

Second Saturday Net

NEW LOOK FOR A NEW YEAR!

Oct 2001

We're going to a new two-page format, so we can get the newsletter out to you more often, and we plan to feature a wider array of community events and activities this year. We'll also be including monthly flyers with information about ongoing projects that may be of special interest to the families of Black and Mixed Heritage youth. This month's enclosure announces a new advising service for anyone thinking about college. For more information you can leave us a message at: **(831) 427 3487**

LETTERS FROM ZIMBABWE

[This is part of a letter received in April of last year] I am Mrs. Sesulelo Kehle of Highfield High School. I have taught quite a number of very intelligent children from poor backgrounds I have watched them and hoped for a brighter future for most of them only to see their hopes thwarted, shattered and frustrated, because they could not afford any courses after "O" Level. Most are too expensive for children from these backgrounds. The government assisted colleges are oversubscribed, and typically it is the privileged who get access, so I would like to have the children from a poor background helped if possible. Let me describe the kinds of students I have taught who have failed to find something meaningful to do. These are only examples: There is a girl (the mother has passed away), who has tried to do a Hotel Management course but failed to hold down a sustaining job, so she went on to do a Diploma in Education. families, communities and eventually even a nation! She hoped to attend college, but all has been to no avail. Now she wants to try something medical, like pharmacy or nursing--any chance for her there? There are two boys, who have also lost their mother and are sole breadwinners for their families. One holds an "A" Level Certificate, the other an "O" Level Certificate, and they are now stuck, because there is no one to take care of them. We also have many holding "O" Level Certificates, whose parents might still be alive but do not have means to help their children. Please help me help these children. Their success will be the success of whole families, communities and eventually even a nation!

\$\$\$ DOLLARS FOR HIGHFIELD \$\$\$



Highfield's dual session enrollment maximizes access to an over crowded facility -Jan 2000 photo by Mic Podorson

Last year we officially established a school-to-school connection between Highfield Secondary in Harare, Zimbabwe and Santa Cruz High. This year we want to create a Second Saturday Africa Fund to help Highfield students stay in school. If each network household contributes even one dollar, we can provide tuition for a dozen young people in need. If any of us can give more, we can do still more! Please complete the green card (even if you are unable to give at this time) and send it to us in the self-addressed envelope enclosed, or mail to us:

Second Saturday Network
POB 8347 Santa Cruz 95061

Welcome Home Carolyn & Bill!



Bill Shaw, Headmaster Forbes Mashoko, Carolyn Martin-Shaw, Teacher Alfred Dende & Nubra Floyd - Jan 2000
photo by Mic Podorson



Teacher Sesulelo Kehle at Harare meeting - Dec 2000

THE EYES

by: Mary Guarte

The eyes...they see the stories
they see the hurt and pain
they see the tears and the stupidity
they know what they have seen is real
they can never forget what they have seen
they have seen good and they have seen bad
the most that is seen is bad
the most that is memorable is bad
when does the good come into the picture?
The smile...is masking hurt that has been experienced
is masking the pain and tears
is saying good bye to all the pain
is saying I am happy on the outside
is saying I am hurting on the inside
is saying I am connected to my students
that says I enjoy my job--that says I am serious about what I do
that says when does the rest of my life begin?

Q&A

Dear Nubra:

My name is Liliana. I'm 14 years old. I'm Mexican but born here in Santa Cruz. I still consider myself Mexican though. I like traveling. I travel a lot to Mexico. I usually go to Michuacan and Guadalajara. I really don't go out of the state. If I don't travel to Mexico, I travel to Nevada. That's real fun too. I have two sisters. One is 18 years old and the other just turned 4. for writing I prefer poems.

I'm really not that interested in Zimbabwe that much. I would like to travel to Africa. I'm interested in getting to know a different heritage. Not only would I like to know about Zimbabwe, but also about other parts of Africa, so my interest isn't just Zimbabwe.

