

The MICHIGAN BULLETIN

FREE
Please Take One

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The 411

Keeping The Dream Alive



Neise Pryor Perkins, Cadillac Club Lansing Idol Singing Contest winner - story on page 4

July 15 - The group Soul Content performs in downtown East Lansing, Michigan, Live at the FREE outdoor Ann Street Concert Series at 7:30 PM.

July 22 - Friendship Baptist Church will host its First Annual Community-wide Bazaar - 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. In the east parking lot) Rummage Sale, Food, Games & Fellowship!! Everyone, please come out! Bring your family and friends and have a joyous day!!! (Sponsored by F.B.C. Fund-raiser Subcommittee) Friendship is located at 2912 Pleasant Grove Road, Lansing, Michigan 48910. For questions or more information you may contact the church at 517-394-6369

July 23 - An Evening Of Elegance Featuring Howard Hewett at 7 PM at the at the Chisholm Hills Golf Club, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing, MI 48911. Cadillac Club Lansing Idol Singing Contest winner Neise Pryor Perkins is the slated opening act. For tickets and info call 517-410-6492 or www.t-rose.com

July 28 - Two shows (7 PM or 11 PM) An Evening of Smooth Jazz returns to the Albert L. White Performing Arts Theater in the Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd, East Lansing. Featured: The Miller Group (Durham, NC); Charles & Gwen Scales with Modern Tribe (Detroit) and Too Smooth for Notes (Lansing). Tickets and information call 517-372-7246 or 517-669-0111

August 12 - LEDGE of LANSING is sponsoring a Family Community Picnic at Hawk Island County Park located at 1601 E. Cavanaugh Rd., Lansing, MI from 12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m. Ticket Donations: \$5.00 per person. Cost covers refreshments, games and prizes for all ages. For ticket information, call 517-887-6500. There is a \$2 vehicle gate entry fee.

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. Public is invited.

African-American Parade set

LANSING, MI - Barbara Roberts Mason is the 2006 Grand Marshall of the 7th Annual African-American Parade and Family Reunion Picnic slated for Saturday, August 5.

The downtown Capital City parade, expected to step off at 11 a.m, is sponsored by the Capital City African American Cultural Association, Inc. (CCAACA).

The Family Reunion Picnic will be held immediately following the parade at Ferris Park, located at the corner of Shiawassee and Walnut Streets.

Beginning at the intersection of Genesee Street and Capitol Ave. The parade will proceed south down Capitol Ave, past the State Capitol Building and the Lansing City Hall. The procession then turns right onto Allegan Street, traveling west one block to Walnut Street make a right turn and continue several blocks north to conclude at Ferris Park.

The Grand Marshall is a community activist. Currently, Roberts Mason, serves as chairperson of the Lansing Regional Sister Cities Commission. She served on the Michigan State Board of Education for 24 years. Also, Roberts Mason is founder and President Emeritus of the Black Child and Family Institute.

The parade aims to educate the area about the arts and history of the African American community according to Parade and Picnic Chairperson the Rev. Dr. Michael C. Murphy.

It's our Summertime Celebration and it's going to be fun and fresh! There will be Floats, Marching Bands from across Michigan, Clowns, Food, Music, Vendors, and much more.

Murphy explained, I grew up on the south-side of Chicago, Illinois where every summer I attended the Bud Billiken parade. It was designed for the children. But, it was for everybody. For several years as a youngster I was in the parade and rode on my uncle's float with was WGES Radio Station's float. We would go to Washington Park for a picnic afterwards. It helped shape my positive perception of our African American people and lifted up our history, heritage, and culture. The images and sounds of the parade and picnic still ring in my head and heart today.

The mission of the Capital City African American Cultural Association is to provide educational and recreational opportunities for the people of Lansing and mid-Michigan to experience African American arts, culture, and history.

The parade and the picnic are open to the public.

Does your business, association or group want to participate in the parade? The Parade entry fee is \$25.00 before July 22; afterwards the fee is \$35.00. Sign up the day of the event is \$50.00.

