know I Learned in Kindergarten" by Robert Fulghum, altered to fit what I learned from my mother before I got to kindergarten and what I taught my daughter before she entered kindergarten.

All I really need to know I learned from my Mother.

All I really need to know about how to live and what to do and how to be I learned from my Mother. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate-school mountain, but there in the sandpile at Sunday School. These are the things I learned: Share everything. Play fair. Don't hit people. Put things back where I found them. Clean up your own mess.



ESCAPING

ABUSE

DON'T SUFFER IN SILENCE.

By Valerie D. Lockhart
SUN EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Jagged scars stretch across patches of missing hair hidden beneath a wig that serves as a visual reminder of Carol's nearly fatal attack in a dark alley two years ago.

The 32-year-old mother of two was shoved into a car against her will and driven across town, where she was raped, beaten with a metal baseball bat and left in a dark alley to die.

"My attacker wasn't a stranger. It was someone that I loved and vowed to stay with until death do us part - my husband," Carol

said, whose name has been changed to conceal her identity. "He always threatened to kill me, but I didn't think he would make good on his words. I blacked out, after the first couple of blows to my head. I woke up in the hospital's intensive care unit a few days later with bruises all over my body, a fracture skull, staples in my head and broken ribs. If only I had left the first time he hit me, I would have never suffered so badly."

Three years later, Carol still suffers from seizures, permanent hair loss and unhealed emotional scars. She divorced her abuser, who was charged with attempted murder but pled guilty to first

- SEE ESCAPING ABUSE page 5

—[ENDING ABUSE cont. from page 1]
 women assault and want to prison.

Like Carl, one in every three women are become estranged during their life time by a member of their own family and a woman is sexually abused in the US every 9 seconds.

According to domestic violence.org, "domestic violence and emotional abuse are behaviors used by one

person in a relationship to control the other. Partners may be married or not married; heterosexual, gay, or lesbian; living together, separated or dating."

Abuse

can be rendered in different forms including, home calling or insults, isolating a partner from associating with family or friends, withholding money, preventing a partner from getting or keeping a job, inflicting or threatening physical harm, sexually assaulting a partner, stalking and using intimidation.

According to the National Domestic Violence Hotline answered 333,150 calls for help in 2017. Sadly, lack of resources resulted in 88,179 calls going unanswered.

"Every day for the past 22 years, our advocates at The Helpline have answered calls from people seeking support, information, and resources. We hope that one day our advocates will no longer be needed, but until that day comes we look for solutions and we offer hope to anyone affected by abuse," said Katie Ray-Jones, chief executive officer of the National Domestic Violence Hotline. "It's important that we continue to be there for victims and lawyers and to work as a collective to end domestic violence once and for all."

To receive financial support for programs assisting victims, the House of Representatives recently passed the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) of 2018. The bill offers federal funding to support emergency shelter and related services for victims of domestic violence and their families. Since the FVPSA was first passed in 1984, community-driven solutions, programs and services have been offered to victims and survivors across the country.

"I am proud the House reauthorized these life-saving services for victims of domestic violence," Rep. Glenn "D.L." Thompson, who sponsored the bill, said. "Domestic violence has no place in America, and this legislation is a giant step toward ensuring we are not only standing up for victims of domestic violence but we are also doing everything in our power to stand against it. This bill ensures that each victim feels helpless they have somewhere to turn."

Persuading victims to turn for help has been an ongoing problem. Victims are proud to stay in abusive relationships, until they're confronted with a life threatening incident. Some stay out of fear, low self-esteem, love for their abuser and embarrassment.

"Most victims would say that you become the queen of appearance. You know how in India regardless of what just happened and how bad everything is fine," Shara, who stayed in an abusive relationship for eight years, said. "The months after I left were heavily hard, I thought it

wasn't really, at least in the sense I know what to expect."

Understanding the signs of a potential abuser to key identifying violent relationships. The following are signs that indicate your partner may become aggressive:

- Pressures you to move fast in a relationship or pushes for immediate commitment.

- Has been abusive in previous relationships.

- Believes in stereotypical gender roles and male as primary, or a dominant.

- Jealous, possessive, and controlling.

- Is controlling, mostly jealous and possessive.

- Isolates you from your

- Friends and family and may try to get

- stance you not to have a job.

- Has two sides to his or her personality — others see your partner as a good person, but behind closed doors, he or she is angry and brutal toward you.

- Experiences most emotions in the form of anger and has difficulty conveying other emotions.

- Has a violent temper and quickly changes moods.

- Is cruel to animals or children and is insensitive to their suffering.

- Monitor your whereabouts, activities or something.

- Does not listen to you when you say "no" or try to assault you sometimes.

- "He was nice, at first, but red flag popped up almost immediately," Kaiti recalled. "I pushed aside those things, hoping I could help him through. He had just gotten out of a relationship with a woman who was a heroin addict. She had left him with their two young children, a 2-year-old daughter and a 3-year-old son. He didn't seem all that attached to his children, or affectionate, which was something that struck me as troublesome. He was angry — understandably so, after what his ex did to

- him.

- "But there was more than that. He seemed to have a hatred for women in general, often speaking with disgust about how women were given unfair advantages in life, how they wanted equal rights and then still needed help from men. It didn't take long for the feelings to start."

- To prevent the start of domestic violence, October is designated as National Domestic Violence Awareness month. The awareness month evolved from the Day of Unity held in October 1981.

- Domestic Violence Awareness Month is an important moment to recognize that we can all be agents of social change and end violence against women," Catherine Ferris, Acting Director of the Office on Violence Against Women, said. "In the 15 years since the Violence Against Women Act was signed into law, countless lives have been saved, the voices of survivors have been heard and families have been protected. We are proud of how far we have come but firmly aware that there is much to do. The DVW is proud to join our partners and partners throughout the country to observe October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month."

- For additional information on available resources visit the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence at www.micovaw.org/help/and-help-in-michigan.html, or www.ohhiganet.gov



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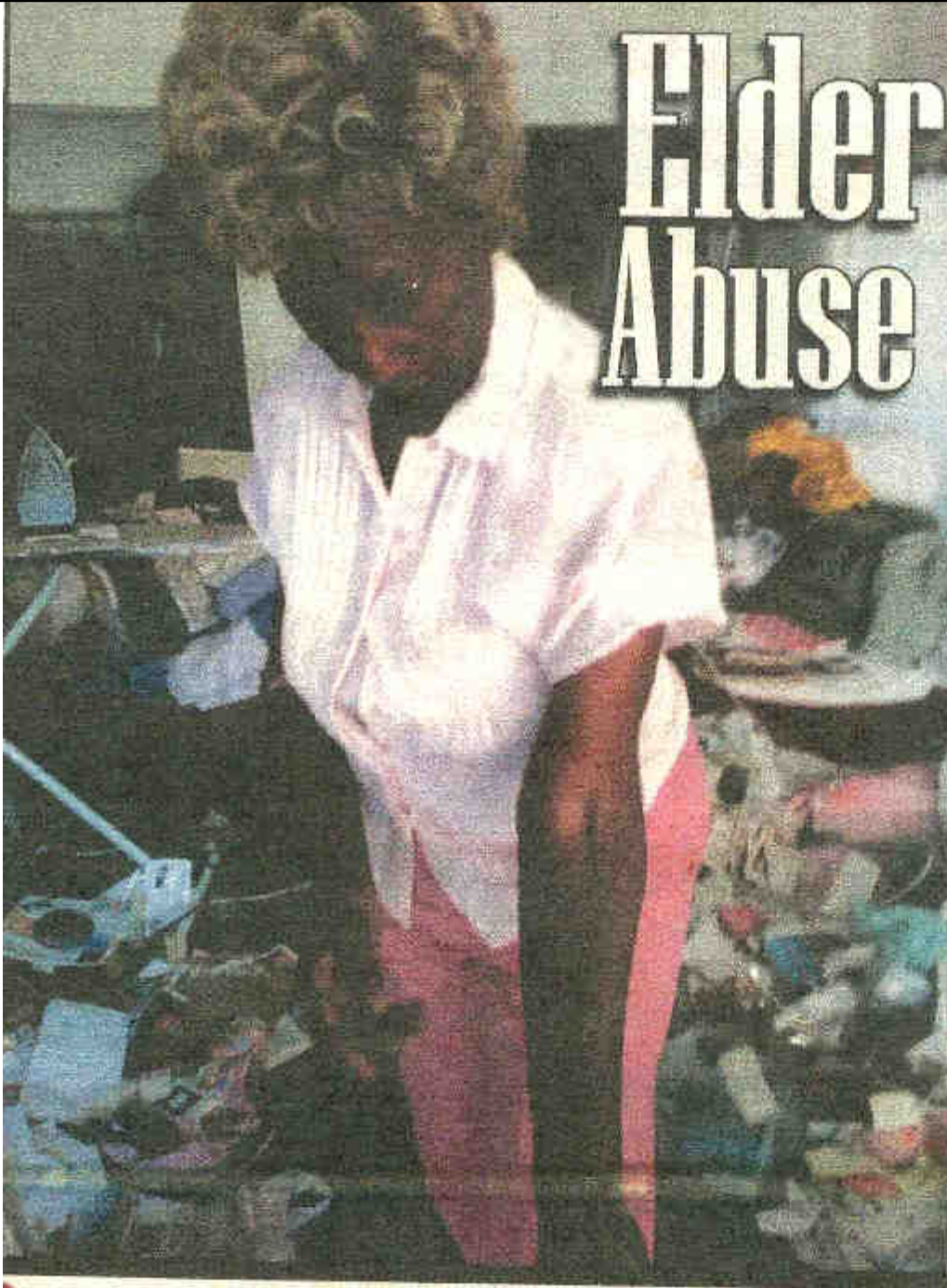
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Elder Abuse

By Valerie D. Lockhart
SUN EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Bugs crawled up the side of Alberta Witherspoon's blouse finding shelter beneath the fabric. The 83-year-old stretched out her arm to show off bug bites, pointed and said, "Look! I sit here and kill bugs all day. My arm bleeds from the bites."

The senior lives in deplorable conditions that are unfit for animals. She notes how she shares her studio apartment with three types of roaches and mice. Thieves and maintenance workers have broken into her home several times, overturning boxes filled with books and papers and throwing clothes all over the floor. Candy in a dish has even been eaten by the scoundrels, who toss wrappers onto the floor. There is no television to keep her company; for, it has been broken for several months. A fan blows hot air to cool her off during blazing summer temperatures. She sleeps on an old sofa that was pulled out of the trash and dragged inside by a passerby. Her toilet is backed up, she bathes in a large bucket, and the remains of dead mice lie behind the bathroom door.

