

Haiti Update



Stan Wiebe is making plans for his fall trek to Haiti, and as usual he won't be going alone; 12 others will be with him. They plan to deliver gifts of money and 52 pairs of tennis shoes, among other things. The money will go toward buying bolts of fabric for school uniforms. The shoes will go to the Girls and Boys Home, where 20 girls and 32 boys greatly need new shoes. To help defray the costs, please consider making a gift of \$18 for a pair of shoes or \$5 for a child's school uniform. Contact Stan at 834-7626 ext. 26 or swiebe@bellsouth.net.



David Valerin, a teenager at Children's Home in Haiti.

Women Growing Together

Women are coming together at BTM on Monday nights, through August 6, to fellowship, pray, learn from invited speakers, and share from their hearts. The following is a letter from one of the "summer campers" to Reggelyn Edwards, Director of Ministries at Building Together. For more information on this program, contact Ms. Edwards at erw_btm@bellsouth.net or 834-7626, ext. 15.



Jennifer Ennis, left, Paula Rinehart, with Reggelyn Edwards – presenters at one of Summer Camp for Women sessions.

Good morning, Reggie!

I just wanted to let you know that these (Summer Camp for Women) speakers you are getting are FABULOUS! I'm really enjoying myself. This past Monday was a hard day for me - I was tired emotionally and physically and after the session I felt "lifted." Reggie, I do believe that there are so many women out there who are hungry for these sessions. They are looking for some kind of release, somewhere they can let all the barriers down and just be heard. A place to get wisdom from their sisters who have it and to just be themselves. That's what I'm getting from Summer Camp. I'm also learning not to be so judgmental because you don't know what somebody else has had to go through to get to the point where they are.

Just wanted to let you know you're doing a great job

Dreams Do Come True



Andi Hughes, left, and Anna Neal Blanchard, her senior friend.

It has been said that you can never dream too big, but you can think too little. Dreaming too big is not a problem for Andi Hughes, and she will tell you as much. Andi, a participant in Building Together's FRIENDS Program, graduated from high school in Columbia, S.C., where she has lived for the past two years. The former Halifax Court resident will be moving from South Carolina this fall to attend North Carolina State University on an Air Force ROTC scholarship to study computer science. "BTM and Anna Neal Blanchard (her senior friend), taught me how to overcome my circumstances, I would not be where I am today without Building Together, no doubt about it."

Andi and Shediah Ector, featured in a previous newsletter, recently received scholarships from BTM. Good work, ladies! Also congratulations to Quincy Pickett and Ronette Steadman, two other recent high school graduates from Building Together Youth programs.

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POINTS *of* HOPE

The Newsletter of Building Together Ministries

Summer 2001

Plans and Dreams

A word from Helen and Freddy

Many thanks for all those who helped make our fourth annual banquet one to be remembered. Many have said this seemed to be the best ever. This year's theme was City Lights, featuring individuals who "let their light shine" as they live and work in the inner city. The decorative centerpieces, enhanced with a lighted cross and flowers, were created from rubble that had been gathered from the remains of Halifax Court. The centerpieces symbolized the anticipated beauty of the rebuilding of Halifax. The guest speaker this year was our friend Chris Rice, co-author of *More Than Equals*. He brought an inspiring message concerning God's heart for racial reconciliation. It truly was a wonderful evening attended by a record crowd of approximately 700 people.

Yes, the former Halifax Court is now only a pile of rubble, but with God's help and the partnership of His "wallbuilders" we believe Eugene Peterson's interpretation of Isaiah 58 beautifully describes the hope of things to come: "you'll use the old rubble of past lives, rebuild the foundations from out of the past. You'll be known as those who can fix anything, restore old ruins, rebuild and renovate, make the community livable again."

We know that nothing of lasting value can be accomplished without the Lord's help and the partnership of His many and diverse "wallbuilders." Thank you fellow restorers, rebuilders, and renovators - we pray God's blessings on you for not only your prayers and continued financial support, but also for faithfully volunteering.



