Vol. IV., No. 1 Vertivus Walke, Editor

NEWS LETTER

January 22, 1976

EDITOR'S NOTE

The Newsletter Committee sincerely wishes you peace, love, and happiness for the New Year.

We are busy on our goals for the year. In order to keep you informed of activities, please have information in by the 15th of each month.

Any person or group wishing to pass on information, please call Marie Lovett, 860-1895 or Lucille Walke, 437-8022.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Balloting received to date, in an effort to elect a new Board of Directors, has been disappointing. The Nominating Committee put together an excellent slate of candidates. Remember this is your organization and the persons you elect to provide the leadership deserve the support of the entire membership.

If you have not already cast your ballot, please come to our Hospita-lity Hour on Sunday, February 1, to meet the candidates and cast your vote.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Two groups are busy planning activities for ages 2-6 and 7-9.

Ages 2-6, call Kathy Hudgins, 471-4297.

Ages 7-9, call Irene Hawkins, 471-1730.

TEEN NEWS, COMMENTS & ADS

Have you noticed that when you go to the shopping centers, you see groups of Black kids either standing outside stores or just sitting in restaurants and ice cream shops just talking? They're not buying a thing. I've noticed that when I go to Lake Anne Center, there's quite a few Black kids at the Center just sitting in groups. When they come home from school that's where they go or when they don't have anywhere to go. Either inside the ice cream shop and stay there mainly all day long. They need more things to do or places to go. We need more recreation halls or teen centers. There's a few in Reston but they only open about 1 or 2 days a week. Not all kids live that close to them.

> Written by J.S. Herndon Intermediate School

(Editor's Comment: We would like to continue this section of the Newsletter each month. If you have a comment, any news or something for an ad, please submit it to the Committee.)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DOGWOOD CELEBRATES AMERICA'S 200TH BIRTHDAY WITH TWO SHOWS BY ARCHAESUS

Archaesus is a profession children's group which performs at the Smithsonian, Wolf Trap, and the Kennedy Center. The shows will be held in the Dogwood School Cafeteria, Januay 31, at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Tickets are \$1.50 per person for each show.

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Events (Continued from Page 1)

The shows are:

1 p.m. BECOMING AN AMERICAN--A history of America presented as an audience participation mime show with narration.

3 p.m. POW WOW--A series of stories based on the legends and history of the American Indians presented with dance and audience participation.

For tickets, please call Diane Meier, 860-3494.

Trip to See WIZ * * *

The Walker Memorial Baptist
Church in Washington, D.C. is sponsoring a one day trip to New York,
April 17, 1976, to see the play,
"WIZ". The trip and play is \$35.00
per person. If you are interested,
please call Adrienne Jordan, 726-8226,
Bernie Austin, 544-0137, or John
Scott, 723-7518 after 6 p.m. A
deposit of \$10 is required in
February.

Focus Hospitality Hour * *

Sunday, February 1, 1976, from 3 to 5 p.m., the Membership Committee in conjunction with the Nominating Committee will host a hospitality hour in the Southgate Room. The Membership Committee will have information sheets available for you to express your interest in Focus committees and activites. During this same time you can meet the candidates for the Board of Directors.

So come, pay your dues, meet the candidates, vote and visit with your friends.

Arrangements are being made for photographs of Focus families taken by "Photographs by Daniels" to be on display.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Focus recently received a check for \$313.30 from Arvil Daniels (Photography by Daniels). This represents a contribution of a portion of the profits Daniels derived from the purchase of family portraits (originally intended for display at last year's Black Arts Festival) by Focus families.

Focus members appear to be pleased with Daniels' photography work and a similar arrangement will undoubtedly be a part of this year's festival. More details as "festival-time" draws closer.

PRESIDENT'S CONTRACT *

To the many active sport fanatics who enjoy basketball, paddle ball, ping pong, regulation or bumper pool, the opportunity presents itself in the Fairfax County Year Round Youth Centers. If you live in Reston, or in other localities, check your local newspaper to see what nights or to whom gym space is available.

Gym space is also reserved for group activities. The reserve time for basketball is from December thru March. Groups can reserve ½ of the gym for 1½ hours (8:45-10:15) one night a week (Continued Page 3)

Recreation (Continued from Page 2)

during the December time span. Applications for gym use are usually submitted before November 15. There may still be space available at the gyms in Reston. For further information, contact Billy Biggs, 620-9460, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

(Editor's Note: More information will be continued each month regarding recreation activities available to Focus families. Look for this article next month for a brief bio-sketch on Billy Biggs and other Black personnel running these Recreation centers.)

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RAPP

A rapp session is being formed on historical and current topics of interest. Topics will range from areas in economics, politics, social interaction, aesthetics, and religion. The forum will select topics and suggest reading materials by authorities in areas under discussion. The rapp sessions are aimed at adults but not restricted to any age level. The rapp session will meet, first once a month on Tuesday night at 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. For information call Loye Cherry, 437-0710.

The above is not connected with Rap, Inc.

A BOOK FOR EVERYONE, by Eileen Welch

THE GREATEST-MY OWN STORYMuhammad Ali, with Richard Durham is
a book you must read whether or not
you are an avid Ali fan. To be able
to appreciate Ali, the man, and his
tremendous urge to become the
Greatest is well worthwhile.

This is truly Ali's own story, told with his ever present sense of humor and gut feelings. Richard Durham and Ali have been friends since 1967 and as a result, the book reads almost as if Ali himself had read it into a tape recorder. Only Ali knows his life and feelings as he lived it.

The Greatest is not a scrapbook of wins and looses or a conglomeration of lockerroom gags, which could become boring, at best. It is a story of the life of a great man, told as it was lived.

Ask for The Greatest, \$10.95 at BOOK-ART, LTD.