"They're crazy," says Witherspoon, a former cosmetologist and business owner. "My stuff was packed up. They come in here and throw my stuff around and leave it on the floor. The fools work for the church. All of my books, magazines and church stuff, and even my Bible are messed up. They spray (pesticides) on top of my things. I just need to get out of here."

Witherspoon is not alone in longing for a way out of neglect and abuse.

According to the National Center on Elder Abuse, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 68 percent of all Adult Protective Services cases involve elder abuse. Over 2.15 million cases are reported each year. In Michigan, about 90,000 seniors are victims of elder abuse every year, with many of these crimes going unreported.

-- see **ELDER ABUSE** page 5

DETROIT NATIVE SUN

Enlightening the Community

— ELDER ABUSE from page 1

"The abuse of older people is an epidemic for the 141 million older people worldwide this has serious individual and societal costs," says Aging Officer, Senior Health Advisor, Department of Aging and Life Events at the World Health Organization (WHO). "We must do much more to prevent and respond to the increasing frequency of different forms of abuse."

Elder abuse is any act which causes harm to an older person, age 60 and older, and is often carried out by someone they know and trust, such as a family member or friend. The abuse may be physical, social, financial, psychological in nature and can include mistreatment and neglect.

"Elder abuse is rarely discussed in daily news, the preferred for research and scholarship by only a handful of researchers," notes Dr. Etienne Aron, Director of the WHO Department for the Management of Noncommunicable Diseases. "Governments must protect all people from violence. We must work to shed light on this important societal challenge, understand how best to prevent it, and legislate in place the measures needed."

The Detroit Area Agency on Aging is working to shed light on elder abuse and partnered with Second Baptist Church, Greater Business Baptist Church and Life Line Center to create an Elder Abuse Toolkit that was released during a Kickoff for a pilot program this month.

"We've been working with seniors for a number of years and this pilot project is something that not only will help seniors within our congregation but throughout the community. We certainly want to be a part of the solution to prevent a problem that seems to go unrecognized," said Bishop Edgar Vane of Second Baptist Church.

The agency hopes that partnering with churches will raise awareness to the problem and motivate individuals to speak openly with other members and religious leaders about their circumstances.

"Many seniors will not report abuse to social service organizations or human services government agencies, however a great number of older adults feel comfortable sharing their concerns with members or leaders in the churches they attend," says Cheryl Ryan, OAA's Chief

Administrative, pointing towards the odd explanation for the injuries.

2. Respect is displayed by wearing dirty



Alberta Witherspoon shows off her bathroom that has dead mice behind the door and a toilet that has been backed up for weeks. She currently bathes in an oversized bucket.

Offices, added diapers, having bedsores, unusual weight loss, living in a filthy home, or lacking essential medical services like hearing aids, canes or glasses.

3. Verbal or emotional abuse displayed by withdrawal and apathy, unusual behavior, such as being or picking, cursing or insulting behavior especially around the care giver, strained or tense relationship between caregiver and elder, caregiver who is shouting or yelling at the elder, and being isolated by the family member/caregiver.

4. Sexual abuse shown by touches around the breasts, buttocks around the genital area, insistence of excessive strokes, vaginal or rectal bleeding, difficulty walking or standing, decreased or withdrawn behavior and flirtatious attentiveness by the caregiver.

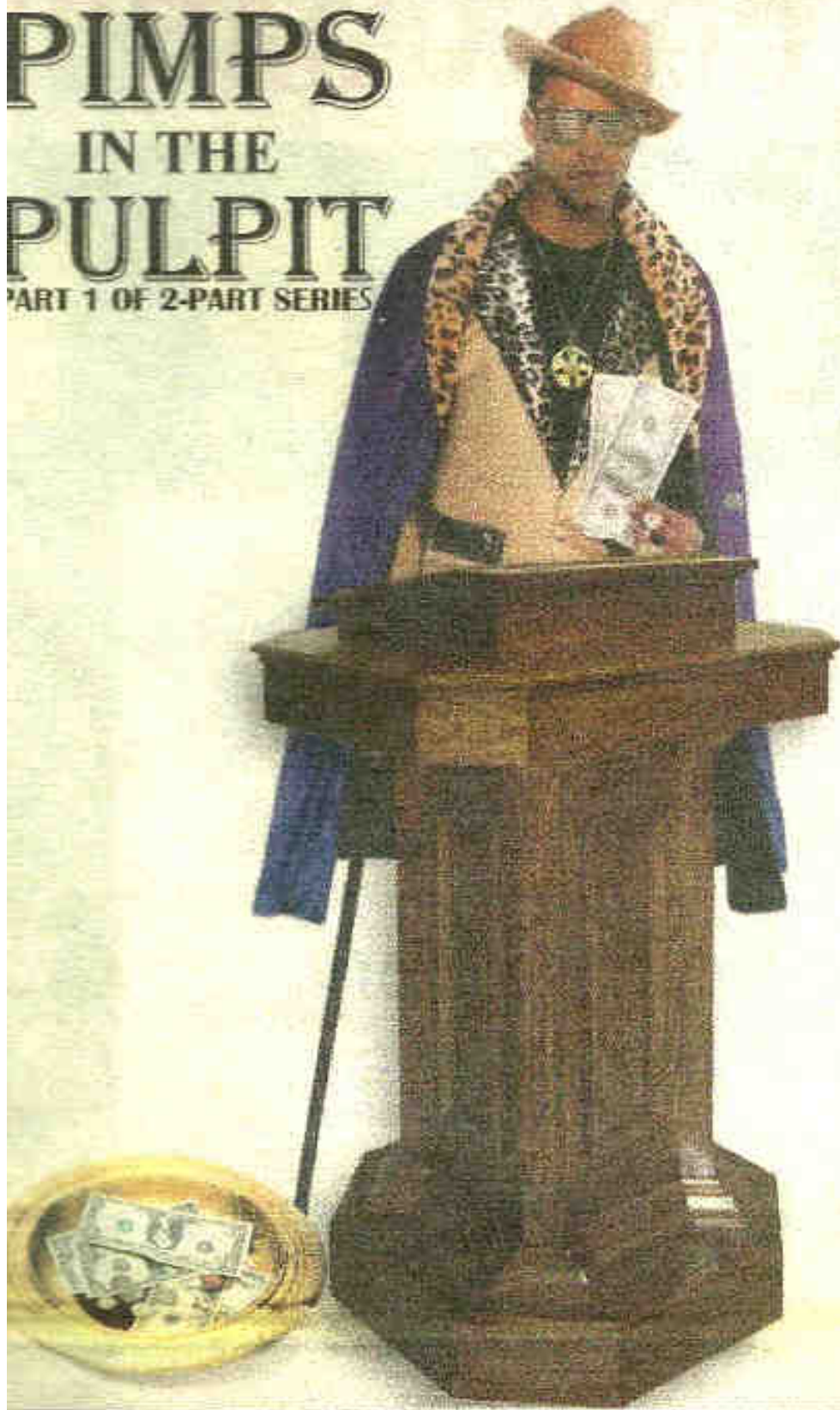
5. Financial exploitation reported by bills not being paid, money disappearing and unaccounted for, caregiver taking money for a purchase that doesn't arrive, unusual purchases that you loved one didn't need to make, increased use of credit cards, more frequent withdrawals of cash and asking someone new to bank accounts or credit cards.

Alberta Witherspoon currently lives alone, she is a survivor of domestic sexual violence and neglect. About two years ago, her daughter and son-in-law collected her social security checks and left her to fend for herself.

"I haven't seen my daughter in years," she added. "I don't know if she's dead or

PIMPS IN THE PULPIT

PART 1 OF 2-PART SERIES



By Valerie D. Lockhart
SUN EXECUTIVE EDITOR



Hands flocked in the air in sync to the rhythm of the pastor's energetic musical sermon. Preaching in a hum-like tone he rapped, "If you gave a little then give some more, don't worry about DTE or the landlord knocking on your door. Put the Lord first and open up your purse. God will rid you of any curse. Can I get an Amen?"

Responding on cue, two deacons ran to the back to secure the rear doors and one secured the side door. No one was allowed to enter or leave the sanctuary, once the doors were locked. Collection plates were passed down each aisle for the third time during the 90-minute sermon.

Chantel Martin frowned, as the plate started down her aisle. A \$10 bill was all she had left in her purse, which was to be used for bus fare to get back home and to work over the next few days. She quickly passed the plate to the next person, who shook their head in disgust.

"Instead of feeling spiritually built up, I felt guilty and depressed," said the 23-year-old single mother of two. "I was especially hurt, when my pastor and his wife drove past me and my kids at the bus stop in their brand new Mercedes and didn't offer us a ride home. They're always bragging on how God blessed them with a condo and a new car. If I gave more, then God will bless me too. But, since when did God need money? And, in whose pockets are my tithes going in? I feel like I'm getting pimped in the name of the Lord."

Martin is not alone. Michael Jamison said he left his church, after learning how his pastor used money from the collection plates to buy a new home in the suburbs.

"I was homeless and living in a shelter," he said. "I was collecting cans and bottles and cashing them in to get bus fare to go to church twice a week. Then, one day my pastor told me how he had just purchased a home in Bloomfield Hills. He wouldn't even help me to get an apartment or rent a room in somebody's home. When I asked him how he could afford such a home, he told me that one of the sisters left all of her money to the church when she died. The church was the bene-

— see PIMPS page 9

--PIMPS from page 1

ficiary on her life insurance policy that was worth \$500,000. Then, I thought about how we were all being pimped. I stopped going after that."

Several members of a mega church outside of Detroit stop attending, when they learned of their pastor fathering a child with his wife's teenage niece.

"I was disgusted, when I saw how the first lady continued to stand by his side and to support him," said Sister Jones, who refused to use her real name to conceal her identity. "He tried to justify his actions by using the scripture on how we're all sinners and fall short of the glory of God. If he can do this with his own niece, then how many other women in the congregation is he screwing?"

He should be held at a higher level being a spiritual leader. He was just given a tap on the hand and asked to step down. But, he has churches in other states that he still leads."

As many in the congregation struggle with homelessness, unemployment, hunger and debilitating illnesses, some spiritual leaders are reaping prosperity at the expense of their members.

