

FAITH & FAMILY

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PLAYTIME

ROOT WORDS
Nobody can do for little children what grandparents do. Grandparents sort of sprinkle stardust over the lives of little children."

By Alex Haley
www.brainyquote.com



BEEN DAY

That glorious holiday, St. Patrick's Day, is just around the corner, and what better way to celebrate than with some Irish leprechauns?
Knoxville storyteller Kathleen Mavourra will offer Irish stories 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 17, at the Grand Theatre, 1538 Laurel Ave. Sponsor is Jubilee Community Arts.
All tickets are sold at the door and are \$5 for adults and children ages 13 and older, \$3 for children ages 3 to 12, and free for children ages 2 and younger.

STRONG LADY

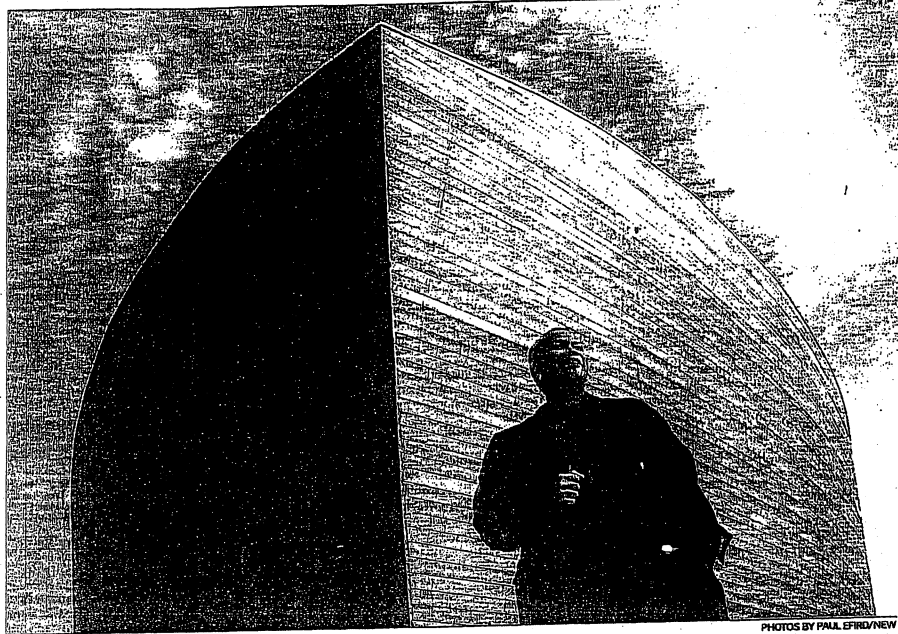
The Bijou Theater presents the story of the late Eva Peron and her rise from poverty to become Argentina's first lady, in the musical "Evita."
Evening shows are 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 19; Saturday, March 20; Saturday, April 3; and Wednesday, April 9. Matinees are 2:30 p.m. Sundays, March 14, March 21 and April 4.
Tickets are \$18.50, \$22.50 and \$24.50 for adults, and \$10.50, \$12.50 and \$14.50 for students. Call the Bijou, 803 S. Gay St., at 865-522-0832.



EYES TO A GOOD TIME

The Evelyn Miller Young Pianist Series presents pianist Peyton Lee 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 14, at the University of Tennessee Music Hall, 1741 Volunteer Blvd.
Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$5 for students.

HEROES IN THE HOUSE



The Rev. Dr. Jean Parrott, vice president for Haley Farm, stands in front of the Maya Lin-designed chapel at the Children's Defense Fund Haley Farm. PHOTOS BY PAUL EFRON/NEWS

Port In The Storm

Ark-shaped chapel at Haley Farm represents a promise fulfilled and harmony in difficult times

BY JEANNINE E. HUNTER
hunter@knews.com

CLINTON — It was a sign of Noah's obedience to God. And it was a vessel to carry mankind and animals through a turbulent period of destruction before renewal.



