



33rd Annual Legislative Conference to Reflect on The Challenges, Boldness of 40th Anniversary of The Historic March on Washington

By Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald,
Chair, CBCF/CBC Annual Legislative Conference

As we approach the 33rd Annual Legislative Conference, excitement has already begun to permeate in Washington and this year's four-day conference will be one of the most innovative in recent time.

The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation is putting the final touch on the many events and venues and the Congressional Black Caucus members have gone into high gear given the bold initiatives being finalized.

This year's conference theme—*Collective Leadership—Challenging A Bold*

New World—reflects on the 40th anniversary of the historic March on Washington where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke before a collective force of leadership and hundreds of thousands of black and white citizens to challenge America. This conference week will embody the same boldness, defining characteristics, and challenges that are prevalent today.

This year's conference will also feature four new briefing forums addressing health, education, law and



the courts, and economics. Leading authorities from the Administration, expert panelists, and CBC members will deliberate on the best strategy to implement public policy as we face this bold new world.

Voter Mobilization: Preserving Our Legacy—Strengthening Our Base is the theme for our annual town hall meeting. This event will introduce dozens of nationally recognized and respected elected officials, celebrities, and community activists targeting our 18-35 young professionals and

college students and is designed to foster dialogue between generations.

The election process has recently been marred by allegations of improprieties and irregularities, and we must continue to advance the message that every vote counts. Preserving our legacy will engage Dr. Dorothy Height and Congressman John Lewis on the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and how African Americans have gotten to this point in history. Mr. Omar Wasow, president of BlackPlanet.com, and former Ms. America, Kimberly

Cont'd. on pg. 4

in this issue

- An Imperative for Our Leaders To Join Forces to Implement The Plan for Equality 2
- Assuring Every Child the Head Start He or She Needs 3
- Honoring Stokes... A Legislative Giant 6
- An Exclusive Report on Africa By Rep. Don Payne 8
- CBCF Welcomes New Corporate Advisory Council Members 12



Rep. Denise L. Majette (center) had the honor of presenting medals to Reps. Charles Rangel (left) and John Conyers (right) for their distinguished service during the Korean War. Rangel and Conyers were honored at a ceremony commemorating the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Korean War Armistice.

CBCF Chairman's Commentary

An Imperative for Our Leaders to Join Forces To Implement the Plan for Equality

By Rep. William J. Jefferson
Chairman, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.

Most recently, we celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the March on Washington. This monumental event in American history was the result of a collaboration of key organizations in our country, a marriage of both national and local officials from the civic and religious sectors.

A year later, that marriage birthed the Civil Rights Act, which has served as the blueprint for equality for all Americans, irrespective of race, gender or religion.

In memorializing the March, many of us are reminded of how far we have come and how much farther we have to go. But most importantly, we are reminded of the effectiveness and strength of a coalition.

It is in that spirit that the CBCF has chosen this year's ALC theme, "Collective Leadership—Challenging A Bold New World."

This month the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation celebrates its 33rd Annual Legislative Conference from September 24 - 27. Last year, we marked a milestone

in the CBCF's history with a bold new plan for the new millennium, that proposed to reach beyond our traditional work and exercise our unique role in this global political environment.

As a developer of strategic partnerships, the CBCF seeks to harness the collective resources and marshal the collective power of national, regional and local organizations interested in realizing economic and policy impact.

This year's theme continues that mission by bringing together African American leaders in the political, legislative, business and civic arenas to give special attention to the critical challenges that our communities continue to face. Education, health care, economic development, and criminal justice are illustrative of the issues we must confront.

Now, more than ever, it is incumbent upon the leaders of our community, whether appointed, anointed, or elected, to join forces and work to bring to fruition that plan for equality.

Most recently, the Justice Department reported that the nation's prison population grew by 2.6 percent last year, which represents the largest increase since 1999.

However, it was most devastating that of the 2,166,260 Americans in prison, 10.4 percent were African American men ages 25 to 29 compared with 2.4 percent Hispanic men and 1.2 percent white men in the same age group.

This incredibly high number of young African American men in prison is detrimental to the African American family and to the African American community because of the negative residual effects it will have for generations to come. But, more importantly this excessive number represents a failure of equality in the system.

According to studies, since the gains in the 1990s, the African American unemployment rate has doubled that of the national average, average African American median household income remains a mere 64.9% of

white household income, and African American men earned only 73.9% of the income of their white counterparts in 2002.

By 2001, 18.2% of white families had a net worth over \$500,000 compared with only 2.4% of African American households. Yet, we have a system that spends more money to house prisoners than it does to educate our children. We must put forth a plan to change the system, close these gaps, and sustain the African American community.

This year we thought it important to emphasize the power of our collective thoughts and will to bring about changes for our people.

The wealth of experience and expertise that abounds in our community, but that is broadly dispersed, will be harnessed during the CBCF ALC and molded together. The results of our collective effort here will be comprehensively shared with a public anxiously awaiting our coming together to lead. ■

CBC Chairman's Corner

Assuring Every Child the Head Start He or She Needs

By Rep. Elijah E. Cummings
Chairman, Congressional Black Caucus

This year, the Congress must "reauthorize" Head Start—the national-local partnership that has given nearly 19 million low-income children the health, nutritional and educational services essential to early childhood development.

As this program has been the key that has opened the doors of education to millions of African American children, the Congressional Black Caucus is fighting hard to expand and preserve the program in its current form.

But under the *pending* "School Readiness Act of 2003, (H.R. 2210)," Head Start would be dismantled through state block granting. Under block granting, individual Head Start Centers would no longer receive direct federal funding. Instead, funding would come from a lump sum given to the states. The states would then have the discretion as to how they use these funds, and may use the lump sum to fund programs other than Head Start.

Already faced with major budget constraints, block granting may compel states to deny Head Start children the comprehensive services it provides, or even deny Head Start enrollment for some children. Currently, under-funding allows only 60 percent of eligible children to enroll in Head Start.

In order to bring attention to the damaging consequences of H.R. 2210, the CBC recently released a report entitled "Proposed Overhaul of Head Start Could Affect Over 100,000 Children in Congressional Districts Represented by Members of the Congressional Black Caucus." The Government Reform Committee on which I serve prepared the report. Analyzing how the pending plan would affect approximately 144,000 children who attend Head Start in our 39 Congressional Districts, the report found the following:

- If H.R. 2210 were implemented, over 125,000 children would lose the protection of federal standards providing that they receive health care services.
- Almost 130,000 Head Start children in CBC districts would not be guaranteed immunizations to protect themselves, their families and society from deadly diseases.
- Approximately 110,000 Head Start children could possibly lose access to dental care.
- Nearly 10,528 children may not have guaranteed access to mental health services.
- About 14,668 children could lose access to disability services or diagnosis that help them deal with speech and language problems early on.

Further, the report cites a survey which indicates that when states run their own preschool programs, they fail to provide the services guaranteed under the comprehensive standards of Head Start. Head Start advocates are also afraid that if states get block grants for the program, then education standards will be weakened. This is because the comprehensive nature of the program supports the notion that success inside the classroom requires that children be physically and mentally healthy, with a stable home life.

The Congressional Black Caucus is determined to give every child the head start he or she needs in life. Instead of dismantling the program, we are pushing for Head Start funding to be increased by another \$6 Billion per year. This would allow every eligible child to benefit from Head Start. For those who think that this is too large of an investment, I want to emphasize that according to the National Head Start Association, for each \$1 we spend on Head Start today, we save taxpayers \$4 to \$7 down the road. ■

Basketball legend Magic Johnson (back center) met with members of the Congressional Black Caucus to gain CBC support for federal funding of medications that treat HIV/AIDS. CBC members pictured are Reps. Stephanie Tubbs-Jones, Eddie Bernice Johnson, Elijah Cummings, Maxine Waters, Barbara Lee, Donna M. Christian Christensen, Don Payne and John Lewis.



33rd Annual Legislative Conference *Cont'd. from pg. 1*

Aiken will speak to the younger generation about strengthening our voting base.

For the first time we are engaging the Radio One network to offer a simulcast of the town hall meeting. Busloads of college students will attend the town hall meeting and offer their insight on this important issue.

With the 2004 Presidential election a little more than one year away, it is imperative that we engage the candidates in conversation about issues important to us. The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, a renowned think tank in Washington, DC, will record the town hall meeting and four

briefing forums, distill the data and develop a questionnaire for the presidential candidates.

The completed questionnaires will serve as a conduit in highlighting the position of these presidential candidates on issues critical to our community. Each attendee will leave with material designed by the Joint Center to help galvanize voter turnout in their respective cities.

The synergy during this four-day conference will set the tone and shape the policy for Members of Congress and the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation to help set the domestic agenda for African Americans in 2004. ■

2003 Annual Legislative Conference Highlights

Highlights of this year's conference are listed below:

Issue Forums & Braintrusts—

The substance of the Annual Legislative Conference is experienced through participation in the Issue Forums & Braintrusts. These sessions are designed to help attendees understand current public policy priorities; build networks; develop strategies to address issues; and contribute ideas and suggestions for policies and programs.

This year, forums and braintrusts will cover The Administration of Justice, Black Farmers, Commerce, Economic Development, International Affairs, Environmental Justice, Healthcare, Defense Issues, The Federal Budget, Education, Public Housing, Blacks in Media, Science and Technology, Sports, Voting Rights and a number of forums will explore the Black Community.

