

The MICHIGAN BULLETIN.

FREE
Please Take One

Vol. 12 No. 7

May 2006

The 411

Keeping The Dream Alive



Dorothy Toomer Kennedy 2006 Sojourner Truth Award Winner selected by the Greater Lansing Area Club of the Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs

May 5 -MSU Black Celebratory 2006 - Theme: VIP2: Very Important People Visualizing Intellectual Progression at the MSU Auditorium. Gratuates please be at the auditorium at 7PM for instructions and a small pre-reception. (start time is 8:30pm)

May 7 - You Are Cordially Invited To An Afternoon Of Musical Wonder & Delight Remus Webb in Concert at 4:00 p.m. at Union Missionary Baptist Church, 500 S. Martin Luther King Blvd., Lansing An Open House/Reception will immediately follow the concert to celebrate Remus' graduating with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Performance from MSU. Plus he is a Lansing Sexton HS alumnae. The concert is free.

May 10 > 12 - St. Stephen's Spring Revival. Theme: "Worthy is the Lamb." Services begin nightly at 7:14 pm. The church is located at: 1420 W. Oakland Ave., Lansing. The Rev. Dr. Nucgaek C. Murphy is the pastor. May 10- The Rev. Ablean Hinton, Pennyway Church of God, Lansing. May 11, Carolyn Wilkins, Resurrection Life Church, Saginaw, MI. May 12 Rev. Kwami Jones, Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Detroit, MI. For more info. call: 484-2180.

May 20 - PAC-MAC - 18th Annual Spelling Bee at J. W. Sexton High School.

May 20 - Salute to Excellence sponsored by Black Men Inc. of Greater Lansing. Recognizing out standing young people enrolled in local Middle and High Schools at the Harry Hill Tech. Center

June 24 - "Sigma Upsilon Charity/Omega Psi Phi Fraternity announces its annual "Cruise with the Ques" aboard the Michigan Princess at Grand River Park on Lansing Road, 1 block east of Waverly Rd near I-496, Lansing,MI. Tickets are \$25.00 And are tax deductible. For information & tickets, Call 517-394-0699.

The Lansing Area African American Genealogical Society (LAAAGS) monthly second Saturday meeting at the Michigan Library and Historical Center, 717 West Allegan (between Pine and Butler Streets), Lansing, Michigan at 9:00 a.m.

18th annual spelling bee set

LANSING, MI - The internet is a buzz about the 18th Annual Spelling Bee.

The Parent Action Committee on Minority Academic Concerns (PAC-MAC) has turned to the internet to communicate registration and sign-up information for its Community - Wide Spelling Bee slated to be held Saturday, May 20 at the J.W. at Sexton High School Auditorium, 102 McPherson, Lansing, MI.

The event is slated to begin at 10:45 a.m.

The parent group has a web site

full on information concerning the event and the organization.

At www.pacmac.org Spelling Bee participants can register, find a sample of grade level spelling words, preparation tips, PAC MAC history and current member information.

PAC-MAC organizer, A. Smith said, "We have worked very hard to put our sign up information on the internet, but we will also send information to Lansing area schools for registration."

There is a \$10.00 per student registration fee.

The top four spellers in each grade group will receive a "Bee" trophy and a cash prize.

PAC-MAC is an organization made up of committed parents, students, and citizens in the Greater Lansing Area.

Smith said, "Many of our youth are struggling in school and do not have a positive opinion about the value of education and an alarmingly high rate are dropping out of school. For these reasons, PAC-MAC engages in productive activities to turn the negative statistics around."

Pac-Mac will be awarding 2 His/Her Bicycles to a contestant that participates in the Spelling Bee. The grand prize drawing

will be awarded at the end of the bee. FOR REGISTRATION AND/OR INFORMATION call (before 9 pm): (517) 887-2118

Here is the Bee schedule:

- Welcome and Opening	- 10:45 a.m.
Grade 1	11:00-11:25
Grade 2	11:30-11:55
Grade 3	12:00-12:25
Grade 4	12:30-12:55
Intermission/Drawings	1:00-1:15
Grade 5	1:20-1:40
Grade 6	1:45-2:05
Grade 7	2:10-2:30

The Earl Nelson Singers' host annual concert



The Earl Nelson Singers' Annual Concert, "Listen to the Lambs" was held at the First Presbyterian Church on April 24. Pictured are the featured guest artists with ENS Director Verna D. Holley (center). Pianist: (left) Randall B. Morris a talented freshman at East Lansing High School. The program also highlighted soloist (right) Brandon C. Waddles, a senior at Renaissance High School, Detroit

Diversity trumps hate at city "Win The Day" rally



This fancy El Grupo Fiesta dancer is performing at the Lansing "Win The Day" Diversity Celebration held at the Eastern High School Don Johnson Field House on April 22. Photo by Linsay Marie Noechel

Civil Rights leaders protest death of teenager at juvenile boot camp, lead march on Florida Capitol

TALLAHASSEE, Florida -- The Revs. Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton led hundreds of college students on a march on the Florida State Capitol Building to protest the death of a teenager at a juvenile boot camp in Panama City.