Centerpiece for BTM annual banquet at the Raleigh Civic Center.

Plans and Dreams

Building Together and Hope Elementary want to express their deepest thanks to the many, many individuals, businesses, foundations, churches, and civic groups that enable us to continue our work in the inner city. Because of space limitations, we are unable to thank the hundreds of individuals who offer volunteer and financial support to us. We pray that they know how much they are valued and appreciated!

Following is a list of businesses, churches and groups who have given to BTM in the past 12 months. We are grateful for their support and encouragement.

Churches

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
Agape Word Fellowship
Asbury UMC
Bay View Gospel
Bethlehem Baptist
Calvary Presbyterian
Celebration Family Church
Christ Baptist
Christ Community
Christ Covenant
Christ Episcopal
Cokesbury UMC
Danville UMC
Dearborn Hills UMC
Duraleigh Presbyterian
Edenton Street UMC
Emmanuel Baptist
First Baptist
First Presbyterian
Fulfilled Promise Tabernacle
Greystone Baptist
Hayes Barton Baptist
Hayes Barton UMC
Highland UMC
Hillyer Memorial Christian
Holy Trinity Lutheran
Hudson Memorial
Jenkins Memorial
Just Blessed Baptist
Millbrook UMC
Mount Peace Baptist
Powerhouse Church
Providence Baptist
Pullen Memorial
Raleigh International
Ridge Road Baptist
St. Michael's Episcopal
St. Mark's Methodist
Tabernacle Baptist
Trinity UMC
West Raleigh Presbyterian
White Memorial Presbyterian
White Plains UMC
Raleigh Mennonite

Businesses

ACCU-FAB, Inc.
Bagwell and Bagwell

Baker and Lovette Construction
Baker Roofing
Barker Realty, Inc.
BB&T
Brown's Alignment
Castlemen's Veterinary
CNL American Properties
Commercial Business Machines
Community Properties, Inc.
Computer Associates
CP&L (Progress Energy)
D & H Maintenance
Diane's Wallpaper
Mel Dean and Associates
Educational Planning, Inc.
Fallons Florist
First Citizens Bank
First Colony Property Co.
General Parts, Inc.
GlaxoSmithKline
Grubb Properties, Inc.
ITRA/ M. Rich Company
Jet Realty
KNH Investments
K-Mart
Lewis and Roberts PLLC
Logan Trading Company
Matthews Motors, Inc.
McHenry Media Associates
McZig Company
Newcomb and Co.
North Raleigh Optometrics
Outdoor Provision Co.
Pfizer Foundation
Poyner and Spruill
Putnam Investor Services
Ready Mixed Concrete
Regency Development Association
Scott and Stringfellow, Inc.
Sharper Image
Simpson and Underwood
C. G. Smith Consultants, Inc.
Sir Walter Realty
Special Effects by KM Reece
Storr Office Environments
Strawbridge Studios, Inc.
Stroke of Faith, Inc.
T. G. Drake, Inc
Target

TEKELEC
AYA International Textiles and Crafts
Thomas, Judy and Tucker, PA
Thornhill and Company
Underwood Group
Wakestone Corporations
Wilson Photography

Others

Blanchard Fund
Camp Oak Hill
Campbell Divinity School
Charitable Gift Fund
Child Evangelism Fellowship
Christian Community In Action
Clubs in the City
Cozart Foundation
Delta Kappa Gamma Society
Dr. Scott Earp
Exploris
Fitzgerald Family Foundation
Fore The Lord
Dr. Mary Susan Fulghum
Grace Christian Academy
Heart of Carolina Homeschoolers
Junior League of Raleigh
Junior Women's Club
McCullers Ruritanettes
Dr. Knox McMillan
Meredith College students
NC Community Foundation
North Carolina State University students
Palin Foundation
Peace College Students
Poole Pediatrics, PC
Rotary Club of Raleigh
Russell Charitable Foundation
Sidney Scott Endowment Trust
SEI Trust
Sloan Foundation
St. Timothy's School
Summer Rest Foundation
Triangle Community Foundation
Triangle United Way
United Way of Tri-State
Wake County Human Services
Women's Aglow Fellowship
YMCA - Camp Sea Gull
Camp Seafarer

Senior Moments

"It's a Southern kind of thing."