The Wiseman family, participants in the 2005 African-American Parade and Family Reunion Picnic

Our vision for our parade and picnic in Lansing is very similar, Murphy said. It's a vision of our coming together to celebrate and affirm ourselves here in Lansing. It's about our children and youth looking at positive images and sharing in our positive values.

For more information contact Dr. Murphy at (517) 373-0826 or e-mail Vice Chairperson Calvin Jones at: CCACAIN@aol.com or write the CCAACA at P.O. Box 13233, Lansing, MI 48901.

The circus is coming to church!

By Jason Honeycutt
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LANSING, MI--The circus is coming to church.

On July 22-23, 2006, Union Missionary Baptist Church is set to host the Carson & Barnes Big Top Family Circus.

The big canvas tent will go up on the church parking lot.

That's right. There will actually be an old fashioned three ring circus under a big top tent with elephants, camels, horses, aerial trapeze artists, high wire acts, jugglers, of course clowns and many other attractions and exotic animals on the church asphalt.

In addition, there will be a multi-church, multi-denominational Youth Revival Worship Service on Sunday, July 23rd at 9am sharp, under the big top tent. This Youth Service includes a mass children's choir with youth from several local churches cutting across all denominations. This service is a part of Union's annual Youth Day celebration.

The idea of a church partnering with other community organizations to sponsor a three-ring circus originated out of Union's Stewardship Committee, which is headed by Dr. William Allen.

The thinking outside of the church building proposal was the brainchild of Dr. Allen, who



Members of the circus committee (l-r) Bruce Caradine, Fay Curtis, Rev. Melvin T. Jones, C. Robinson, Carol Allen and Dr. William Allen.

originally proposed the idea to the Stewardship Committee. From there the idea was approved by the entire Stewardship Committee and the rest, as they say, "is history."

The Union Missionary Baptist Church parking lot, located at 500 S. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., is an ideal location for a circus. Located just west of downtown Lansing, it literally sits smack dab right in the middle of a major city traffic route. The spacious parking lot provides ample room for the Big Top, the crowd and all the attractions.

Under the canvas there is room for everyone as the seating capacity is a hefty 2,000.

Parking is set for several sites. One area is the Library of Michigan parking lot, located at

the corner of Kalamazoo and Butler Streets, and the other areas are the GM parking lots located south across I-496 from the church on Main and William Streets. From the parking lots shuttle buses will transport people back and forth as needed.

This event is perfect for a family outing. In addition to the thrill and excitement of a circus, the event is affordable.

For the best deal, purchasing tickets in advance is recommended. This also benefits the church the most because the church receives a greater portion of the proceeds for advanced purchase tickets. This is the standard set-up for community circuses, such as

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Black female astronaut rides Discovery into space

Stephanie Wilson is on a mission.

The 39-year-old NASA mission specialist is one of seven astronauts who blasted off aboard space shuttle Discovery on an Independence Day - July 4th launch.

It is the first mission for Wilson, who is only the second Black female to make the trip into outer space, after Mae C. Jemison, whose mission was in 1992.

The scheduled 11-day mission on the Discovery is just the second shuttle flight for NASA since the Columbia explosion in 2003 that killed seven astronauts. Wilson, who holds a bachelor's degree in engineering science from Harvard University and a master's degree in aerospace engineering from the University of Texas, has worked for NASA since 1996. She said she has no fears about her voyage. "We've trained pretty extensively," said Wilson, a Boston native. "It's a big dream. It's exciting that it's



Stephanie Wilson

coming true." Praying for Astronaut Stephanie Wilson is her former church family - Ward AME Church in Los Angeles, California, where she worshipped while working at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. At Ward, Stephanie was a member of the Lay Organization, the choir, and a trustee. Her humility and graciousness boldly speak for her Christian witness and role modeling for all young women, but especially women of African descent.

St. Stephen's Community Church calls for racial reconciliation in the community

LANSING - - St. Stephen's Community Church, United Church Christ in Lansing invites the greater Lansing community to join with them in a special worship service on Sunday, July 16, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. The church will announce its call to action to the community to address the need for racial reconciliation. The public is welcomed. The church is located at 1420 W. Oakland Avenue in Lansing.

For more information call (517) 484-2180.

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