

# THE NEW VOICE

APRIL 1980

REGIONAL NEWSLETTER OF THE  
INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

## PROGRAM OFFICES:

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## IMAGINAL EDUCATION SEMINAR DRAWS EDUCATORS

Educators from four cities met in Dallas recently for a weekend seminar on "Imaginal Education." The program began with a dinner Friday evening and a workshop on "Crisis in Education." The participants included a program co-ordinator with Oklahoma City's Skyline Urban Ministry, child development specialists with the Dallas Department of Human Resources, curriculum facilitators with the Dallas Independent School District, Director of the Children's Program at the Dallas Central YWCA, elementary and preschool teachers, community guidance workers, and one librarian.

The seminar was conducted by ICA educators John Montgomery of Chicago and Cathleen Miller of Indianahoma. They pulled together into five sessions twenty-five years of ICA teaching experience using the method. The concept starts with the premise that changing the student's image of himself and the world will change his behavior.

There was an unusual "Artform" practice session in which participants created questions about pictures or objects to heighten the consciousness of the group. Pointers in curriculum building and group study were also offered. One of the delegations requested a follow-up consultation with the ICA staff to implement the methods in their child care center. Another participant teaching in the DISD also recently used the Artform method in a teacher training session.

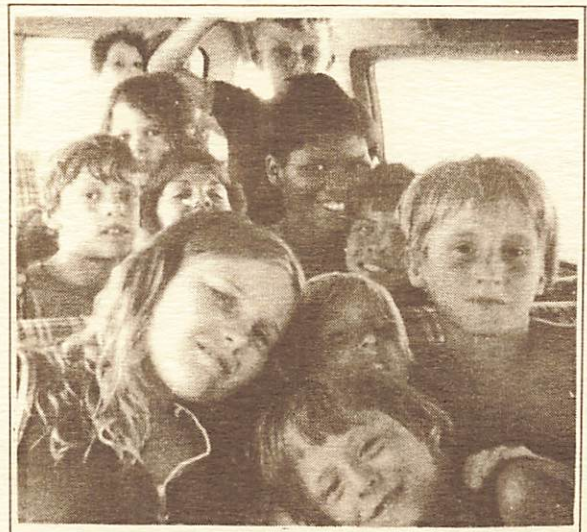


**New Methods  
Allow Image  
Shifts**

## Central City-5: An Imaginal Education Laboratory

One of those attending the Imaginal Education Seminar at the Dallas ICA office was Maggie Ball, a teacher and co-ordinator of the children's program with Oklahoma City's Skyline Urban Ministry. This unique ministry of the United Methodist Church has expanded dramatically in its short eleven-year history. Its Central-City-5 JETS are a group of neighborhood youth working together to build a better city.

The JETS meet after school three days a week. A volunteer staff uses Imaginal Education methods to allow each child to: (1) experience limits within a loving community, (2) enlarge his vision of self-worth and that of others, (3) develop a context for choosing Christian value, and (4) have fun doing it. Central City-5 hosts annual 8-week Summer Academies for over 200 children. The Skyline Urban Ministry also applies I.E. principles to help the lonely, the alcoholic, the broken family — in all, over 16,000 people a year.



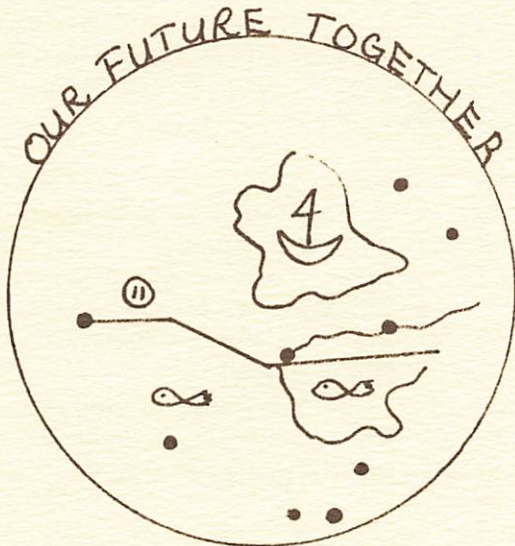
**Jets On An Outing**



## N.C. OKLAHOMA INVOLVED IN "TOWN MEETING WEEK"

"This interchange is a shot in the arm for us!" So says Huba Curnutt of Shidler, Oklahoma, a local leader in the recent North Central Oklahoma Town Meeting Week. The cluster of meetings and training forums were held in Blackwell, Kaw City, Marland and Fairfax, all former participants in the 1977 Town Meeting Oklahoma 100" campaign.

