

Personal Malcolm X letter up for auction

WASHINGTON (NNPA) - An independent museum is once again trying to hock the legacy of fallen leader Malcolm X. This time it is a letter that the slain leader wrote to his mentor, Elijah Muhammad.

A Washingtonville, N.Y.-based Web site called "Moments in Time" is selling the deeply personal letter for \$125,000.

In the four-page letter, Malcolm X talks to his most trusted and most respected mentor, Elijah Muhammad, about some marital problems Malcolm was having. The letter begins with Malcolm apologizing for coming to Muhammad with a matter so personal and intimate. Malcolm also gives Muhammad credit for making him who he was, saying that he owed his life and entire being to him.

Malcolm goes on to say that most of the brothers who follow Muhammad are slow to get married, not because they are against women, but because Muhammad makes them see the place of a man and the great responsibility a man has for a woman after marrying her.

In the letter, Malcolm discusses sexual problems he and his wife (Betty Shabazz) are having, stating at one point that Shabazz had called the two of them sexually incompatible.

He also mentions that Shabazz had outstanding debts when they were married that he knew nothing about.

Gary Zimet, owner of MomentsinTime.com, the Web site where the letter is displayed and where bids are being taken, said he purchased it from one of the Muhammad family attorneys, who saved it from being thrown in the trash.

The proposed sale of the letter comes three months after several letters, speech outlines, journals and other documents of Malcolm's were about to be auctioned by Butterfields, an auction house owned by eBay, one of the nation's most popular online auction sites. It was eventually decided that the documents would go to the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.

Joseph Fleming, the Shabazz family attorney, said the daughters of Malcolm X and Betty Shabazz feel that the letter is not authentic.

Reno, Nev., settles five suits against police officers filed by black men

RENO, Nev. - The City Council has voted to settle lawsuits filed by five black men accusing Reno police of violating their civil rights, including use of excessive force and illegal search and seizure.

The five men will share \$43,500 under the settlement to which the council agreed.

The series of lawsuits over the past two years prompted the Reno Police Department to examine whether it is unfairly treating minorities.

Assistant Chief Jim Weston said the department is changing the way it makes arrests for possessing an open container of alcohol, reviewing use-of-force complaints involving blacks and scrutinizing misdemeanor arrests.

The five lawsuits began with a Reno man's complaint to the City Council last year that he had been racially discriminated against by Reno police. Avon Holmes and his wife were ordered to lie on the ground at gunpoint by police investigating a report of shots fired outside a grocery store where they had been shopping.

Holmes and his wife will receive \$7,500 from the city.

Among the other men receiving settlements are:
 • Richard Barte, who alleged that police used excessive force in arresting him in February 2001 after someone reported he was carrying a machine gun on East Fourth Street. The gun was a plastic squirt gun. Barte was convicted of obstructing and resisting arrest. He will be paid \$7,500.

• Clarence Lalaind, who alleged police refused to investigate his complaint in December 2000 that a man threatened him with a knife and dragged him by his injured ankle. He will be paid \$8,500.

Cincinnati is picked to host Urban League's 2003 convention

Cincinnati, which is now under an economic boycott by various civil rights organizations over the killing of a 19-year-old black youth by an off-duty police officer, will host the National Urban League convention in 2003.

Hugh Price, president of the organization, met with Mayor Charlie Lurken and said he believed the city has started police, economic and social reforms.

Supporters of the boycott protested outside the league's Cincinnati office.

"We want to try and inform the community that the Urban League has put monetary gain above principle," Nathaniel Livingston Jr., co-chairman of the Coalition for a Just Cincinnati, told reporters.

Most black conventions and several major entertainers have chosen other venues rather than break the boycott.

The April 2001 shooting of Timothy Thomas, who was unarmed, sparked riots that lasted for three days, which started the boycott.

The league had chosen Cincinnati as its site for the convention in February 2001, two months before the shooting. However, officials raised the possibility of moving it to another city, saying they would monitor the city's progress regarding matters of racial injustice.

"If Cincinnati is on the comeback trail with regard to race relations, then Inglewood, California, is on the comeback trail with regard to police/community relations," Livingston said, referring to the videotaped assault of an African-American youth by a white police officer.

The Chronicle (USPS 067-910) was established by Ernest H. Pitt and Ndubisi Egemonye in 1974 and is published every Thursday by Winston-Salem Chronicle Publishing Co. Inc., 617 N. Liberty Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101. Periodicals postage paid at Winston-Salem, N.C. Annual subscription price is \$30.72.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
 The Chronicle, P.O. Box 1636
 Winston-Salem, NC 27102-1636

INDEX

OPINION.....A6
 SPORTS.....B1
 RELIGION.....B6
 CLASSIFIEDS.....B10
 HEALTH.....C3
 ENTERTAINMENT.....C7
 CALENDAR.....C9



Malcolm X



Diamond and Christopher Harris smile during a news conference announcing the birth of sextuplets at a hospital in Birmingham, Ala., last week. Diamond Harris gave birth to the six within three minutes by Caesarean section.

