

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DO-IT-YOURSELF LANDSCAPE

The Glen Eden Pilot Park will be offering a one-night landscape maintenance course. Topics to be covered include lawn seeding, weed control, pruning, insect and disease control, planting and transplanting. The class will be held on Tuesday, April 25, from 7-10 p.m. The cost is \$15 which covers handouts and reference material. Pre-registration is required by April 17. For further information call 755-6833.

FAMILY DAY

On Sunday, April 30, the grounds of Mordecai House on Mimosa Street will come alive with colonial crafts, activities and music. A family event sponsored by Artsplasure, the United Way and Mordecai House, this free afternoon of events will take place from 1-5 p.m. Highlighting the music presentations will be a 2 p.m. concert and a 4 p.m. concert by Gemini.

JOINT RECITAL

The public is invited to a joint Senior Recital by pianists Helena Manigault and Marlon West at the North Carolina Central University Music Building Auditorium at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 30. Admission is free.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Raleigh City Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 2, to hear citizens' views on the proposed Community development activities for the 1989-90 fiscal year.

The hearing will be held at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, Raleigh Municipal Building, 223 W. Hargett St.

The Community Development Department expects to receive \$1.9 million in revenue, which includes a \$1.3 million federal community development block grant. Proposed expenditures include \$669,488 for rehabilitation work, \$305,763 for acquisition of property, \$110,000 for developers' incentives for a multi-family housing project, \$58,000 for relocation expenses, \$31,000 for demolition work, \$21,680 for property maintenance, \$57,566 for contingency funds and nearly \$715,000 for program management.

CANCER AWARENESS

"Advances in Cancer Treatments" will be the topic of the next lecture in the Rex Cancer Awareness Series Tuesday, May 2, from 7-9 p.m. at Rex Cancer Center, 4420 Lake Boone Trail, Raleigh. For information, call 782-5099. The lectures are free of charge.

FICTION CONFERENCE

Mystery, science fiction and romance writers will hone their skills at the second annual Away With Words Fiction Conference, May 5-7. This \$85 weekend event at the Crabtree Marriott Hotel will include a tour of the SBI, workshops on writing and selling, editor and agent appointments and book signings. For registration details, call 1-596-2997 or 542-2163.

MAKE PERIOD JEWELRY

Making Mother's Day gifts will be the emphasis at the Museum of History's "Saturday at the Museum" workshop series Saturday, May 6. From 10:30 a.m. to noon, in a "Yesterday's Jewelry" workshop, participants will create old-fashioned jewelry from bits of ribbon, dried flowers and beads.

Connie Belton, crafts instructor, will lead participants as they make pins suitable for wearing or for giving as Mother's Day gifts. For inspiration, Ms. Belton will provide illustrations of period jewelry.

The workshop is designed for ages 8 and up. Admission fee is \$5 for materials.

For details and registration, call the museum at 733-3894 in Raleigh.

AUDITIONS FOR "FENCES"

Auditions for August Wilson's "Fences" will be held May 8-9 at 7:30 p.m. at 107 Pullen Road. The Tony Award-winning Broadway play will be directed by David Wood and opens June 16. This is a contemporary drama, with a seven-person, all-black cast. Please prepare a one-minute monologue. For details, call 755-6058.

SMALL BUSINESS WORKSHOP

President Bush has designated May 7-13 as Small Business Week 1989. The SCORE chapter of Raleigh will hold a workshop, "How to Start and Stay in a Small Business," at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh on May 13 from 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The \$30 fee includes coffee and Danish snacks, a buffet luncheon and program instruction materials. Obtain registration forms at Wake County banks, public library branches, Chamber of Commerce offices and the North Carolina Department of Commerce, or call SCORE at 856-4739. Registration closes May 7.

Artsplasure To Celebrate 10th Anniversary

Artsplasure, the Raleigh Arts Festival, is offering up a rich variety of experiences and surprises. This spring, Artsplasure will celebrate its 10th birthday and all are invited to the festivities.

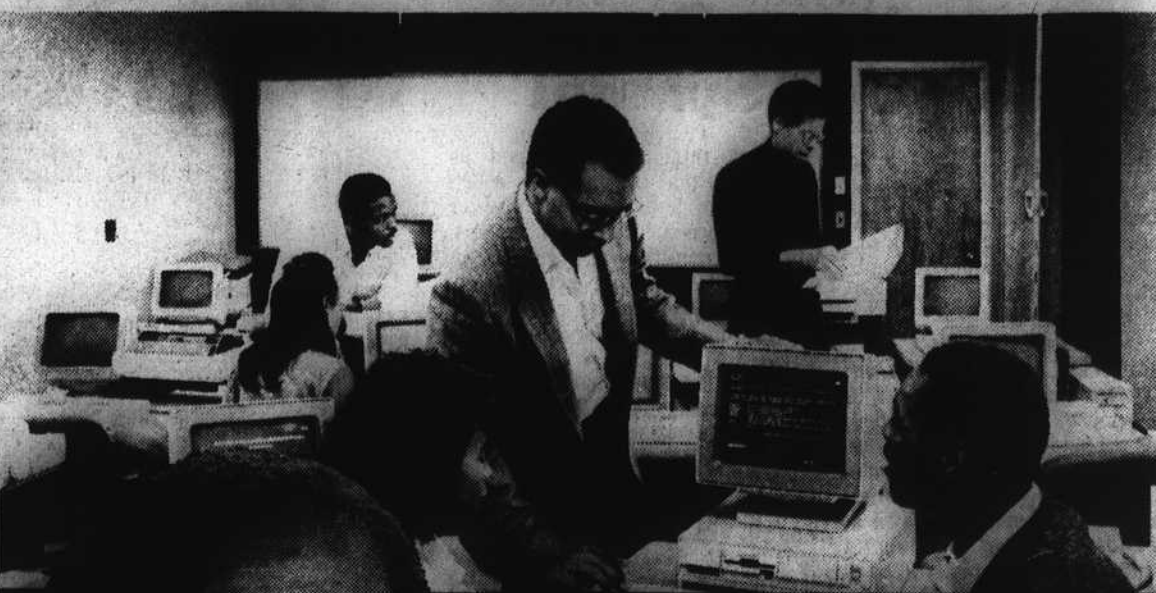
Beginning on April 28 will be Artsplasure's opening ceremonies and with Artsplasure will be the Greater Raleigh Weekend presenting the Four Tops with the North Carolina Symphony. Artsplasure will enliven its city for 10 continuous days and will end with a grand finale during the Weekend Celebration May 6-7.