"Several pastors have built housing complexes, and then charge exorbitant rent that the average member can't afford," explained Theola Barnes, 76, of Detroit. "What good is it to build a house off of the tithes paid by your members, and then rent it to a middle class suburbanite to bring them back to the city? The people in your congregation are the ones suffering, but because they can't pay you leave them out in the cold to fend for themselves. You cook dinners at the church for the hungry, and then charge \$10 for a plate. If I don't pay, I don't eat. Meanwhile, you drive around in a fancy car with a customize license plate that says 'pastor'. You're liv-

ing high off the hog, while the rest of us struggle to get a bone with a little meat."

According to statistics released by Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI), one-quarter (25%) of Americans claim no formal religious identity.

"Among the reasons Americans identified as important motivations in leaving their childhood religion are: they stopped believing in the religion's teachings (60%), their family was never that religious when they were growing up (32%), and their experience of negative religious teachings about or treatment of gay and lesbian people (29%). Fewer than one in five Americans who left their childhood religion point to the clergy sexual-abuse scandal (19%), a traumatic event in their life (18%), or their congregation becoming

too focused on politics (16%) as an important reason for disaffiliating," noted the report.

Others say that

those professing to be a prophet are actually profiting off of their members.

"Who's checking the ministers to see if they're paying their tithes," asked Anthony Thomas. "Women are gullible and will fall for a preacher's lies. But, men look beneath the collar to see the truth."

Meanwhile, Martin struggles with the decision to pay tithes over paying her bills.

"I asked my pastor for help to pay my rent to keep a roof over me and my kids' heads and he offered to loan me the money," she said. "I'm not disappointed that he didn't just give me the money. A loan is cool but tacking on 25% interest with a \$75 late fee is outrageous. This is worse than a payday loan. I said forget it, and went to Social Services for help. I'm praying to God that he leads me in the right direction - to a church that genuinely loves and cares for people. I will no longer be hustled by a pimp in the pulpit."

Can someone say, "Amen"?



ENTERTAINMENT

Stars get older, but keep going strong. See page D-1

SPORTS

Michigan's Braylon Edwards: simply amazin'. See page C-1



VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1936

MICHIGAN CHRONICLE

VOLUME 68 - Number 3

50 Cents

November 17-23, 2004

News Briefs

Powell resigns, Rice nominated to succeed

Colin Powell, the first

African American to serve as U.S. secretary of state,

announced his resignation on

Nov. 15, 2004.

President George W. Bush

announced that Powell's

replacement would be

Condoleezza Rice, national

security adviser, as Powell's

last day in office is Dec. 31.

Rice, who also served as

the first African American

chancellor of the Johns Hopkins

University, was announced as

secretary of state in 2001.

Her resignation is effective

Dec. 31, 2004.

Rice will serve as acting

secretary of state until she

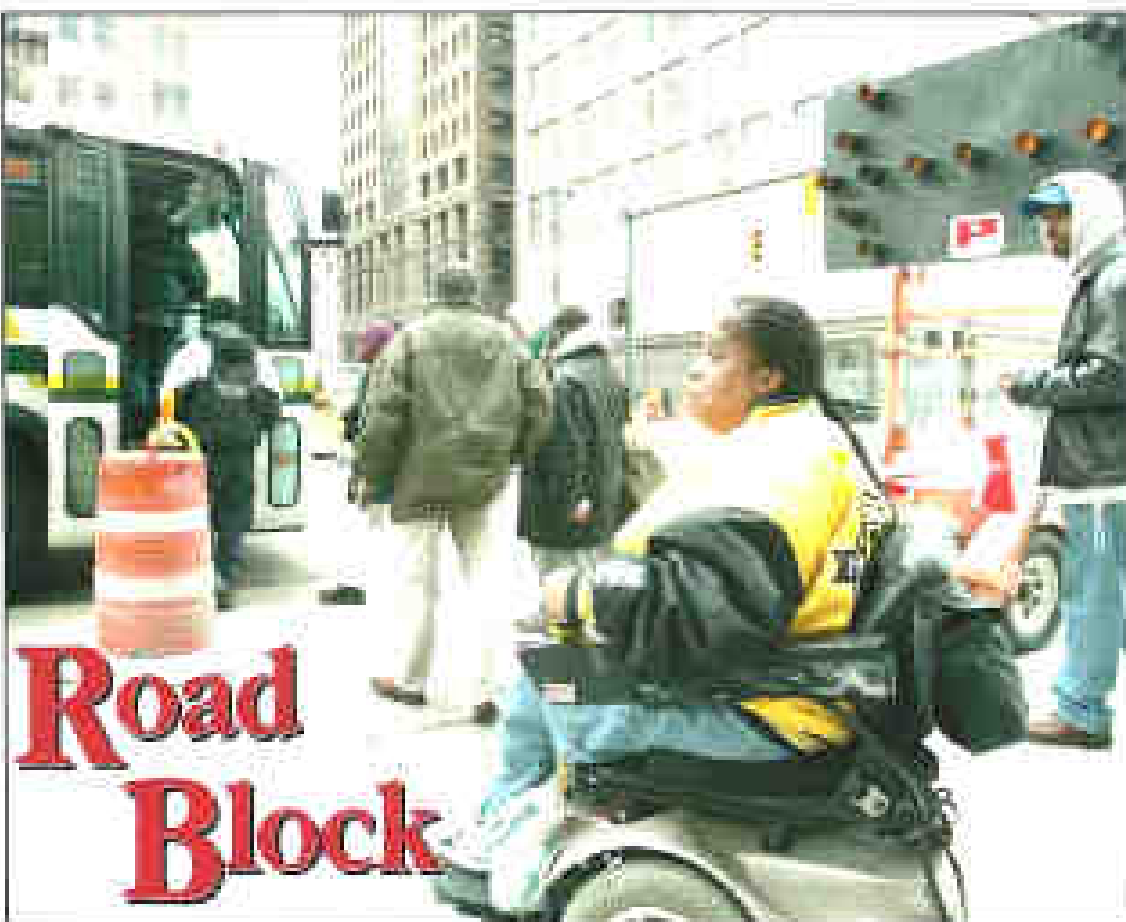
is sworn in on Jan. 20, 2005.

Her resignation is effective

Dec. 31, 2004.



Colin Powell



CAROLYN REED, a wheelchair-bound rider, was picked up by four buses on the Woodward four-mile one-block stretch with a working wheelchair lift. —Photo: George Jones

Road Block

Broken lifts on city buses hinder disabled from getting around

By Valerie D. Lockhart

CHRONICLE ASSOCIATE EDITOR

They were passed first by earlier

lifts that all three don't have a

working lift," said Reed, who was

with special buses. "It makes me

frustrated. Just because the disabled

don't want to sit in the back waiting for

a bus.

Reed, executive director of the

Michigan Association for the

Physically Handicapped, filed a

lawsuit in U.S. District Court

against the City of Detroit for

violating the Americans with

Disability Act.

The lawsuit seeks a court order

requiring the city to purchase

new lifts for all its buses.

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DPS loses students and millions in funding

By Valerie D. Lockhart

CHRONICLE ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Detroit Public Schools

lost more than \$10 million in

funding for the 2004-05 school

year, according to a report

released last week by the

Michigan Department of

Education.

The report says that the

state lost \$10 million in

funding for the 2004-05

school year because of

cuts in state funding.

The report also says that

the state lost \$10 million in

funding for the 2003-04

school year because of

cuts in state funding.

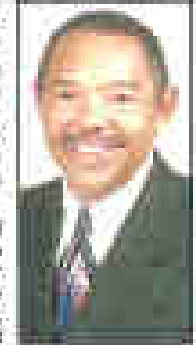
The report also says that

the state lost \$10 million in

funding for the 2002-03

school year because of

cuts in state funding.



Kenneth Burton

Michigan is one of

the poorest states in the

country, according to a

report released last week

by the U.S. Department of

Education.

The report says that the

state lost \$10 million in

funding for the 2004-05

school year because of

cuts in state funding.

The report also says that

the state lost \$10 million in

funding for the 2003-04

school year because of

cuts in state funding.

The report also says that

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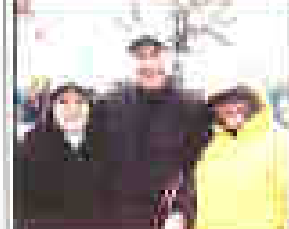
STAR CHART

See page D-9

CLASSIFIEDS

See pages C-4, D-7 and D-8

Also inside



HOME FRONT



Farrakhan speaks to Black men

Minister Louis Farrakhan recently visited Detroit to speak at the African American Men's Organization's Black Men Symposium. He discussed topics such as entrepreneurship, education and police brutality. Other speakers included Judge Greg Meeffe, Dr. Hines

GM legal staff teams up with DPS to teach law

Program aims to fuel student interest in legal profession

General Motors and the Detroit Public Schools on Wednesday will kick off a year-long program in which members of GM's legal staff pair up with Detroit high schools to teach students how to incorporate words and encourage their professional or personal careers in law.

"This program complements all with the schools in our backyard and gives us the opportunity to encourage students who would increase our layers of talent," said Chris Johnson, general counsel for GM North America. "It also gives the students a chance to learn about the legal world from people who practice in it."



O'NEIL D. SWANSON SR., president of Swanson Funeral Homes Inc., with Sara Hilary Robinson O'Neil (left) at a recent event in Detroit. O'Neil has made O'Neil-Swan & O'Neil a primary team in her administrative efforts. —Photo: George Jones

Multi-million dollar renovation marks return of Detroit's Guardian Building

D-DOT lawsuit

going to be the wheelchair lifts," said attorney Richard H. Bernstein, who represents the plaintiffs and is lead. "D-DOT involves federal funds that are subject to the Federal Rehabilitation Act. The law requires federal agencies to make services accessible to persons with disabilities. If a lift breaks, it must be fixed within 48 hours. They have denied that is a problem, so it has great potential for a long time."

William White, executive director of D-DOT, refused to comment on the case pending litigation. However, some city workers related the plaintiff's claims.

"The Justice Department has been knocking down our backs since we worked at the dock," said (former) freight person

since one of the problems. "There is a problem with the wheelchair lifts not working," said Terry Caldwell, a D-DOT terminal supervisor. "Drivers are instructed to stop and let the person know what the problem is. Then the driver must contact dispatch and have them send a van to pick up the disabled rider. Another supervisor will check out the bus before it reaches the end of the line."

Disrupting services with broken wheelchair lifts were also noticed by Art Verhagen, a former bus driver and union president.