Briefing Forums—This year's ALC will introduce four in-depth and proactive forums

featuring notable experts who will collect critical and timely data as we lead into a new political landscape. The Briefing Forums will focus exclusively on the courts, education, health, and wealth building. The data collected will result in a questionnaire to be presented to each presidential candidate for their position on these issues.

Emerging Leaders Series—The CBCF Emerging Leaders Series engages students, young professionals, community activists, and established leaders in discussions and activities related to public policy issues throughout the year. During the ALC, four forums will be presented exploring the topics of activism, economic empowerment, leadership, agenda setting and action planning.

CBC Spouses Issue Forum—An expert panel will discuss the topic of how the Hispanic population growth may affect the African American

community. The students who wrote winning essays that explored the growing Hispanic population's effect on politics, media and education will present their responses as well.

Exhibit Showcase—This year's Exhibit Showcase promises to be the most exciting to date. Here, attendees will have the opportunity to visit exhibits and displays by America's leading corporations; obtain free credit checks and learn about the homeownership process; receive free health screenings; interview with employers in the Diversity Job Fair; have books signed by best-selling African American authors; purchase unique fashions, arts and other products in the marketplace; acquire information from local and federal government agencies; and win free vacations and other exciting giveaways.

CBC Spouses Celebration of Leadership—The Celebration of Leadership is designed to

honor the outstanding contributions of community leaders, entertainers, and the cornerstones of the CBC Spouses organization. This year, entertainment will be provided by Pieces of A Dream.

National Town Hall Meeting—A panel of civil rights leaders, local elected officials, professors, political consultants, student leaders and other opinion leaders will contribute to this two-hour discussion among Members of the Congressional Black Caucus. This year's theme is Voter Mobilization: Preserving Our Legacy—Strengthening Our Base.

Jazz Concert—Featuring prominent jazz musicians, Congressman John Conyer's event will educate the novice jazz buff and stimulate the jazz aficionado.

Gospel Extravaganza—Join conference attendees in an evening of spiritual music, rejoicing and fellowship.

Cont'd. on pg. 5

A First Year's Report: Taking Stock of What Has Been Accomplished

By Weldon J. Rougeau

President, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.

When I came on board as CBCF President just over a year ago, I did so with full appreciation of the significant impact this organization has had on the lives of African Americans for almost three decades.

What I found was a very hopeful situation with unlimited potential. Under the leadership of Chairman William Jefferson, I was charged with moving CBCF forward to claim its rightful place among the nation's most respected think tanks and public policy organizations. At this point in my tenure, it is time to take stock of what we have accomplished.

Our first goal was to place our physical plant in geographic proximity with other organizations that had similar mandates and programs. In just under seven months, we were able to purchase, renovate, and move into a multi-million-dollar property located in a prestigious community in downtown Washington, DC.

Our offices at 1720 Massachusetts Avenue, Northwest, allowed us to add the personnel that would drive our Strategic Plan. We recruited three Vice Presidents with significant credentials and experience, and added more structure and substance to our program areas.

Next, we embraced our mandate to become an international organization by signing a Memorandum of Understanding with a Brazilian organization called INTEGRARE. It is similar in structure to the National Supplier Minority Development Council, and through this structure, we continue to work to connect African American businesses and services with opportunities available in Brazil.

We are also dedicated to assisting Afro-Brazilian businessmen in their quest for inclusion in Brazilian society by



sponsoring a summit on inclusion and economic prosperity. Our next foray into international affairs will be with the developing nations of West Africa that are rich in culture and natural resources.

Then we looked inward at our programs, and added significantly more outreach and education projects. We are especially proud of our new Student Homeownership Opportunity Program (SHOP) that will allow us to conduct homeownership workshops on the campuses of all 116 Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

It is a perfect complement to our "With Ownership, Wealth" Initiative, that seeks to create a million new African American homeowners. With these, and our existing Intern and Congressional Fellow programs, we are following our board-mandated strategies for focusing on Education, and Economic Development.

Finally, we made some changes to the CBCF Annual Legislative Conference (ALC) that we are confident will result in a very substantive and well-organized effort. We have moved that operation to the new, state-of-the-art Washington, DC Convention Center. Our staff is working with the ALC Chair and the convention center employees to make sure our attendees get the most efficient and courteous service available.

Our workshops and braintrusts will focus on the most up-to-date and critical issues affecting our day-to-day lives. One major change we've made is to ask everyone to register this year, so that we can make sure they get all the benefits they deserve for making ALC a priority in their lives.

This is an exciting time to be a friend, constituent, benefactor, or customer of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. We are moving forward, and we invite you to join us! ■

2003 ALC Highlights *Cont'd. from pg. 4*

CBCF Chair's Reception—All conference registrants are invited to join members of the Congressional Black Caucus and the CBCF Board of Directors in recognition of the Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc., Rep. William J. Jefferson.

CBC Spouses Benefit Concert—The CBC Spouses kick-off

Friday evening with an exciting benefit concert. This year's concert promises to be another success featuring Jeffrey Osbourne and new R&B recording artist, Lizz Wright.

CBC SPOUSES FASHION SHOW—The CBC Spouses Fashion Show promises to be a fabulous trip to the major fashion markets of the world. Produced by a team of experts in

the fashion industry, this year's event will showcase the glamour and styles of leading designers and models.

Annual Prayer Breakfast—Chaired by Congressman Chaka Fattah, the Prayer Breakfast will deliver a profound spiritual message, musical celebration and rejuvenation of the African American soul.

Annual Awards Dinner—Join the thousands who will pay tribute to the legacy and achievements of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus during this grand affair. Highlights of the evening include the recognition of this year's awardees, an address from a notable public figure, and superb entertainment. ■

Honoring Louis Stokes: A Legislative Giant

By William L. Clay
U.S. Congress, retired

On 8 July, four former Members of Congress were recognized for outstanding contributions to the nation and to the institution.

Speaker Dennis Hastert and Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi bestowed on John Rhodes of Arizona, Robert Michael of Illinois, Don Edwards of California and Louis Stokes of Ohio the Congressional Distinguished Service Award for extraordinary service to America.

Stokes served 30 years in Congress, chairing the Select Committee on Assassinations, the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

The ceremony in Statuary Hall of the Capitol was a singular, historic event. Each recipient was humbled by the solemnity of the occasion and visibly moved by the sincerity of their presenters who cited the highlights of their congressional careers.

I have attended many tributes to Louis Stokes since his retirement. And, I can say without fear of contradiction that none affected him in such an emotional way as this one. Being praised by one's peers is the most striking honor that can be paid an individual.

When Rep. Stephanie Tubbs Jones finished her

presentation of Louis Stokes, the "legislative giant" from the Ohio, there was a gasp and a pause in the audience. Many were unaware of the monumental fetes of the man: a lawyer who, before election to Congress, had the honor of arguing three cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

One of them, Terry vs. Ohio, a stop and frisk case, is



tions for diabetes, cancer, heart disease, and AIDS. He played the leading role in promoting community health centers and enhanced programs for medical schools.

CBC members would have been proud of our colleague, Sister Tubbs-Jones who, in her unique way, presented, brother Stokes. She was as electrifying as Barbara

ing a legislative career filled with the passage of landmark bills. With the grace of a virtuoso performing a concerto on a valuable Stradivarius, she noted the numerous other tributes in his honor: National Institutes of Health naming a newly constructed six story facility, the Louis Stokes Laboratories Building for his championing biomedical research; Howard University's \$30 million building named the Louis Stokes Health Sciences Library; Cleveland's main library naming its newly constructed \$87 million wing after Stokes.

In addition, numerous other monuments are dedicated to Louis Stokes by hometown constituents for his efforts to improve the quality of life and to elevate the standard of living for millions.

It was as if Tubbs-Jones posed the question: How could an individual from such depths, against such odds, rise to such a level of power and influence? And the audience seemed to VISUALIZE Stokes, himself, answering as he did in his lecture to Oliver North during the Iran-Contra hearings. ONLY IN AMERICA, COLONEL, ONLY IN AMERICA! ■



Rep. Stephanie Tubbs-Jones gave what former Congressman Bill Clay described as "an electrifying presentation" in introducing honoree Louis Stokes at the special ceremony for 2003 recipients of the Congressional Distinguished Service Award.

taught in every law school in the country. He was praised as a brilliant appropriator who pushed through increased funding for: education, Head Start, Teacher Training, significant increased appropria-

Jordan, and as dynamic as Yvonne Burke. Stokes fought back the tears as Tubbs Jones waxed elegantly on his profound and legendary legislative accomplishments.

She struck chords of celestial harmony in describ-

Excerpts of Remarks by former Congressman Louis Stokes upon his receiving the 2003 Congressional Distinguished Service Award on July 8, 2003

Thank you, Stephanie, Speaker Hastert, Leader, Nancy Pelosi. Ladies and Gentlemen: I want to thank Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs-Jones for being my presenter on this occasion, and for her kind remarks.

The choice of who in the current Congress would present me was not easy because I still have many friends here. But, I chose Stephanie because she is not only my friend, she is the embodiment of all I hold dear about this institution. She is now the current and future for the same people who gave me the honor of representing them in the United States Congress.

The torch I placed in her hands is burning brightly, and I anticipate her exceeding any achievements I may have had in this House. She is now the pride and joy of the 11th Congressional District of Ohio. Stephanie, I thank you.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for this honor bestowed upon me today. It is humbling to be accorded this honor by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Having served in this House with you, prior to and during your speakership, I have great admiration and respect for both your leadership of the House and your service to our nation.