Sincerely,

Liliana Aguado

Dear Liliana

September 25, 2001

Thanks for your March 12th letter and for telling me something about who you are. I was born in Cleveland, Ohio and think of myself as an African American. I also enjoy traveling but have mostly made trips back and forth across the United States. My only visit to Mexico was in 1996, when I drove across the border with friends from Tucson, Arizona into Nogales. We spent the day there shopping, and I am still enjoying some of the gifts I brought back with me, like the Chakina rug at the foot of my bed. I was raised in a mostly Black community, but some of my ancestors were Native American, and I feel very drawn to that aspect of Mexican art and culture.

You may recall that when I came to your AVID class, last Spring, I said I was very pleased that your letter expressed an interest in learning about other African countries besides Zimbabwe. When I made my second trip to Africa last December, I made a point to spend some time in South Africa as well as Zimbabwe and particularly enjoyed the lovely and lively city of Durban, which is on the Indian Ocean and boasts a rich blend of African, European and Asian cultural elements. Perhaps when you write to students at Highfield, you can ask them about their impressions of South Africa and other nearby nations. I hope you'll also share with them some of your experiences in Mexico.

Sincerely,

Nubra Elaine Floyd, PhD



Robert Munroe and Ruth Munroe (1977, pp. 145-46) examined cooperation versus competition among rural/traditional children and among urban/industrial children. They compared Kikuyu children from a peri-urban, semitransitional community in Kenya with suburban United States children.

A comparison was made of the performance of the children on a board game. The goal of the game could be reached more effectively through subtle cooperation than through competition.

They concluded that the African children were more cooperative than the American children because of the socialization they receive. Socialization in sub-Saharan Africa universally emphasizes strong pressures toward compliance. This compliance training has been found to affect both conformity and obedience. The findings of this study indicate that cooperative behavior may also be affected by compliance training.

The Kikuyu children are involved in daily work activities in which they are requested by their parents to cooperate with others and comply with requests that offer no immediate tangible rewards (such as helping to carry firewood) or that provide rewards but are

shared (such as assisting with food preparation). The investigators suggest that this type of chore-performance produced by demanding compliance from a child may also teach the cooperative or turn-taking behavior that is shown in the board-game task of this study.

In comparison Munroe and Munroe found that the American children received a socialization that provided work experiences of a less cooperative nature. Their socialization emphasized individual rewards. Therefore, in the board-game task of the study they were less successful in reaching the goal because of the subtle cooperation required.

Plantain in Coconut Milk Kenya

- 3-4 peeled plantains, sliced
- 1 tsp. Cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/8 tsp. Cloves
- 1 tsp. Curry powder
- 1-2 cups coconut milk

combine all ingredients except coconut milk in a heavy saucepan. Pour in 1 cup of coconut milk and simmer over heat until plantain is very tender and milk is absorbed. Add more coconut milk if necessary. Serve Hot.

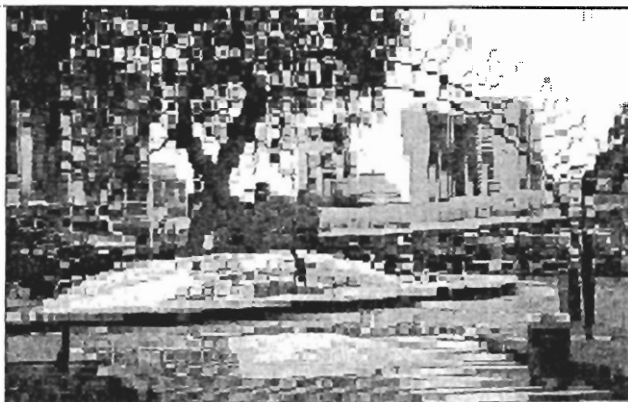
The Africa News Cookbook

Q & A?

Comments or questions about anything in this issue of Second Saturday Net? Like to make a contribution of funding? Like to submit art or copy? Please mail to:

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Santa Cruz, Ca. 95061

This issue written and edited by Nubra Floyd and Shoshonna Levi w/ additional photos by nef - October 2001



Gugu Dlamini Plaza in downtown Durban commemorates the death of one of South Africa's first AIDS awareness activists in the late 1980s
Dec 2000



COLLAGE by Eshia Horton