Bundles of joy

Alabama woman gives birth to sextuplets: four boys and two girls

BY MARK NIESSE
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. - Sextuplets born three months premature are growing stronger each day and all six are breathing on their own, a doctor said.

The babies - four boys and

two girls - were in serious condition in intensive care but have been taken off ventilator support without many complications. Dr. Namasivayam Ambalavanan said last week. The babies were born after 26 1/2 weeks; a full-term pregnancy is typically about 40 weeks. Diamond Harris, a 27-year-old nurse, gave birth to all six children within three minutes of each other on Sunday. They weighed between 1 pound, 3 ounces and 1 pound, 12 ounces.

They were delivered by Caesarean section after about three hours of labor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham hospital.

Doctors still don't know how many of the children are identical twins and how many are fraternal twins. The babies can't yet be held, but doctors have encouraged the parents to stroke or gently touch them.

Harris said she had been undergoing fertility treatment, though there have been twins in both her family and that of her husband, Christopher. The couple also has a 7-year-old boy, Dewayne.

"All he wants to know is how many Pampers he has to change," said Christopher Harris, 28, a third-grade teacher.

Sextuplets are rare. When a Kansas woman gave birth to sextuplets in April, doctors in Wichita said only 96 sets of sextuplets have been born worldwide since recording began in the early 1900s.

All the Harris babies have names beginning with the letter K, after their great-grandmother, Kassie Harris. Their names are Kiera Christine, Kaylynne Antoinett, Kaleb Reddrick, Kobe Byshari, Kieran Anthony and Kyle Jacob.

"I feel good. A little bit sore, but good," Diamond Harris said. "We weren't expecting a bundle."

Microsoft donates \$670,000 to NAACP

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

HOUSTON - The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) announced the receipt of a \$670,000 grant in cash and software from Microsoft Corp. to support the organization's Technology Enhancement and Capacity Building Initiative.

The announcement was made at the NAACP's 93rd annual convention. The initiative will assist the NAACP in upgrading its information technology

capability in its seven regional offices, 1,700 branch offices, the Washington, D.C., bureau and family technology centers.

Kweisi Mfume, NAACP president and CEO, said, "We applaud Microsoft's commitment to partner with the NAACP by providing both technology and resources. Our constructive relationship with Bill Gates and the people of the larger Microsoft family has allowed the NAACP the ability to do more in helping to reduce the gap in technology so evident in poor communities across America. Even more is required as we go forward. We believe that Microsoft not only understands that, but is also prepared to join us as an active partner in the work ahead."

Bruce Brooks, Microsoft's director of community affairs, said, "Microsoft is excited to be able to help the NAACP deliver greater digital opportunities to communities nationwide and to reach its organizational goals. The NAACP's unwavering mis-

sion to improve the lives of people of color is a goal that Microsoft not only salutes but also supports."

The Technology Capacity Building Initiative is the

NAACP's largest technology access program to date. As part of the initiative, the NAACP will expand its family technology centers program and community outreach objectives. The centers

provide a variety of services such as vocational skills development, educational literacy and college preparatory training through technology in underserved communities.



Mfume



Price

Stop Waiting. Start Living!

ROAD RUNNER
 HIGH SPEED ONLINE™

FREE STANDARD INSTALLATION PLUS THE SECOND MONTH FREE

GET ONLINE WITH ROAD RUNNER AND GET ON WITH LIFE.

Point, click and race ahead on Road Runner's broadband network. Download your favorite songs in seconds on Road Runner Tuner. Click on Road Runner Homework Helper to knock out that science project fast. You'll find everything right from your personalized home page. And you'll never wait to get connected or to download files. With our 30-day money-back guarantee, there's nothing holding you back. So ask for Road Runner today - and get your life in gear.

TIME WARNER CABLE 1-877-777-6126

www.triadtwcable.com

Offer available to residential customers in the Time Warner Cable Partnership Triad Division's serviceable area only. With a standard installation a PC technician will connect a cable modem & install on Ethernet card in the customer's PC, and 2000 Windows XP with Internet, with 2.5 gigabyte software on CD product. Customer is responsible for configuring the PC for high speed data service, installing OS software, internet browser & email/news group setup. Other installation options are available. Offer expires 1/31/02. Restrictions may apply. ©2001 TIME WARNER, a division of Time Warner Entertainment Company L.P. All rights reserved. Time Warner Cable is a service mark of Time Warner Cable. ©2001

Attention Homeowners

Homes 1 year and older need to be checked for termites

"A flea circus is a good act but it takes termites to bring a home down."

Call
 Triad Pest Control
 1535 S. Martin Luther King Drive
 Winston-Salem, NC
 788-3020