Madam Leader, Nancy Pelosi, as you and I know, before Stephanie Tubbs-Jones arrived, you were my favorite female in the House. Madam Leader, I am so proud of you, and I am proud of our friendship over the years.

As members of the Appropriations Committee, you and I stood and fought together on many issues on behalf of health, education, housing, women, children, minorities, the poor and disadvantaged. We didn't always win ~ but we always fought. Thank you for this honor.

I am also indebted to my friend, Dick Gephardt, who, last year, while still Democratic Leader, selected me for this honor. When I served in the House I was proud to be a member of his leadership team. His leadership in the House was exemplary, and I am grateful to him for deeming me worthy of this high honor.

In this audience today are a few people whose presence I would like to acknowledge. I share this great honor today with my lovely wife and closest friend, Jay Stokes, with whom, next month I will celebrate 43 years of marriage. We have with us today our four children, Shelly, Angie, Chuck and Lori, and her husband Brian, along with five of our seven grandchildren. My children and grandchildren have been my greatest inspiration.

Also present is my friend, former Congressman William Bill Clay who came into Congress with me and with whom I served for 30 years.



Former Congressman Louis Stokes shares the joyous moment with his wife, Jay Stokes (left), and Rep. Stephanie Tubbs-Jones, who was elected to replace him in representing Cleveland, Ohio.

I am proud to acknowledge the presence of a number of my current colleagues at Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, a world wide law firm, including Chairman Tom Stanton.

The word "ultimate" seems best to describe the award being given me and John Rhodes, Bob Michaels and Don Edwards. Serving with each of them was a great honor. I have always thought that to be one of the small groups of Americans privileged to have been elected to serve in the greatest legislative body in the world was the highest honor one could achieve. To be given this, "ultimate" award today by my former colleagues, in an institution, which I revere, is the most humbling experience of my life. No greater honor can ever be accorded than to be honored by ones own peers.

In accepting this award today I am reminded of my first day in Congress in January, 1969, thirty-four years ago. My mother, wife and family had been specially seated in the gallery in the section usually reserved for the family of the President or other special guests. My mother had just been honored as Ohio's mother of the year.

Seated next to her was my brother, Carl, Mayor of Cleveland, who was America's first black mayor of a major American city. Growing up on welfare, in the housing projects, in the heart of Cleveland's slums, this mother who scrubbed floors and cleaned houses for a living, constantly admonished Carl and me to "work hard and grow up to be somebody."

That day, thirty-four years ago, as I stood on the floor and looked up in the gallery at her, painfully aware that he and I were the first in our family to ever go to college, I was determined to make her proud. Thanks to all of you, in my prayers tonight, I can say, "Mom, I worked hard, and Congress said that, I grew up to be somebody." ■

An Exclusive Report on Africa: Progress Towards Peace In Sudan and Central Africa

By Rep. Donald M. Payne

Africa is widely known in the United States for its conflicts, humanitarian crises, its notorious conflict diamonds, political strife and HIV/ AIDS pandemic.

During my tenure as the Ranking Member of the Africa Subcommittee and even before being elected to office, I have had the opportunity to study and to visit most countries in Africa.

(DRC), southern Sudan and Tanzania. This trip followed up on a similar one I took in August of 2001 to examine the Lusaka peace process in DRC, and to assess the humanitarian conditions in the region.

I visited Nairobi, Kenya, the capital and the site of the August 7, 1998 tragic U.S. Embassy bombing launched simultaneously in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, that claimed the lives of 213 people (201 of them Kenyan) and injured 5,000.

Since that tragic event, blamed on Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda, and through other terrorist attacks, Kenya still remains one of the strongest U.S. allies in the war against terrorism.

This past December, Kenya proved its commitment to Democracy and

I met with ministers of the new government and was further convinced of Kenya's continued stability and of the new administration's dedication to tackling challenges of governance and economic growth.

While in Nairobi, I also met with the Prime Minister of Somalia, Ali Khalif Galyhd of the Transitional National Government, tribal elders, and clan leaders. This troubled nation has suffered through dictators and warlords and, though the civil war which gripped the country in the 1990's has ended, Somalia is not yet in the clear.

There are increasing localized rifts between the transitional government and its rivals. My sense was that the peace process led by the Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD), which is composed of the countries in the Great Lakes Region) could use more international support towards the establishment of a government that is serious about fighting terrorism and devoted to peace.

Kenya has played a major role in the ongoing Sudan peace process in which its own Lieutenant General Lazarus Sumbeiywo acts as facilitator. IGAD is seeking to bring an end to over 40 years of conflict between the Arab Islamist Government of Sudan (GOS) in the North and the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement/Army (SPLA/M) in the Black Christian and animist South.

I made a trip into southern Sudan to meet with Dr. John Garang, Chairman of the SPLM/A, and to assess

the humanitarian situation. We discussed the peace process which is at a critical stage right now.

Though I remain hopeful that a peaceful solution to the ongoing conflict is close, I believe that continued U.S. pressure on the GOS is essential to ensuring the negotiations for an agreement is neither stalled nor jeopardized.

Extremist elements in the National Islamic Front government necessitate a strong showing by the U.S. and the other members of the troika on Sudan (Britain and Norway), that they will remain as vigilant as they can in keeping these elements at bay for the sake of peace.

The Democratic Republic of Congo, formerly Zaire, has been mired in political turmoil for years. One year after longtime dictator Mobutu Sese Seko was ousted in 1997, conflict erupted between then President Laurent Kabila and his Congolese forces, also supported by Angola, Namibia, and Zimbabwe, which were being opposed by Rwanda and Uganda.

I met with President Joseph Kabila, the young son of the former leader. We discussed Congo's progress towards peace and Democracy. He shares power with four vice presidents comprised of the leaders of the opposing factions.

The power-sharing government met for the first time in July and is drafting a plan for leading the mineral-rich country to elections within 36 months. The arrangement is a result of the Lusaka Agreement signed in

Cont'd. on pg. 9



Rep. Donald Payne met with President Joseph Kabila of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) during his recent trip to Africa to discuss the transitional government and other related issues.

What I have found is that the continent is a place with complex problems but achievable solutions.

This August I traveled to Kenya, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo

peace when national elections ended in the peaceful handover of power from the ruling party KANU's President Moi, to the opposition party NARC's Mwai Kibaki.

CBCF Moves into Implementation Phase of Student Homeownership Program

By Janice R. Crump

As I turn over the reins of SHOP to the new CBCF Vice President for programs, I am pleased to say the program is in solid shape.

CBCF implemented the pilot of its Student Homeownership Opportunity Program (SHOP) during the first semester of 2003, at Howard University in Washington, DC; Hampton University in Virginia; Jackson State University in Mississippi; and Xavier University in Louisiana, and will be starting the program at more than 20 colleges and universities in the 2003-2004 school year.

HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) were targeted because traditionally, students leave these institutions of higher learning with great spending power and little guidance on how to manage their money and gain wealth. The principal objective of SHOP is to educate these students about the important role homeownership plays in their ability to build wealth through the accumulation of appreciable assets, or by purchasing a home of their own at an early age.

In addition to the instruction on homeownership, the issue of Predatory Lending is being addressed during the sessions. It would be counterproductive to disregard this issue when many African Americans are at risk of losing



their homes and financial security because unethical agents prey on their desires to become homeowners. Predatory lending has increased dramatically in recent years among those who are low-income, elderly, and credit-challenged.

Predatory lending is a practice in which financial institutions use high fees and unnecessary charges, exorbitant costs and other lending practices to strip home equity from consumers.

The SHOP pilot, by all accounts, was a resounding success. More than 700 students participated at the last event, held at Hampton University. In fact, the event at Hampton University was so successful, more than 100 students were turned away because the room quickly reached its capacity.

Young people and college administrators have given the pilot rave reviews, and are eager to get the planning under way for next year.

The Fannie Mae Foundation provided the initial funding for the program, along with the CitiGroup Foundation. Both foundations provided lesson materials on homeownership that the consultants used in their presentation. The Fannie

Cont'd. on pg. 10

Report on Africa *Cont'd. from pg. 8*

1999 which called for a cease-fire and dialogue among various Congolese factions.

Rwanda, a country the size of Maryland, is one of the poorest countries in Africa and is probably known most for the genocide of 1994 which claimed the lives of over 800,000 people.

Extreme factions in the Hutu majority and Tutsi minority had been engaged in ethnic clashes for years before the brutal attack of Hutu extremists against Tutsis and moderate Hutus. The tragic genocide also exposed the international community's inability or unwillingness to respond to crisis in Africa.

Today, Rwanda has moved towards bringing justice to the genocidaires through community-based courts and designed to provide a process for healing and reconciliation. Recently a referendum was held on a draft constitution aimed at avoiding a repeat of 1994 by preventing any one political party from assuming dominance, and by banning the incitement of ethnic hatred.

I met with President Paul Kagame about these issues and had a constructive discussion about the future of Rwanda. He discussed his optimism for the elections which were held on August 25th. These elec-

tions are critical because they mark the first time since the genocide that Rwandans, about 85% of which are Hutu, will have gone to the polls to freely vote for their leader.

Our trip to Tanzania afforded us the opportunity to visit a refugee camp of 104,000. Something must be done to assure that minimal conditions are available to sustain the refugee population.

The recurring theme throughout my trip was the ability of each country to deal with its own problems either through an internal or regional process, or both. I have always remained firm in my belief that African so-

lutions to African problems are there. Many times all that is needed is support for the process by the U.S. and other prominent nations that bring about resolution.

