



Transforming our Nation One Child at a time



MONITOR BLACK HISTORY

January 31, 2017

Greetings!

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THOUGHTS

By Brenda Crisp, Executive Director

It is always good to see friends, especially ones I get to see only once a year-at Christmas. We catch up on family, illnesses, successes and we complain. The most important part of this is we are happy. Again, at Christmas time, this happened to me. Many of you I hadn't seen since last Christmas and there were a few I missed because others were talking to me and they needed to come in drop off gifts and move on.



I have tried very hard to stay on top of writing to thank each of you for your

many gifts but if I didn't, PLEASE, PLEASE forgive me. It isn't intentional at all. Please call or email and let me know that I missed you.

This year again, you made so many people extremely happy and allowed them to enjoy Christmas morning. This year was special for my staff and myself because many of you also gave gifts to us. But I must tell you a story of a shopping trip with my daughters. It was all because of gifts I received from you.

The day was great. There were both daughters and my granddaughter out shopping. There were many sales and I bought something for everyone, except myself. We walked into Kohl's and as we walked I picked up a number of items that were on sale, mostly for the grandchildren and the house. As we approached the check out, I was asked by my daughters, "What did you buy for yourself with your gift card?" I hesitated and said nothing. "Mom, the person giving you that card asked that you buy something for yourself and no one else, so what do you have for yourself?" Okay, nothing, I got my granddaughter something with that. They said, "Nope, put it back and buy yourself something." "I am good, I don't need anything." "Mom, buy for you and no one else." Okay, let's just go then. "There's nothing I need right now". "You are so bullheaded and stubborn. Why can't you buy something for yourself as asked? ""Let's just go okay." Children shouldn't treat mothers this way!!!

On January 15, 2018, we celebrated Rev. Dr. Martin L. King's birthday. We all know who he is and what he did for all of us. However, there are many of you, who do the same thing in life but aren't recognized. ***TODAY I recognize you, salute and thank you for your work.***

One day, as Martin L. King believes, "I believe people everywhere can have what they need to sustain their bodies: education and culture for their minds; and dignity, equality and freedom for the spirits. I believe that what self-centered people have torn down, other centered people can build up. By the goodness of God at work within people, I believe that brokenness can be healed. And the lion and the lamb shall lie down together in peace and none shall be afraid." Thank you for your work!!



WE ARE free at Last, Free at Last.

And the extremely cold weather has gone for now!!!

If you have battled the flu or currently fighting the flu, my prayers are with you. It hit the center hard and every day we bleached and disinfected everything. Hands were washed until almost raw. We all hope you feel better soon. All you can do is REST.

Improv Night Returns!

Last year we had an Improv Night and it was a spectacular success.

You don't want to miss this one!

**Uni-Pres Kindercottage
Night at the Improv
Laughter, Frivolity & Joculariry
Featuring Ed Reggi and
The Paper Slips Theater**

Saturday, April 14
Doors open for silent auction at 5pm
Dinner & Show at 6pm
At St. Paul UCC
115 West "B" Street, Belleville

[Click this link for more *Improv Night* information](#)

We ask that you remember to include Uni-Pres Kindercottage in your will or trust documents. We would be ever so grateful! Thank you!

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