Other events held included a workshop leader-training session, a High School Youth Forum and a closing "wrap-up" assembly. During the assembly residents from Shidler and Kaw City worked together to plan a small business fair, community beautification and stray dog control. Lois Fessenden, Kaw City Chamber President, said the week "really highlighted the need to look toward the future together and see the great things in store."



**North Central Oklahoma Symbol  
Created At The Assembly**

## A MAN'S HOMETOWN

A man may travel far in his life . . . but there is always a small part of him that never leaves the town where he was born, the neighborhood where he spent his boyhood . . . though the years bring change, and the years bring new values . . . It's still the happiest, friendliest, quietest, most beautiful place in the world — a man's hometown. Even if it just exists in his memory.

— From "A Man's Hometown" by Dan Valentine, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

News received from you about your home town will make our Newsletter interesting.

## BIG EVENTS COMMUNITY YOUTH FORUM

One of the big events of the North-Central Oklahoma cluster was a Community Youth Forum with 75 students of Shidler High School. The freshman through senior students who represented 7 towns in the area, were in workshops from 9 a.m. to school closing at 3:15. In the morning session they created a Future Vision timetable projecting the solution of major world issues before the year 2000.

Interest seemed the highest in the afternoon when the students created 9 proposals to act on local issues. Bob Meyer, principal, remarked, "This is a terrific approach. The kids are not only listened to, they feel a certain responsibility to be a part of the solutions."

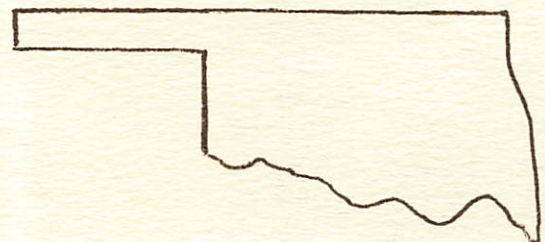
ICA staff member Ken Gillgren of Indianahoma was hopeful that more forums could be held "to take advantage of the unbounded energy of the youth."

## GUARDIANS SUPPORT HOME TOWNS

Recently, the global guardians of the Dallas Region met to hear the latest about the Human Development Project in Indianahoma, Oklahoma. Rhonda Simms and Ray Almanza of Indianahoma told fluently of the progress towards their new mall and their plans to host the "Festival of Home Towns." Those present were further inspired by the sumptuous dinner served by Pat and Glenn Miller in their new townhouse in Euless. Hours of workshopping produced a calendar that will keep guardians involved through the summer. Another guardian's meeting is set for April 19 at the home of Dane and Glenda Adkinson, where task forces will be formed to assist the Festival of Home Towns.

## WHAT IS A GUARDIAN?

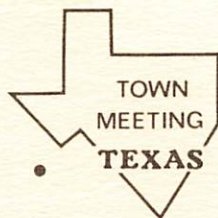
The Global Guardians are demanding our attention these days. They are a group of business and professional people, church laymen, educators and students — all dedicated to demonstrating that there is new hope for every human being in his lifetime. A guardian might find himself participating in a work-weekend in a village, showing the "Global Film" in a church, teaching a LENS course. He or she acts to support communities demonstrating how local man can build a better life anywhere on the face of the globe.





# TEXAS TOWNS . . .

... ON THE MOVE



**CRANE** Now that the new fire station has been completed, the Evening Lions Club of Crane is concerning itself with seeing to it that health care services become available to everyone in Crane County around the clock.