Each nation I visited was in a considerably improved condition than just two years ago. The central African region has not been given as much attention by the U.S. government as perhaps it should.

However, over time, the region has shown that despite many challenges, the future is brighter now than in recent history because the leaders and others involved are committed to moving towards peace and progress. ■

Religious Discrimination a New Threat to Fair Employment Practices

By Rep. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott

Sixty-two years ago, on June 25, 1941, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed an historic Executive Order that banned discrimination by defense contractors based on race, creed, color, or national origin. Executive Order 8802 was the first law which prohibited employment discrimination, and marked the beginning of fair employment practices in the United States.



These protections against employment discrimination were expanded by subsequent presidents. For example, Executive Order 11246, which was signed by President Lyndon Johnson in 1965, expanded the prohibitions against employment discrimination to all government contractors.

Every President of the United States since that time has enforced these Executive Orders. And over time, various federal civil rights laws were passed that contained similar prohibitions on discriminating in employment based on race, creed, color, national origin or sex.

However, on December 12, 2002, President George W. Bush issued an Executive Order that, for the first time since 1965, rolled back the prohibitions in employment discrimination. Under Executive Order 13279, religious organizations which receive federal funds are now permitted to discriminate in employment based on religion with the federal funds. Insofar as 11

o'clock on Sunday is still "the most segregated hour of the week", religious discrimination will undoubtedly be used as an excuse for racial discrimination.

When the President says that we should "remove barriers" to faith-based organizations serving as sponsors of federally funded programs, we should note that many faith-based organizations have sponsored federally funded programs for decades.

In fact, any program which could be funded under the Faith-Based Initiative, could have been funded anyway—if the sponsoring organization agreed not to discriminate in hiring with federal money.

The President's Faith Based Initiative neither has nor requires any new funding. It is nothing more than permission to discriminate with federal funds. And no taxpayer should have to think that his tax money will be used to support discrimination

In the spirit of President Roosevelt's Executive Order, I introduced H.R. 2605 to nullify the effect of the Bush Executive Order permitting employment discrimination with federal funds. The bill has over 32 co-sponsors and has been referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, as well as the Committee on Government Reform. ■

Rep. Artur Davis Wins First Legislative Battle On Amendment in Support of HBCUs

Rep. Artur Davis, in his first term representing the Seventh Congressional District in Birmingham, Alabama, recorded his first legislative victory by winning approval of an amendment on the House floor on July 14, 2003 to restore \$3.5 million in funding to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). This amount was previously cut from the Administration's proposed fiscal year 2004 budget.



Schools such as Alabama A&M and Tuskegee University would have met budget cuts of more than \$200 in federal funds, in addition to reduced revenue in state matching funds, if the cuts had remained. Offsets for the funds will come from the US Department of Agriculture common computing account.

Rep. Davis said, "I am especially pleased that we were able to push this amendment through on behalf of Alabama

HBCU land-grant colleges and their counterparts across the country who share their noble mission. We have said since discovering this issue several months ago that it was a matter of fundamental fairness, and I am glad that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle viewed it in the same Light."

Rep. Davis, a member of the House Budget Committee, first raised the funding discrepancy between 1862 land-grant institutions, which are predominantly white, and 1890 land-grant institutions, which are predominately black, earlier this year during the House Budget Committee debate.

Rep. Davis was supported in his efforts by the Council of 1890s presidents and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, which called him "a champion of the 1890s" for his role in moving the issue forward. ■

Student Homeownership Program *Cont'd. from pg. 9*

Mae Foundation and CitiGroup materials were used in all of the presentations, and will become a standard part of the presentation as SHOP reaches out to the remaining 112 Historically Black Colleges and Universities targeted for SHOP

during 2003-2004. CBCF, Inc. has now received major funding from State Farm Insurance Companies to continue this program and expand it to all HBCUs. ■

Say No to Dismantling Head Start

By Rep. Maxine Waters

I voted against HR 2210, the Head Start Reauthorization bill because I firmly believe it would begin dismantling Head Start, the most successful early education program in the history of the United States.

I am a life-long supporter of Head Start and served as a Parent Involvement Supervisor in the Head Start program for many years and even founded a program in Los Angeles before being elected to public office.

I believe the Congress should be seeking ways to build upon Head Start's success, not indulging in reckless experiments that will jeopardize, if not destroy, the program.

For nearly 40 years, Head Start has helped our nation's low-income children, but there is a segment of our political leadership that has turned their backs on the program and the nearly one million children enrolled in Head Start. There is not one significant group that supports this bill.

In fact the range of groups opposing these changes is breathtaking and includes children's and early education experts, teachers groups, labor, business and civil rights organizations. They all oppose to HR 2210.

Flawed Legislation

There are two fundamental flaws to the bill. First, there is Title Two, which will allow eight states to establish pilot



WORKING TO SAVE HEAD START—Representatives Maxine Waters (2nd from left), Lynn Woolsey (3rd from left) and Bobby Scott (far right) met with kids from the Head Start program and two Head Start teachers as the Congress Members worked to overcome political efforts to change Head Start in a manner that will jeopardize, if not destroy, the program.

programs. This is a thinly veiled attempt to undermine the quality social and educational services that Head Start provides with block grant Head Start funding.

No state has been able to duplicate the outstanding services that Head Start provides, so why are we turning the fate of our children, most of whom are already starting behind the "eight-ball," over to an unproven and risky test trial? Like so many of this Republican Administration's initiatives, this just doesn't make sense.

In my District there are nearly 4,000 children enrolled in Head Start; in Los Angeles there are 33,300 children enrolled. If this bill is passed, there is no guarantee that the health, dental, nutrition or other important services these children depend on will remain available to them.

I cannot imagine how these children will be able to prepare themselves for school without this program. They will be unprepared for class, their performance will suffer and they soon will find themselves frustrated with school. With Head Start, however, their futures would remain bright.

A Viable Program

The children who have the opportunity to participate in Head Start are excited to go to school, to open a book and begin reading. They become active learners and there is a stark difference between those enrolled in Head Start and those who are not. I have worked hard to expand the program so that more children will be able to enroll in Head Start, but this bill will undermine that work.

I am also concerned that under this bill, Head Start programs that are run by faith-based institutions will be able to discriminate with federal dollars. This legislation opens the door for administrators to turn away children and parents simply because they hold a different religious view.

It is frightening that some Members of Congress are willing to support this form of discrimination. Head Start, just like every other Federal program, should not discriminate for any reason."

Don't Fix What Ain't Broke

Nearly 20 million children and their families have seen their lives improve because of Head Start. Head Start is a valuable, working program. Let us not meddle with what works." ■

Rep. Jefferson Represented CBCF at Sullivan Summit in Nigeria

Rep. William J. Jefferson, as chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, represented the CBCF at the 6th Leon Sullivan Summit Africa—A Continent of Possibilities, that was held in July in Nigeria’s capital, Abuja.

“During my nearly three decades in public life, I have always believed that Africa represented the last great frontier of trade and investment,” said Rep. Jefferson.

The Sullivan Summit is designed to encourage outreach between African countries and African Americans and to promote economic opportunities to enhance the future of both. It brings together African Heads of State as well leaders in both the public and private sectors.

“Today, there is much optimism about Africa,” said Rep. Jefferson. “It is at the forefront of U.S. foreign policy and it is imperative that we keep it there.”

The summit, which spanned over five days, covered a host of issues related to the continent. Rep. Jefferson delivered a keynote speech on energy, trade and investment during a plenary session.

“Despite the fact that Africa is blessed with vast human and material resources that have enriched the world, it has been confined to the margins of our country’s international



Rep. William J. Jefferson speaking at the Sullivan Summit in Nigeria

economic and national security; and U.S. engagement with Africa has been largely tactical or driven by humanitarian issues,” said Rep. Jefferson.

In his remarks, Rep. Jefferson focused on the benefits of the two-year old African Growth and Opportunity Act, which is the centerpiece of a new U.S. trade and investment strategy for Africa. AGOA, as it is called, has triggered greater commercial activity between the United States and sub-Sa-

haran Africa while simultaneously encouraging economic reform in several countries. In addition, it has been the impetus behind negotiations for a U.S.-Southern African Customs Union (SACU) Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

“There will certainly be other FTAs to follow,” said Rep. Jefferson. “More importantly, however, AGOA has served as a catalyst for the growth of the domestic private sector in several African countries.”

The Summit was the first held since the death of its original convener, Rev. Leon H. Sullivan. “I was pleased to honor the memory of an extraordinary visionary,” said Rep. Jefferson. “Years from now when school children read about the history of Africa and the African Renaissance, Rev. Leon Sullivan will figure very prominently.” ■

CBCF Welcomes New Corporate Advisory Council Members!

*Brown**Williams*

Photo
not
available

*Lombard**Waters**Davis**Bazemore**Boykin Towns**Taylor*

Horace Webb, of the Entergy Foundation, who Chairs the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. Corporate Advisory Council (CAC), welcomed eight new members recently to serve on the council.

The mission of the Corporate Advisory Council is to assist the CBCF, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, with its fundraising efforts, and to make sure it remains a financially viable organization. The council also serves as a two-way sounding board to the organization and ensures that CBCF is fulfilling its purpose based on its mission and its strategic direction. Lastly, the CAC acts as a listening post for corporations and works to ensure sound corporate governance.

The eight new CAC members are as follows: Michael Brown, State Farm; Kimberly Williams, GlaxoSmithKline;

Tanya Lombard, Altria Corporate Services, Inc.; Larry Waters, Miller Brewing; Mr. Howlie Davis, Ch2Mhill; Mr. Melvin Bazemore, General Motors; Ms. Karen Boykin Towns, Pfizer; and Ms. Darlene Taylor, Consultant.