The festival encompasses the Italian Family Day at the North Carolina Museum of Art, the traditional visual and performing arts at the Mordecai Historic Park, children's performances during lunchtime on the Fayetteville Street Mall, the National Opera Company presenting "Cinderella," local and national visual artists who will display and sell their works for two days, and the list goes on... children's activities, a food court... and it gets better... on the weekend of May 6 and 7 look for Mike Cross, for he will be performing for all of Raleigh.

For more information or to volunteer, call 890-3196.

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Lawyer Says Physician Racial Climate Victim

CHICAGO, Ill. (AP)—The lawyer for a physician convicted 21 years ago of killing his wife says his client was the victim of the "anti-black climate," but the attorney who prosecuted the case says that argument ignores the facts.

Dr. John Marshall Branion, now 63, was tried for the murder of his wife one month after Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination sparked rioting in Chicago's black community in April 1968.

The jury had 11 whites and "one timid black woman," contended Anthony D'Amato, a law professor at Northwestern University who has taken the case on a pro bono basis.

"This is potentially one of the biggest, most scandalous cases in American law," D'Amato said in an interview last Thursday. "I've never in my life seen a case of provable innocence such as this."

But Patrick Tuite, the assistant Cook County state's attorney who prosecuted the case, said anti-black feeling was not a factor in the conviction.

"There was stronger anti-police bias in Chicago at the time than anti-black feelings," he said. "He [Branion] had a better chance to show that there was a police conspiracy against him. Law and order sentiment is stronger now than it was then."

A filmmaker and a journalist want to tell Branion's story, but they have been denied interviews with the inmate by Illinois prison officials.

Documentary filmmaker Michael Niederman said he believes officials are afraid of another case like that portrayed in "A Thin Blue Line"—the documentary film that led to the release of convicted murderer Randall Adams in Texas.

Nic Howell, a spokesman for the state Department of Corrections, said the refusal was based on concern for the security of Branion and the fact that the journalists want to observe Branion for a day-long or week-long period.

"We're concerned about the safety of the inmate," Howell said. "When inmates get publicity, other inmates tend to look negatively upon that, and that causes a concern for their safety."

Branion, who was King's physician during the 1968 open housing marches in Chicago, is serving a 30- to 30-year

sentence at the state penitentiary in Dixon for the December 1967 slaying of his wife, Donna.

"Of all the months in 1968 the worst one for a black to go on trial for murder would have to be right after Dr. King's assassination," said Niederman, whose previous documentary, "Voices from Northern Ireland," has aired on the PBS network. "And that's when his trial was."

D'Amato said Branion's defense attorney failed to interview or call as witnesses 20 people who could have shown that he was not home but examining patients at a hospital when his wife was shot.

Cook County Circuit Court Judge Reginald Holzer, who presided over Branion's trial, has since been jailed on extortion charges stemming from the Operation Greyford federal probe of corruption in the county court system.

"The climate was very anti-black at that time," D'Amato said. "[The jury] thought the state wouldn't be bringing charges if he wasn't guilty."

But Tuite, now in private practice, said Branion's attorney had the opportunity to present witnesses, calling the attorney, Maurice Scott, "a very good black attorney."

"I've seen Branion's petitions," he said. "They ignore a lot of facts that did him harm, [like] the gun and bullets, the girlfriends, the call to his sister-in-law to take his wife to lunch [the day of the slaying], something he had never done before."

Branion fled the country in 1971 after losing an appeal, and was captured in Uganda.

COMPLETES COURSE

Army Reserve Pvt. Taifa Y. Whitley, daughter of Barbara F. Whitley of 703 Smithdale Drive, Raleigh, has completed an Army food service specialist course at Fort Dix, N.J.

The course trained personnel to prepare and serve food in large and small quantities. Students received training in baking, field kitchen operations, and the operation of an Army dining facility.

Her grandmother, Martha L. Coph, resides at 1204 E. Elm St., Goldsboro.

The private is a 1988 graduate of Athens Senior High School, Raleigh.

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