**ODESSA** Recognizing the current need for new understanding of the Middle East, the women of First United Methodist Church are now grappling with a study of that area of the world.

**ANDREWS** The Chamber of Commerce now boasts that it has one woman on its board. Also, the Chamber reports that it has been successful in bringing the Odessa-Midland Orchestra to perform in their growing town.

**AMARILLO** At least one church youth group has decided to spend a weekend in Indiahoma, working on community improvements.

## QUITAQUE, TEXAS

### "A Small Town Doing Big Things"

"It's hard to account for all the involvement in our community" reported O. R. Stark, Jr. recently. Mr. Stark, long time resident of Quitaque and President of the First National Bank, said the town's involvement is like a snow ball's momentum: "more things are being done in the community which makes other community projects easier to do."

But the work is not easy. Four times since 1969 Quitaque has entered the Texas Community Improvement Contest, sponsored by the Utility Companies of Texas and the Texas Extension Service. This has made people more aware of what is being done in the community and has led to the creation of a unique community scrapbook.

Deciding that involvement from all facets of the community was important, citizens have formed a central committee made up of heads of each group in town. The committee meets on a regular basis to plan the projects and involvement.

Mr. Stark also underscored the town's appearance as key to community pride. "When there's an eyesore in town, we do something about it. When townspeople see the newly cleared space, they immediately begin to think positively about what could go into that space."

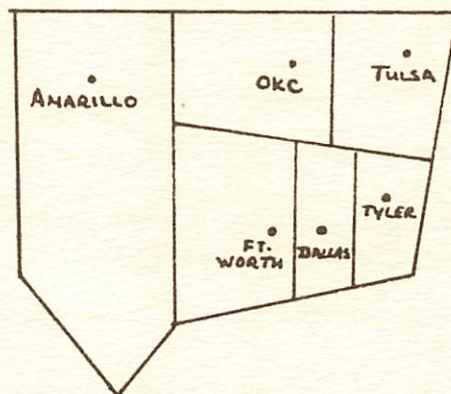
## DALLAS - SOUTH OAKCLIFF

Recently, the parents and teachers of the children in the St. Thomas Child Development Center saw the film, "The World of Human Development." The film is a beautiful showing of "grass-roots" people rebuilding their villages in Egypt, the Philippines, India, Kenya, and around the world. Those who saw the film concluded that "people working together" will be the hope of the future.

## RS-1 A CONTEMPORARY RETREAT

Twenty people from Texas and Oklahoma spent a weekend in January wrestling with issues of applied theology. Titled "Religious Studies — 1" and described as "a contemporary retreat," the seminar was hosted by the Ecumenical Institute, a non-denominational organization of Christians committed to acting out their faith and concern for the world. The allocation of two days to a single purpose and the freedom from my normal routine was refreshing. I enjoyed the unabashed grappling with profound questions. RS-1 is a notable weekend.

An excerpt from an article written by Dan Knierim and reprinted from *Becoming*, newsletter of the Bethany United Presbyterian Church, Dallas.



The  
Dallas  
Region

## EVENTS FOR THE FUTURE

**FROM YOUR TOWN** — Bring the best your town has to offer (food, culture, public relations info, people) to the **Festival of Home Towns**. An Oklahoma international event to be held in Indiahoma, May 23-26.

**IN YOUR TOWN — TOWN MEETINGS, OTHER FORUMS.** Notify the Dallas or Indiahoma center for leadership training. Please allow two weeks notice if you desire a viewing of the film, "The World of Human Development."

**IN INDIAHOMA — WORKDAYS.** Every Saturday from April 12 to May 17. Bring your work clothes and enjoy a day of hard work followed by a celebration.

**IN DALLAS — NIGHT AT THE INSTITUTE.** Every Friday evening during April and May. Join colleagues in an exciting format of reflection and exchange and a home-cooked meal.