Chairman, William J. Jefferson, welcomed the CAC members at a reception hosted by Entergy. The members were given an opportunity to discuss the new direction of the Council under Chairman Webb’s leadership. The CAC will work in conjunction with the CBCF, and its trustees throughout the year with its Capital Campaign and its 2003 Annual Legislative Conference.

“The Corporate Advisory Council continues to be a viable organization and will serve the CBCF well. We are very fortunate to have dedicated members and stellar leadership in the person of Horace Webb,” said Chairman Jefferson. ■

CBCF Emerging Leaders Series Featured At Annual Legislative Conference

By Kelly D. Owens,
Director, Education and Outreach

In its tradition of preparing the next generation of leaders, the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation will present a track of issue forums especially developed to inform and engage students, young activists and entry to mid-level professionals during the 2003 Annual Legislative Conference (ALC).



For the past two years, the Emerging Leaders Series has been presented during the Annual Legislative Conference. This year marks the first time that the Emerging Leaders Series will be presented each day of the conference. The CBCF anticipates that through the Emerging Leaders Series, a national movement of emerging leaders will take the charge to effectively confront a number of challenges ahead.

The CBCF Emerging Leaders Series, which is conducted throughout the year, is aimed at informing emerging leaders about pertinent policy issues. Typically presented as a panel discussion, topics cover the areas of education, health, criminal justice, economics, international affairs, race and civic participation.

The implications of current and proposed policies are thoroughly analyzed while relevant strategies are shared. Panelists are representative of elected officials, scholars, community leaders, and individuals who have been directly impacted by the topic of discussion.

During the ALC, the CBCF Emerging Leaders Series will cover topics such as economic empowerment, affirmative action and 21st century activism. The highlight of the Emerging Leaders Series at ALC is an intergenerational dialogue among individuals who were actively involved in the Civil Rights movement and those who are on the frontlines today.

One of the prevalent features of the CBCF Emerging Leaders Series is that audiences walk away with information and strategies to effect change in their respective communities—this will also be the case during the Annual Legislative Conference. The final session of this track will ensure that participants devise an action plan to tackle issues of concern in their communities and on their campuses.

Rep. Elijah Cummings, CBC Chair, is among the many esteemed panelists who will shape thought provoking messages to the hundreds in attendance. Invited panelists include Dr. Dorothy Height; Rep. Jesse Jackson, Jr.; renowned diversity expert, René Redwood; hip hop journalist, Kevin Powell; and Tallahassee City Commissioner Andrew Gillum.

The CBCF Emerging Leaders Series at ALC is being sponsored by Mitsubishi Motors. For more information, please contact Jovan Bowles, CBCF Outreach Coordinator, at 202.263.2833. ■

Rep. Davis Announces \$15,000,000 WOW Low Income Housing Initiative for Illinois 7th Congressional District

Rep. Danny K. Davis, Executive Director Kelly King Dibble of the Illinois Housing Development Authority, Ms. Vera G. Davis, President of the Chicago Westside Branch NAACP, and Pastor Bill Winston of the Living Word Christian Ministries are touting the very creative \$15 Million dollar affordable home loan initiative that will help low and moderate income families purchase homes.

Cont'd. on pg. 22



Left to right: David Glover, executive V.P. United Guaranty Mortgage Co.; Jack Makowski, Commissioner of Housing, City of Chicago; Terry Young, Dir. Chicago Partnership office of Fannie Mae; Kelly King Dibble, Exec. Dir., IHDA; Congressman Danny K. Davis; Valencia Williams, 1st Homeowner for program (Walgreen's employee); Vera G. Davis, President, Chicago Westside Branch NAACP; Rev. Bill Winston, Pastor Living Word Christian Center

Call for a Cease-Fire on Testing

By Rep. Major Owens

No Child Left Behind legislation has unleashed a national testing frenzy that is generating negative consequences for the entire education community; and African American children will again be the biggest losers.



In light of recent revelations about the quality of test questions and the integrity of the data processing of the testing companies, the Congressional Black Caucus must reassert its position against the reckless administration of standardized tests.

Well meaning destructive monsters are usually physical and highly visible whether it is the giant green hulk of recent movie fame or the famous great ape, King Kong, of several decades ago. Free and loose in the nation's schools is a far more destructive but invisible monster—the standardized test.

The **No Child Left Behind** legislation has unleashed this monster which threatens students, teachers, and the basic integrity of the education process. The stakes are very high. On the basis of test scores students may be held back; teachers, principals and superintendents may be fired; schools may be closed; and some school systems may be restructured or abolished.

In New York City, low district test scores led to the

dismissal of several superintendents. In Philadelphia, low performance throughout the system provided a rationale for the state's governor to launch an effort to privatize the entire city school system.

Elected officials at all levels have become obsessed with test results. There is a rush to measure the output of the education community while minimizing the resource input of the government. The annual release of test score results provides the greatest media opportunities for public officials to "spin" the education function in a profitable partisan manner.

President Bush's **No Child Left Behind** triumph established a devastatingly one-sided environment for education reform. He implemented national standards for testing with serious penalties for failure. At the same time there is a continuing refusal to recognize national standards for "Opportunities-to-Learn."

Only the teacher training, qualifications and certification provision begins to push for a significant improvement in "Opportunities-to-Learn;" however, the budget cuts of education aid undermines the capacity for meaningful implementation of this provision.

School construction and the improvement of library, science laboratory and technology facilities and equipment remain untouched in this landmark legislation which will certainly not be expanded and improved at any time soon. While the

testing process gallops forward, students will not receive any new resources to improve their performance. The tests will continue to reign supreme unless some new initiative is launched to control them.

The Congressional Black Caucus has a long record of opposition against high stakes standardized tests. Added to the numerous arguments which expose the danger of the over reliance on testing is a newly emerging crisis— incompetence and corruption in the testing industry.

Indeed, it is first necessary to see the less than fifteen companies who publish and distribute standardized tests as an industry. The new federal legislation has provided a great leap forward for the testing market. The sheer volume of the surge in new business has overwhelmed the following thirteen test providers:

Standardized Testing Companies

1. TSS Vantage Learning
2. Pearson Educational Measurement
3. Scantron
4. Riverside Publishing
5. Stech Vaughn Company
6. Measured Progress
7. Educational Testing Services
8. CTB McGraw Hill
9. Renaissance Learning Inc
10. Princeton Review
11. Test University
12. Compuline. Com, Inc.
13. Edison Schools (AMS)

The following is a listing of examples illustrating some of the problems which must be confronted and overcome:

- Incompetence in the processing of the test data led to the publishing of district wide test scores which were inaccurate; however, the New York City Chancellor, citing low test scores, had fired several superintendents before the company discovered that a glitch in processing had reported all of the scores at a level lower than the actual record showed.
- Problems with test contents of the math and physics in the New York State Regents Exam led to the forced resignation of the official responsible for the oversight of state testing.
- The scrubbing of test contents to avoid offending right wing zealots is presently under attack by scholars who are protesting the alteration of quotes from Shakespeare and other classical writers.
- Three traditional companies continue to dominate the test design industry despite the great geometric increase in the amount of public school testing.
- Edison Schools, the nation's leading corporate advocate for privatizing education is now a major wholesaler for tests, raising a serious conflict-of-interest question.

Cont'd. on pg. 15

When Tax Cuts Mean Tax Increases

By Charles B. Rangel,

Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and Means



Our nation's current budget and tax policies are on a track to dismantle the social safety net. Sooner or later, social problems trickle up and affect everyone. But those who live in our inner cities and our poor rural areas will be hit the hardest.

These families who work every day will get little or no benefit from recent tax bills. The most glaring omission was the child tax relief credit, which left out nearly 12 million children from working families.

Of these children, 2.4 million are African-American and 4.1 million are Latino—a total of 6.5 million minority children left behind by the Bush tax cut. All of these families have at least one parent working, and all of them pay Federal payroll taxes.

The money for the \$1.7 trillion in tax cuts, which is skewed in favor of the wealthy, comes in part from cutting assistance to cities and states which are already overburdened with homeland security, Medicaid, and other responsibilities.

All across the country, we see massive cuts in services—teachers being laid off, fire stations closing, community policing funds drying up.

That's just the beginning. The Administration now says the deficit for this year will be \$455 billion and the deficits go as far as the eye can see. Revenue shortfalls will eventually crowd out programs working Americans depend on the most, such as Social Security and Medicare.

Even while services are being cut to lower- and middle-income communities, taxes are being increased. Sales taxes, excise taxes, car fees, property taxes—all of these are going up now in some places. Unlike Federal income taxes, these taxes tend to hit the working people the hardest.

In New York, for example, the Mayor has cut services dramatically and still has not been able to avoid re-instating the sales tax for clothing under \$100.

The Administration finds it easy to change the colors of the terrorism warnings from yellow to orange, but the real disaster will occur if states and cities don't see anymore green. ■

Call for a Cease-Fire on Testing *Cont'd. from pg. 14*

- State politicians have begun to view contracts for testing as a part of the patronage pool, thus challenging quality as the primary criteria for the selection of a testing company.

To save the children the CBC must lead the fight to achieve a three year moratorium on testing mandates. Legislation to accomplish this cease-fare will be introduced in September. ■

The Children Were Forgotten in The "Leave No Child Behind Act"

By Rep. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick



As a mother, grandmother, and former schoolteacher, I am greatly concerned about the quality of our children's education. Public education, where 90 percent of America's children attend, **needs our support**. Not federally funded voucher programs that lure students and our tax dollars away from public schools.

