SCHOOL OF THE WEEK

St. James and St. Johns:

Walking In The Light

By Delfield S. Yoes, III
AFRO Staff Writer

The extraordinary events of 1989 have continued into 1990. Last year we witnessed a deadly earthquake in Northern California, the Berlin Wall tumbling down and the U.S. invade Panama. In 1990, communism has continued to die a rapid death, Daniel Ortega got whipped and so did "Iron" Mike Tyson. But, on February 11, the world saw an event that millions had prayed for, yet many thought would never come to pass.

On February 11 Nelson Mandela, who had been jailed in South Africa for 27 years was set free. And the students of St.James and St. John Elementary School culminated their Black History Month activities with a mass celebrating the life of Nelson Mandela and the South African Freedom movement.

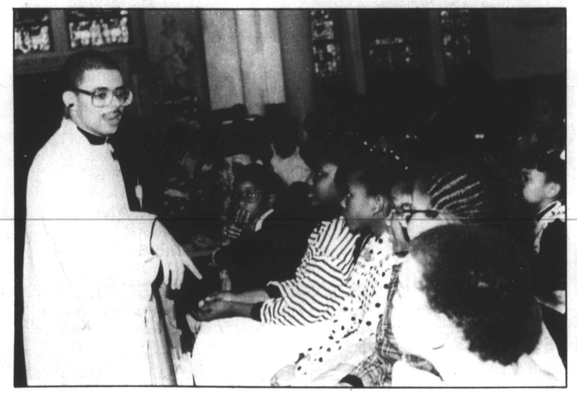
During the opening procession appropriately titled, "Walk in the Light," students marched into St. Francis Xavier church portraying revered leaders of African ancestry.

Dario Mims played the role of Nelson Mandela and Nicole Thompson played Winnie Mandela, Nelson's wife. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was portrayed by Jawan Hapwood. Maeda Nelson played the part of Daisy Bates and Clara Mcbride Hale was portrayed by Roschelle McMorris. Ihsan Cornish portrayed the role of Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Keon Thomas, Antwon Chaney and Mark Turner represented the "Children of Soweto."

"We had been talking about the South African Freedom movement before Mandela's release. His release sparked new interest," says LaUanah King-Cassell, principal of St. James and St. John. She continues, "We talked about why he was jailed and the children understand that although he broke South African law, he was doing God's Will. There is always a vision, always hope - we aren't ever going to give up."

Father Manuel, the Associate Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church, presided over the mass with a dynamism and charisma that captured the young people of St. James and St. John. The students sang and listened to songs such as, "We Shall Overcome," "Come By Here" and "Oh Freedom," with great enthusiasm.

St. James and St. John Elementary School's culmination of Black History Month was a celebration of freedom and faith, a celebration of knowledge and achievement.



Father Armand Manuel, Associate Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church.

In addition to the other activities, 24 students who achieved the highest grades for the quarter, were recognized and placed on the honor roll. The names of the students are as follows:

Lavina Anderson, Michole Anderson, Tahira Barnes, Nikia Bolden, LaShawnda Carver, Vonetta Douglas, Trish Epps, Keita Fisher, Chauncey Green, Jawan Hopwood, Eboni Jackson, Marquita Kelly, Sheera Moore, Tanelle Moyd, Maeda Nelson, Ayrea O'Neal, Kristina Russell, Jason Scott, Tonya Scott, Lauren Taylor, Danielle Tucker, Zakia Watt, Angel Williams, and Christina Wright.

"What Catholic School Means to Me," essay winners were honored as well. Angela Williams, fourth grade won first prize and a $75 savings bond. Trish Epps, a fifth-grader took second place and received a $50 bond. Tenya Vann, fourth grade placed third and was awarded a $25 savings bond. Honorable mention went to Joy Williams.

St. James and St. John Elementary School's culmination of Black History Month was a celebration of freedom and faith, a celebration of knowledge and achievement. It was also an affirmation of the belief that we have the power to change things for the better.

Students of St. James and St. John Elementary School.

