This year — 1988 — has been at times a rather trying period for a number of families who have lived in this particular community for a great number of years. We believe that the following poem, entitled "Eternal Life" by St. Francis of Assisi will provide a great deal of love and faith in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

ETERNAL LIFE
Lord, make me an instrument of Thy Peace!
Where there is hatred ... let me sow love.
Where there is doubt ... faith.
Where there is despair ... hope.
Where there is darkness ... light.
Where there is sadness ... joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek To be consoled ... as to console, To be understood ... as to understand, To be loved ... as to love;

For it is in giving ... that we receive;
It is in pardoning ... that we are pardoned;
It is in dying ... that we are born to eternal life.
—by St. Francis of Assisi

City of Rochester
City Council
NEWS
RELEASE

Maxine Childress Brown
South District Councilwoman Maxine Childress Brown announced that she will be holding a 12:30 P.M. press conference on Thursday, September 1, to discuss the resolutions she will be introducing to the City Council to establish a city policy regarding AIDS in the workplace. "We are seeking to avoid the potential introduction of discrimination and bias against AIDS victims into city hiring practices," Childress Brown said. "As AIDS continues to enlarge its shadow over our society, we must make every effort to educate people to prevent any possible unfairness which victims of the disease may encounter." Childress Brown added. City Council members will be joined at the press conference by Dr. William Valenti, head of AIDS research at University of Rochester’s Strong Memorial Hospital, and Jackie Nudd of AIDS Rochester, an outreach group serving AIDS victims and their families in the area.

The legislation, which comes in the form of a resolution, outlines many of the starting facts about how widespread the AIDS illness has become. The proposed policy would prohibit hiring discrimination by the city against any person who may be infected with AIDS, or a related disorder. "In the same fashion that we provide equal access to physically handicapped persons, we should provide equal opportunity and fairness to those who suffer from AIDS," stressed Childress Brown.

The proposed policy also includes provisions for confidentiality of illness information, and a determined educational training effort. "Education is certainly the best solution to the bias of ignorance," said Childress Brown. "People need to know how this disease is contracted, and how it is treated, in order to eliminate the fears they may have about contracting it themselves."

City Councilwoman Childress Brown will be contributing a column each month to the FREDDERICK DOUGLASS VOICE beginning in October.

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The date of the telecast "Parade of Stars" is December 17, 1988

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121st Anniversary Douglass Paper

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Black Inventors

"Invention is not peculiar to man, but in degree is characteristic of man."

Black inventions range from simple household conveniences to more complex mechanical devices which have proven to be of vital importance to business and industry. Some are as familiar as:

- The potato chip of Hyram S. Thomas, a Saratoga chef.
- The ice cream of Augustus Jackson, a Philadelphia confectioner (1832).
- The gold tee of George F. Grant.
- The mop-holder of Thomas W. Stewart.
- The player piano of J.H. and S.L. Dickinson.

Others are more complex, such as the lubricating machines of Elijah McCoy, electric street lighting of Louis H. Latimer, and the shoe-lasting machine of Jan Ernst Matthey.

One of the first black inventors was James Forten, who invented a method of sewing suits. The first patent issued and recorded to a black was to Henry Blair, of Md., a free black who obtained a patent for a corn harvester in 1814. In 1831, Jo Anderson, a black slave, assisted Cyrus McCormick in creating the grain harvester.

From 1872 until his death in 1910, Granville T. Woods invented many devices in the field of telegraphy, including telegraphing from moving trains.

Lewis Temple invented the toggle harpoon for whaling, which more than doubled the catch for this New England industry.

Harrie King, born a slave, was one of the foremost bridge engineers in the south before the Civil War.

Burns S. Jennings, a free black, patented a device for renovating clothes.

Dr. Norval Cobb Vaughan invented and patented a bullet-proof shield.

Norbert Hilliers, in 1848, invented and patented a vacuum can.

To page 2
"A Journey in search of the Dream"

BY REV. KENNETH DEAN
Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Rochester
From "Speaking Out" — Democrat & Chronicle, August 29, 1988

Twenty-five years ago yesterday, Martin Luther King, Jr. touched the world with his poetic speech, "I Have a Dream."

I had been a foot soldier in the army of people, black and white, who struggled toward that dream in those tumultuous years. Beginning in 1964, I spent 12 years in Mississippi, working with hundreds of others to open the doors of restaurants and other public places to black people, to better the schools, and guarantee the right to vote.

Recently I returned South to see how the dream was coming. I found much that was good, but I also saw the lingering poverty of the South.

"I have something positive to report"

BY WILLIE LIGHTFOOT
Executive Director of the South West Neighborhood Association
From the "Times-Union", August 31, 1988

I'm inspired to write because of the many negative articles that have been written in the last few years about the youths of the Jefferson Avenue/Genesee Street neighborhood. Not often enough do we write and publish the positive things about our "young people," as I choose to call them. I would like to report something positive that has happened here.

The Southwest Area Neighborhood Association (SWAN), the city, private contributors like the Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation and Joe and Lois Posner of the Rochester Area Foundation, and many dedicated volunteers, parents and staff people have made it possible to have a SWAN/Flower City Track and Field Program at the old Wilson Park/Madison High Field.

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Ronnie Thomas
RBOC General Manager

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The City School District has a Minority Business Enterprise Program to assist businesses owned by minority persons to more fully participate in contracting opportunities with the City School District.

One of the District’s first tasks is to identify responsible minority business enterprises. Businesses owned and controlled by minority persons are encouraged to participate in this program.