"D-DOT has a lot of wheelchair lifts that are not working because they lack parts and manpower," said Verhagen, who retired last June after 31 years

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working at the depot. "They're saying that there isn't a problem, when I'm waiting over an hour for a bus. The system needs to be accessible for us."

"This makes me feel like a third-class citizen. They're saying that there isn't a problem, when I'm waiting over an hour for a bus. The system needs to be accessible for us."

"Disrupted dispatches were reported to D-DOT's wheelchair lifts go up and down in temperatures have disabled riders concerned about their welfare during the winter season."

"The customer is given the greatest respect in our third-class people," said Bernstein. "Immediate help is needed. It is nothing short of a crisis and should be a top concern for the city."

While West continues to lead the letter and sue D-DOT, another action on his way to the Woodward bus stop three days a week, the legal matter will soon be granted to the disabled and that others would become more sympathetic to their concerns.

"The air never circulated," said West. "You can't go to a normal building any longer because you think I shouldn't go anywhere. I like to play bingo and go to the casino like everybody else. One night a bus driver asked me, 'What are you doing out at night? We put wheelchair accessible buses on the line during the week, so you can go to the doctor and grocery store.'"

"Who are they to think that we can't have fun too? I'm 54 years old, and I don't need anyone's permission to go out. I can't go out and get out, so I can't just be the wife so I can be my life to the best of my ability."



MAYOR KWAME KILPATRICK gave remarks during the occasion to announce the grand reopening of the Guardian Building — original interior photo.

Guardian Building

From page A-1

Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, vice president of Brookings and founder of The Sterling Group. "The project in the building has been amazing. We have already leased out the entire retail space and have been contacted by several groups who would like to have special events in the building."

To attract visitors, the lobby area will include a mini-diner featuring a menu inspired by the building's history. The Guardian Building also employs a full-time historian to greet and assist guests. Additionally, the building's services, which has not been in since World War II, will soon house new exterior architectural lighting. Thousands of watts of lights will illuminate the 40-story structure, adding to the grandeur of Detroit's skyline.

Since acquiring the building, The Sterling Group has spent more than a dozen new systems, including upgraded Federal Bank, which will occupy more than 20,000 square feet of office and retail space. The bank will open a branch in the retail promenade and has leased the 2001 floor for commercial banking and administrative offices. *Journal of Architecture, 11/17/04*

rest of the new, 100,000-sq-ft lobby, will include the historic walls and doors, including new lighting, lighting and restoring the floor to its original state. The restoration is a great success.

"By investing in Detroit, we believe we are helping to drive the resurgence of the city," said Gary Ferguson, CEO of the Sterling Group. "The Sterling Group invests in Detroit because we have a passion for its historic architecture and landmarks, and believe these are some of the most important things that are not available anywhere else."

"The Sterling Group's commitment to Detroit can be seen across the city in developments like the Northside Row, the 111 West Park Building and the Clark Building," said Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick. "The Guardian Building is one of the city's historic treasures and the return to a place where Detroiters can shop, dine and hang in its exciting ways of which is exciting in our downtown area."

The addition of upgraded Federal Bank to the Guardian Building's return to the building

"It's also fitting for a street like Park Avenue to be home to one of the city's most architecturally celebrated landmarks," said Sharon Lewis, mayor of Park Detroit. "What the opportunity is to celebrate our Detroit's history and to make it a more vibrant, a more vibrant community of how soon."

The Guardian Building is one of the most significant architectural landmarks in the world. Office space is available for an annual rental fee of approximately \$25 to \$27 per square foot.

The Guardian Building is located at 300 Griswold Ave. in downtown Detroit. For more information, visit www.guardianbuilding.com or contact Diane Siskind at 313.963.1111.

GM legal

From page A-1

return to Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick. "In less than two years, we were in compliance and have also done our best to maintain the trust. The ADA has given us a month for compliance of federal regulations across the board."

In a written affidavit filed by attorneys Andrew Davis and Valerie Gifford-Schneider on behalf of the city, it states, "Defendant City of Detroit's actions in all respects were legal, reasonable and constitutional. Plaintiffs were held to mitigate their damage."

It continues, "The Plaintiff has no standing to sue the Defendant City of Detroit as they lack standing under Section 304 of the Rehabilitation Act."

No statements of guilt were filed in response to the plaintiff's allegations, saying their claims lacked sufficient evidence of wrongdoing. But only one in the Department has

on the line. "The city said they are going to provide new buses with ramp lifts to January 2005. But you will still have a major problem because there are not enough buses. I always felt bad and frustrated when the lifts were broken, because there is only so much you can do as a driver. When the wheelchair lift isn't working, you write it up. And there's nothing more you can do. You may have a week-end lift more or less days out of the week. It's a huge problem that's not going to be fixed going with the same program."

Distressed by witnessing West's actions firsthand, Jim Corley, a passenger on the Woodward train, said the city should show compassion and help the disabled.

"Last a couple of buses passed her up," said Corley. "They said their lifts didn't work without even trying. I think you (West), it's not right. His wife has low just the elevator stop. They need to put themselves in two

From page A-1

newly formed Second Chance alternative education program.

Training in military arts, aviation, television and radio broadcasting, automotive technology, computer aided drafting and other skills are offered at their residential centers.

"Despite our budget challenges, we remain committed to providing vital educational programs and providing a safe and secure environment for our students," said Westley. "Early childhood programs, the Core program's Reading Initiative, the Algebra Thinking Institute, literacy program and alternative education programs are critical to our students' success."

While DPS officials struggle to stop declining enrollment and regain parental trust, Brennan feels administrators can learn from her experience.

"Detroit Public Schools need teachers who are good attentive to our needs," she said. "Because there are so many kids in the class, teachers are too busy to help. I see the kids at school because it's not nice and the teachers help you more. If I had this in my old school, I would have had it."

energy center business, agricultural, and construction.

For more information, call (313) 324-3107.

Headler dies

Richard Headler, 1982 Republican gubernatorial candidate and author of the 1979 Headler Amendment which limits government spending in the state, has died at the age of 74.

The Headler Amendment to the State Constitution banned expanded spending on local state government.

He was living in Flint at the time of his passing.

Headler, an anti-tax crusader who lost the gubernatorial race to James Blanchard, was at the forefront of the change in focus of the Republican Party from former Gov. William Milliken's moderate era to the current more conservative and tax-incentive of the party.

He was also active in the successful 1982 campaign to reinstate areas that is state government.

In addition to his political activities, Headler had been the head of Alexander Hamilton Ltd. in Detroit. He was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

One aspect of the Headler

Michigan Civil Rights Commission to host public forum

The Michigan Civil Rights Commission (MCRC) will host a special public forum on Monday, Nov. 22, at 7 p.m. in the Grand Chalmers of Downtown City Hall. The forum will provide an opportunity for residents and local community faith-based, civic and governmental leaders to voice their concerns.

The forum will follow a 4 p.m. regular commission meeting also held in the Grand Chalmers. Both the meeting and forum are open to the public with opportunities for public comment.

The City of Dearborn, Grand Chalmers are located at 13611 Michigan Ave. in Dearborn.

Blue Care Network to reimburse members for flu shots

Because many physicians did not receive their full supply of flu vaccine due to the short supply, Blue Care Network of Michigan announced that it will reimburse members who receive the flu vaccine from another source such as a senior or health department.

The Michigan Department of Community Health has issued

guidance that the policy is for this flu only.

To qualify for reimbursement, BCN members must receive their flu shots by Dec. 31, 2004. Members must send their receipt for the vaccine, complete a copy of the Member Reimbursement Form and return it to BCN for reimbursement. The form can be found on the BCN website at www.bluecare.com/flu_reimbursement_form.pdf. It also can be obtained by phoning BCN Customer Service at 1-800-862-0907.

AACE scholarship awards

Each year, the American Association of Blackstem College (AACE) awards scholarships to outstanding minority high school students looking to pursue careers in science, mathematics and engineering. The Michigan chapter of AACE is accepting applications through March 2, 2005 for students who have maintained at least a B average in the above mentioned subjects.

These scholarships are given to encourage minority students to pursue careers in energy-related fields and to provide financial aid for such students.

More information can be obtained at www.aace-mich.org or (588) 412-3388.

DPS loses

their subjects," said Acting Director Brennan's staff. "They weren't doing well in Detroit Public Schools even though they were receiving training. They have smaller class sizes and more attentive teachers. The school lets me know when something is going on. They call to make sure the work is assigned."

Retention released by the Wayne County Regional Education School Association report of nearly 30,000 students who live in Detroit choose to attend schools outside of the district. About 42 charter schools operate within Detroit's boundaries.

Enrollment declined in one year at the Academy of Business Technology, a charter-based charter school increasing from 150 to 330 students. Many of the new students are Detroit residents.

Leadership programs and a safe learning environment are provided. All paraprofessionals on staff are certified and have a bachelor's degree, providing state requirements of certification in a two-year program.

"If you have a good product, people will come," said Dr. Paul Wright, principal. "Our students come from all over the metro-

politan area. Now that parents have a choice, they can exercise it to get their child a better education. Kids need to enjoy the school experience and we want them to be eager and excited about coming to school."

Low grades and a need for greater help with students credit at St. James Academy, another private for boys elite High School in Riverview High School in Dearborn Heights.

"We neither thought I could get extra help with math, and I felt that I'm getting more help," said 15-year-old Tamara. "My grades in math and English are improving. There are fewer kids in the classroom."

DPS is taking steps to engage students who the addition of specialized learning programs.

"We hope to win students back by creating new programs and making parents aware of existing ones that focus on special needs," said Ben Coleman, executive director of the DPS Office of Community Connections.

Under high school students concentrating academic challenges and being prepared are getting another opportunity to earn their diploma through a

Maya at the Max



MARY STEPHENS JONES (left) always a friend of the DCCH, is partying with... (caption partially obscured)



STEFALYN LEE (left) is partying with... (caption partially obscured)



OSWENIA LEWIS (left) is partying with... (caption partially obscured)



MARY STEPHENS JONES (left) is partying with... (caption partially obscured)



DR. MAYA ANGELOU shared her wisdom and poetry in the DCCH's benefit performance.

