Kids Talk

Do you know this person?

He was born in New Jersey in 1898, the son of an escaped slave. He attended Rutgers University, but later he became an actor. He is known for the lead role in Shakespeare's Othello. Later, he became a concert singer, who toured Europe.

He is Paul Robeson.

Youth Discuss Issues

With all of the problems facing youth today, three different groups of teenagers sponsored various conferences on topics that face the black community, both in America and abroad.

The Coalition Of Southern Black Youth (C.O.S.B.Y.) convened at Camp John Hope in Fort Valley, Georgia to discuss, map plans and strategies for dealing with problems facing black youth today. The theme of the conference, was "Crisis In Our Schools: The Black Youth Perspective." Other topics addressed were "Racism in Our Schools", "Impact of Southern Education Policy on African-American Students", "Developing Student Leadership" and "What Kind of Schools Do We Want?"

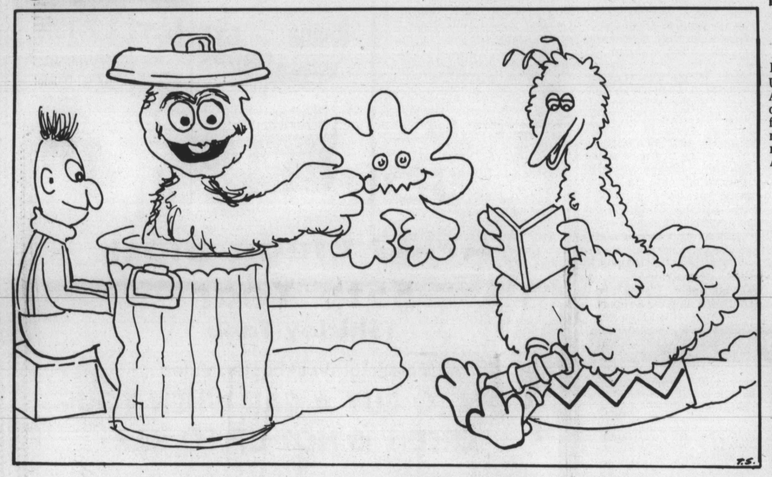
C.O.S.B.Y. reported its findings on May 17, the 35th anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision.

The March of Dimes in connection with DC. Public Schools and the Washington Hospital sponsored a one day conference on May 12. It was designed to increase teens' knowledge about health issue. Some of the workshops featured were Male Health Issues, Female Health Issues and Substance Abuse. A special assistant from the mayor's office, Dr. Johnnie L. Fairfax gave the keynote address.

The Embassy Adoption Program sponsored a Mini United Nation General Assembly on May 18 to address topics of drought and famine, health care and the role of women and development aid. Melvin Foote of Africare addressed students' about these topics. They were asked to find solutions on these subjects and they later presented Africare with a check to plant a grove of trees in the Sahara desert to solve the problem of drought and famine in Africa.

#1 Coalition Of Southern Black Youth (C.O.S.B.Y.) is one of three groups that addressed issues faced by black youth.

Color Me



Big Bird is coming TO TOWN

Do you have any special plans for the month of June, once you get out of school? Then go and visit the Sesame Street exhibition at the National Museum of American History.

The Smithsonian Institute will hold a show honoring Sesame Street's 20th anniversary starting June 20. The exhibit will have some of the different parts from the show such as the muppet characters Oscar the Grouch, Slimey and Big Bird. Mr. Hooper's storefront and the Sesame Street lamp post and sign will also be included.

The exhibit will also have a special area for parents to see how the show was created and what things are used to make the show go on television. There will be pictures at two levels for all visitors to seek, some up higher for parents and some lower down for children to see.

"The one thing kids won't learn on 'Sesame Street' is difference between education and fun," said Ellen Roney Hughes, exhibit curator.

Sesame Street was invented by the Children's Television Workshop and went on Public Service Television on November 10, 1969.It was created to help children ages 3 to 5 learn how to cope with leaving home to go to school.