**IN PACE, MISS.** and in Cannonball, N.D. — June 1-22. Attend the HUMAN DEVELOPMENT TRAINING SCHOOL.



## NEWS FROM THE GLOBE

**HOUSTON:** A Town Meeting with the Council of Neighborhood Associations in San Marcus results in an invitation to do 17 neighborhood Town Meetings in the spring and the possibility of working with the city as "people engineers" in the development of a master plan.

**EGYPT:** El Bayad, Egypt, with the help of 65 students, has completed its new Community Center foundation.

**ZAMBIA:** A Dutch seminar group in community development from President's Citizenship College, finds Kapini Village "a miracle" after they had been travelling for a month to projects all over Zambia.

**DELHI:** The village of Sikror has obtained 75 bags of cement from its government to continue building the community center. Also, work is being done on roadbricking the temple, putting a hand pump on Harijan well and increasing pest control and grain storage throughout the village. The village was visited by the Deputy-Ambassador of Burma.

## A SMALL HOME TOWN CAN —

- Erect welcome signs: "Country Charm with City Conveniences."
  - Raise in one day \$50,000 to help with medical expenses of an injured high school cheerleader.
  - Publish a beautiful book and a brochure about itself.
  - Renovate a train depot into an attractive community center.
  - Hold a Cultural Exposition to increase community concern and have 125 students co-operating with the Chamber of commerce to accomplish this.
  - Obtain a large grant to finance housing, street and water system improvements.
- Celina, Texas  
— Gibson, N.C.  
— Brandon, Fla.  
— Indianahoma, Okla.

**You are invited to send reports from your town to this office for use in future newsletters.**

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## INDIAHOMA

### "SHOWPLACE OF THE SOUTHWEST"

#### THE COMMUNITY

Indiahoma looks like an ordinary small Oklahoma town, supporting a population of about 500 residents. It has a cafe, a gasoline station, several churches, some bumpy roads, and the almost constant sound of the Oklahoma wind sweeping across the plain and over the Wichita Mountains. Located between Lawton and Snyder, the community relies heavily on both cities for business and service needs.

#### THE NEW PLAN

In 1978 the Indiahoma residents and city officials decided to make a fresh leap in their community's development and invited the Institute of Cultural Affairs to assist them in building a comprehensive model for human development. During a week-long planning meeting the citizens outlined their VISION for the community. They

then discerned the CHALLENGES that were blocking that vision and built a set of PRACTICAL PROPOSALS for dealing effectively with the challenges. Next they created TACTICS and, finally, thirteen ACTUATING PROGRAMS that would form the basis of the next two-year's work.



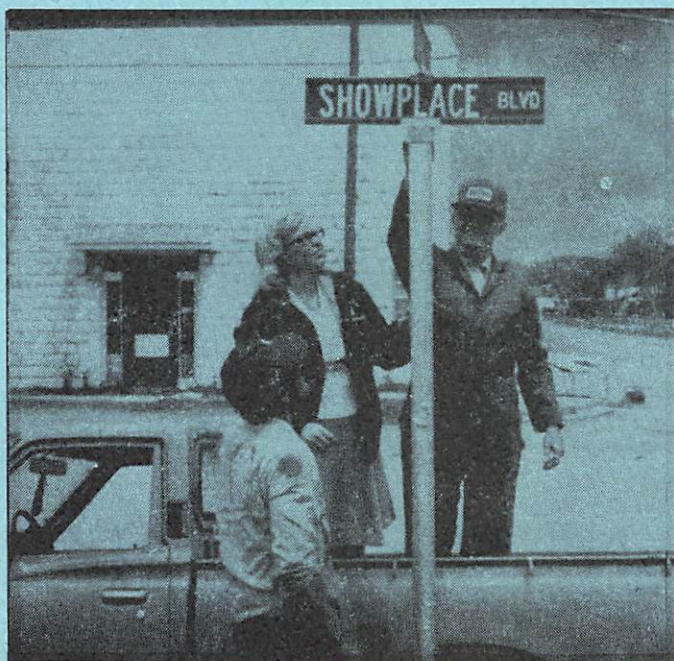
### Heritage Plaza Planter Get Flowers

#### STANCE OF HOPE

The Indiahoma project is now eighteen months old and can boast of many accomplishments. In fact, the leadership of the community is eager to take newcomers or interested visitors on a tour of this new "Showplace of the Southwest." And the visitor sees freshly painted houses and every intersection marked with a bright blue street sign and a name decided upon at a community meeting. He would also see a community center, health center, town welcome sign, weekly community meetings, and a bi-monthly community newsletter.