By Yvonne G. Jackson
Staff Writer

She's had a special one of the many... (text partially obscured)

The audience was in awe as Dr. Maya Angelou... (text partially obscured)

Angelou's final message was... (text partially obscured)



EVENT EMCEES (left) and... (caption partially obscured)

"We were so happy... (text partially obscured)



DETROIT COMMUNITY HEALTH CONNECTION... (caption partially obscured)

HOME FRONT

Minister Louis Farrakahn recently visited Detroit to speak at the African American Men's Organization's Black Men Symposium. He discussed topics such as entrepreneurship, education and police brutality. Other speakers included Judge Greg Mathis, Bill Brooks, president of Detroit Board of Education, and Dawud Muhammad...

row," said Chris Johnson, general counsel for GM North America. "It also gives the students a chance to learn about the legal world from people who practice in it every day."

renovation marks return of Detroit's Guardian Building

The Guardian Building opens its doors to the public...

Maya

"Organized in the spirit of assisting us in continuing to provide compassionate and nurturing quality healthcare to those in our community that need us the most, Dr. Angelou certainly captivates you with the elegance of her prose and the beauty of her wisdom."

Possessing a voice that commands attention, many found themselves clinging to every expression uttered from 76-year-old Angelou's mouth. And her words echoed the calls of distress declared by thousands of helpless women and children in Africa and the U.S.

Fluent in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Italian and West African Fanti, the effects of her works are far reaching crossing over language barriers.

Though she is a celebrity, it has not desensitized her to world conditions but moved her to express in one of her poems, "I am human, and nothing human can be alien to me."

Compassionate and committed to assisting the

needy, she sacrifices time and energy to help improve the lives of those less fortunate. Her efforts led to the establishment of the Maya Angelou National Institute for the Improvement of Child and Family Education in Winston Salem, North Carolina, which works to strengthen families, address child development issues and educate human service professionals and policymakers about critical family-related concerns.

"Maya Angelou is one of the most phenomenal African American women in our contemporary era," said Louise G. Guyton, vice president of public affairs at Comerica and the event chairperson. "For her to take time out to support a non-profit that is providing medical care to the underserved population is certainly a testament to her character and her passion for the disadvantaged."

Since its founding in 1989, Detroit Community Health Connection, a non-profit agency, has provided affordable, high quality healthcare to thousands of uninsured and disadvantaged clients. A comprehensive healthcare

team offers treatment, prevention and education services at five Detroit-based centers. Operations are funded through a variety of sources, including federal and state grants, private donations and reimbursement programs from Medicare and Medicaid.

"Too many Michigan residents are uninsured, including children and working adults. Too many lack health care coverage or are unable to get medical care, and too many Michigan residents have no personal healthcare provider," said Dr. Kimberly Dawn Wisdom, Michigan surgeon general and event honorary co-chairperson. "Yet DCHC's efforts send a message to the women and children of Detroit that they matter - that each and every one of them is important and deserves to be healthy."

Visitors to "Maya at the Max" received a dual treat of entertainment and enlightenment on the need to provide medical assistance to the area's poor.

In 2003, nearly 52 percent of the 17,000 individuals DCHC serviced were uninsured, totaling 8,172 patients. Of the insured, Medicaid patients made up 6,081 with a fraction covered by private insurance plans.

Proceeds from the performance will be used to expand one of the agency's smaller facilities to better serve clients. Ongoing fundraising projects are expected to raise \$250,000.

As the lights dimmed and Angelou exited the stage, organizers hoped the audience were not only moved to their feet in exultation of the performance but were compelled to take action.

"Even though the evening was one of elegance, I hope that individuals attending the event understood that our community still has a large number of individuals that do not have access to care and want to do something to make a difference," said Ferris. "I hope they came away asking themselves: Is there something that I can do to help?"

From page B-1

said Howard Hughey, press secretary, retired last June after 31 years

"This makes me feel like a third-class citizen. They're saying that there isn't a problem, when I'm waiting over an hour for a bus. The system needs to be accessible for us."

retary to Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick. "In less than two years, we were in compliance and have gone above and beyond requirements. The ADA has given us awards for compliance of federal guidelines across the board."

In a written affidavit filed by attorneys Andrew Jarvis and Valerie Colbert-Osamuede on behalf of the city, it states, "Defendant City of Detroit's actions in all respects were legal, reasonable and non-discriminatory. Plaintiffs have failed to mitigate their damages."

It continues, "The Plaintiffs have no standing to sue the Defendant City of Detroit as they lack standing under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act."

No admissions of guilt were cited in response to the plaintiffs' allegations, noting their claims lacked sufficient evidence of wrongdoing. But others in the department have

on the line. "The city said they are going to provide new buses with ramp lifts in January (2005). But you will still have a coach problem because there are not enough buses. I always felt bad and frustrated when the lifts were broken, because there is only so much you can do as a driver. When the wheelchair lift isn't working, you write it up. And there's nothing more you can do. You may have a workable lift three or four days out of the week. It's a huge problem that's not going to be fixed going with the same program."

Distressed by witnessing Reed's ordeal firsthand, Ora Corley, a passenger on the Woodward route, said the city should show compassion and help the disabled.

"I saw a couple of buses pass her up," said Corley. "They said their lifts didn't work without even trying. I think it's unfair. It's not right. She pays her fare just like everyone else. They need to put themselves in her

repairs to D-DOT's wheelchair lifts go on and drops in temperatures have disabled riders concerned about their welfare during the coming winter.

"The colder it gets, the greater the impact is on these poor people," said Bernstein. "Immediate help is needed. It is nothing short of a crisis and should be a top concern for the city."

While Reed continues to bare the bitter cold and dodge construction debris on her way to the Woodward bus stop three days a week, she hopes justice will soon be granted to the disabled and that others would become more empathetic to their concerns.

"I'm an active individual," said Reed. "I'm not going to sit around holding my head, because you think I shouldn't go anywhere. I like to play bingo and go to the casino like everyone else. One night a bus driver asked me, 'What are you doing out at night? We put wheelchair accessible buses on the line during the week, so you can go to the doctor and grocery store.'"

"Who are they to think that we can't have lives too? I'm 54 years old, and I don't need anyone's permission to go out. If you're grown and can go out, so can I. Just fix the lifts so I can live my life to the best of my ability."



MAYOR KWAME KILPATRICK give remarks during the reception to announce the grand re-opening of the Guardian Building. — Wyoman Mitchell photo

Guardian Building

From page A-1

Danny Samson, vice president of brokerage and leasing for The Sterling Group. "The interest in the building has been amazing. We have already leased out the entire retail promenade and have been contacted by several groups who would like to host special events in the building."

To attract visitors, the lobby area will include a mini-theater featuring a documentary on the building's history. The Guardian Building also employs a full-time doorman to greet and assist guests. Additionally, the building's exterior, which has not been lit since World War II, will soon boast new exterior architectural lighting. Thousands of watts of lights will illuminate the 40-story structure, adding to the grandeur of Detroit's skyline.

Since acquiring the building, The Sterling Group has signed more than a dozen new tenants, including Standard Federal Bank, which will occupy more than 20,000 square feet of office and retail space. The bank will open a branch in the retail promenade and has leased the 26th floor for commercial banking and administrative offices. Dozens of employees, of which

feet of the rare Numidian marble flooring in the lobby, acid washing the marble walls and floors, installing new interior lighting and restoring the Monel metal screen in the mezzanine's grand archway.

"By investing in Detroit, we believe we are helping to drive the renaissance of the city," said Gary Torgow, CEO of the Sterling Group. "The Sterling Group invests in Detroit because we have a passion for its historic architecture and landmarks, and believe these treasures offer businesses something that is not available anywhere else."

"The Sterling Group's commitment to Detroit can be seen across the city in developments like Merchant's Row, the 333 West Fort Building and the Globe Building," said Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick. "The Guardian Building is one of our city's historic treasures and its return as a place where Detroiters can shop, dine and bank is an exciting sign of what's happening in our downtown area."

The addition of Standard Federal marks the Guardian Building's return to its banking

"It's only fitting for a store like Pure Detroit to be located in one of the city's most architecturally celebrated landmarks," said Shawn Santo, owner of Pure Detroit. "When the opportunity arose to relocate our Central Business District store to the Guardian Building, I felt that there was no real choice to make, it was simply a question of how soon."

The Guardian Building is one of the most significant expressionist skyscrapers in the world. Office space is available for an annual rental fee of approximately \$15 to \$17 per square foot.

The Guardian Building is located at 500 Griswold Ave. in downtown Detroit. For more information, visit www.guardianbuilding.com or contact Danny Samson at (313) 963-1212.

GM legal

From page A-1

DPS loses

From page A-1

their subjects," said Jacina Frazier, Breonna's aunt. "They weren't doing well in Detroit Public Schools, even though they were receiving tutoring. They have smaller class sizes and more attentive teachers. The school lets me know whenever something is going on. They call to make sure I'm aware of assignments."

Statistics released by the Wayne County Regional Education School Association reported nearly 30,000 students who live in Detroit choose to attend schools outside of the district. About 42 charter schools operate within Detroit's boundaries.

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"If you have a good product, people will come," said Dr. Paul Merritt, principal. "Our students come from all over the metro-

politan area. Now that parents have a choice, they can exercise it to get their child a better education. Kids need to enjoy the school experience, and we want them to be eager and excited about coming to school."

Low grades and a need for greater help with studies resulted in Tamira Jenkins' mother moving her from Cody High School to Robichaud High School in Dearborn Heights.

"My mother thought I could get extra help with math, and I feel (that) I'm getting more help," said 15-year-old Tamira. "My grades in math and English are improving. There are fewer kids in the classroom."

DPS is taking steps to regain students with the addition of specialized learning programs.

"We hope to win students back by creating new programs and making parents aware of existing ones that focus on specific needs," said Ken Coleman, executive director of the DPS Office of Community Communications.

Older high school students encountering academic challenges and facing dropout are getting another opportunity to earn their diploma through a

newly formed Second Chance alternative education program.

Training in culinary arts, aviation, television and radio broadcasting, automotive technology, computer aided drafting and other skills are offered at four vocational centers.

"Despite our budget challenges, we remain committed to protecting vital educational programs and providing a safe and secure environment for our students," said Burnley. "Early childhood programs, the Comprehensive Reading initiative, the Algebraic Thinking mathematics initiative program and alternative education programs are critical to our students' success."

While DPS officials struggle to stop declining enrollment and regain parental trust, Breonna feels administrators can learn from her experience.

"Detroit Public Schools need teachers who are more attentive to our needs," she said. "Because there are so many kids in the class, teachers are too busy to help. I like my new school because it's fun, nice and the teachers help you more. If I had this in my old school, I would never have left."

adviser and counselor.

For more information, call (313) 338-1097.

Headlee dies

Richard Headlee, 1982 Republican gubernatorial candidate and author of the 1978 Headlee Amendment which limits government spending in the state, has died at the age of 74.

