

# LIFESTYLES

## Home helps children victims of violence

By Tammie Tolbert  
THE CHARLOTTE POST

Abused children need a place that can serve as a safe haven for them, says Bessie Elmore, founder of Non-Abuse and Violence for children.

NAAV's children's home will house children from 1 to 15 years of age. Its mission is to provide support and a place of shelter for children who have been exposed to or a part of domestic violence.

Elmore, a native of Charlotte, said that when she was in California she was approached by a man who told her, "Miss I have a message for you from the Lord, it is time for you to go back home because God has something better in store for your life."

"Initially, I was stunned, but I felt that it was the right thing to do," Elmore said.

After returning to Charlotte, it took Elmore a year to realize what it was.

"I was watching the 'Arsenio Hall Show' and Ice-T and Jim Brown were on the show discussing what they were doing to help inner city kids to stay away from gangs and violence," Elmore said.

This is when it occurred Elmore to build the children's home. Elmore says that it has been a very difficult to secure funds, the licenses, the grants, to construct this children's home.

People like City Council member Ella Scarborough and former council member Hoyle Martin have been very supportive and helpful with the project. The Deliverance Pentecostal Holiness Church of the Independent have offered Elmore the opportunity to purchase their old fellowship hall as the initial sight for the children's home. The church's pastor Alique Lewis and its youth minister Desmond Gause have been working with her for over a year trying to solidify the purchasing of the building. The Fighting Back organization is also looking at obtaining the building.

"The building has a sound structure, but it is going to require some extensive work in order to make it a home for these children," Elmore said.

The home will be open 24 hours to provide children with support in handling anger, identifying feelings, conflict management, self esteem, and other areas.

"I have people in the medical, psychological, and counseling fields to volunteer their services once the doors of the non-profit organization opens," Elmore said.

She said it is important to establish this home because the cases where children are being abused are increasing.

"Just recently a month old baby was abuse by its father, the father had beat the child in the head and caused the child brain damage," she said. "This is going on too much."

## Weddings

### McCloud-Phifer

The Rev. Phillip Gerald McCloud and Genevieve Michelle Phifer were married on March 23 at Little Rock AME Zion Church at 401 North McDowell Street in Charlotte.

The bride is the daughter of Barbara Phifer Thomas and Warren Allen Phifer. The groom is the son of Bishop Alonzo Watson McCloud, Sr. and Brenda Johnson McCloud.

The bride attended Garinger High School and graduated from Johnson C. Smith University, where she obtained a bachelor's degree in Chemistry in 1990. She is employed at High Point Chemical Corporation where she is a quality control chemist.

The groom attended Mt. Tabor High School and graduated from Winston-Salem State University with a bachelor's in business administration. He is employed at Douglas Battery as a posting operator.

The matron of honor was Carolyn Brown and the maid of honor was Michlin Aikens. The bridesmaids were Caroletta Pierce, Valarie Moore, Jennifer Bellingier, Veronica Crmichael, Kimberely Singleton, Carolyn Berry, Monika Givens, Claudia Potts, Pamela McCloud, and Cassandra McCloud. The Junior Bridesmaids were Lanessa McCloud and Ashley Pierce. The flower girl was D'yana Christine Mack.

The bestman was Alonzo Watson McCloud Jr. and the groomsmen were John Bailey Jr., Rev. Henrico White, Elder Eric Rice, James Wilson, Earl Williamson, Roger Thomas, Rev. Vincent Riley, Harry Brown, Wayne Patterson, Robert Harding, and Scott Robinson. The ring bearer was Gerald Douglas McCloud. The junior groomsmen were Michael Duane Pyant and Brandon Riley.

The reception was held at Little Rock AME Zion Church Fellowship Hall.



Mrs. McCloud

## Americans mislead about active lives

By Maureen O'Donnell  
CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

CHICAGO - A young sales manager has a kitchen that would make Julia Child's mouth water. But all the appliances are dusty.

A woman buys a baby grand piano. But no one in the household knows how to play.

Urban dwellers behind the wheels of their Range Rovers navigate nothing more demanding than traffic jams. The vehicles are capable of trouncing the Outback.

Witness a growing trend in which Americans surround themselves with lifestyle ornaments they do not or cannot use. They create a living

tableau of leisure in which they do not participate.

Welcome to virtual leisure.

We sink onto the couch to watch "This Old House," but the prospect of actually stripping 16 layers of paint makes many of us sweat. We lose ourselves in Martha Stewart's books but don't emulate her.

What's going on?

Seismic lifestyle shifts have changed the way we spend our free time, experts say. We also may be measuring our lives against the model of our parents. When we watch a crafts show without lifting a finger, we may be feeling nostalgia for the days when people made things with their

hands, rather than putting things on a credit card.

