Kids Talk

Do you know this person?

She is an effervescent, talented and intelligent anchorperson for the evening News Channel 7 (WJLA-TV) in Washington, D.C.

She has worn many hats, translated a French textbook on African archaeology, danced with the Jean Leon Destine Haitian Dancers. She has been a billard instructor and a college lecturer.

She is a Leo born on August 12, 1944. She traced her ancestry to the island of Martinque.

Today, she is recognized as one of the top news women in the business. However, when she started she felt her skills were not up to excellence. In 1975, her talents as a newswriter and her adeptness in handling the last-minute, crisis-oriented demands of producing the news caught the attention of CBS, who invited her to join its news reporting staff. She declined because she felt she had not mastered the necessary skills for the job, but accepted the position the next year and never left the network.

Who is this determined broadaster that won an Emmy award for her excellent three-part news series "Bitter Harvest" which illuminated the abuse of Haitian migrant workers?

(Excerpted from Distinguished Black Women by Black Women in Sisterhood for Action)

Renee Poussaint

CHIT CHAT BAG

Everybody loves a good joke. Since summer is the season of corn how about a maize joke. What does a baby ear corn call its father?

Popcorn

Aminia Sam

Editor's note: Aminia Sam is seven-years old. She is a dancer and storyteller who attends Dibert Elementary School in New Orleans, La.

To Catch a Fish

By Eloise Greenfield

It takes more than a wish
to catch a fish
you take the hook
you add the bait
you concentrate
and then you wait
you wait you wait
but not a bite
the fish don't have
an appetite
so tell them what
good bait you've got
and how your bait
can hit the spot
this works a whole
lot better than
a wish
if you really
want to catch
a fish

Editor's Note: Eloise Greenfield is a well-known author of children's books.

Black arts Festival

If your parents are planning a vacation and ask you for a suggestion, the first National Black Arts Festival (NABF) to be held in Atlanta, GA, July 30 through Aug. 7, is the place to go.

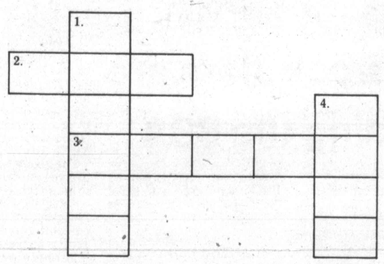
This nine-day festival featuring over 65 concerts, plays, dance performers, films, art exhibitions, late night cabarets and symposia starring some of the best black artists in America.

This history-making event will celebrate the history, creativity and excellence of black artists and the contributions they have made to this country since the Harlem Renaissance.

For further information call (404) 681-7315.

Puzzling???

By Collette Fisher



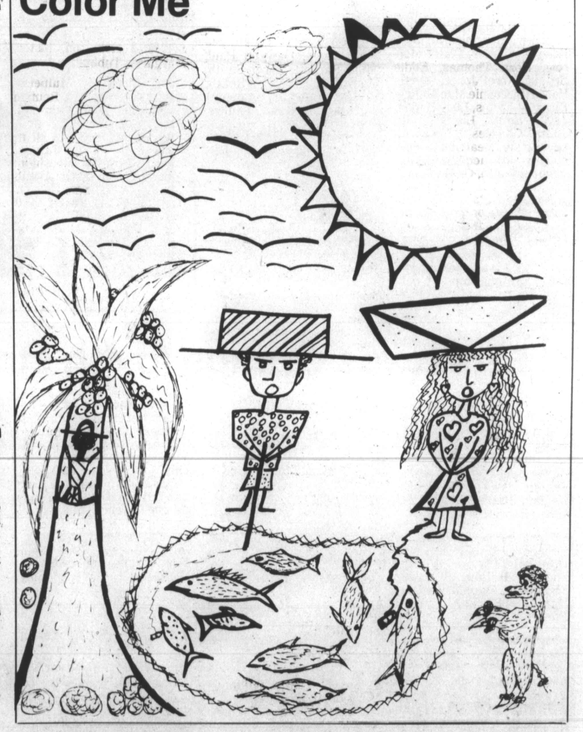
ACROSS
2. Have _____ while summer is here.
3. The _____ theater is a great place for entertainment.

DOWN
1. This is the hottest season of the year.
4. An air conditioner can help you beat the _____.

ANSWERS

ACROSS 2. fun 3. movie
DOWN 1. summer 4. heat

Color Me



Have you ever gone fishing? I bet you had a barrel of fun. Here is a fishing game you can play by yourself or with friends.

You will need: a stick about three feet long, string, magnet, paper clips, construction paper, pencil, scissoors, tape.

First tie a short string to one end of the stick. Then tie the other end of the string to the magnet. This is your fishing pole.

Now draw some fish on the paper. Make them about 3 inches long. Cut them out. Tape a paper clip to each fish.

Write the numbers one, two, or three on the back of each fish.

Cut piece of string six feet long. Tie the ends together. Lay the string on the floor to make a circle. This is your "fish pond."

Put all the fish in the fish pond. Put the numbers face down.