But what the visitor cannot see but perhaps can sense, is that Indiahoma is a town that lives out of a STANCE OF HOPE, a belief that within their own town all the human resources are available to create a model community that involves the whole community in caring for the whole community.

Oh, the dusty Oklahoma winds still blow through the whole community. And Indiahoma still isn't a letter-perfect community; but as long as it is sustained by its "project of care," its people will be on their way.



### Street Signs Go Up!



## KAW CITY: THE CITY THAT WOULD NOT BE DAMMED

What has happened since your Town Meeting? This question was put to an informal gathering of 8 residents of the town of Kaw City, Oklahoma recently to see if they thought the Town Meeting held in their town had any tangible or intangible benefits. This was the response:

Because of the Town Meeting, this is what we have accomplished:

1. The initiation of a community newspaper. At first it was a four-pager, twice a month. Now it runs eight pages weekly.



**Community Workday On Main Street**



### **"THE NEW VOICE" NEWSLETTER**

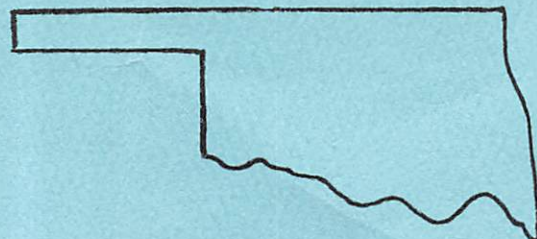
During the past six years, some four hundred communities have been involved in the TOWN MEETING program in the Dallas region which includes Oklahoma and North and West Texas. This newsletter, to be a quarterly publication, is an attempt to begin to document the successes and learning experiences of these communities so as to serve as inspiration and knowledge to other towns in the region. All communities are invited to send reports from their town to this office for use in future newsletters.

This issue includes reports from Indianahoma and Kaw City, Oklahoma and Turkey, Kemp and Burkburnett, Texas.

This issue also includes reports from areas where special training or demonstration projects are taking place, namely, Pisenemo, Arizona, the State of Mississippi, Dallas(LENS) and Chicago(HDTS).

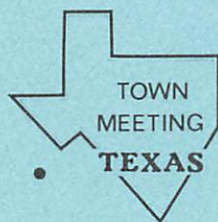
2. Initiation of the "55" club to plan fun events for senior citizens.
3. Formation of a Chamber of Commerce.
4. Passing a dog leash law.
5. Initiation of an annual art show.
6. Entry of a "Miss Kaw City" in a local contest. (Miss Kaw Lake and Sr. Miss Kaw Lake were selected at the annual 4th of July celebration).
7. Holding an annual sailboat regatta. It recently had 105 entries.
8. Holding a bass fishing tournament.
9. Extension of the town's water line.
10. The activation of the inactive town planning board.
11. Gaining a community concenses on the pre-routing of a state road to go by Kaw City.
12. There is a note of optimism among the citizens.
13. A new parcel of land has been annexed into the city.
14. Volunteer efforts have paved the elementary school's parking lot.
15. The formation of the "Helping Hand" club which raises funds through bake sales and flea markets to provide needed items to the school: tumbling mats, lights.
16. City Library was updated and the Council voted \$400 annually for new books.
17. The American Legion was re-activated. It held a weiner roast for all the kids in town on Halloween.
18. A parade and Homecoming during the July 4th celebration
19. There was a "Pride in Kaw City" meeting and covered dish dinner in October, 57 attending.
20. An annual Chamber of Commerce banquet in January. At the two already held, and the one for January, 1980, all seats were sold, approximately 100 each year.
21. The opening up of communications with neighboring towns which want to know how to set up a Helping Hand Club, a "55" club, etc. This caused a lady to remark that the Town Meeting and all its resulting accomplishments is like "dropping a pebble into the water and watching all the ripples."

