

# Roberta Groves takes 'A Journey through the Past'

▲ Elkin native uses Sojourner Truth's character to convey a message of history and morals

By YVETTE N. FREEMAN  
Community News Editor

At least 100 churches throughout the Triad have seen her dress up as Sojourner Truth and sing old spirituals. She captivates and motivates her audiences by taking them on a journey — a journey through the past.

Roberta Groves, the mother of 10, began her journey about four years ago when she began performing her play entitled *A Journey Through the Past*.

The play, which is entirely impromptu, focuses on the lives of slaves and other historical African-American figures. Groves, along with Levita Mack and LaVerne Samuel, reenacts those lives dressed in clothes and with artifacts that date from specific time periods in which their characters lived. They are also helped by local choirs and musician Peggy Moore.

"It's for the young people, to let them know that we had a hard way to come," said Groves, who is a native of Elkin, North Carolina. She added that the show not only educates the youth, but promotes self-awareness among them, and a desire to learn more about their heritage and culture.

In the future, she hopes to establish a museum for her artifacts, and have the play produced on a larger scale. Already, Groves performs the play at schools, churches



Roberta Groves poses as Sojourner Truth, one of the African-American historical figures she portrays in her play.

and recreation centers in other areas of the state as well as Virginia and South Carolina.

The next performance of *A Journey Through the Past* is scheduled for July 26 at the Waightown

Baptist Church. For more information about the play or to schedule a performance, contact Groves at 723-2977, Levita Mack at 784-0334, or LaVerne Samuel at 725-1163.

## Kids' Corner

What's up 'round the 'hood?

### SATURDAY, JUNE 20

10 a.m. — The Arts Council of WS/FC will sponsor Super Saturday for Kids at Winston Square Park next to the Sawtooth Building, 226 N. Marshall St. The program is free and open to the public. For more information, call 722-2585.

### MONDAY, JUNE 22

10 a.m. — The film *101 Dalmatians* will be shown at the Kernersville Public Library. It will also be shown at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

3 p.m. — The film *101 Dalmatians* will be shown at the Rural Hall Public Library. It will also be shown at 7 p.m.

### PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Community Music School at the NC School of the Arts will begin its summer term Monday, June 22 through Friday, July 31. The school offers traditional private instruction for students of all ages. Three fee schedules are available: \$72 for 30-minute lessons; \$108 for 45-minute lessons; and \$144 for 1-hour lessons. Other music courses are also available. For more information and registration, call 721-1222.
- Sign-ups will be held for the WS Tiny Rams Football & Cheerleading programs Thursday, June 25 from 6-9 p.m. at Mille Park Recreation Center. Birth certificates must be presented. For more information, contact Leticha Coleman at 765-8038 or Robert McCollum at 725-1165.
- The WS Urban League Senior Center is distributing free electric fans to senior citizens 60 years old and over. Seniors are required to show one form of ID, and priority will be given to those who do not have access to air conditioning. Contact Athena Puryear at 725-5614 to schedule a time to pick up a fan from the center, located at 512 N. Trade St.
- Forsyth Memorial Hospital will sponsor babysitting classes in July and Aug. for 11-13 year olds. The two-day course will be held July 7-8 and again on Aug. 10-11. Each session will last from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The \$20 registration fee includes class materials, lunch and refreshments. To register, call Health Connections at 760-0122.
- The Central YMCA of WS will hold its Second Annual Central YMCA Basketball Camp June 22-26 for boys and girls ages 7-15. The cost is \$85 per child. For more information, contact Matt Dempski or Jeff Johnson at 721-2100.
- The YWCA is accepting applications for its "Summer Serendipity Camp," which will be held June 8-Aug. 21. The registration fee is \$10. For more information, call 722-5138.
- Final registration is now being held for the 14th Annual Bryan Adrian Summer Basketball Camp. Boys and girls ages 5-18 are eligible. For a brochure, call (704) 372-3236.
- The Northwest North Carolina Chapter of the American Red Cross is now accepting applications for its annual Summer Youth Volunteer Program. The program matches teens ages 13-18 with one of 20 area agencies who have immediate openings for summer volunteers. For more information, call 724-0511.
- Free mediation classes for children will be held Wednesdays and Fridays from 2-3 p.m. at the William Sims Recreation Center, 1201 Alder St., beginning July 15. For more information, call 727-2837.
- The 4-H Electricity and New Technology Camp will be held Aug. 2-6 at Betsy Jeff Penn 4-H Center near Reidsville. The camp is open to children ages 10-14. The cost is \$165, which covers lodging, meals, insurance, and other camp expenses. Applications must be received by July 10. To get an application form or for more information, contact Carolyn High at 767-8213.
- Free piano classes will be held at the William C. Sims Recreation Center on Tuesdays from 5-6 p.m. Double Dutch classes will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-5 p.m. For more information, call 727-2837.
- Wake Forest University's Museum of Anthropology is sponsoring weekly story hours for children ages four to seven. The hour-long sessions will be held June 24 and July 1. Admission is \$1, and \$.50 for members of the Museum Friends organization. For more information, call 759-5282.



Yoko Mona Odom

## Parkland student is honored by United Cornerstone

Yoko Mona Odom, daughter of David and Minister Deborah Odom, was honored on Sunday, June 14 during morning worship at United Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church located at 4507 Thomasville Road. She is a graduate of Parkland High School and participates in a variety of activities such as the Red Cross Club, Industrial Arts Club, Dixie Debs, Gospel Choir, Junior ROTC. She received a military achievement award and upon enlistment in the U.S. Armed Forces will be promoted to E-3.

A tribute was given to the graduates by Faye Carter and a gift was presented by minister Deborah Odom.

Dr. J. Ray Butler is pastor of the church.

## Community Church Softball League holds more games

The Softball Community Church League, organized by J. B. Dunlap, held three games this past Saturday, June 13.

The first game featured the Gospel Music Ministries vs. New Jerusalem Baptist Church. New Jerusalem won the game with a score of 14 to two.

Calvary Hill Apostolic Church defeated Grace Assembly Holiness Church, 12 to 11.

In the third game, the Winston-Salem Transit Authority defeated St. Matthews Baptist Church 15 to one.

The next three games are scheduled for June 20 at Blum Park. Game times are 6:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., and 8:30 p.m.

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