Boat imagery is part of the official logo for the Children's Defense Fund. It is also the shape of a soon-to-be-completed building — an interfaith chapel — at the Children's Defense Fund Haley Farm, the national child advocacy organization's spiritual and training retreat center overlooking Hinds and Buffalo creeks in Clinton.

Designed by world-renowned architect-sculptor Maya Lin, the chapel represents the organization's mission to "Leave No Child Behind" to carry and comfort the nation's children through whatever storms they face.

"It will be a chapel for all people," the Rev. Dr. Jean Parrott, vice president of the Children's Defense Fund Haley Farm, said, "where young people can come and feel free to express their faith. ... Whether you are Christian, Jewish, Muslim, you can come and be together with like-



Diane Meaney from Mastercraft Fine Woodworking puts the finishing touches to the stage inside the chapel.

-minded individuals whose starting point is doing justice for all children."
Perched beside a 220-apple-tree orchard, the chapel will house the center's annual Samuel DeWitt Proctor

Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry, as well as Freedom Schools training and other large gatherings.

It is the first newly built structure at the 157-acre farm once owned by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Alex Haley. It represents a pledge CDF founder and President Marian Wright Edelman made to God to make the first new building a chapel for all people, representing the movement's spiritual foundation.

Edelman, who advocated for disadvantaged Americans and advanced children's causes for more than four decades, established the Washington Research Project in 1968, and it became the Children's Defense Fund five years later. She began her career as an attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, directing its Jackson, Miss., office and becoming the first black woman admitted to the Mississippi bar.

Of Edelman's commitment to build a chapel, Parrott said: "It's in response to knowing that God is merciful. We would not have found the property without God's help, nor would we have sustained the movement this long."

Though the chapel had been discussed earlier, other priorities had shelved the plans for it. After Sept. 11, 2001, CDF board member Leonard Riggs of Barnes & Noble Booksellers resurrected the idea.

See CHAPEL on E3

Baylor battling to better its image

WACO, Texas — Looking out his window, athletic director Ian McCaw has seen watching workers tear up the turf in Baylor University's football stadium me more time.

The environment is brutal in there, and not just because the Beas play Texas, Oklahoma, Nebraska and other Big 12 powers.

Central Texas offers searing heat and then its share of ice. Since 1976, Baylor has tied grass, various brands of fake grass, real grass again and now Prestige System artificial turf.

"We're committed to making changes," said McCaw, a young sports-management professional who arrived in the midst of Baylor's recent siege of scandals and woes. "We're moving forward. We think his is going to work out fine."

McCaw was talking about the grass, but he could have been defending his own turf. The environment has been brutal for months, with the world's largest Baptist school facing a searing media spotlight and the cold reality that when many fans hear "Baylor," they now

TERRY MATTINGLY

think of death, drugs and dirty dollars, not dedication to Christian principles.

Surely the grass was greener at the University of Massachusetts, where McCaw had done his graduate studies and returned to direct a 23-sport athletic program.

But after one successful year, he answered the call to help resurrect Baylor's reputation.

"From a branding, marketing standpoint, we know what we have to do. We have to position ourselves to the whole Baptist and Protestant community as the flagship, much as Notre Dame always has been for Catholics," he said.

"We certainly can't try to hide what Baylor is, or what Baylor is supposed to be."

That brand name also raises questions in an era when schools with small markets and high academic standards face brutal pressures to cut corners. Meanwhile, this is a boom time for Christian colleges and universities, along with

their athletic programs. Many are asking: What does it mean to have "Christian" athletics?

"It doesn't mean all the school's athletes have to be Christians," said Grant Teaff, a Baylor coaching legend and, for the past decade, executive director of the American Football Coaches Association.

But dedicated Christian coaches are a must.

"You can't say, 'Find me the best Christian defensive back you can and go sign him.' You can't compete like that," he said, "but that doesn't mean that, if one of the top defensive backs in the country is a strong Christian kid, you can't look him in the eye and tell him Baylor is where he would feel right at home."