When the ICA staff asked how the community accomplished all these things, the reply was, "Just do it! That's how you get things done." The mayor said that the key to doing all these things was the coming face to face with the stark realities, which happened at the Town Meeting. Another person said that the key motivating factor was doing the short-range projects. "Doing the things that people can see immediately helps them work on the long-range issues. But we'll also continue to do the short-range projects too."





# TEXAS TOWNS . . .



. . . ON THE MOVE

## TALKING TURKEY

Most folks know Turkey, Texas as the home of the Bob Wells Museum and annual celebration. But a recent visit to Turkey revealed many other objects of community pride, namely:

Their twice weekly paper, "The Turkey Trails"

Western fronts on downtown shops (paid for by the shop owners)

Community Thanksgiving where everyone brings a dish

A community theatre with two productions a year

The "Green Thumb" program for senior citizens

A serious telephone committee that each day checks on shut-in folks and reminds them to take medicines

A mini-bus with a regular schedule to take people to the doctor 50 miles away

Residents claim success in these and other ventures is due to cooperative effort. This cooperation is apparent in quarterly Town Meetings which have been held since the first Town Meeting in 1976. As one resident said, "The secret of accomplishment is never giving up." He emphasized constantly searching for ways to involve "every last person in town." Whatever the secret is, Turkey is certainly one Texas town which is on the way.

## KEMP, TEXAS

Kemp, in Kaufman County, Texas, has a devoted mayor who spends most of his waking hours working for his community. Kemp has in the past two years acquired some new low-cost housing and a community center. It is also anticipating the arrival of new dentist. Let's hear it for Kemp!

## A MORE BEAUTIFUL BURKBURNETT

Dan Taylor, Community Education Administrator in Burkburnett, reports that since their November 1978 Town Meeting, his Community Education Advisory Council has been busily engaged implementing the town's beautification proposal. And their enthusiasm and good planning was outstanding enough to warrant a recent grant from Levi Strauss.

The group has prepared a slide presentation to awaken citizens to the possibility of beautification. They have also engaged youth in volunteer programs to get the work done.

A Spring celebration is planned to highlight Burkburnett's trees. Though the council of 30 members originally launched efforts on their own, they now enjoy the sponsorship of 15 other civic groups.

## HUMAN DEVELOPMENT SCHOOL NOW UNDERWAY IN CHICAGO

The second session of the special Human Development Training School began on November 18 in the ICA training center in Chicago, Illinois. The purpose of the four-week training school is three-fold:

- (1) To provide training in economic, social and cultural methods for 100 participants who can apply the methods in small town and urban neighborhoods.
- (2) To refine the curriculum components of the school for future use in other locations in North America.
- (3) To develop a faculty who can teach the training school in their own and neighboring communities.

During the first session, which was held October 21 to November 17, **Kenneth Gilgrin** and **Cathleen Miller** attended from Indianahoma. During this second session, **Rhonda Sims**, the town clerk of Indianahoma, is attending.

The HDTS was developed because of the many requests from local communities made during their Town Meetings. There were requests for programs which would provide in-depth training in identifying and meeting local human needs. Persons interested in attending all or part of the HDTS to be held in early 1980 may obtain more information by calling 214-827-8650 or 405-246-3360.



## REFOCUSED LENS

Business leaders, computer programmers, educators and volunteers gathered in Dallas over a recent weekend to take part in a program called "Leadership Effectiveness and New Strategies." Although initially designed in the early 70's as a seminar for top management businessmen, the LENS program seemed to have universal appeal for the 30 men and women who attended.

