

This 'N' That

by Betty Banks



Focus on Women ...

The Women In Focus, a local service organization hosted their annual scholarship awards reception and recognition of graduating high school seniors. These high academic achievers were honored for their community service work as well. The food was great and the bright sunny day added to the festive atmosphere. Family and friends beamed with pride as each name was called and achievements were read. Also included during this event was the awarding of the 2nd annual Miss Annie Mae Scholarship which was presented to Nathaniel Pharmed-Eden by Joe McClain and Carol Lobes. Other awardees included: Akornefa Akyea, Nana Asante, Alisha David, Linda Gomez, Marcia Morales, Joseline Nynawabera, Ahraaz Qureishi, Darnell Small, See Nou Thao, Delphine Vakunta. Special recognition was given to Cecily Rolling. Stephanie Herrera was the guest speaker. Her speech was personal and very inspirational. Women In Focus is truly committed to the youth in this community. Kudos to all of you great women!

The vanguard of mentors - Thirty five years strong!

Madison Area Urban Ministry convened their 2008 Annual Meeting on Tuesday, June 3 at Mt. Zion Baptist Church. It was an evening packed with supporters of MUM and other well wishers. The food was great and fellowship with friends made it a wonderful evening. One of the highlights was the recognition of Chuck Pfifer, who was the Executive Director for MUM from 1973-1998. Current Director Linda Ketcham, gave an overview of this forward thinking organization's programs which provide support for much that happens in our community. They are especially known for their support of former prisoners who are re-entering society. The assistance they receive with jobs, housing, education and the rebuilding of their lives is critical as these individuals transition into becoming productive citizens. Board President Rev. Gregory Armstrong welcomed everyone as we moved into the evening's program with speaker, Pastor Wanda Washington from Grace United Church of Christ in Milwaukee. The theme for the evening was Race, Theology and Politics. Pastor Washington reminded us that the Civil Rights Movement came out of African American Churches and was led by Pastors. She emphasized that we need to get back to these roots if we are to continue our fight for justice. A big thanks goes out to MUM as they enter their 35th year of being an important voice and agent for change.



Stay tuned...

Things are moving forward on Allied Drive with the many changes that are bound to improve the neighborhood. Watch for notices about meetings that want your input as things progress. You can make the difference. Let your voice be heard. As this issue goes to print, we learned from Alder Brian Solomon that demolition on the properties is due to being sometime in July! So stay tuned!

Loving touch ...

Lynette Wright continues to add her loving touch and expertise during Play and Learn sessions that take place in the Allied Learning Center. She loves her role and parents and kids are having fun learning and playing together. Thanks, Lynette for all you do.



Summer is here ...

Keep your kids safe and entertained during their vacation from school. Spend time with them. Know where they are at all times. Read to them or make sure they visit a local library. This time off can be productive and should always be safe.

The wheels keep turning ...

That familiar face you see over at Dream Bikes is none other than Delaney Gladney. Yes, he is the newest hire and is really enjoying being a part of this great team. Be sure to say hi, when you stop in. Congrats to you Delaney.

With rain there comes a rainbow ...

Despite the interruption by the storm Belmar Park was festive Saturday, June 7th as the Allied Drive Neighborhood Association pulled out all of the stops for the annual Move Forward Not Out Festival. Vendors, food, resources, friends and supporters were there to have fun and fellowship.



From the heart ...

Voices of Change under the leadership of Freddie Clark continues to bring people together and build community in the Allied Drive neighborhood. This group share remarkable stories of courage and change happening in their lives. Hats off to Freddie who is a stalwart in the community.

Express yourself ...

Do you sing, dance, tell jokes or play an instrument? If you do, and if you are 55 or older, then be sure to sign up and audition to become Dane County's Senior Idol winner. Cash and other prizes will be won and everyone wins something! The Anna Mae Mitchell Senior Idol Competition gives all of you who are young at heart an opportunity to show your talent. Call 608 - 770-2049



for more information or visit www.tntsenioridol.org

Princess Tina ...

Congratulations to Tina Osochua on her recent graduation from UW-Madison. Her family and friends gathered to celebrate her commitment and perseverance! Your family and community are very proud!



The drumbeaters ...

Turn your radio dial to WTDY1670AM on Saturday evenings between the hours of 6pm and 8pm for the "Heart and Soul show. Hosts, Richard Brown and Betty Banks talk to guests and keep you updated on what is happening in the community. These two hours are filled with exciting topics that cover local and national politics as well as people who make our city a great place to live. Tune in and you'll get turned on to all the latest news and views. And, you'll also want to keep your dial on WTDY1670 so you don't miss Pastors David Smith and Ernest Winters who host "Let's Go To Church", great gospel music and inspiring messages from the church community will keep you glued to your radios. Get your praise on before you go to church! Both of these call-in radio programs are produced by Brown Projects, Club TNT and Leccia and Associates. Tune in and call 321-1670 to be part of the conversations.

We've made Madison area youth our #1 priority.

CUNA Mutual Group applauds the Youth Resource Centers in the Madison area. Because the Centers are so critical to the success and well being of middle school kids, we've joined forces with local credit unions and United Way of Dane County to make them a top priority.



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