The exhibition will be open for the summer and admission is free. The National Museum of American History is located at 14th Street and Constitution and is opened everyday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Kids Calendar

Beltsville Day

You and your family can enjoy a day of games, rides and refreshments May 20 and 21 from noon until 5 p.m. at the Beltsville Community Center, 3900 Sellman Road, Beltsville, Md., as they celebrate Beltsville Day. Admission is free. For information, call (301) 937-6613.

'Nana' Fixes Homes

The Prince George's Publick Playhouse is sponsoring "Nana" on Friday, May 26 at 8 p.m. It is an inspirational play about a grandmother who fixes broken homes. Admission is $5 for adults; students/seniors for $3.00. For information, call (202) 277-1710.

Olympic Fun

It's not too late to be a "Flo-Jo". There will be track and field games for ages 2 and up, Monday, May 29 at Bowie High School Track, Rt 450, Annapolis Road, Bowie, Md. The games begin from 9a.m. until 5p.m. Admission is free. For information, call (301) 234-1622.

It's A Grand Day

Senior Citizen's Counseling and Delivery Service, 2500 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, SE, Washington, DC., is sponsoring day for grandparents and grandchildren at the Capital Children's Museum.

The event is being held on Sunday, May 21 from 1p.m. until 5 p.m. Admission is free, but tickets must be picked up at the Senior Citizen's Counseling and Delivery Center. For details, call (202) 678-2800.

Puzzling???

Summer Activities

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F G H C A M K L O P p M K P W Q
M N V s X W E R A m A S F G S M
g K I t P P M J a S S L A L K p
n S I a A K A c Y U I L O L S i
i W S k O A Z X W R Y O T G H c
n Y M i N E W S U K L N E Q F n
n Q O n P D A N M L H Z I O P i
u W S g C R I R l P U B m W I c
r O E M N s o f t b a l l K O P
j m k S E Y D S A L M O m b J L
M N S s w i m m i n g J O P E S
G m s A M F S I M P S P W M A D
n k i s w i m m i n l D S F G O
P L S T W B L l l a b e s a b Q
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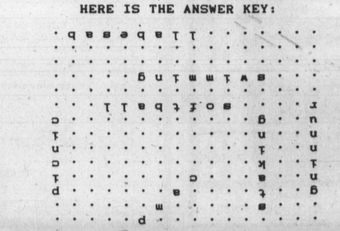
FIND THESE HIDDEN WORDS IN THE PUZZLE:

swimming, baseball, skating, softball, running, picnic, camp

HERE IS THE ANSWER KEY:



Write to kids talk

The school year is almost over and young people throughout the area will have lots of free time on their hands. No more homework! No more early rising! No more teachers!

How will you spend your summer vacation? Will you go to summer camp? Will you take swimming lessons? Will you watch cartoons everyday? Write us at the address below and let us know. We'll publish your letters in upcoming issues of 'Kid's Talk.'

'If.....'

"If you can control
a man's thinking
you do not have to worry
about his action.
When you determine
what a man shall think
you do not have to concern
yourself
about what he will do.

If you can make a man
feel that he is inferior,
you do not have to compel him
to accept an inferior status,
for he will seek it himself.

If you can make a man think
that he is justly an outcast,
you do not have to order him
to the back door.
He will go without being told;
and if there is no back door,
his very nature will demand
one."

-Carter G. Woodson

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SCHOOL OF THE WEEK

The School With Tomorrow Inside

LIBERTY ELEMENTARY

By Delfield S. Yoes, III
AFRO Staff Writer

After 12 consecutive days of rain, sunshine finally splashed upon Baltimore City.

Sunlight began to burn through the gloom just as the AFRO arrived at school #64, Liberty Elementary School.

To make a connection between sunshine and Liberty Elementary might be "corny" at best in the minds of many. However the analogy is one that works.

Elizabeth E. Craig has been the principal of Liberty since 1987 and she has established an atmosphere there that she is comfortable with. She is very much in charge.

"In society there are always rules that must be followed, those who disagree with those rules must adjust or be responsible for breaking the rules. The staff and the students understand this," explains Craig.

The direction that she has set has created a diverse and accommodating learning environment that works well.

For example, we witnessed John Carrington, a local magician and children's entertainer effectively demonstrate the importance of reading and knowledge to pre-k's, first and second graders and some special education students.