It's also time for these coaches to admit that larger schools will sign almost all the top blue-chip recruits.

"The world says to these young men, 'Get as much as you can as soon as you can. Get your hand out — tonight now,'" said Teaff. "Schools like Baylor can't compete in that game ... but a school like this has other strengths, and it can't be afraid to use

them."

Schools that emphasize academics and spiritual values will also need stronger ties to national networks of ministries, home-school families and Christian high schools that stress athletics, noted McCaw. "The evidence is strong that schools emphasizing faith are especially attractive to top female athletes."

Another trend may help. As Third World churches grow in power, global recruiting efforts will increasingly affect sports.

But earning the trust of parents remains the key.

"There is a growing percentage of parents that want their children to go to a Christian college, yet they also want to see their children compete in Division I athletics. If you want a quality, Christian education and you want to compete at the highest level in athletics ... where are you going to go?"

Terry Mattingly teaches at Palm Beach Atlantic College and is senior fellow for journalism at the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities.

Confronting alcohol a delicate maneuver

Q: My husband drinks excessively. How on earth am I going to get him to go to Alcoholics Anonymous or some similar treatment program? He is deep in denial and couldn't make a rational decision to save his life.

Dr. Dobson: You're right about the difficulties you face. Begging won't accomplish anything, and your husband will be dead before he admits he has a problem. Indeed, thousands die each year while denying that they are alcoholics. That's why AA teaches family members how to confront in love. They learn how to remove the support systems that prop up the disease and permit it to thrive. They are shown how and when to impose ultimatums that force the alcoholic to admit his or her need for help. And sometimes, they recommend separation until the victim is so miserable that his denial will no longer hold up. In essence, AA teaches its own version of the "love must be tough" philosophy to family members who must implement it.

I asked Bob, a recovering alcoholic, if he was forced to attend Alcoholics Anonymous — the program that put him on the road to recovery. He said: "Let me put it this way. No one goes to AA just because they're nothing better to do that evening. Everyone there has been

JAMES DOBSON

Focus on the Family

forced to attend initial don't say, 'Tuesday we movies. So what will v Wednesday? How ab to an AA meeting?' It that way. Yes, I was fo by my own misery."

Without the trainic assistance of professi groups, the encounter degenerate into a han name-calling battle th only to solidify the dr position.

AA-Non Family G Alcoholics Anonymo listed in local phone l

Dr. James Dobson is r on the Family, a nonpro dedicated to the pressa family. These questions excerpted from books b Send questions to Dr. Ja Focus on the Family, P.O. Colorado Springs, CO 8

CHAPEL

from EI

"Mrs. Edelman talked to him before 9-11 about the chapel, but after 9-11, in a conference call, he said we would move forward," Parrott said.

He gave \$3 million toward the chapel's construction in the days after the terrorist attacks, with the idea it would serve as a symbol of harmony during troubled times.

The \$3 million challenge grant is being used for the chapel's construction and to support other programming. Because it was a 3-to-1 match grant, the CDF Haley Farm has to raise \$9 million to fulfill its part of the grant. The organization is in the midst of a fund-raising campaign.

The retreat center is central to the organization because it embodies efforts to "Leave No Child Behind." Since 1990, that trademarked slogan has characterized the programming of the 31-year-old organization.

It's a mission familiar to Lin, a longtime CDF supporter who converted an old cantilevered barn into the retreat's Langston Hughes

Library, which was dedicated in 1999. The private library is named after the poet and novelist, and has a 5,000-volume reference collection. It also has a reading room named after poet and novelist Dr. Maya Angelou, historian Dr. John Hope Franklin and civil rights heroine Rosa Parks.

Lin, who works with many nonprofit organizations, had been working on developing an interfaith chapel as she was finishing the library.

"Early on, (the logo) of the Children's Defense Fund, the imagery of a boat, struck for me, in my mind, like a barn, though cleaner and very modern," she said in a telephone interview. "I had been struggling with it. It was actually a three-part building."