The Headlee Amendment to the State Constitution banned unfunded mandates on local units of government.

He was living in Utah at the time of his passing.

Headlee, an anti-tax crusader who lost the gubernatorial race to James Blanchard, was at the forefront of the change in focus of the Republican Party from former Gov. William Milliken's moderate era to the current, more conservative, anti-tax incarnation of the party.

He was also active in the successful 1992 campaign to establish term limits in state government.

In addition to his political activities, Headlee had been the head of Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. and an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

One aspect of the Headlee

Commission to host public forum

The Michigan Civil Rights Commission (MCR) will host a special public forum on Monday, Nov. 22, at 6 p.m., in the Council Chambers of Dearborn City Hall. The forum will provide an opportunity for residents and local community, faith-based, civic and governmental leaders to voice civil rights concerns.

The forum will follow a 4 p.m. regular commission meeting also located in the Council Chambers. Both the meeting and forum are open to the public with opportunities for public comment.

The City of Dearborn Council Chambers are located at 13615 Michigan Ave., in Dearborn.

Blue Care Network to reimburse members for flu shots

Because many physicians did not receive their full supply of flu vaccine due to the shortage, Blue Care Network of Michigan announced that it will reimburse members who receive the flu vaccine from another source such as a store or health department.

The Michigan Department of Community Health has issued

this fall only.

To qualify for reimbursement, BCN members must receive their flu shots by Dec. 31, 2004. Members must save their receipt for the vaccine, complete a copy of the Member Reimbursement Form and submit it to BCN for reimbursement. The form can be found on the BCN website at www.bcsm.com/bcn_forms/pdf/appendix_c_reimb.pdf. It also can be obtained by phoning BCN Customer Service at 1-800-662-6667.

AABE scholarship awards

Each year, the American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE) awards scholarships to outstanding minority high school students looking to pursue careers in science, mathematics and engineering. The Michigan chapter of AABE is accepting applications through March 2, 2005 for students who have maintained at least a B average in the above mentioned criteria.

These scholarships are given to encourage minority students to pursue careers in energy-related fields and to provide internships and other financial aid for such students.

More information can be obtained at www.aabe-mich.org or (586) 412-3066.



LINDA THOMPSON (left), Chas. Buzzard (center) and Theresa Holtz are helping women to get a new lease on life at Genesis House. (The Herald photo)

Genesis House

helps downhearted gain new beginning in life

By: Valerie D. Lockhart

Recently, Linda Thompson approached the director of Genesis House. Her voice trembled slightly, as she requested to open her suitcase.

Seconds later Thompson, an employee, gently reached her hand and with a warm smile asked, "May I help you?"

Thompson's suitcase was full, with clothing that other professional women had bought, had labor skills to drugs and that she was still hooked on a person.

"I was started out as a fortunate addict," said Thompson, a college graduate and former teacher of 23 years. "My addiction took a downward spiral, and I was no longer financially responsible. My life revolved around using. I was in one hospital with you and there has I had given up all hope."

Hundreds of women like Thompson turn to Genesis House each year to receive food, clothing, winter demonstration and substance abuse counseling. Services are offered as a part of the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries' initiative, which was founded by David Stachow on February 14, 1979.

"We offer a full continuum of care services with Christian services, substance counseling, food, clothing and more," said Dr. Chad



LINDA THOMPSON came to Genesis House as a mother of three children who wanted to give them hope for the future.

And, chief operating officer. "We seek to help women with their children and people who are homeless and drug addicted services offered."

Through Genesis House, Thompson received a new beginning. Since 1998, she has been one of those who is helping others

to overcome their addictions and get a second chance at being productive here as the agency's director of residential services.

"Genesis House saved my life," said Thompson. "It transformed my life, because of the medical, psychiatric and residential care to make a big change."

Theresa Holtz, 37, overcame a 30-year heroin addiction with help from Genesis House.

"I never in my life, and my whole life changed," said Holtz. "They helped me to obtain my recovery by giving me a spiritual team. Although I lost a lot of my family because of drugs, I gained a whole new one. It taught me to not give up. There's light at the end of the tunnel."

"Hundreds of people are waiting to help, but you have to help yourself."

Tanya Holtz works at Genesis House as its administrative receptionist.

"Working here is helpful for maintaining my recovery," Holtz said. "Being surrounded by people who care about you is a great support. I can admit that people can change their life. I've gotten back much more than monetary things. I've regained my self-esteem and feel like I really matter."

In addition to programs offered by other organizations, the Detroit Rescue Mission also offers substance abuse classes, courses in GED test preparation, computer training, cooking and nutrition and provides job help from its own on-site employment and career development center.

"By giving people a second chance, many of Detroit Rescue Mission's graduates are getting back to the community."

"God is a God of second chances," said Rescue Mission executive director of development. "We never give up. You're what you do for God and you can't come back."

As new lives were being built, Thompson is quick to extend a helping hand and an encouraging ear.

"I can honestly tell you that I wouldn't have been getting through," said a joyful Thompson. "When I came, I was confused. The best thing they gave me was a Bible, and a therapeutic aide here. They helped me to gain a personal relationship with God. I changed my mental things, but I didn't have Jesus in my life. I wanted to deal with pain and stress and to begin to heal."

"I want others to know that they're not alone. They can realize God has got something blessing for them. If you get your help."

13-year-old helps elderly, achieves Boy Scouts' highest honor

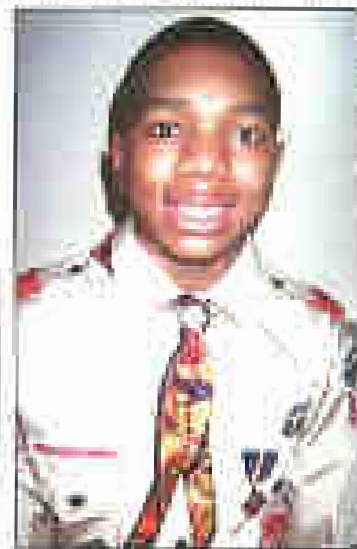
By: Valerie D. Lockhart

PHOTO BY: MICHAEL WATSON

With the same warmth and friendly smile that has made him a favorite of his neighbors, Nathan DeWayne Beal has carefully walked over to the store and checked the inventory list.

The 13-year-old's brown jacket underneath yellow light blue shirt is decorated in an emblem of his community. He has earned his letter, plaque and certificate of recognition.

At first glance, Nathan appears to be a typical teenager from participating in school events, music, sports activities and community service. However, his accomplishments in the Scouts of America Troop 702 make him far from ordinary.



Nathan DeWayne Beal.

James, 20, must be happy, around middle and weighty responsibility as Patrol Leader. Nathan went on to achieve a list that only two percent of all Scouts could include US through to earn Eagle Scout.

"He is truly a young man, young man, not in a million," said Scout Master Patrick Decker. "He is not only a member of the Troop, but also a member of the Boy and Country Club and the U.S. Heritage model. There are many awards and national awards that demonstrate a young person's sense of maturity and self-respect. It is a great honor to have a young man who is committed to his service and community, performing above and beyond expectations."

Nathan is the first African American to be awarded Eagle Scout in Grand Rapids Troop 702. He is also the first to be awarded Eagle Scout in the city of Grand Rapids. He is also the first to be awarded Eagle Scout in the city of Grand Rapids. He is also the first to be awarded Eagle Scout in the city of Grand Rapids.

"It is a great honor to have a young man who is committed to his service and community, performing above and beyond expectations."

At Eagle Scout Court in Grand Rapids, all took place on Jan. 16 at 4 p.m. at Grand Rapids United Church, 240 Church St. in Grand Rapids.

Wanting to improve the lives of senior citizens residing in Grand Rapids, Nathan DeWayne Beal, 13, has been awarded Eagle Scout for his service to the community. He is also the first to be awarded Eagle Scout in the city of Grand Rapids.

After completing his service, Nathan DeWayne Beal, 13, has been awarded Eagle Scout for his service to the community. He is also the first to be awarded Eagle Scout in the city of Grand Rapids.

"I am so proud of you," said Nathan's mother, who is also a member of the Boy Scouts. "I had a lot of support from my family, church and the community. This award has given me the chance to give back to the community."

Members among the elderly (shown) as a result of the project.

Residents enjoyed the flowers, plants and vegetable garden, and Elizabeth Park, which is located in Grand Rapids. They were pleased that a young boy was able to help them with their needs. Nathan DeWayne Beal, 13, has been awarded Eagle Scout for his service to the community.

Since 1979, only 14 million dollars have been awarded to Eagle Scout making him one of the few.

"He is a special person, very thoughtful," said Nathan's neighbor. "He is like a good old friend to the Boy Scouts. He was a great role model for me, and he is a great role model for me, and he is a great role model for me."

Although his parents have not had good experience with Boy Scouts, they are now more of his community's supporters.

"He has qualities that we don't see," said Decker. "He is a young man who is committed to his service and community. He is a young man who is committed to his service and community. He is a young man who is committed to his service and community."

Since earning Eagle Scout, Nathan's accomplishments have been recognized by the community. He has been awarded Eagle Scout for his service to the community. He is also the first to be awarded Eagle Scout in the city of Grand Rapids.

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Since 1979, only 14 million dollars have been awarded to Eagle Scout making him one of the few.



Theresa Holtz is a member of the staff at Genesis House. She is helping women to get a new lease on life at Genesis House.

The Detroit News



Wednesday, July 8, 1998



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Fashion shows delight seniors

Models in mid-80s buoy nursing home residents' spirits

By Valerie D. Lockhart

SOUTHFIELD -- The audience gasped in awe as Molly Miller slowly and gracefully eased down the runway, the sequins on her mauve gown sparkling with each camera flash.

On her final pass, she turned her head from side to side and flashed a smile -- almost coquettishly -- as she balanced herself on her walker.

Welcome to the latest trend in senior events: fashion shows.

More than an opportunity to show off chic garments from the 1930s and 1940s, events like the senior Bridal Fashion Show at Trowbridge Retirement Home in Southfield last week are becoming popular across Metro Detroit as ways to keep up the spirits of nursing home residents.

"It's a real morale booster for the seniors," said Libby Levine, who coordinated the show that drew 150 people. The senior models' median age is in the mid-80s.

Faith Fishman, 87, may never get back into her satin, form-fitting wedding gown again. But for a few minutes during the show, she was living vicariously through the 26-year-old model, Ashley Tuckey, who donned her dress.

