



9 Michael Kantaras

Landmark decision:
Transgender dad gets his kids



13 Governor Ann Richards, keynote: Human Rights Campaign 2003 Carolina Dinner

Gather the Women worldwide

For the first time, Charlotte women will join women worldwide, celebrating peace, and other life-affirming values

CHARLOTTE — On March 1 and March 8, women from throughout Charlotte will gather as part of a worldwide movement known as Gather the Women. The events being held around the world are in celebration of International Women's Day 2003. Charlotte's Gather the Women event on March 8 will be held at Unity of Charlotte from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. On this day, women around the world will be participating in similar events to celebrate women's true worth, express shared concerns and create and support actions helping humanity live peacefully together and thrive in a world based on life-affirming values. There is no charge for participation and a reception will be held after the event.

A New Tapestry of Being

Estelle Spike will present her workshop "A New Tapestry of Being" on March 1. Spike is a renowned workshop leader and author. She has linked her workshops in Portugal, England and the USA to other visionary and humanitarian events taking place around the world at the request of the international group Women of Vision and Action. WOVA, creator of Gather the Women, is a network of women leaders who believe vision and spirit-based action create positive change in the world.

Carrie Wilkinson, who along with Jane

Silverman, is behind the Charlotte events, said, "We are thrilled to join the many groups around the world, participating in this inclusive women's movement of all cultural, ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds, beliefs and ideologies. Charlotte's stature as an international business center and international community makes an event of this nature especially appropriate here."

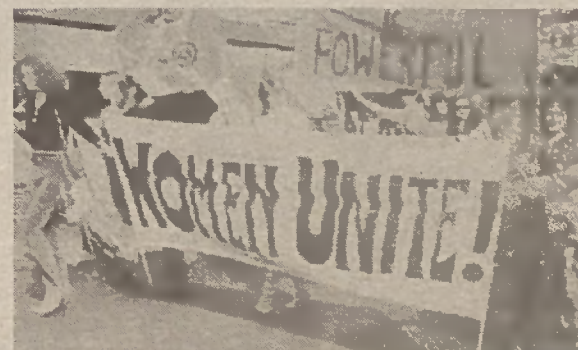
The Charlotte events will provide opportunities for honoring women who have paved the way, enjoying inspirational performers and engaging in a number of activities.

info: Workshop & Gather The Women

March 1: "Tapestry" Workshop
10:30 am - 3:30 pm

March 8:
Gather The Women
10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Unity of Charlotte .
1000 E. Woodlawn Road
between Park Rd & South Blvd, closer to Park
Jane: 704-865-7151 email:
gtwclt@yahoo.com



no matter the language, the message is clear

Black Church Week of Prayer for healing HIV/AIDS

The AIDS Leadership Foothills-area Alliance (ALFA) will observe the 14th annual event March 2-8, 2003

HICKORY, NC — The Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS is a vehicle for spiritual renewal, transformation and HIV prevention education for every individual and Church community that participates. The week of prayer begins on the first Sunday in March and continues for seven days in African American communities across the country. This AIDS awareness week is modeled after

the innovative Harlem Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS, established in 1989 by Pernessa C. Seele, CEO of The Balm In Gilead.

The purpose of the Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS is to bring national attention to the role Black churches are playing in the AIDS crisis. The program seeks to pave the way for continuous mobilization and education for the implementation of AIDS prevention and support programs in our Churches. The Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS is the launching point for mobilizing African American

Churches to become centers for AIDS education and compassionate care.

Today, The Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS is the largest AIDS awareness program targeting African American communities, with 77 AIDS service organizations and health departments across the United States who have joined in partnership with The Balm In Gilead to support Churches in educating their communities and advocating for persons with HIV. Our Churches build ministries speaking to the suffering people endure because of the disease; seeking to conquer the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS; and working to enhance HIV education, prevention and care in Black communities worldwide.

Today, more than 10,000 Churches in the United States participate in this international awareness campaign. The Balm In Gilead is building a bridge to work together to address the AIDS pandemic. Every Church is invited to support those who work to make their church communities centers for HIV/AIDS education, prevention, treatment and care.

Your Church can participate in the Black Church Week of Prayer for the

Healing of AIDS in the following ways:

- On March 2, Pastor's can sermon on HIV/AIDS and the role of the Church.
- Provide HIV prevention education and treatment information to your congregation and community.
- Host at least one HIV/AIDS educational program and prayer service during the week.
- Host a "Get Tested" workshop to educate Church members/community on the importance of knowing your HIV status, and to address the fears and stigma about testing.

ALFA will host the following events during the Week of Prayer:

- Sunday, March 2, 4:00 pm
Worship service at St. Paul AME Church, Lenoir.
- Saturday, March 8, 6:00 pm
Gospel Benefit at Thomas Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church in Conover, NC.

info: AIDS Leadership Foothills Alliance / ALFA 828-326-2384



ONLINE Q.POLL
www.q-notes.com

How many women worldwide are infected with HIV/AIDS?

9 million . 10-19 million
20-29 million . 30 million+

answer will be with results

Q.POLL RESULTS: 29