In January of 2002, promises were made to American parents and their children when the "No Child Left Behind Act" was signed into law. Funding that was promised in the "Act" has been significantly cut in the 2004 Education Budget that recently passed the House.

Some of the problems in the bill are: It fails to fund the teacher quality grants that were promised. It falls \$350 million short in its award to states for improving teacher quality. The \$1 billion in Title 1 funding has been decreased by \$334 million.

These additional funds would have enabled Title 1 schools to hire 6,600 more teachers to provide instruction to 140,000 at risk children. Though testing of students is required, there is no additional money in the bill for testing or to support those students who fail.

This bill also delivers a major blow to the children of our men and women serving in this country's Armed Forces. It provides \$583 million less in federal Impact Aid to the children of our service men and women.

The bill requires low-income college students to find alternative ways to pay for their education. It freezes the maximum Pell Grant amount, despite its declining buying power as tuitions continue to rise. This means the grants will only finance 38 percent of the cost of a public university.

When the Pell grant was established in 1973, up to 84 percent of the students' tuition was financed. This will force an increasing number of students to take on large levels of debt to finance their college education.

One of the biggest disappointments in the 2004 Education Budget is that money is taken away from much needed after-school programs. Children receive academic assistance with after school programs and are able to participate in enrichment activities. However, this bill eliminates \$750 million from after school programs.

This is a call to action for all of us who care about our children's education. We must insist that more funding be given to education. We must insist that sufficient amounts of federal funds be made available in the form of grants to our college students. We must insist that our lawmakers in Washington hear our voice and vote to preserve public education. ■

CBC Spouses Elect New Officers

The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Spouses are proud to announce the newly elected officers for the 2003-2005 term. They are:

Mrs. Vivian Creighton Bishop, Chair

Mrs. Bishop is the wife of Rep. Sanford Bishop and a native of Fort Benning, Georgia. She is presently the clerk of the Municipal Court in Columbus, Georgia where she is serving her third four-year term. Mrs. Bishop, the first African-American to be elected to a citywide post in the city, is responsible for providing services to nearly 200,000 constituents.

Mr. Christian Christensen, Co-Chair

Mr. Christensen is the husband of Rep. Donna Christian-Christensen and was born and raised in St. Croix, Virgin Islands. After graduating with a degree in Psychology from the Inter American University in Puerto Rico, he was drafted into the United States Army. Mr. Christensen dedicated 35 years of his life to the U.S. Army and retired as Chief Warrant Officer Four in April 1997.

Mrs. Carolyn Rush, Secretary

Mrs. Rush is the wife of Rep. Bobby Rush. She was born in Memphis, Tennessee and grew up in Chicago, Illinois. After attending Roosevelt University, Mrs. Rush has become a mother of five and an involved spokesperson for the residents of the 2nd Ward, City of Chicago.

Mrs. Simone-Marie Meeks, Treasurer

Mrs. Meeks is the wife of Rep. Gregory Meeks and the principal of the Lipscomb Lord Group, Inc. specializing in public relations, event planning, and advocacy work. She is the former deputy press secretary for the office of the Bronx Borough and a former Chief of Staff for a State Assembly Member.

Mrs. Ivie L. Clay, Parliamentarian

Mrs. Clay is the wife of Rep. William L. Clay, Jr. and currently serves as Communications Coordinator for the St. Louis Economic Development Agency. Since moving to St. Louis, she has held numerous positions in media and public relations at the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, the Sporting News, and the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

For the past six years, the CBC Spouses have had a wonderfully successful program under the leadership of Mrs. Eulada Watt. During her administration, two terms as chair and one term as co-chair, the CBC Spouses have successfully raised millions of dollars in scholarship funds for deserving students.

Most notably, Mrs. Watt oversaw the formation of two new corporate partnerships and scholarship programs. New corporate partners are Heineken USA, sponsor of the CBC Spouses Performing Arts Scholarship and GlaxoSmithKline, sponsor of the Vivien Thomas Scholarship for Medical Science and Research. ■

CBC Spouses Award \$27,000 in Scholarships to College Bound Performing Artists

The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Spouses awarded nine three thousand dollar scholarships this year as a part of their Performing Arts Scholarship Program.

The scholarship program, which is sponsored in part by Heineken USA, was initiated to defray the educational expenses of promising young art students.

This year's winners were: Andrew Arrington (*Congressman and Mrs. Danny Davis*), Joshua Blackwell (*Congressman and Mrs. Albert Wynn*), Courtney Bryan (*Congressman and Dr. William Jefferson*), Lisa Darden (*Congressman and Mrs. David Scott*), Angela Everett (*Congressman and Mrs. John Conyers*), Robert C. Harper, Jr. (*Congressman and Mrs. Mel Watt*), Colle Latin (*Congressman and Mrs. Danny Davis*), Taliaferro Nash (*Congressman and Mrs. James Clyburn*), and Richmond Punch (*Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson*).

The scholarship is available to students pursuing a career in the performing arts, music and/or some related field in the



Arrington

Darden

Everett

Punch

entertainment industry. Students are required to live or attend school in a Congressional Black Caucus Member's district.

The criteria may differ in each district. However, all students are required to be full-time students in good academic standing at an accredited college or university.

The CBC Spouses Performing Arts Scholarship is designed to ensure that future leaders have the education and training necessary to carry on the legacy of musical giants such as Curtis Mayfield, Duke Ellington, Marian Anderson, Quincy Jones and many others who have shaped the evolution of music. ■

CBC Spouses Tournament Generates More than \$100,000 for Scholarships

The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Spouses Eleventh Annual Education Scholarship Fund Golf & Tennis Tournament was an overwhelming success this spring in generating more than \$100,000 for education scholarships.

The CBC Spouses kicked off the celebration on Sunday, June 15 with the Unsung Heroes Awards Luncheon at the Sofitel Hotel in downtown Wash-

ington, D.C. Unsung Heroes are selected by CBC Members and Spouses for their outstanding leadership and commitment in their communities.

This year's heroes were: Mr. Kenya Ajanaku of Missouri (Clay); Ms. Edna Aliewine of California (Millender-McDonald); Mr. Wilbert Black of Ohio (Tubbs-Jones); Mr. Alvis Eric Christian of the United States Virgin Islands (Christensen);



Cybil Chester, the Tournament's MVP and Manager of Marketing Development and Corporate Affairs at Schieffelin and Somerset, standing with Mrs. Alma Rangel, wife of Rep. Charles Rangel, and a founding member of the CBC Spouses.

CBCF Signs MOU with Sao Tome

Recently, CBCF chairman, Rep. William Jefferson joined the President of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome & Principe (DRSTP), President Fradique de Menezes in signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

"One of the central planks of the CBCF strategic plan is to develop strategic partnerships with leaders in Africa and the Caribbean to strengthen relationships and improve economic and social conditions in the African Diaspora," said Rep. Jefferson.

The CBCF and the Government of Sao Tome agreed to achieve the following goals: expanded US Government development assistance to the DRSTP; increased trade between African-American businesses and Sao Tome businesses; increased public health support for the Government of Sao Tome & Principe, including the eradication of malaria and the reduction of HIV/AIDS; support infrastructural development in the DRSTP; promote the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome & Principe as an area of vital and strategic interest to the United States.

"As chairman of the CBCF and as a Member of Congress with a longstanding personal and professional interest in the African continent, I have a keen interest in re-defining the continent as a key global strategic partner of the United States in the areas of national security, energy security, trade and investment," said Rep. Jefferson.

The signing of the MOU coincided with the celebration of the country's Independence Day, which was July 12. ■

Mrs. Bess DeBetham of New York (Meeks); Dr. Joseph Gathe of Texas (Jackson-Lee); Ms. Phyllis G. Jones of Georgia (Bishop); Mr. Vladimir Joseph of Georgia (Lewis); Ms. Cherita Logan of Illinois (Davis); Mrs. Janice Wannamaker Marshall of South Carolina (Clyburn); Mrs. Mary Gaither McLurkin of Georgia (D. Scott); Ms. Evy Papillon-Juste of New York (Owens); Mr. James Smith of Maryland (Cummings); and Dr. Craig Thomas of Texas (Johnson).

The CBC Spouses also recognized the "untiring support" of Ms. Kay Lewis, a long time volunteer for the Spouses events. Recording artist, Ms. Cece Peniston joined the CBC Spouses to provide entertainment.

The celebration continued with the Pre-Tournament Gala aboard Washington's luxury cruise ship, the Odyssey. At the gala, Ms. Sybil Chester, Manager of

the Market Development Corporate Affairs at Schieffelin and Somerset, received the Most Valuable Player Award for her outstanding leadership in the community and continued support of the CBC Spouses Education Scholarship Program.

The Spouses also honored Mr. H. David Brooks, also a long time volunteer, for his dedication and commitment to the success of CBC Spouses' programs. The entertainment for the evening included jazz violinist, Ms. Regina Carter and R&B recording artist, Mr. Kenny Lattimore.

On Monday, tournament participants enjoyed a full day of golf, tennis, bid whist and several health and wellness seminars. Thanks to the generous support of corporate sponsors and individuals, the CBC Spouses awarded more than \$700,000 in scholarships around the country this year. ■

CBCF President Announces New Hires



Howard

CBCF President Weldon J. Rougeau is pleased to announce that nine new employees have recently joined the full-time staff of the Foundation.