"I'm flabbergasted that I was that tiny (back then) and had such a nice figure," Fishman said.

For almost 60 years, the gown was in storage waiting for the day Fishman could pass it to a daughter. But she had two sons, and didn't think her granddaughters would wear something so outdated.

Tuckey, after seeing an old photo of Fishman on her wedding day, felt otherwise.

"Faith was a beautiful bride, and the dress is still beautiful," she said. "It was an honor to wear it. That's why I made a special trip to the fashion show."

Valerie Lockhart is a Metro Detroit free-lance writer.

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Education

Visteon recruits kindergartners

Company says it is never too early to think about engineering



Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program teacher Linda Edwards, left, in chair, teaches kindergartners the fundamentals of water through song and dance.

By Valerie Luchini

The people doing water experiments at Visteon's Technical Research Center last week have trouble reaching the high shelves, but it's not because they are genetically challenged.

They are kindergartners.

"I'm a little engineer," said 5-year-old Sebastian Haigler of George Crockett Academy to his mother. "If you have a problem, let me know and I'll find a way to fix it."

Haigler was among 30 kindergartners from six Metro-Detroit schools in the Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program's new curriculum for Detroit-area kindergartners. The five-week program is intended to stimulate early interest and exposure to careers in engineering, math and science. It also emphasizes strong parental involvement in three-hour sessions held Saturdays at Visteon's Dearborn center. Fourteen Ford and Visteon engineers offered to mentor the kindergartners. Many of the volunteers were former DAPCEP students.

"It empowers parents to develop a relationship for teaching and exposes parents to careers in science and technology," Kenneth Hill, program founder and executive director said.

Roy Walters, father of a 5-year-old in the program, agrees parental involvement affects a child's ability to learn. "The desire for a child to learn is based on someone's belief in him," Walters said. "I want to be the motivating force in my son's life."

New initiative

What: The Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program.

History: Founded in 1976 to increase the number of minority students motivated and academically prepared to pursue careers in engineering, science and mathematics-related fields.

Who: Classes were held last year for 6,500 students in grades 4-12. This year students in K-1 were added.

When: Summers and Saturdays.

Where: Universities and corporations throughout Michigan.

Budget: \$5.6 million

Cost: Free

Phone: (313) 831-3050.

Jehovah's Witnesses congregate

Convention draws 35,000 followers for education, worship.

By Valerie D. Lockhart

PONTIAC — Frank Terry traveled 90 miles to the Pontiac Silverdome Friday. The 70-year-old Bad Axe resident didn't come to see a game or musical event, but to be educated.

Terry joined about 35,000 others who spent the weekend learning, worshipping and rejoicing together at the annual Jehovah's Witnesses "Doers of God's Word" District Convention.

On the event's opening session Friday, Terry expressed a common feeling shared by young and old: "I'm looking forward to learning new things and getting a better understanding of things I already know."

Kelly Travis, 14, did not view the occasion as a chance to ditch school but as a learning opportunity.

"The instruction I receive at the convention is more valuable than anything I can learn at school," the Detroit resident said. "I'm learning about Jehovah and how I can benefit in the future."

The Bible instruction came through a series of symposiums, experiences and a biblical drama.

Convention planning began in December. More than 6,000 members volunteered to assist with preparations and were divided into about two dozen departments which included first aid, cleaning, lost and found, parking, seating and signs.

"Planning was so smooth and everything fell into place," said

Jonathan Kobolak, convention overseer. "It was easy working with everyone. Our love for one another and for Jehovah made things work with no problems."

Although school is out for the summer, Marian Pierson, 13, can't get enough of learning.

"I always learn something new. At school, I learn just basic stuff," the Mt. Pleasant resident said. "Here, I'm learning how to live forever."

In addition to learning, many attendees enjoyed the chance to spend time with fellow believers.

"I enjoy talking to friends of different nationalities and backgrounds," Susie Portillio of Monroe said. "We all have the same faith, same hope and worship the same God."

Zalana Bryant, age 9 of Mt. Pleasant, appreciates attending for another reason. "There are people in other countries that do not have the same freedom as we do," said Zalana. "They want to come but can't. I'm free to come to the convention, so I think of it as a special occasion."

The Silverdome has accommodated Jehovah's Witness conventions for 22 years. All expenses are covered through voluntary donations. Festivities are opened to the public and free of charge.

There are nearly 6 million Jehovah's Witnesses worldwide, with 55,000 residing in Michigan. According to the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York, similar conventions will be in 63 cities in the United States, with 181 occurring worldwide.

Valerie D. Lockhart is a Metro Detroit free-lance writer.

The Detroit News

Mayor Archer seeks 35,000 volunteers for Angels' Night

By Valerie D. Lockhart

The City of Detroit is looking for angels to provide protection from devilish actions during Halloween weekend.

Mayor Dennis Archer expects at least 35,000 volunteers to patrol, monitor vacant buildings and report suspicious activity Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights as part of the city's annual Angels' Night project.

"There are a variety of jobs volunteers can do to help out," said Michelle Zdrodowski, Archer's deputy press secretary. "Everyone can help by turning on their porch lights, adopting a vacant structure or looking out their windows and reporting any problems. We need people to be eyes and ears in the community."

A phone drive is under way to generate support and employees at Neighborhood City Halls are contacting former recruits and soliciting support from new ones.

Motor City Blight Busters members, a grass-roots group active in community improvement projects, has recruited more than 400 indi-

Protecting the city

What: Effort to prevent fires
When: Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights

Where: Throughout Detroit

To register: Go to any Neighborhood City Hall, visit www.angelsnight.com or call the city at (313) 224-4415 or the Motor City Blight Busters at (313) 255-4355.

viduals to patrol city streets.

"We came up with the idea for Angels' Night and have been involved for 10 years," says Al Manfroni, director of development at Blight Busters. "Each year, we throw a celebration party. Neighbors come together to celebrate and to protect the neighborhood to insure that what we've worked so hard for all year doesn't have a problem."

In 1985, during the Coleman Young administration, Halloween Eve arson fires peaked at 297 and decreased annually after volunteer efforts were organized — until a sharp increase in 1994, Archer's first year in office. That year, there were

182 fires, the most since 225 in 1986. Since then, the number of fires has decreased and is at or below usual daily occurrences.

"During Angels' Night weekend, Detroit has the same amount of fires as any other night," Zdrodowski said. "There is an average of 64 fires per night, which are not necessarily arson related."

Community involvement and demolition of vacant buildings contributed to the declining numbers, officials said. Last year, more than 35,000 volunteers guarded neighborhoods against arsonists, limiting the number of fires to 125 for all three days.

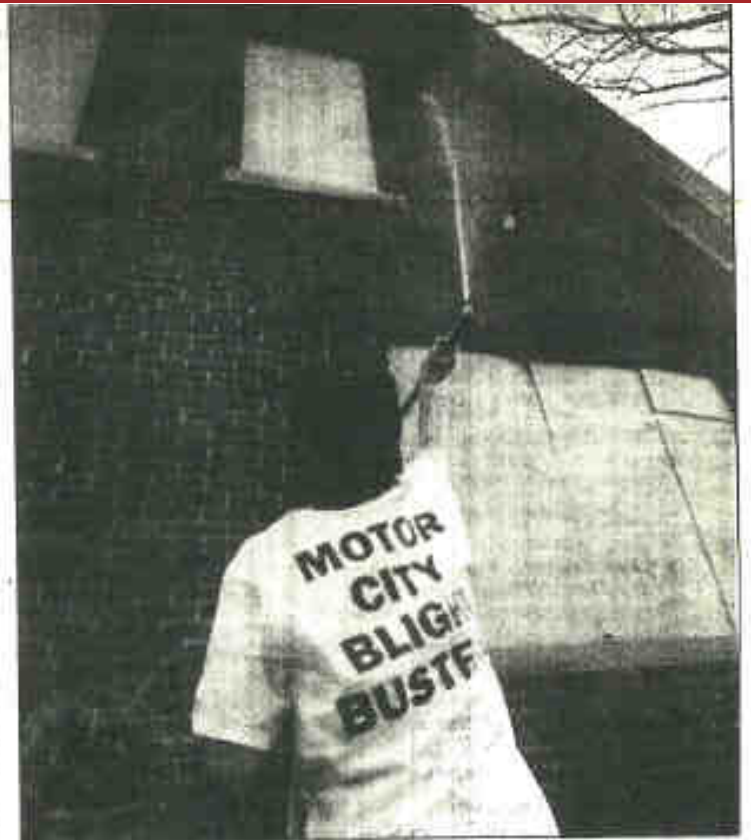
Officials said they are expecting equal success this year.

To assist with the efforts, State Farm donated 5,000 flashlights and batteries and several area McDonald's restaurants will serve free coffee and hot chocolate to volunteers.

Each volunteer will receive an orange Angels' Night cap for identification purposes.

Valerie D. Lockhart is a Metro Detroit free-lance writer.

10-25-2000



David Gurdnick / The Detroit News

Volunteers with Motor City Blight Busters, such as Ed Labounty, helped out in past Halloweens. Here, Labounty hoses down an abandoned home at the corner of Curtis and Graydale.

ALI JACKSON

Master Percussionist

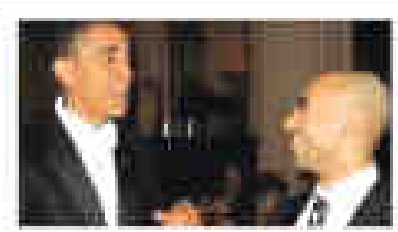


Ali Jackson is a master percussionist who has moved audiences throughout the world to their feet with electrified performances for 25 years.

"It all started for me right here in Detroit," said Jackson, a homegrown virtuoso who made his Detroit Jazz Festival debut at eight years old with his late father, legendary bassist and educator, Ali Muhammad Jackson, Sr. "I have played all over the world. I've grown so much as an artist and I can't wait to share all of the styles and musical ideas I have absorbed. This is going to be a really special performance."

As principal percussionist and drum chair for the acclaimed Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra for over a decade, Ali was the heartbeat for Wynton Marsalis and the JLCO and performed with nearly every major jazz artist of his era. Jackson, now regarded as a living master of the modern drum set, has performed on over 200 albums and played more than 5,000 concerts. His musical leadership on the bandstand, his distinctive style and his unassailable technical prowess has defined the new standard for modern drumming.

