

Second Saturday Net

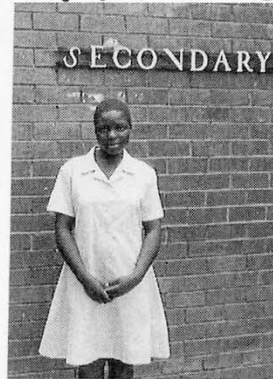
PROJECT VECINOS 2001

Last year, Second Saturday Network was awarded a Project Vecinos Grant by The Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County that allowed us to create a penpal connection between Santa Cruz area teens and young people living in Harare, Zimbabwe. It also helped to support Second Saturday Net Newsletter and a youth retreat for Santa Cruz High's Black Student Union. Last month we were awarded a \$600 extension grant and have also received \$400 from other local funders that will be used to cover newsletter costs and to create a literary magazine with original writing and art work by young people. If you have something to contribute, please send it to us at anytime at:

**Second Saturday Network
Post Office Box 8347
Santa Cruz CA 95061**



Wanda Conaway-Knight,, Shoshonna Levi, Aliison Sampson-Anthony, Jahmara Craft & Nubra Floyd at the Project Vecinos Award Ceremony Aug 2001 Photo by Mic Podorson



Apr 2002

LETTER FROM ZIMBABWE

Let me first of all thank you for your kindness you showed to me. My name is Pamela Chakaoma. I am a girl aged 15 years old. I am doing Form 2 at Higfield Secondary School in Zimbabwe. On the following year 2002 I will be doing Form 3 at the same school. I am very happy that I received \$50us from you as part of my school fees. May I say:

Let God give more unto those who can give to the poor.

Just for your information, my mother passed away in 1999 and my father is a disabled man. I thank God because I now live with my mother's sister. She has also her own problems but, however, we are struggling to survive. I hope to continue communicating with you if God allows us to. Otherwise, how is your family. Greetings to friends and family.

Thank you. PAMELA CHAKAOMA

**\$\$\$HIGHFIELD DOLLARS♥♥
GIVE WHATEVER YOU CAN**



Teacher J. Mugwagwa and Headmaster Mashoko and Highfield Class visited by Nubra - Mar 2002
Photo by Gwen Fischer

PAAS-SCHS BSU

AFRICAN AMERICAN GRADUATION

4PM SUNDAY JUNE 9TH 2002

PROGRESSIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
517 CENTER STREET

RECEPTION - LOUDEN NELSON
CENTER & LAUREL ST - DOWNTOWN SANTA CRUZ

Everyone Welcome!



Chaelynn Freechild aka Myron Briggs at home in WashingtonDC - Apr 2001
Photo by nef

[Excerpted from MT OLIVET by Chaelynn Freechild]
Breanna. Breanna and I go back to when I first came to live in Washington, D.C. That was in October of 1989, days before the Loma Prieta Earthquake. When I first saw Breanna in the gift shop at a Smithsonian Museum on the Mall where we both briefly worked, I said, *Oh no!* Because she looked like she really didn't want to be bothered. But as I approached her for directions to a vegetarian restaurant there was something about her face that told me, *She would know.* And she did. She wasn't nearly as rude as I had expected. We've been friends ever since. Well, not exactly. Breanna believes in Peace on Earth and that we are fully capable of attaining it. This world which abounds with so much madness, she sees with red lips sweet as nectar. To Breanna, this world is overflowing and bristling with love and our future is bright. I miss Breanna the builder of peace altars. I miss the woman with the healing waters and flower remedies. The cultural icon with her crystals and cowerie shells who had the nerve to tell me, *Just stop. You are not going back to California. You are one of us now.* I miss Breanna, all wrapped up in bright color tossing back her dreadlocks. Breanna, with her spirit fetishes. Breanna the original hippie, a true authentic flower child. *Everybody knows I'm the one. I'm the only one. I'm the one the call the seventh son.* Breanna, stepping through Haight Ashbury, past Sly Stone and Jimi Hendrix, the Chambers Brothers, Buddy Miles and Janis Joplin. She was out in the flow of things raising her fist--FREE ANGELA! FREE HUEY! She fully embraced the philosophy of free love. MAKE LOVE NOT WAR. She has seen it all, and more. She's lived places and met people I can only imagine. She was a young woman dancing through the poppy fields of California and chanting POWER TO THE PEOPLE, when I was a mere child growing up. Breanna is in many ways more Californian than I am, even though she was born and raised in the District of Columbia. There are things I don't have to explain to her, because she understands the modern lifestyle of California, she helped create it. What she and others were doing during the Sixties in San Francisco slowly drifted to the sleepy tidewater of the Sacramento River Valley where I grew up. ☒

This issue written and edited by Nubra Floyd with Maureen Littlejohn serving as Project Leader f - April 2002

Q & A SJSU AFAM 110

EDUCATION OF THE BLACK CHILD

Q#1: WHAT FACTORS CONTRIBUTE MOST TO THE EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS OF BLACK CHILDREN?

A#1: AFRICAN STYLE SUPPORTS PROVIDED BY CHURCH AND FRATERNAL GROUPS AS WELL AS BY EXTENDED FAMILY AND NEIGHBORS ...See: Janice Hale's *Black Children : Their Roots, Culture and Learning Style.* (1986)

Q#2: WHAT ARE THE MAJOR OBSTACLES TO A BLACK CHILD'S EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT?

A#2: HISTORIC EXPERIENCES OF ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION, SOCIAL EXCLUSION, AND POLITICAL ABUSE CONTRIBUTING TO A CATASTROPHIC WORLD VIEW AND NEGATIVE SENSE OF SELF... See: Shelby Steele's *Content of Our Character: A New Vision of race in America.* (1991)

Q#3: WHAT CAN A BLACK CHILD GAIN FROM A PREDOMINANTLY WHITE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE?

A#3: THE SOCIAL AND INTELLECTUAL SKILLS NEEDED TO COPE EFFECTIVELY WITH AN EXCLUSIONARY POWER STRUCTURE AND/OR TO INNOCULATE HIM OR HER AGAINST DEVELOPING A NEGATIVE SENSE OF SELF... See: Zweigenhaft & Domhoff's *Blacks in the White Establishment? A Study of Race and Class in America.* (1991)

Q#4: WHAT ARE THE UNIQUE EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGES FACED BY YOUNG BLACK GIRLS?

A#4: THEY ARE OFTEN EXPECTED TO PROVIDE EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR OTHERS AND NOT ENCOURAGED TO FULLY DEVELOP THEIR OWN SOCIAL AND INTELLECTUAL CAPACITIES...See: Peggy Orenstein's *School Girls : Young Women, Self Esteem and the Confidence Gap* (1995)

Q#5: HOW CAN A BLACK GIRL'S SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS BEST BE MET?

A#5: THROUGH AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIPS WITH BLACK WOMEN WHO HELP THEM DEVELOP AN EFFECTIVE SENSE OF PERSONAL VOICE...See: Taylor, Gilligan & Sullivan's *Between Voice and Silence: Women and Girls: Race and Relationship* (1995)

How Many of You Recall?



Second Saturday School's Natural Bridges Fieldtrip - Apr 1997