The chapel is now a two-part building, where the main portion is wooden and a smaller structure, connected by trellis, is concrete.

Lin manages a design studio in New York. Like the nation, 9-11 affected her. "I stopped working. I was wondering what was important," she said. "I think working on the chapel, its significance and being able to help other people was what got me going again without

really thinking about it ... A lot of artists are self-motivated ... Working on something for others, creating a gathering space and considering the work, the mission of the Children's Defense Fund were very important.

"The chapel is very special to me. It's the first, real freestanding building I designed, and I'm quite excited about it."

Along with the Langston Hughes Library, it creates a link between her ability to save and restore historic structures, such as the former barn turned library, and establishing her own architecture, esthetic with the modern chapel.

With the addition of the chapel, Haley Farm is now the only place in the country to house two of Lin's designs.

As a 21-year-old undergraduate student of architecture at Yale, Maya Lin gained international attention when she won the 1981 commission to design the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Her other designs include the Peace Chapel at Pennsylvania's Juniata College and Southern Poverty Law Center's Civil Rights Memorial in

Montgomery, Ala.

The chapel displays elements of her signature use of natural materials — rock, water and wood — and attracts visiting architects and students.

The chapel dedication will be Sunday, July 18, the day before the 10th annual Samuel DeWitt Proctor Ministry, held Monday, July 19, through Friday, July 23. The institute's evening Great Preachers Series is open to the public, free of charge, beginning at 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday of that week.

Established in 1995, the institute is "where religious and other faith-based advocates convene for spiritual renewal, networking and continuing education. It is named in honor of the founding pastor-in-residence, a prolific writer and preacher who wrote "We Have This Ministry" and "How Shall They Hear" and "Sermons from the Black Pulpit," among many others.

To support the grant, make checks payable to CDF's Haley Farm, and designate them for the Challenge Grant. Mail to CDF's Haley Farm, P.O. Box 840, Clinton, TN 37717-0840. Donations also

may be made online at www.haleyfarm.org/donations.html, through the "Give Online" link.

For information on the

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SHERRI

from EI

ventured over to the self-scanner. I stepped boldly up to the scanner. I followed all the directions on the screen. I began scanning my items, moving quickly to the second bag and scale when my first bag filled up, but not removing it. Everything was going well. Until the almonds.

I scanned the 89-cent pack of almonds. The voice acknowledged that I had scanned the item. I turned the almonds over to read the back, checking how much protein they had. Then, a few seconds later, I placed the bag of almonds in the bag.

put them in the first bag. "You must scan items before placing in bag," the machine insisted.

I took the almonds out, scanned my next item and placed it and the almonds in the bag.

"Remove unscanned item," the machine insisted, and it seemed louder this time.

"I DID scan it," I said, to the machine. I guess, I left the almonds in the bag and tried to scan the next item.

The machine refused. I took the almonds out, again, and scanned my last item, placing it and the almonds in the bag.

"CALL ATTENDANT," the machine insisted. "REMOVE UNSCANNED ITEM. CALL ATTENDANT."

At this point, I didn't even want the stupid almonds. But

pocket, but just couldn't do it. An attendant came over, and I apologetically showed her on the screen where the almonds had been scanned. She gave me a stern look, checked my bags for contraband almonds, then used her magic card to clear the problem. She placed the almonds in my bag. The machine never said a word.

After I got home, I checked the weight of the bag of almonds: 2 ounces.

Personally, I will help keep high school students gainfully employed by never self-scanning again. To all you would-be shoplifters out there, don't try to fool the self-scanner. If a 2-ounce bag of almonds sets off alarms, you'll never have a prayer with a savior.

Sherri Gardner Howell is assistant managing editor for features and entertainment. She may be reached at 865-342-6430 or gardner@knews.com.

TWO THUMBS WAY UP!
A GREAT ERIC FILM!

Eric G. Rapier

REGAL CINEMAS