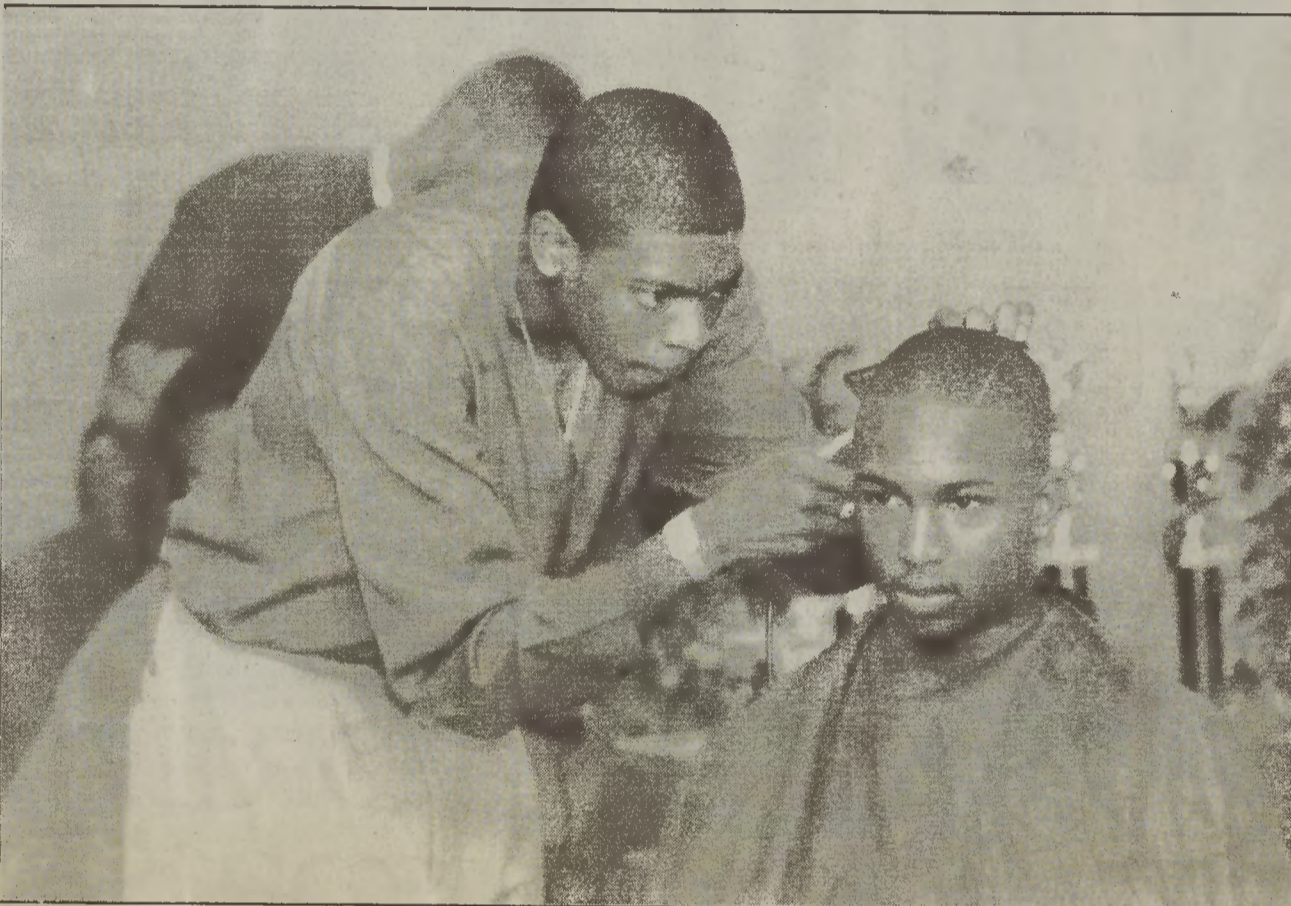
"The priority is survival: Keep your job, hold on to your family, and maybe do dry cleaning once in a while," said J. Steven Kelly, head of the Direct Marketing Institute at DePaul University.

When we watch "This Old House" or follow Martha Stewart projects, "we're vicariously participating in the baking of cookies, the growing of a garden or going to a workshop," Kelly said.

The how-to hero of "This Old House" and "The New Yankee Workshop" agrees.

"There's no sweat. There's no dirt. There's no bills to pay," said carpenter Norm Abram.

## And the winner is...



PHOTO/PAUL WILLIAMS III

The N.C. State Barbers and Beauticians Convention and Trade show was held at the McDonald's Park Inn on Sunday and Monday. Vendors provided clothes, make-up, shoes, jewelry displays, and other items. One of the special events that was held was the Men's Hairstyling contest. During this event the barbers were able to display their techniques. The winner received financial prize and a trophy. There was a women's hairstyling division and they also received a financial prize and a trophy. Other events included a fashion show, a 50's dance, and the giving away of a color television and a mink coat. The House of Charles served as the host for the convention of the year.