Simultaneously, in another wing of the building, there was a group of architects working with third graders on creating model cities.

"The children understand that we believe that they are the leaders of tomorrow and they understand that they have to accept that responsibility," says Craig.

She continues, "They are not here training for a report card, they are training for tomorrow."

Tomorrow is a key word at liberty. The school's slogan is, "Liberty Elementary, The School With Tomorrow Inside."

There is also a group of young people at Liberty called, "The Men Of Tomorrow." These young men have been identified as having certain learning difficulties.

Having these students work within a group together during the school day, has created a sense of camaraderie within them that has helped them make significant academic and social strides.

It is not unusual at Liberty Elementary for classes to be made smaller and more structured to create a more nurturing atmosphere for some students who have learning disabilities.

Master Teacher, Kay Johnson is instrumental in making these classroom scenarios work efficiently.

Outstanding teachers like Johnson and others are not the only reason for success at Liberty.

Esther Tate, the administrative secretary at Liberty contributes greatly to the school.

"Mrs. Tate is the epitome of what a secretary should be," says principal Craig.

Reading and Writing as these disciplines relate to the accumulation of knowledge is the nucleus of the Liberty curriculum.

Many of Liberty's young people have demonstrated superior reading and writing skills.

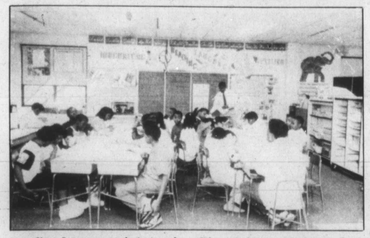
This reporter witnessed these skills first hand when he recently spoke to a group of students about the importance of reading and writing in society.

These students who were third through sixth graders are creating books and plays that are extremely impressive. They are learning that reading is knowledge, and knowledge is power.

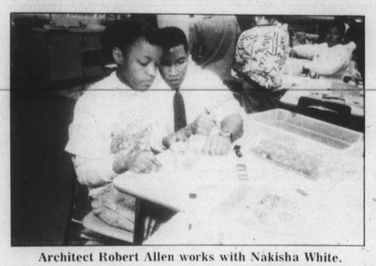
"Learning should be a natural part of their, (students) life experience," says Elizabeth Craig.

She added, "We are here to educate and that's what we're going to do, no matter what. If we don't make a difference, we don't need to be here."

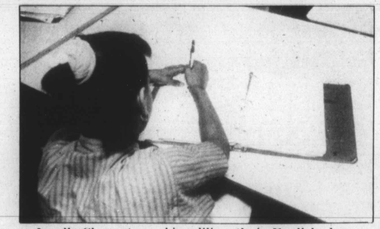
The connection between sunshine and Liberty Elementary is an analogy that works.



Reading-Language Arts teacher, Dereyk Jones conducts class.

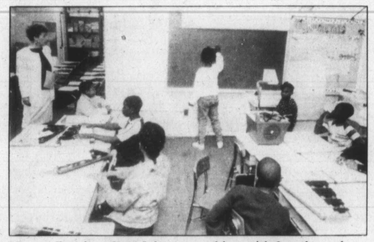


Architect Robert Allen works with Nakisha White.



Janelle Clements working diligently in English class.

Magician John Carrington captivates a crowd of Liberty students.



Master Teacher, Kay Johnson working with fourth graders.

Latasha Butler and Brigette Jordan works on dolls.

Elizabeth E. Craig, principal of Liberty Elementary School.

AFRO photos by P.A. Greene

Fourth grade student in Kay Johnson's math class solves equation.

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55th Year
1934-1989

1. The captain must try to get all persons in the block to sign up and and send their names to the AFRO-AMERICAN.
2. He or she must call a meeting of all adults and children and elect a president who will act as an advisor.
3. Have a secretary, who will write down what is done at each meeting and send reports to the AFRO-AMERICAN.
4. Elect a marshal, who will call out the clean-up brigade at a definite time each day, so that by all working together at the same time, the block will soon improve in appearance.
5. Do not paint trees or curbs.

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Call 728-8200
Ext. 291
Lynette Locke, Director
Antoinette Chambers, Secretary

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Yes, I want to be Captain of my block ( )
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____