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The founder of the National Black Women's Health Project, who is also a former special education teacher, will discuss her role in promoting women's health at a USF Women's Awareness event on March 8.

This March, the Women's Awareness events have the theme "Women and Wellness: Dimensions of Health." Byllye Avery, who founded the health project to promote and maintain the physical, mental and emotional well-being of African-American women, will speak at 7 p.m. March 8 in USF-Tampa's Phyllis F. Marshall Center Ballroom. She will sign copies of her book after her presentation. This event is free.

Before creating the project, Avery lived in Florida, co-founding the Gainesville Women's Health Center and helping to start Birthplace, an alternative birthing center in that city.

She moved to Atlanta in 1991 to start the national project, which has since moved its headquarters to Washington, D.C.

The project has chapters in 22 states and is engaged in projects such as "Walking for Wellness: Protecting Health, Saving Lives," a walk also sponsored by the American Heart Association; substance abuse prevention programs on seven historically black college campuses; and public policy and education addressing health care and reproductive technology.

Avery also wrote the book "An Altar of Words," published in 1998 and sold on amazon.com. In personal meditations on activism, belonging, courage, love, patience, power, solitude, spirit, wisdom and other evocative terms, Avery delves into the emotions the words conjure up and how they shape our sense of present and future realities.

In a review of the book on amazon.com, Angela Davis wrote: "Byllye Avery's article is a full affirmation of who we are, affirming ourselves and the world around us and tells us that we have the power to construct our worlds as we choose. 'An Altar of Words' is a wonderful sermon on life and how we might better see and live it in the coming millennium.

Julia Boyd, author of "In the Company of My Sisters," also commented: "I came away from reading 'An Altar of Words' feeling as if I had been washed in a rainbow: calm, reflective, soothed and refreshed, and my spirit sailed a mile high. Thank you, sister Byllye, for creating an altar of peace and tranquility for sisters everywhere.

In addition to Avery's appearance on March 8, the Women's Awareness Committee and USF Student Health Services will host the Spring 2000 Health and Wellness Fair, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 7 in the covered area between the USF Bookstore and the Student Services building, near Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza, USF-Tampa.

During the fair, health care professionals will screen people for high blood pressure and high glucose levels and offer hemoglobin and hearing tests. Bone density, fitness and body-fat assessments will also be made. Free massages will be given, along with other free items. Florida Blood Services will host a blood drive in the Marshall Center, room 106.

Door prizes will be awarded, including tickets for free admission to the Lowry Park Zoo and the Museum of Science and Industry, tickets to see "The Pirates of Penzance" and "Swing, Swing, Swing" at the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center and gift certificates to other local businesses and restaurants. The grand prize is a two-night stay at the Holiday Inn City Center in Tampa.

The fair is free. For more information about the fair, call ext. 4-4936. For more information about Avery's appearance, call ext. 4-9281.

The St. Petersburg campus also will host several films, a lecture, and a panel discussion during Women's History Month. Call ext. 3-3458 for more information about these events. They include:

• March 24, 8:30 p.m., Campus Activities Center. Film: "The Female Closet." This 1998 videotape by Barbara Hammer combines rare footage, interviews and visual documents to survey the lives of closeted women artists of the 20th century.

• March 25, 10:30 a.m., Campus Activities Center. Film: "I Told Hillary Clinton in Seneca Falls." Wagner will speak at USF-St. Petersburg on March 3 at 1 p.m. Her lecture, "What I Told Hillary Clinton in Seneca Falls," will reflect the comments she made to the first lady during her tour where the first women's rights convention was held in 1848.

Wagner also will give a performance at 7 that evening, "Women's Rights among the Indians." She will portray Matilda Joynal Gage, an early champion for women who co-wrote the first three volumes of "A History of Woman Suffrage with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony." In 1893, Gage was "adopted" into the wolf clan of the Mohawk nation.

Wagner, considering a leading authority on Gage as well as the Wounded Knee Massacre, is a pioneer in her own right. She received one of the country's first doctoral degrees awarded for work in women's studies and helped found one of the first university programs in that field.

Wagner recently was featured in the Ken Burns' PBS special, "Not for Ourselves Alone: The Story of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony," and authored its accompanying study guide. The special focuses on the two women who led one of the largest social transformations in American history by creating the women's rights movement.

In 1998, Wagner curated exhibits at Gage and the Iroquois women's influence on early activists for the 150th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage in Seneca Falls, N.Y.

Both events take place at USF-St. Petersburg's Campus Activities Center, located at the corner of Second Street and Sixth Avenue South.

The events are part of USF-St. Petersburg's Women's History Month celebration and are co-sponsored by the Florida Humanities Council, the Pinellas County National Organization for Women, Pinellas County League of Women Voters, The Council for Secular Humanism, the Humanist Association of St. Petersburg, the St. Petersburg Library System and Brights Books. Call ext. 3-3458 for more information.

by Deborah Kurelik

Women's Awareness events kick off in March

Nationally recognized historian and women's studies scholar Sally Roe Burch Wagner will speak at USF-St. Petersburg on March 3 at 1 p.m. Her lecture, "What I Told Hillary Clinton in Seneca Falls," will reflect the comments she made to the first lady during her tour where the first women's rights convention was held in 1848.