Those are the words Es'Dorn Westbrook used to describe her large screened-in back porch. Beyond this peaceful haven of easy chairs there is a garden, dazzling in its variety of flowers throughout the year. Shared comfort and peace and beauty, this is the stuff that friendships are made of.

On a spring morning earlier this year, Es'Dorn brought her best quilts out to her porch and spread them on tables. She laid out her

best linen and china. She was expecting three special guests from the Murphy School Apartments for the elderly: Louise Hardy, Louise Hinson, and Aileen Tunstall. They came with Helen Johnson, Es'Dorn's friend of 30 years, and Linda Riggins of Building Together to have lunch in Es'Dorn's garden.

During the previous Christmas Es'Dorn had baked her friendship cakes, spicy nut loaves from her mother's recipe. Through Helen,



Es'Dorn Westbrook, left and Louise Hardy

she'd blessed several at Murphy School with the cakes. It is a little thing, the sharing of a baked good, but to this talented woman, "little things can grow into great gifts from God." That day during their first face-to-face meeting, they talked and laughed like old friends. They even planned a wedding for eighty-three year old Louise Hardy in Es'Dorn's garden ...that is, after Louise finds Mr. Right #3. To Es'Dorn, that day was a gift from God. The ladies gave her a great gift of friendship and love in return for comfort and peace and beauty.



From left to right: Aileen Tunstall, Louise Hardy, Linda Riggins (BTM) and Louise Hinson.

After-School Academy

Linda Riggins is making plans for Hope Elementary's K-4 after school academy. The main focus will be Christian discipleship, with special emphasis on improving reading skills. Weekly reading leaders are needed, as well as Bible Study leaders for groups of 2 to 4 kids. A commitment of an hour a week is ideal. Donations of snacks are also needed. The hours have been

extended (2:45 pm to 5:30 pm), creating a need for four part-time staffers. If you're interested, contact Linda at 834-7626 ext. 21 or email her at rlf_btm@bellsouth.net.



Come shop at the NeighborStore

(Use Poplar Street entrance)

Wednesdays

9 am to 5 pm

Saturdays

8:30 am to 1:30 pm

Everyone is invited to shop.

Tuned In Youth Project Camp

From June 11 through July 13, eight Raleigh teens at Building Together will go through a series of strategic challenge initiatives. They'll be taking part in the Tuned In Youth Project (TIYP, pronounced 'type') Summer Camp. TIYP is a grant funded youth initiative led by Dawnn Breynae, Building Together's Youth Program Director. The TIYP Summer Camp, a first for Building Together, is a powerful and unique team-building day camp for teens.

Throughout the camp they will create a web site, a newsletter, and a public service announcement (PSA) for television. TIYP Camp is a joint effort between Building Together and Group Dynamics, Inc.

This different 'tiyp' of camp is designed to develop:

- community
- cooperation
- problem solving
- personal awareness

Planning, Planting and Playing Together

The children of Playing Together Preschool have just completed another exciting year of hands-on learning and exploration. This year, 16 three and four year olds from Raleigh's public housing communities had the opportunity to attend a structured learning environment for 3 to 3 1/2 hours each morning. During this time the children develop reading readiness skills, positive socialization experiences, and a love for learning that will prepare them for success in kindergarten.

We will continue to need your financial support in the coming year.

We extend thanks to:

- financial contributors who gave generously to support

our program this year.

- the Landis family for volunteering to maintain our large and bountiful garden.



The Landis Family

Join us for our Prayer Walks

Beginning in the fall as the neighborhood is being rebuilt.

Interested: call Helen Johnson 828-8220

BTM Board Members

Freddy Johnson, *President*

Val Edwards, *Chairman*

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Cliff Thomas, *Treasurer*

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Haiti Liaison

Kathy Boos - *Playing Together*

Preschool Director