Some of those who attended were **Roger Guissinger**, head of the Louisiana Department of Transportation, Dallas educators **Pat Miller** and **Glenda Adkinson**, **Tom Broersma**, Head of the Trinity University Education Extension Office, **John Chapman**, owner of a contracting company in Grapevine, Texas, and two managers of Phillips Petroleum in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, **Roger Alexander** and **Darrell Walker**. Community workers from Houston, Memphis and Dallas were also present.

The training session included methods of effective strategizing, team work and tactical actions to achieve results in the corporate setting. The LENS seminar has been held in the last nine years with such corporations and agencies as McDonalds, Hughes Tool, Motorola, and Minnesota Departments of Transportation and Agriculture and several C.A.P. agencies. At present, a dozen or more LENS seminars are scheduled for the Southern U.S. prior to Christmas; and numerous LENS seminars have already been set for 1980.



## TOWN MEETING: MISSISSIPPI-PHASE II

This year marks Phase II of the Town Meeting in Mississippi. The Mississippi program is sponsored by the Governor's Office of Volunteer Citizen Participation in consultation with the Institute of Cultural Affairs. Phase I successfully completed 203 Town Meetings across the state last year, involving 8,526 Mississippians. More than 500 people attended the statewide Town Meeting Assembly in Jackson and designed this year's program, which will focus on a Citizen Participation Month in each Planning and Development District.

Each month a district will hold Town Meetings, 2nd Town Meetings, Community Youth Forums (CYF), Elders Forums, Global Women's Forums (GWF), Economic Community Forums, special forums on energy, recreation, health, education. Each district will also hold its all-district Assembly. In each Planning and Development District there will be a "signal town" which will be a model of effective citizen participation for other communities.

Phase II provides for an Energy Forum to allow local citizens to address the energy crisis in their towns and communities. Since every facet of life depends on energy, it is crucial that local citizens understand the crisis and contribute toward solutions.

## "MY ONLY JOB"

"I realized that there are not several movements today. Human development across the globe is one. My only job is to work with local people to increase their skills to plan, develop, and sustain the fragile hope emerging in local communities today. We all share in the pain, agony, struggle and ecstasy of building the future."

—Claudia Cramer, Houston, Texas  
Participant of Human Development  
Training School, Chicago

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## GREENVILLE, MISSISSIPPI'S CITY SLICK-UP

The Beautification Committee of Greenville has big plans for a "City Slick-Up" campaign this fall, reports Mrs. Marilyn Busby, the new director of the Committee. The Chamber of Commerce has donated 10,000 trash bags and 50,000 pamphlets, which will be distributed to businesses, clubs, organizations and schools. The Greenville song, written at a Town Meeting, will be played over the local radio stations. Mayor Burnley and the City Council are supporting this program with funds and enthusiasm.

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## THE PISINEMO EXPERIENCE

"After one year of intensive activity in building new economic structures and community social patterns, PISINEMO has become a demonstration community. The keys to this rapid local development are the honoring of cultural values and diversity, increasing citizen participation, and developing the natural and human resources at the local level. Human community does not just happen but is created when people's care is engaged in achieving economic self-sufficiency, social self-reliance, and human self-confidence."

(Pisinemo, located on the Papago Indian Reservation in Arizona, has been the location of unique efforts toward comprehensive human development.)

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## THE NEW DALLAS LOCATION

The training and staff center of the ICA has recently moved to a new location at 2712 Swiss Avenue, just a few minutes from Downtown Dallas. Once the facility of the St. Joseph's School for Boys, it is now being used by the Korean Catholic Church on the lower floor and the ICA on the upper floor. The new location is spacious enough to accommodate up to 50 for seminars and special programs.

If you are interested in any of the following, please contact the Dallas Office:

\_\_\_Town Meeting Program\_\_\_Community Youth Forum\_\_\_Economic Community Forum  
\_\_\_The Energy Forum\_\_\_Global Women's Forum\_\_\_LENS\_\_\_HDTs  
\_\_\_Making a contribution to the ICA

**Note: Your letters and news are welcome. Please address: Editor, "The New Voice" % Institute of Cultural Affairs, 2712 Swiss Ave., Dallas, Texas 75204**

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