

Republic director attends conference

Boys and Girls Republic Residential Director Dyanne Jones recently participated in the national conferences of Black Child Welfare Administrators and the Child Welfare League of America, which were held consecutively in Washington, D.C.

BACW's annual conference focused on achieving successful outcomes for children and families by building on the strengths of Black families and communities.

"The CWLA's conference provided opportunities for participants to review pending legislation and to meet with members of the House and Senate."

Jones met with U.S. Representative John Conyers (D-Detroit) to discuss the Act To Leave No Child Behind, Title VIII of the Act proposes to restructure federal

financing to support the full range of services necessary to assist families in the child welfare system provide safe, nurturing care for their children, or when necessary, develop and implement an alternative permanency option for their children.

"The conferences allowed me to review child welfare programs from around the country," said Jones. "Even more important, we are able to tell government officials how their decisions directly affect some of the most vulnerable people in their districts—children."

Founded in 1890, Boys and Girls Republic in Farmington Hills is a residential treatment center for youths 12 to 18 who are delinquent, have suffered abuse/neglect or have emotional problems that require care.

On tour



Blooming: The Kenbrook Daisy Scouts recently toured the Farmington Hills Police Department and City Hall to help them learn more about their community. Mayor Nancy Bates gave the girls a tour of city council chambers. They are pictured with Police Chief Bill Dwyer and Crime Prevention Specialist Juliet McGlinch.

Power students win America & Me contest

Three Power Middle school students were named winners in the 33rd annual America & Me essay contest sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance.

The three students who earned the first, second, and third place awards for their school are Tony DeVito, first, Kaitlin White, second and Tori Guerrini, third.

All three received award certificates for their achievement.

"As the school's first place winner, Tony's name will also be engraved on a plaque for permanent display in the school," according to a school press

release.

Tony's first place essay now advances to the state competition from which the top 10 essays in Michigan will be selected.

The top 10 statewide winners who will be announced in April will receive plaques, cash and U.S. savings bonds valued from \$500-\$1,000.

Several thousand eighth grade students from about 525 Michigan schools participated in the 2001-2002 America and Me Essay contest.

Party from page A1

using her event planning and consultant skills. She charges \$15-\$35 an hour depending on the event. She said she likes to come up with themes for the cable show usually based on seasons of the year and perhaps which holiday is coming up.

"I am trying to stay ahead and focus on what's coming up like soon it will be summer, so I can plan different events people can plan to do."

She assured with her ideas, people

don't have to spend a great deal of money or time to impress their friends."

She noted her upcoming shows will be a three-part series about weddings and all the party planning involved. Unique Celebrations can be reached at (248) 202-6559 or by e-mail at jpualek@yahoo.com

"I'm interested in people telling me about the show," the planner added. "If people would like a show on a topic, they're welcome

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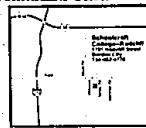
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