Wagner will give a performance at 7 that evening, "Women's Rights among the Indians." She will portray Matilda Joynal Gage, an early champion for women who co-wrote the first three volumes of "A History of Woman Suffrage with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony." In 1893, Gage was "adopted" into the wolf clan of the Mohawk nation.
FRIDAY

3

Easy as 1, 2, 3: The annual conference of the Florida section of the Mathematics Association of America meets with the Florida Two-year College Mathematics Association on the USF-Tampa campus on March 3-4. A student-oriented special session for college students interested in math and mathematics education is included on the agenda. For more information, call ext. 4-5469.

Older and wiser: The USF Institute on Aging presents University of Texas Professor Kyriakos S. Markides, who speaks on “The Health of Hispanic Elderly in the Southwestern United States: Selected Findings from the Hispanic Established Population for Epidemiologic Studies of the Elderly” at 10:30 a.m. at the College of Public Health Auditorium A. For more information, e-mail bernett@hsc.usf.edu.

Emotional involvement: The Employee Assistance Program workshop “Women and Divorce: The Emotional Impact” takes place from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Student Services building, room 2126. The free faculty and staff workshop explores techniques for surviving divorce and looking beyond it. Advance registration is required; for more information, visit the Web site http://rtckids.fmihi.usf.edu; for more information or to register, call ext. 44661 or 4-5469.

The first Lady: Women’s Studies scholars Sally Rosch Wagner discusses “What I Told Hillary Clinton at Seneca Falls” at 1 p.m. in the USF-St. Petersburg Campus Activities Center. Roesch Wagner will talk about the 1998 highlights of her briefing of Clinton during the 150th anniversary of Women’s Suffrage in Seneca Falls, N.Y. For more information, call ext. 3-3458.

Native clan: Sally Rosch Wagner discusses “Women’s Rights among the Indians” at 7 p.m. at the USF-St. Petersburg Campus Activities Center. Roesch Wagner will portray Matilda Joslyn Gage, an early champion for women’s rights whose 1895 “adoption” into the wolf clan of the Mohawk nation led her to strongly question the inequality between the sexes. For more information, call ext. 3-3458.

SATURDAY

4

Hoop it up: Men’s Basketball plays Memphis at 7 p.m. at the USF Sun Dome. Tickets cost $12 and are available at the Sun Dome box office or any Ticketmaster location; the game can also be watched on the Sports Channel.

INSIDE USF March 3 - 16, 2000

TUESDAY

7

Bang on the drum all day: The BONK festival takes place at 8 p.m. in Theatre 1. Tickets are $7 for general admission, $5 for students and seniors. Events are scheduled throughout the week. For tickets or more information, call ext. 4-2232.

Plaistisic patriarchs: Karl Haas offers examples of famous artists’ artwork of a bygone time at 9 p.m. during the WUSP-FM 99.7 program, “Adventures in Good Music.”

WEDNESDAY

A liberal view: John Campbell speaks on “Darwinism, Creationism and the Public Schools: Defending Liberal Education in a Time of Controversy” at 7:30 p.m. at the University Lecture Hall. Part of the University Lecture Series, the talk is co-sponsored by the Communication department.

MONDAY

6

Working together: The Office of Diversity Initiatives offers the faculty/staff program “Building Diverse Teams That Do Great Work” from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Student Services building, room 2080. Participants will gain insights into what creates more diverse performance in teams and organizations. For more information or to register, e-mail dbel1@acad.usf.edu.

THURSDAY

9

All about U: The new employee orientation program “Discover USF” takes place from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every Thursday at the Student Services building, room 5012. For more information, call Karen Tyler at ext. 4-5716.

Banging the drums, part two: The BONK festival, featuring the USF Percussion ensemble, performs at 8 p.m. in Theatre 1. Tickets are $8, and $5 for students and senior citizens. For tickets or more information, call ext. 4-2232.

FRIDAY

10

Take your medicine: The James N. Patterson Research and Education Seminar takes place from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the College of Medicine’s Auditorium. Chemistry Nobel Laureate Kary B. Mullins will talk about the polymerase chain reaction. For more information, call (727) 586-2281.

Don't limit yourself: The Employee Assistance Program workshop “Overcoming Psychological Barriers in Women’s Leadership Development” takes place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Student Services building, room 2070. The free faculty and staff workshop, co-presented by Organization Development and Training, teaches participants about factors which may be a barrier to women wanting to assume leadership positions. Advance registration is required; for more information, e-mail ecarson@email.usf.edu.

SATURDAY

11

See you at the fair: The Good Community Fair, with free family entertainment and representation by many USF organizations, takes place from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Al Lopez Park, north of Raymond James Stadium and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard on USF's campus. For more information, call Debbie Henderson at (813) 888-8100.

SUNDAY

12

What a racquet: Men’s Tennis challenges Florida A&M University at 10 a.m. at the USF Tennis Complex. The team also plays Morehead State at 2 p.m.

TUESDAY

14

Say cheese: The Florida Center for Instructional Technology offers the hands-on workshop “Digital Photography 1” at the Education building, room 252. For more information, call ext. 4-6953.

THURSDAY

16

Meet the politicians: A “Get to Know Your Senator” meeting takes place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Phyllis H. Marsh Center Ballroom. Employees have the opportunity to meet senate representatives and ask questions. For more information, call William Shippee Jr. at ext. 4-2368.

INTERNET SAVVY: The Florida Center for Instructional Technology offers the hands-on workshop “Web Page Publishing in the Classroom” at the Education building, room 252. For more class time or more information, call ext. 4-6953.