He is a prolific composer, arranger and producer and his work is known for its unique ability to transcend genre and evade narrow categorization. Jackson recently composed a multitude of long-form works, including the acclaimed ballet *r-Evolution, Dream*, which was commissioned by Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre. The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra commissioned and premiered his composition *Living Grooves: a world of rhythm*, a genre-defying masterwork that brings indigenous grooves and styles of West Africa, South America, Caribbean, Europe and America into the context of Jazz.

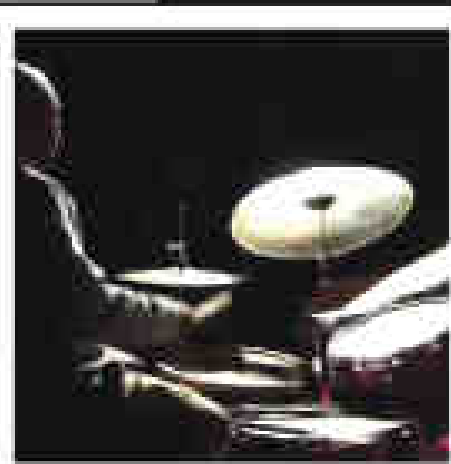


For additional information about Ali Jackson, visit <http://www.alijackson.com>

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BILL SUMMERS

Workshop



Bill Summers is a legend!

Bill has done pioneering work in cinema and television with Quincy Jones on the ABC series *Roots*, *The Wiz*, and *The Color Purple*; in music with Michael Jackson, Carlos Santana, Young Jeezy, Keyshia Cole and Herbie Hancock; and, in literature with his recent memoirs, *Skin to Skin*. He is not only a musician - he is a community leader, author and educator. The lecture series details the steps in achieving a successful career in the entertainment industry, including musical and business training in contracts, management, and publishing along with the do's and don'ts of the business.

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Jynn Cole

Singer & Songwriter



Contact Jynn Cole:
5525 Bluehill St. Detroit, Michigan 48224
Phone: (313)478-9290
Email: jynncole@gmail.com

Biography



With a voice that captivates the room and speaks volumes through every note, Jynn is a musical force to be reckoned with. Hailing from Detroit, MI, this singer/songwriter/actress has graced international stages with her soulful, eclectic, r&b sound. From a very young age she knew a fire had been ignited in her for music and she would be an influence to those who listened. Jynn has shared the stage with artists such as Karen Clark Sheards, Angela Winbush, and Tasha Page Lockhart in the play "Church Girl" by Angela Dunlap. She has also sang in the Detroit choir for Kanye West's Sunday service. She was the "Rock the mic" contest winner at the Arts Beats and Eats festival 2017. Jynn is working on her e.p and currently performs as the lead singer of the One Man Out band where she sings at venues such as Caesar's Windsor, Motor City, and MGM casino Detroit. She strives to communicate a feeling through music that makes people think, act, and love no matter your condition. With her experience she is more than prepared to tackle the world of music and entertainment.



Jynn Cole

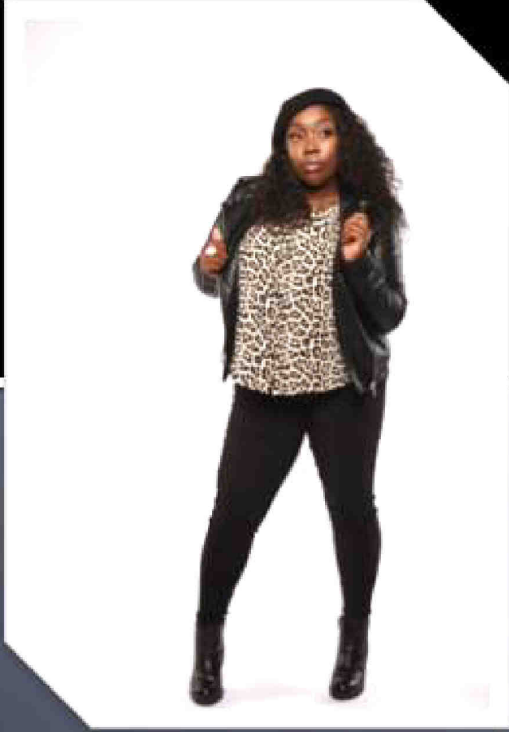
Singer and performer specializing in wedding receptions, anniversary celebrations, birthday parties and special events. Offers a diverse selection of old and new songs. If local, can provide musical accompaniment.

Performances

- Performed as a Calvary Baptist church choir member and soloist
- Performed in various public shows and entertainment as a solo artist
- Lead singer of The Diversity cover band
- Lead singer of The One Man Out band
- Choir member in Detroit Sunday Service Kanye West choir

Regional Theatre

- January 2002-April 2002 performed in the musical "The Me Nobody Knows" at Cass Technical High School, Detroit, MI
- February 2010- April 2010 performed in the musical "Church Girl" at the Music Hall Theater, Detroit, MI
- October 2011-January 2012 I played Charlene Woodard in the musical "Ain't Misbehavin'" at Performance Network Theater, Ann Arbor, MI



Clubs & Casinos

- Motor City Casino, Detroit, Mi
- MGM Casino, Detroit, Mi
- Ceasar's Windsor Casino Windsor Ontario
- Music Hall Jazz Cafe Detroit, Mi
- Music Hall, Detroit, Mi



Jynn Cole

Click to view live performance

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<https://youtu.be/sYO-Go5tpt8>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 30, 2017

Pastor anoints youth with spirit of building

Detroit, Mich. – Bishop Kenneth L. Tate, of the Body of Christ International Church, is massaging the minds of Detroit's youth with a special lubricant with long-term effects.

Using specialized training programs, cooperative collaborations, interactive instruction and hands on activities, low-income youth are learning to develop blueprints for life and to literally build homes.

In 1996, Tate founded Cornerstone Community Development (CCD), a 501c 3 non-profit organization, that regularly distributes food, clothing and school supplies to the area's poor and teaches young ones, ages 18-24, how to build disaster-proof homes using insulating concrete forms (ICF).

The organization offers a variety of programs to assist youth to become self-sufficient.

"Cornerstone Community Development is a catalyst for change," says Tate. "We believe in helping low-income youth access academic credentials, jobs and economic security. Our results-oriented approach (use) integrated education, skills training, work experience, community service and leadership development."

Other programs offered under the CCD include: STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), customer service, drama, cooking, money management, junior entrepreneur, and fashion design. An after-school program is offered to children in grades 5-12.

"We believe that academic performance in reading, math, science, social studies and writing skills are a very important part of our students continued success," adds Tate. "That's why we offer after school academic enrichment to our program such as homework help and tutorial services."

CCD is supported by voluntary donations. For additional information on program offerings, call (313)721-4611 or visit 9555 St. Marys Detroit, Mich. 48227.

#

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jazzing It Up

Master percussionist Bill Summers to perform June 23

Detroit, Mich.-- Legendary Afro-Cuban/Folclic and Latin Jazz percussionist and native Detroiter Bill Summers will return home for an incredible one night at the historic Bakers Keyboard Lounge on Thursday, June 23rd performing two shows at 8 pm and 10 pm. The cover charge is \$15.

Playing an eclectic selection of songs, the Grammy nominated, Emmy and Billboard Music award winner will amaze audiences with an unique jazzy performance highlighting his impeccable showmanship, vocal and drumming skills. Summers will be accompanied by Ibrahim Jones on bass, John Douglas on trumpet, Djallo Djakate on drums, and Bill Meyer on piano.

Summers, a gifted multi-instrumentalist, composer and arranger, is known for his collaborative work with Quincy Jones on a musical score for the successful TV mini-series "Roots" and the soundtrack for the box office hit "The Color Purple". His creative skills are sought after by major industry giants. Collaborations with Herbie Hancock, Brass Fever, The Headhunters and Eddie Henderson elevated their sound to new levels. He formed Los Hombres Calientes, a Latin rhythms/jazz fusion-inspired group, releasing five CDs and earning multiple Grammy nominations, a Billboard Latin jazz award, and other awards. He has also performed with an elite roster of artists including Carlos Santana, Michael Jackson, Dianne Rees, Anita Baker, Stevie Wonder, George Benson and others.

Summers has rightfully earned his legend's status, releasing an astounding body of work over four decades with several singles landing on the U.S. Top Singles charts. He has not only made his mark as a drummer, but also as a teacher.

Summers was born and raised in Detroit, attending the Detroit Observatory. He went on to attend the University of California, Berkeley and released several albums on MCA Records.

Bakers Keyboard Lounge is located at 20510 Livernois Ave, Detroit, MI 48221. For bookings, contact Lisa McCall, at LM Productions Entertainment Group, at 248-573-9243.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 1, 2017

D9 Dash to offer fitness, fun and books for young

Detroit, Mich. -- Runners and walkers get ready to lace up your sneakers to relax, stroll, or run with a goal in the D9 (Divine Nine) Dash that will be held on August 27th at 9 a.m. at Belle Isle Park in Detroit.

The D9 Dash features a fun family-friendly 5K walk/run, 15K run, face painting and more. A portion of the event's proceeds will benefit Detroit collegiate students in need of book scholarships that will be awarded by the National Pan-Hellenic Council, a collaborative organization made up of nine historically African American, international Greek lettered fraternities and sororities.

Participants, ages 13 and up, will receive a finishers medal and a swag bag containing an official event T-shirt and other goodies.

"The purpose is to bring people together by way of a family fun fitness event, to educate the public on health risks resulting from obesity, and to encourage participation in fun activities promoting fitness," says Wendy Ringo, MD, MPH, event organizer. "We're taking small steps to make a big fat difference in overcoming health challenges confronting the African American community."

The D9 Dash is sponsored by WendStorm Running Fitness Wellness Event Productions, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, All About Technology, Global Business Development Funds and Kola Restaurant and Lounge.

Registration fees start at \$25. Early registration is welcomed but will also be available at the event. Runners, walkers and sideline supporters can find all the necessary advance registration and event information online at www.d9dash.com or call (313)309-7256.

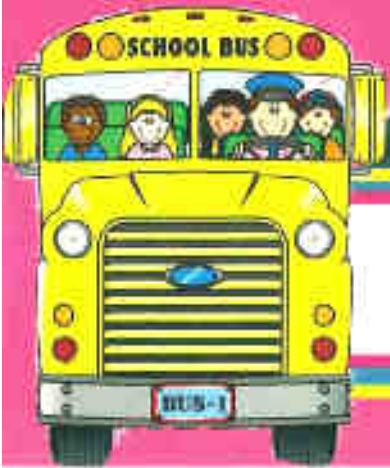
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