With a friend take turns trying to "catch" a fish with the magnet. When all the fish are caught, add the numbers in each person's pile. The person wih the highest total wins.

Artwork by Misty Brown

Excerpted from Natural Resources by Caroline Arnold

ON THE SOAP BOX

By Stephanie Royal

I first became interested in journalism when I was in the fourth grade.

My teacher would ask the students to bring in an article from the newspaper once a week. The article could be local, national or international news. The teacher would ask the students to tell the class about the article by answering who, what, when, where and how.

In journalism, who, what, when, where and how are very important. These are the questions that help you to develop a good story.

When I was in the ninth grade, I was invited to Howard University's School of Journalism Program for D.C. Public School students who were considering journalism as a career. In this program, I met people that you and I see on television everyday. These people tell us the news. After meeting them, I decided that I wanted to be just like them.

I have been told that it is very hard to make it in Broadcast Journalism and that you need good experience before you can get a good job.

My first job in journalism was an internship with Special Olympics International. Special Olympics is an organization that sponsors games like the Olympics for people that are mentally retarded or handicapped. I worked with a lady name Jo Ann Stevens. Jo Ann helped me to improve my oral writing skills.

I am presently working at the Washington AFRO-American. It is a summer job. I am secretary of the circulation department. Sometimes, I write sports articles. There are very few female sports writers. But, with the increased participation of females in sports, the popularity of female sports writers will also increase.

Working at the newspaper around professional writers has given me more confidence in myself to be a very good broadcast journalist in the future.

This page has been edited by Misty Brown and Collette Fisher
332-0080 (Washington AFRO 2002 11th St., N.W.)
728-8200 (Baltimore AFRO 628 N. Eutaw St.)
Attn: KIDS TALK

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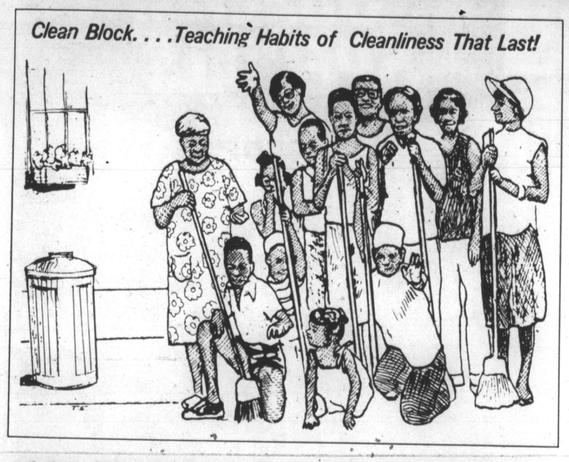

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There's a Japanese (beetle) invasion

By Pamela B. King

Extension Agent
Charles County

Japanese beetles are invading to chew up your roses, hollyhocks, fruit trees and grapevines. They love the leaves and flowers of hybrid tea roses best, but if you don't have roses they will be satisfied with other plants. Luckily, they don't care for oak and dogwood leaves—they leave them for the gypsy moths.

The beetles start the spring season as grubs, chewing on grass roots in sunny areas of neighboring lawns. They change into ravenous adults beginning in mid-June. Then starts a two month orgy of feeding and mating to complete their life cycle.

Start planning to head them off at the pass next year and begin rearguard action now to save your precious garden. The insecticide, Sevin, can be sprayed according to label directions as needed to protect flowers. Just remember that Sevin and most other insecticides kill honeybees—beneficial insects needed to pollinate crops. Apply insecticides in the evening after bees have quit work for the day.

Japanese beetle traps are available at most garden centers and hardware stores. Place traps far away from plants you want to protect. The traps draw beetles toward them, away from your garden. Get your neighbors together and use traps on a community wide basis for best results.

By mid-August, a new generation of grubs is starting to hatch from eggs laid in sunny areas of the lawn. Get a jump on controlling next years adults by controlling their grubs who are damaging the lawn this year. If the weather is hot and dry, one simple way to keep the eggs from hatching and kill many young grubs is not to water the grass. Another method is to use the insecticide, diazinon, applied according to label directions, during the first two weeks in August. It must be washed into the soil with ½ to 1 inch of water (let the sprinkle run at least 45 minutes) immediately after application.

A biological control available for Japanese beetle grubs is Milky Spore disease powder. It can be applied any time that the ground is not frozen and works best if everyone in the community uses it. Do not use insecticides if using Milky Spore. The disease affects only Japanese beetle grubs and requires 2 to 3 years to reach maximum effectiveness. Once established in the lawn, however, it should provide many years of control, as long as no insecticides are used.

You can avoid lawn chemical insecticides completely by seeding a new lawn in September with K-31 tall fescue instead of bluegrass. Fescue carries a fungus in its system which makes it toxic to surface feeding insects, and it seems to be more resistant than bluegrass to root feeders like the Japanese beetle grub.

Don't be overrun by Japanese beetles—plan your strategy now. For more information contact your local University of Maryland Cooperative Extension Service office, whose programs are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, handicap, religion, age or national origin.

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