According to Rougeau, the new hires represent a capacity-building move and a critical part of the CBCF's mandate to implement the Strategic Plan. They are:

- **Karla Chappelle Howard**, *Vice President, Finance and Administration*

Ms. Howard brings with her more than 20 years of finance and accounting experience. Her past duties included oversight for financial management, information technology, human resources, administration, and facilities functions. She most recently held the position of Chief Financial Officer for the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW).

- **Janice L. Lythcott**, *Associate Director, Executive In Charge of Production, ALC*

Ms. Lythcott joins CBCF's Education and Outreach Department. She was an executive with CBS Records and Sony Music Entertainment for more than 16 years. She was responsible for producing dozens of events annually, trade convention activity, employee development training meetings, black tie events and grassroots efforts.

- **Tammi R. Adair**, *Events Manager and Scholarship Programs*

Ms. Adair works in the CBC Spouses Department headed by Jacquelin Dennis. She has worked as a consultant in the Spouses Department for over six months in this capacity and is responsible for special project funding programs.

- **Sharon V. Holloway**, *Administrative Assistant, Finance and Administration*

Ms. Holloway, who works in Finance and Administration, has over 15 years of administrative support to senior managers and technical staff.

- **Samuel Rodriguez**, *CPA, Director of Finance*

Mr. Rodriguez, who also works in the office of Finance and Administration, has a Masters in Business Administration from Mount Saint Mary's college, Emmitsburg, Maryland and a

Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Management from Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, MA. He has over 10 years of senior level accounting experience.

- **Troy G. Clair**, *Internship Coordinator*

Mr. Clair, assigned to the office of Education and Outreach, is a former CBCF Intern in Congressman Ed Towns' office and a recent college graduate from Duke University with a Bachelors degree in Political Science. He held the office of Vice President for Student Affairs, Duke Student Government; President of the Black Student Alliance and was a Board Member and Mentor for the African American Mentoring Program.

- **Amanda S. Miller**, *Events Coordinator*

Ms. Miller, a part-time employee, is working in the office of CBC Spouses. She is a senior at Howard University majoring in English.

- **Elias Mageto**, *Special Projects Administrator*

Mr. Mageto, who also joins the staff of Education and Outreach, has a Bachelors degree in Economics from Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan. He was a Consultant with the World Bank and will work on special projects conducting research and analysis.

- **Maya M. Rockeymoore, Ph.D.**, *Vice President, Research and Programs*

Dr. Rockeymoore will have responsibility for providing management direction for all CBCF research and programs. Working with a diverse group of parties, including members of the Congressional Black Caucus and an Academic Advisory Board, Dr. Rockeymoore will set and implement CBCF research agenda. She will also manage the programs embraced by CBCF five-year strategic plan in education, economic development, public health, and African globalization. She received her B.A. in Political Science/Mass Communications (Cum Laude) from Prairie View A & M University; Masters and Ph.D. degrees in Political Science from Purdue University; and a Political Science degree from the Universiteit Leiden, in The Netherlands. ■



Lythcott



Adair



Holloway



Rodriguez



Clair



Miller



Mageto



Rockeymoore

Improvements Needed In Emergency Warning and Information System

By Rep. Kendrick B. Meek

On September 11, 2001 America suffered the worst attack in its history. No one knew if another attack would occur, or when.

Even the President of the United States was forced to skip around the country to various secure locations to ensure his safety. Key Members of Congress were whisked away to undisclosed locations, but most Members, like most Americans, were left to fend for themselves. As we always do in times of emergency, we tuned into the mass media—television and radio—to try to find out what was going on and what we should do.

The attacks on 9-11 may have shattered our innocence, but they also taught us important lessons about the limitations of our emergency warning and information systems. Clearly, the information needs of New Yorkers and those in the metropolitan region were much more immediate and specific than the needs of anyone else in the country.

If a TV or radio was not handy, or the electricity went out, people were figuratively or literally in the dark. And had it been a nuclear or chemical attack, people in the affected area would have quickly needed special instructions.

These are the reasons I introduced **H.R. 2250, the Responsive Emergency Alert and Dissemination of Information Call System bill, or READICALL**. It requires the Department of Homeland Security to use the technology and infrastructure that already exist within our current telephone system and tele-services industry to set up a national emergency alert system capable of contacting virtually every



telephone subscriber in the United States in the event of a terrorist attack or national emergency.

Our bill supplements, rather than supplants, our present mass media-based system. It will enhance the federal government's ability to communicate imminent threats, official warnings, information about an attack or necessary instructions to all our citizens, in populated urban areas or in rural counties and towns, and at every level, from neighborhoods, cities, metropolitan areas, states, regions or the entire nation, if necessary.

The READICall system could only be activated by order of the Secretary of Homeland Security, to ensure accountability.

According to the Federal Communications Commission, roughly 104 million households out of 109 million have landline telephone service—over 95%. Another roughly 1.2 million have only wireless telephone services. Further, nearly every business in the United States has phone service and almost 141 million of us have cellular phones.

In the war against terrorism, we will need precision, accuracy and speed in responding to attacks or imminent threats. Until now, we have relied on 20th Century mass media technology as the basis of our national emergency communications system. Ironically, we can improve that system by using 19th Century technology—the telephone—which virtually every American has nearby, both at home *and* at work, and which usually works even when the power goes out. ■

Remembering Maynard Jackson

By Rep. James E. Clyburn

On Monday, June 23, 2003, the United States Supreme Court handed down a split decision on affirmative action admissions policies at the University of Michigan.

On that same day life was snuffed out of Maynard Jackson, arguably our nation's most successful practitioner of efforts to eliminate the current effects of past discrimination, and

level the playing field for future generations. I understand that part of Maynard's reasons for being in Washington at the time of his death was to help a friend and former constituent hold onto an airport concessions contract, which was initially received as a direct result of his Administration's affirmative action program. How ironic.

I first met Maynard in April 1970 when he came to Charleston, South Carolina to keynote a banquet being held to launch my political



Maynard Jackson

career. The following morning I drove him to Columbia. His imposing physique left little room for me in the front seat of my 1969 non air-conditioned Mustang. And when he spoke, I found it necessary to keep the windows cracked, more to let out the decibels of his resonating voice than to let cool air in. He provided me with my first experience with surround sound.

A significant portion of Maynard's time and efforts, during what turns out to be

his final days, were devoted to re-igniting the passions that in earlier times drove people of color to vote in record numbers.

Maynard realized for the next generation to be able to follow in his footsteps and use public service as a means to improve conditions in the African American community, they have to take ownership and become a more active part of the process.

Let's hope that the seeds he planted grow to produce future generations that emulate his passion and commitment. ■

Anniversary of the Unfinished Dream—The March Isn't Over

By Rep. William Lacy Clay

Forty years have passed since that hot August day when the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., stirred the soul of the nation with his "I Have a Dream" speech at the foot of the Lincoln Memorial.

The throng that assembled on August 28, 1963 was over 250,000 strong. At that time, Washington, D.C. had never seen anything like it ... Black Americans joined by thousands of other citizens of conscience, united in their demand for equal citizenship for all people.

Few people remember that there were several sponsors of the March on Washington, including the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Congress on Racial Equality, the NAACP, the National Urban League, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee.

I was only 7 years old, but I was already part of the "movement" by virtue of being born into it. My father, William L. Clay, Sr., was then a member of the St. Louis Board of Aldermen.

As a leader of our local civil rights struggle, he had already established himself as a champion of the fight to integrate public facilities and places of business in a racially divided city.

No one could have known, and I certainly had no awareness of the forces that the March on Washington was about to unleash. We had no idea that the nation, our community and our family would never be the same.

In St. Louis, my Dad had worked hard with other Black community leaders to organize and mobilize marchers to go to Washington for the big event. Thousands of people boarded trains, buses and cars to make the long trek east.

The strength of the march and the overwhelming power of Dr. King's words were felt at the White House, on Capitol Hill, at every state capital and at every lunch counter.

The most immediate impact of the March on Washington was the passage of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion or national origin in all public accommodations, places of business and employment and interstate transportation.

That legislation was followed by the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Fair Housing Act of 1968, the Gender Discrimination Act of 1972 and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990.



While many factors contributed to the passage of these groundbreaking laws, the March on Washington was the singular moment that focused the nation on America's unfulfilled promises.

The courage and determination shown by the marchers emboldened, and in some cases, embarrassed elected officials into taking action that would change America forever.

The marchers did not come to Washington from a vacuum. Collectively, they brought with them the memories of threats, lynchings, rapes, bombings, fire hoses and police dogs.

They shared the pain of every restaurant that refused to serve them, every boss that refused to hire them, every substandard segregated school they were forced to attend and every elected official who tried to rob them of their right to vote.

Six years after the march, my father was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. He was one of the nine founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus and the first Black Congressman elected from Missouri.

Looking back at the past 40 years, the march not only advanced civil rights in the United States, it energized the battle for human rights around the world.

As we celebrate the anniversary of this pivotal moment in American history, those of us who stand today on the shoulders of those marchers have a duty to remember that the "Dream" is unfinished and the "March" needs to keep moving.

The struggle for civil and human rights is the unfinished business of our nation. That agenda includes the continuing struggle to protect our voting rights and achieving full representation for the citizens of the District of Columbia.

As leaders we cannot allow our success to blind us to the terrible disparities in health care, education, housing, employment, income and life expectancies.

History will judge my generation of leaders by how we respond to this unfinished agenda. And as in my father's time, our defining moment is coming.