Canton Middle School

Commentary By Dr. Craig Spilman, principal Canton Middle School

Reaching Out

"I've finished my homework." "I don't have any homework tonight." How many parents have been perplexed or frustrated in trying to ascertain what is expected of their child. Canton Middle School has acquired new technology that can virtually eliminate such uncertainty while providing parents a powerful, new use of an old, reliable tool - the telephone. In an attempt to increase parent involvement, Canton Middle School has initiated a new program designed to "hook" parents and pull them back into the schoolhouse without having to leave the confines of their homes.

One call, anytime day or night puts the parent instantly in touch with their child's teacher. A daily investment of five minutes allows a teacher to reach out and touch 150 parents each evening. A five minute telephone call from the comfort of home to a voice mailbox allows a parent to become well informed regarding homework and other important school activities.

The absentee student is provided a new, easy to use source of information that can dramatically ease the transition back into the classroom on the return to school. The typical use of the voice mail finds a Canton Middle School teacher telling parents about the hands-on activity that was the focus of the day's lesson, prompting parents to assist with the home learning follow-up activity, and preparing them for tomorrow's home learning message.

What makes this project so exciting is the potential it holds for increasing parental involvement and support and ultimately increasing student achievement. Will this do it? Is this the answer? The jury is out, but the telephone lines are ringing. Give us a call at 558-3870 and make your own assessment. This is only the first chapter in a very interesting schoolhouse tale.

Community Service

Young people need experience not only as workers, but also as citizens. Service programs not only expose young people to the adult world, but give them a sense of the obligations of citizenship in building a more caring, compassionate and competent society.This experience of service to the community should be vigorously promoted as a third element, as important as schooling and work.

Youth service in the community should be part of the core program in middle school education. Students can volunteer to work at senior citizen centers, nursing homes, soup kitchens, child care centers, parks, or environmental centers. A community that sets out to educate all of its young people to become competent, responsible, and productive adults, must marshal its resources behind its schools.

Canton Middle School wants local business and community organizations to suggest ways in which its' students can positively serve the community. Canton Middle School needs human and material resources from local businesses to effectively implement community service activities. No price tag can be placed on the experience that a youngster gains from serving as a volunteer or contributing to the improvement of community life. Seize the opportunity to support education in your community - call the school now! Pick up the telephone and call Craig Spilman at 396-9172.

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7 P.M. International Buffet
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Kids Talk

Can you find these historians?

U.S. POST OFFICE
BLACK HERITAGE COLLECTION

STAMPUZZLE

S N R E K E N N A B
J O P L I N A T A E
O S M P N C M E H T
H D O L G L B L P H
N O E C T H U B L U
S O I N T G T A O N
O W I U S A F S D E
N U R N W Y O U N G
A T Y T O L E D A A
R N O S N I B O R N

FIND THE NAMES OF HONORED CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS IN THIS PUZZLE:

CLUES TO SOLVING THIS PUZZLE:

1. ABOLITIONIST (1797-1883)
2. "KING OF RAGTIME"
3. ORGANIZER OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF SLEEPING CAR PORTERS
4. "MOSES OF HER PEOPLE"
5. CHICAGO'S FIRST PERMANENT SETTLER
6. "FATHER OF BLACK HISTORY"
7. AUTHOR OF "LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING"
8. CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER (1921-1971)
9. MATHEMATICIAN AND ASTRONOMER
10. EDUCATOR AND SOCIAL ACTIVIST (1875-1955)
11. HE BROKE THE MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL COLOR BARRIER
12. HE HAD A DREAM

HINT:

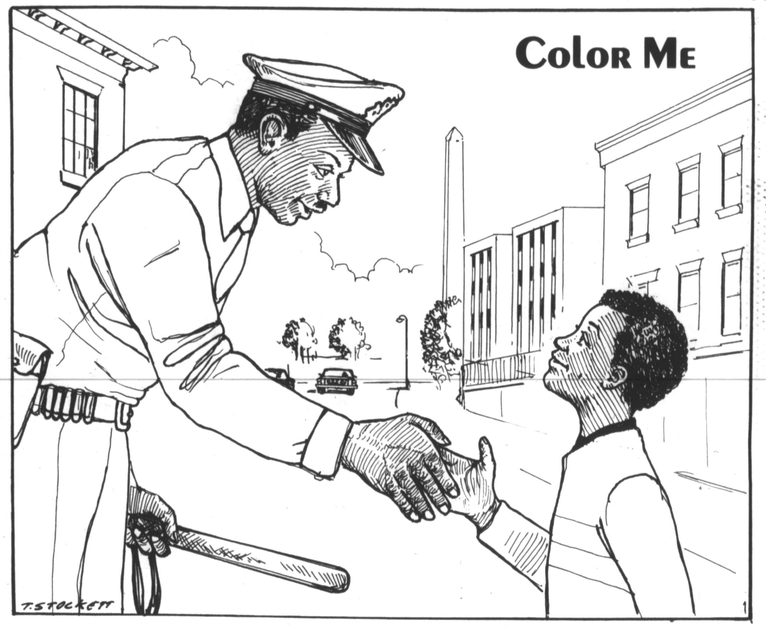
A. JOPLIN, Scott
B. TRUTH, Sojourner
C. TUBMAN, Harriet
D. DUSABLE, Jean Baptiste Pointe
E. JOHNSON, James Weldon
F. YOUNG, Whitney Moore

G. KING, Martin Luther
H. ROBINSON, Jackie
I. BANNEKER, Benjamin
J. BETHUNE, Mary McLeod
K. WOODSON, Carter G.
L. RANDOLPH, A. Philip

ANSWER KEY:

* N R E K E N N A B
J O P L I N A * * E
O S * * N * M E H T
H D * * G * B L P H
N O * * * H U B L U
S O * * T * T A O N
O W * U * * * S D E
N * R * * Y O U N G
* T * * * * * D A *
* N O S N I B O R *

Color Me



A.I.D.S. Hotline

Hey kids, I'm sure you probably think A.I.D.S. could never affect you. Besides, how could it, you're young and you have a long life ahead of you. Well, you couldn't be farther from the truth.

A.I.D.S. has been contracted by people of all ages, from little babies to elderly people. African American Scientist, Dr. Helene Gayle said, "Young adults between the ages of 20 - 29 comprise approximately one in five A.I.D.S. cases." Since the A.I.D.S. infection has a 7 - 10 year incubation period, this means that many of the young adults were probably infected in their teens.

Dr. Gayle said, "many teenagers are already sexually active." The question is, how does a parent address a 16-year-old (or younger) who thinks he or she has heard it all about sex?

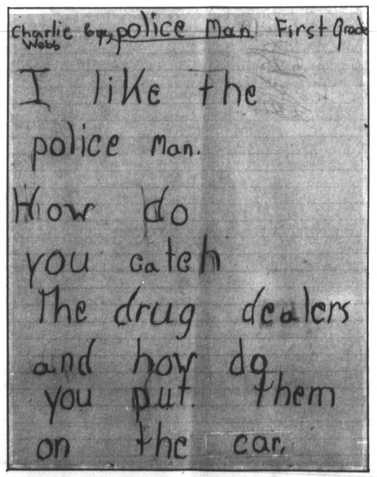
Well, this year Louis Sullivan, secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services has launched an A.I.D.S. information and education initiative entitled the Parents & Youth campaign under the "America Responds to AIDS" program. The program offers an 800 telephone information line to assist parents with questions and to offer suggestions to educate the parent as well as the child.

Dr. Sullivan said, "No matter how energetically public health leadership responds to the problem, success comes down to one-to-one communications.

He urges Blacks and other American parents to call the 24-hour National A.I.D.S. Hotline — 1-800-342-A.I.D.S (staffed by English and Spanish speaking operators) and to request free copies of the A.I.D.S. Prevention Guide. This guide provides facts about HIV infection and A.I.D.S. plus suggestions for parents and other adults on how to talk with young people about avoiding HIV infection, the virus that causes A.I.D.S.

HHS Secretary Dr. Louis Sullivan displays the "AIDS Prevention Guide."

Police Man



A LETTER FROM CHARLIE: Charlie Webb, 6, is a 1st grader at Adams Community School, in northwest Washington, DC. He wrote a letter to the AFRO because he is concerned about the drug problem. He also said when he grows up he wants to be a writer.

'Lift Every Voice and Sing'

The Negro (African American) Anthem
Verses 1 and 3

I.
Lift every voice and sing, Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us.
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

III.
God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might, led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee.
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our Native land.

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