The protest came a day after the state's top law enforcement officer resigned amid criticism over the investigation and a joke that Gov. Jeb Bush called "inappropriate."

The Miami Herald reported that Guy Tunnell compared Sen. Barack Obama to al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden and Jackson to the outlaw Jesse James at a meeting of department heads.

The newspaper cited one unnamed source who was at the meeting and another who had spoken to a department head who was there.

Bush said he couldn't confirm details of the joke because he wasn't at the meeting.

"He made a joke that was inappropriate," Bush said. "He apologized to Lt. Gov. (Toni) Jennings. I don't know exactly what he said. It's important that the agency which is a critically important agency for people to have confidence, move forward. I thought it was appropriate to move on."

Sharpton said the march was about the death of 14-year-old

Martin Lee Anderson. "We've come to Florida because a boy was killed not because somebody called us names," Sharpton said in response to Tunnell's reported comments.

College students held pictures of Anderson and his funeral casket and sang "justice delayed is justice denied" and "this is what democracy looks like."

Sharpton and Jackson held hands with his parents, Gina Jones and Robert Anderson, as they silently walked toward the Capitol. Jones cried when she saw the pictures.

Anderson died in January, a day after guards were videotaped beating, kicking and

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VIVA! el CINCO DE MAYO!!

The 5th of May is not Mexican Independence Day, but it should be! And Cinco de Mayo is not an American holiday, but it should be. Mexico declared its independence from mother Spain on midnight, the 15th of September, 1810. And it took 11 years before the first Spanish soldiers were told and forced to leave Mexico.

So, why Cinco de Mayo? And why should Americans savor this day as well? Because 4,000 Mexican soldiers smashed the French and traitor Mexican army of 8,000 at Puebla, Mexico, 100 miles east of Mexico City on the morning of May 5, 1862.

The French had landed in Mexico (along with Spanish and English troops) five months earlier on the pretext of collecting Mexican debts from the newly elected government of democratic President (and Indian) Benito Juarez. The English and Spanish quickly made deals and left. The French, however, had different ideas.

Under Emperor Napoleon III, who detested the United States, the French came to stay. They

brought a Hapsburg prince with them to rule the new Mexican empire. His name was Maximilian; his wife, Carolota.



Napoleon's French Army had not been defeated in 50 years, and it invaded Mexico with the finest modern equipment and with a newly reconstituted Foreign Legion. The French were not afraid of anyone, especially since the United States was embroiled in its own Civil War.

The French Army left the port of Vera Cruz to attack Mexico City to the west, as the French assumed that the Mexicans

would give up should their capital fall to the enemy -- as European countries traditionally did.

Under the command of Texas-born General Zaragoza, (and the cavalry under the command of Colonel Porfirio Diaz, later to be Mexico's president and dictator), the Mexicans awaited. Brightly dressed French Dragoons led the enemy columns. The Mexican Army was less stylish.

General Zaragoza ordered Colonel Diaz to take his cavalry, the best in the world, out to the French flanks. In response, the French did a most stupid thing;

they sent their cavalry off to chase Diaz and his men, who proceeded to butcher them. The remaining French infantrymen charged the Mexican defenders through sloppy mud from a thunderstorm and through hundreds of head of stampeding cattle stirred up by Indians armed only with machetes.

When the battle was over, many French were killed or wounded and their cavalry was being chased by Diaz' superb horsemen miles away. The Mexicans had won a great victory that kept Napoleon III from supplying the confederate rebels for another year, allowing the United States to build the greatest army the world had ever seen. This grand army smashed the Confederates at Gettysburg just 14 months after the battle of Puebla, essentially ending the Civil War.

Union forces were then rushed to the Texas/Mexican border under General Phil Sheridan, who made sure that the Mexicans got all the weapons and ammunition they needed to expel the French. American soldiers were discharged with

their uniforms and rifles if they promised to join the Mexican Army to fight the French. The American Legion of Honor marched in the Victory Parade in Mexico, City.

It might be a historical stretch to credit the survival of the United States to those brave 4,000 Mexicans who faced an army twice as large in 1862. But who knows?

In gratitude, thousands of Mexicans crossed the border after Pearl Harbor to join the U.S. Armed Forces. As recently as the Persian Gulf War, Mexicans flooded American consulates with phone calls, trying to join up and fight another war for America.

Mexicans, you see, never forget who their friends are, and neither do Americans. That's why Cinco de Mayo is such a party -- A party that celebrates freedom and liberty. There are two ideals which Mexicans and Americans have fought shoulder to shoulder to protect, ever since the 5th of May, 1862.

VIVA! el CINCO DE MAYO!!

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