Some 40 years after the great March on Washington, we are freer, better off and more secure in our full citizenship. Dr. King's dream of freedom may not be fulfilled in every way. And it may never be. But we owe it to those who gathered here on that day to continue the struggle. ■

Congressional Black Caucus Honors Former POW Shoshana Johnson

As initiated by Rep. Charles Rangel, the Congressional Black Caucus in June paid a special tribute to former Prisoner of War and U.S. Army Specialist Shoshana Johnson, who recently served in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

At a special ceremony on Capitol Hill, CBC members presented Specialist Johnson with an engraved congressional resolution. The resolution commends the great sacrifice that Specialist Johnson made for our nation.

A five-year member of the U.S. Army, Specialist Johnson was called to serve in the Persian Gulf in February 2003. On March 24, Specialist Johnson, along with six other members of her unit, were captured by Iraqi soldiers.

The capture was then taped and aired on television networks all over the world. After more than three weeks in captivity, the POWs were rescued by U.S. Marines on April 13th. Spe-



CBC Chairman Elijah E. Cummings (right) presented a congressional plaque to Army specialist and former POW Shoshana Johnson (sitting), honoring her heroism during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Other CBC members, from left, are Reps. Chaka Fattah, Sheila Jackson Lee, Kendrick Meek, John Lewis, Juanita Millender-McDonald, Donald Payne and Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick.

cialist Johnson was one of the first African American women to be held as a POW.

"We are here to commend a hero who represents

the highest ideals of patriotism," CBC Chairman Rep. Elijah Cummings said. He added that all the men and women who served in the

Iraqi war, as well as those who are currently deployed in the Persian Gulf, deserve the nation's deepest gratitude and support. ■

Expanding Minority Business Participation in International Development

By Rep. Barbara Lee

This year, President Bush announced the creation of a new foreign assistance program called the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA).

The MCA will provide development assistance to a limited number of countries

around the globe that have demonstrated a commitment to democracy and have promoted economic freedom, among other criteria. This program offers substantial opportunities to provide expanded



funding for a few nations, including some African countries.

Our job as legislators is to ensure that this money goes towards helping those countries that most need it, and as a member of the House In-

ternational Relations Committee, I will do my best to make sure that we provide opportunities for these countries. As the bill worked its way through the House International Relations Committee, I saw a chance to

Cont'd. on pg. 22

Expanding Minority Business Participation

Cont'd. from pg. 21

make this bill much better. It has always been important to me that minorities are included in all government enterprises because small and disadvantaged businesses represent a vital economic engine in this country, yet too often have little chance to participate.

Therefore, I introduced an amendment to the MCA legislation that ensured that small, minority, and women-owned business enterprises can fully participate in the provision of goods and services financed with funds made available through this account.

The amendment was adopted in committee, and the provision is now part of the MCA legislation, which passed the House in late July as part of the State Department Authorization Bill.

But our work doesn't stop there. We need to determine to what extent these businesses will participate in the measures, and I included a provision in the amendment that calls for an annual report about the small, minority, and female-owned businesses participating in these development initiatives.

As we go forward, we must make sure that our tax dollars that are used to fund government programs create opportunities for small, minority, and women-owned businesses—not just multinational corporations such as Halliburton Energy. ■

Rep. Diane Watson Urges Implementation of Clean Diamonds Trade Act and Introduces New FCC Legislation

Working with Representatives and Senators of both parties, Rep. Diane E. Watson took the lead in urging the White House to meet a July 31, 2003 deadline for implementation of the Clean Diamonds Trade Act (P.L. 108-019).

The Clean Diamonds Trade Act seeks to end the trade of "conflict diamonds," which are traded by and used to fund the activities of the combatants in several African civil wars. While both houses of Congress passed the bill overwhelmingly in April of this year, concern grew as the July 31 deadline approached that the United States might not publish regulations in time, thereby weakening both the inter-



national diamond control regime and U.S. credibility.

Rep. Watson joined Representatives Amo Houghton and Frank Wolf and Senators Charles Grassley and Patrick Leahy to press the administration to meet the deadline. The regulations were subsequently published on July 31, meeting U.S. obligations.

Rep. Watson is continuing the fight against conflict diamonds by sponsoring H. Con. Res. 239, which calls upon the global diamond industry to provide development assistance to communities in Sierra Leone, Angola, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, where the illicit trade in conflict diamonds for arms fueled civil war.

Rep. Watson has also introduced legislation barring the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) from accepting industry financed trips. H.R. 2670, The Federal Communications Accountability Act, closely mirrors a bill introduced by Senator John McCain and adopted by the Senate Commerce Committee.

"I am concerned that industry financed travel could compromise and undermine the independent judgment of FCC officials," said Rep. Watson. "Preserving the independence and integrity of the FCC is particularly critical at a time when many of us are concerned about growing media consolidation and its potential threat to the free flow of information in our society." ■

WOW Initiative *Cont'd. from pg. 13*

The funding provides below market interest rate loans with down payment and closing cost assistance in designated communities throughout the 7th Congressional District in the City of Chicago. The plan is designed to assist 125 families over a 12 month period.

"We are taking aggressive steps to overcome barriers that especially low and moderate income families face as they attempt to purchase their first home," said

Rep. Davis. "This program makes the American dream become a reality for each of the 125 families who will benefit."

The \$15 million dollar initiative makes it possible for a family of three with an annual income of approximately \$25,000 to qualify for a first mortgage loan of \$90,000 with a low interest rate of 4.25%. In addition, there is no minimum income requirement to qualify and subsidies of up to \$80,000 are possible.

The program is a product of policy recommendations coming out of WOW discussions in the 7th District Housing Task Force which advises the Congressman. Participant partners include IHDA'S Single Family and Trust departments, the City of Chicago's Department of Housing, United Guaranty Insurance Company and the Living Word Christian Center. ■

Dear Friends of The CBCF:

I am very excited to contact you again! During the past year, we have worked aggressively to advance the mission of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. (CBCF). With your generous support, we've made tremendous strides.

A momentous event occurred this past October when we purchased our new headquarters building. This new location positions us in the heart of Washington, DC's corridor of prestigious think tanks and public policy institutions, increasing our access and visibility—two factors that are key to the success of our Five-Year Strategic Plan.

We have made additional strides in meeting the goals of our Strategic Plan. In the past several months, the CBCF has hired a new Vice President of Research and Programs and instituted a new Health Scholarship Program. We continue to address the key focus areas of CBCF's Strategic Plan: Education, Economic Development, Public Health and African Globalism, through our existing programs. The recent United States Supreme Court ruling, upholding the University of Michigan Law School's efforts to assure diversity through affirmative action, underlines the importance of the CBCF's education programs. Under the direction of its Leadership Institute for Public Service, CBCF hosts intern activities for high school and college students, and extended programs for Congressional Fellows, many of whom are graduates of some of the nation's outstanding law schools.

Our goal is to cultivate an ongoing, interactive relationship with **you** through our *Friends Of The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Program*. We value your input and invite you to engage in meaningful dialogue, not only through seminars, workshops and other gatherings during our Annual Legislative Conference, September 24 - 27, 2003, but also during other *Friends Of The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation* events. Please log on to our Website at www.cbcfinc.org for information and registration. Our Website averages 1.5 million hits per month from 87 nations and is in four languages (English, French, Portuguese and Spanish).

The CBCF is committed to leveling the playing field for African Americans by affecting the public policies that determine our quality of life. As a non-partisan, non-profit, public policy, research and educational institution, the CBCF depends on the support of concerned people like you. Your investment in our future is an investment in your future. Please, give generously.

Your tax-deductible gift to CBCF enables us to ensure that your voice is heard. **Thank you in advance for your generous support of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.**

Sincerely,



Weldon J. Rougeau
President

I Want to Join The Friends of the CBCF!

Home Address: _____
Apt./Suite: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____ Home Fax: _____
E-mail: _____

I would like to donate \$ _____ to become a Friend of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFT IN SUPPORT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS FOUNDATION, INC.

- \$50,000 Presidential Friend
- \$25,000 Congressional Friend
- \$12,500 Judicial Friend
- \$10,000 State Friend
- \$5,000 District Friend
- \$1,000 Friend

I cannot become a Friend right now, but I would like to donate \$ _____ to the CBCF, Inc.

CBCF News

The Newsletter of the
Congressional Black Caucus
Foundation

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Rep. William J. Jefferson
Chair

Congressional Black Caucus
Foundation, Inc.

Rep. Elijah E. Cummings
Chair

Congressional Black Caucus

Weldon J. Rougeau
President

Congressional Black Caucus
Foundation, Inc.

Janice R. Crump

Director, Media Relations and
Communications

Congressional Black Caucus
Foundation, Inc.

EDITORIAL COORDINATOR

Ofield Dukes

Ofield Dukes & Associates

DESIGN

Jacqueline D. Sealey

Dawn Affiliated Services, Inc.

To make tax-deductible contribu-
tions to the CBCF, be added to
the mailing list or receive infor-
mation, contact:

Weldon J. Rougeau
President, CBCF
1720 Massachusetts, Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036
Website: www.cbcfinc.org
www.cbcfhealth.org
www.wowcbcf.org

PLEASE ADD MY NAME TO THE CBCF NEWS MAILING LIST

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____ Apt./Suite

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

CBCF News is on CBCF website: www.cbcfinc.org

Non Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 5782
Washington, D.C.

CBCF
Congressional Black
Caucus Foundation
1720 Massachusetts, Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20036