For more information about the MBE Program, please contact: Ronald C. Hopfer, Director of Procurement, City School District, 131 West Broad St., Rochester, NY 14608.

ATTENTION MINORITY BUSINESSES

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Rochester, New York

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State of the Child in New York State

A Column by Governor Mario M. Cuomo

In 1970, 15 percent of all children in New York State lived in single-parent homes and by 1980, that figure had grown to 23 percent. This is just one of a number of national trends that affect New York’s children. As part of our “Decade of the Child” program, I have commissioned a report, “The State of the Child in New York State,” to study such trends and statistics.

Documenting the growing number of problems facing our young people, this report provides a blueprint for programs to address the needs of those who comprise New York’s future.

This innovative document represents several years of extraordinary effort on the part of the New York State Council on Children and Families in conjunction with more than twenty agencies and commissions. Its completion occurs, for the first time, in New York State history, a single source document containing a vast array of data and trends that help us to understand the complex issues facing childhood.

The book has nine chapters— including Children in Families, Children in School, and the Victimization of Children—each of which is divided into subtopics explored in great detail. In most cases, facts are provided for 1965, 1975, and 1985, allowing no exceptions to be based on the most recent possible statistics. The book is, however, simply a compilation of statistics. Instead, trends are presented and discussed so that emerging issues can be identified and children’s progress on long-standing issues can be assessed. Thus, the book presents not only the relationships between children and their environment, but shows the interrelationships between the different topics presented. This approach allows us to make the judgments necessary to understand and help our children.

The publication reveals several startling facts. One of the most alarming is that approximately one-third of all New York State students entering high school in the fall of 1981 failed to graduate four years later. Reasons for dropping out range from boredom and low grades to pregnancy and economics. According to national statistics, high school dropouts have higher unemployment rates and are more likely to fall beneath the poverty level. In addition to the obvious burden that this will place on the state, it also will leave the children unequipped to deal with the tasks and problems that will face them as they reach adulthood.

Also alarming is a 129 percent increase of child abuse and maltreatment reports. In 1982, 15 percent of the indicted cases of abuse or maltreatment listed a parent as the perpetrator. Child abuse leads to high numbers of runaways, homeless youth, placement in the juvenile justice system, and most tragic of all, more child abuse. In a civilized world, such acts of abuse are wholly unacceptable. The responsibility to stop them lies with us.

“The State of the Child in New York State” is not meant for general reading. Rather, it is a tool for planners, advocates, and researchers concerned with the critical issues facing New York State’s children and families. Though the book draws no conclusions, the implications for needed actions are obvious. It will enable those concerned with children to construct effective policy and supports that will ensure healthy development of all our young people during the Decade of the Child and beyond.

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She didn't have to say anything. But she made me see things in a different way.

Teachers do that for people sometimes.

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Black Inventors

From page 2

The largest number of patents issued to a black inventor went to Elijah McCoy, who received his first in 1872 and his last—his 57th—in 1909. Most dealt with lubrication systems credited with perfecting the systems used in large industries today.

Wm. B. Purvis designed his first machine for making paper bags in 1882.

Andrew J. Beard was granted a patent on an automatic car coupling device in 1897.

Frederick M. Jones developed the first practical refrigerator system for trucks and railroad freight cars.

Emmanuel M. Moore of Pine Bluff, Ark., designed an earth-moving machine.

Henry Boyce invented a machine to produce rails for the du Ponts, but had to obtain a patent in the name of a white man.

Elbert R. Robertson invented the chilled, grooved wheel used by all railroads.

There were approximately 341 inventions patented by blacks between 1834 and 1900, many of which are in use today. Among these are:

- The gas inhalator by Garrett A. Morgan.
- The first clock in America was made by Benjamin Banneker.
- Shampoo headrest by C.O. Bailiff, 1898.
- Ironing board, by Sarah Boone, 1892.
- Lawnmower by J.A. Burr, 1899.
"NEW YORK — WEIGHT WARRIORS!" Dick Gregory, the comedian-turned-nutritionist, welcomes two new persons to his campaign to convince the U.S. Government that it should start a war on obesity as a major health hazard.

The new, seriously-overweight pair that asked for Gregory's help in bringing their weights down are, from left: Steve Nellis, 750 pounds, of St. Louis, Mo., and Lonita Mitchell, 650 pounds, of Biloxi, Ms. Ms. Mitchell is 15 years old. Gregory's weight reduction program is based on a strict regimen that includes his own formula, the Dick Gregory Slim-Safe Bahamian Diet, that is distributed by his company, Convocation Connection, in Philadelphia. Photo by Carmen L. DeJesus.

"MADAME" C. J. WALKER
Costmetic Manufacturer
1869 - 1919

Sarah Breedlove Walker was born a pauper in Louisiana. Her ex-slave parents died when she was six years old. She married C.J. Walker at the age of 14 and was a widow at 20. Taking in laundry to make a living, she experimented in her spare time with a concoction of oils to condition her hair so that she could remove the typical Negro curl. The oil softened the hair but did not remove the excessive curl. In 1905, she developed a hot iron, or straightening comb, which would remove the tight curls. Madame Walker’s discovery proved the answer to the major cosmetic problem for women of African descent, and she found herself in business. Before her death, Madame Walker had become a millionaire. She was deeply concerned with the poverty of others and became a generous philanthropist, bequeathing $100,000 toward the establishment of an academy for girls in West Africa, and donating large sums of money to Black institutions and charities in America.

Editor’s Note: “Madame” C. J. Walker’s plant was located in Chicago, Ill. http://www.betterhouseliving.org/energy/energy_tips.html

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