## Car's interior says plenty about owners

By Stephanie Hunter  
Fort Wayne Journal Gazette

FORT WAYNE, Ind. - Either you are living the life of never cleaning the inside of your car or you know someone who is.

If you throw everything over your shoulder and never look back, you are living the life. If you have to make a place to sit when you enter your vehicle, you qualify.

Don't worry, you are not alone.

During a recent stroll through a parking lot I learned a little about a few Fort Wayne residents just by studying the contents of their cars.

My first vehicle was an older model Park Avenue. The outside did not give any clues. Instead it was the cute cushion on the driver's seat, the large bath towels protecting the back seat upholstery, and a crocheted cap, propped against the passenger door, that indicated the owner was an older woman. She later was identified as Pearl Brooks, 69.

There were other clues indicating Brooks was not traveling alone. It wasn't the bag of groceries that gave her pas-

See CAR page 2B

## Horoscopes

**ARIES:** (March 21-April 20)  
You will be challenged to put forth your very best, so keep any rebellious thoughts to yourself. Being filled with high energy, make sure you are sensitive to other people's feelings. It's time to come out of your shell and live a little.



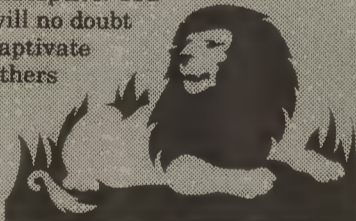
**TAURUS:** (April 21 - May 21)  
Guard against any undue stress - someone or something has hit just the right button and drained your energy. Your mate may be having problems coping, and moodiness will no doubt result - remember that actions will always speak louder than words.

**GEMINI:** (May 22 - June 21)  
Make time to stay home and rest, tension from all sides may be stressing you out. Your fresh, new ideas in the workplace will be received very favorably. Conditions are excellent for rapid progress at work. Get in contact with an old friend you've lost track of.

**CANCER:** (June 22 - July 23)  
There may be heavy demands on you, so try to stick to routine and all will go well. If you have

been clinging to either a child or lover, you need to let go a little, they need more space now. Angry words may flare between you and another, be cautious.

**LEO:** (July 24- August 23)  
Your mind is usually quick and perceptive. You will no doubt captivate others



with your wit and wisdom. Authorities at work are interested in hearing your opinions, and the ability to see the big picture will be greatly appreciated. Listen to the ideas of others.

**VIRGO:** (August 24 - September 23)  
If you can grasp an opportunity to better yourself financially don't pass it up, the effort is worth it. Again, the extra effort may be needed at work - go early and stay late. Your understanding of the needs of both men and women helps you mediate gender-based disputes.

**LIBRA:** (September 24 - October 23)  
Heavy demands are made on your time and energy. Disputes with family members can be resolved through thoughtful discussions. Any business meetings will also be productive. Your mate will end the week with a romantic inter-



lude, and, if unattached, a new love is waiting.

**SCORPIO:** (October 24 - November 22)  
Your keen memory and problem-solving abilities will help you to impress your bosses. It's reality check time for you, with memories and intuition playing major roles in your actions for the next few months. There are powerful spiritual insights dominating your inner self.

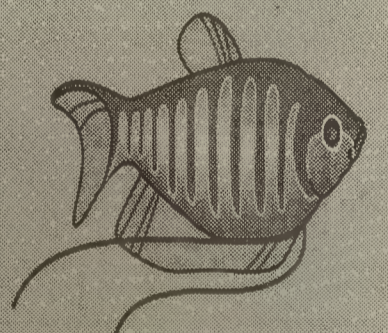
**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 23 - December 21)  
It may be time to step back from current projects to think things out, to give you a better perspective on long-term career strategies. It's a good time to share bright ideas with receptive colleagues. There seems to be an old adversary back on the scene, be cautious and patient.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 - January 20)  
It will be a challenging week, and you are assertive in getting your ideas across. A friend will no doubt welcome your help, and may be either combative or irrational, so be patient with them. But there will also be a limit to patience, so know when to say enough is enough.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 - February 19)  
Your health is in question during the week. Be reassured that there is nothing wrong with you that more rest and less stress won't cure. Take extra time for your mate, and have a long and loving talk with a loved one. Your communication skills will get you through the week's challenges.

**PISCES:** (February 20 - March 20)

You may need to talk your ideas out. Nobody will mind though,



because what you have to say is fascinating. The work week will start out with opportunity for monetary gains. There are differences of opinion which may threaten a friendship; resolve them now.

**IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:** You are highly attuned to your own emotions and those of others. When in love, you emerge with your lover with all your heart, mind and soul. Your friends know you will be the first to join their celebrations, and the last to leave when trouble strikes.

