



Bank On It

A newsletter for Rapid Assets Savers

2nd Quarter 2002

Savers Club

The second quarter 2002 Saver's Club meeting will be held at 6 p.m. June 27. Ms. Shelia Davis from SEARK's financial aid office will provide information about financing your education and Henry Golatt from UAPB Economic Research and Development Center will provide information about small business development. We always have a good time along with receiving valuable information. We will not serve a meal at this meeting, cokes and cookies only. Childcare will be provided, so be sure to call ahead to schedule childcare.



Saver's Club meetings are a lot of fun and offer great information.

More Than One Way Home

Two IDA participants have purchased a home using several resources available to them in Pine Bluff! The resources used by Ms. Jackie Miller and Ms. Beulah Johnson to purchase their homes were:

Rapid Assets IDA Program. Both women joined the IDA program and saved their money regularly. They used their IDA money for the down payment and closing costs. The remaining money went towards home improvements that increased the value of their newly purchased property!

Dream Makers Housing Counseling Agency, Inc. Both participants worked with Ms. Frances Newsome and received home-buyer education, housing counseling and credit & budget counseling.

Home Buyer Assistance Program of The City of Pine Bluff Department of Economic and Community Development. Both women received assistance with down payment and closing costs on their new homes along with free housing counseling.

Simmons 1st National Bank. Both participants worked with the mortgage loan department to get a mortgage on their new home.

These two participants are a good example of how it pays to check out all the resources available to you in your community. If you are unaware of other resources in your community call the IDA office and we will try to help you locate resources in your area.

Seeing is Believing

We are looking for new participants to join the IDA program. The benefits received from this program include: great information, financial management techniques, referral services and \$\$\$'s to purchase your dream! Please tell you friends and families about IDAs and what it can mean to their financial future—send them to the next information session.

- July 16 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- August 1 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- Sept. 4 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Please share this information with everyone you know. YOU are our best recruiters!

No Place Like Home: Kids World Family Home Care

The minute you step into the room, you know Francella Grigsby loves what she does. But something else is very clear - the kids she cares for everyday love her, too. In fact, many of the kids who range in age from two to five call her "Mom."



Francella opened Kids World Family Home Child Care in September 2000.

Her registered in-home daycare is licensed to serve up to five kids. And it's full. Running a business from her home allows her more time to spend with her own children, who are 15 and 6 years old, and she's able to attend many of their events and activities.

She credits the Rapid Assets Individual Development Account (IDA) program for making it possible. Through the IDA program, Francella was able to save the money she needed to pay the remaining note for the down pay-

ment on the house she bought last year. She also saved money to purchase arts and craft supplies and make improvements to her home, creating a better living and learning environment for the children.

The personal finance classes she took as part of the IDA program have helped her learn more about running a business and managing money. Francella demonstrates her professionalism and dedication by wearing scrubs on the job. This also allows freedom of movement for keeping up with her young charges. By September 2002, she will have earned the Child Development Associate credential from Southeast Arkansas College.

The childcare area at Kids World is divided into different "centers" dedicated to specific activities like art, music, dramatic play, puzzles and games, and crafts. Kids follow a daily schedule that includes time in each center, exercise and outdoor play, naps, meals and snacks, and brushing teeth.

Francella is proud to provide a professional environment that is rich in learning and age appropriate activities to prepare her kids for pre-school and kindergarten. It's not unusual to find Francella on the floor, playing with the children, teaching a lesson or just giving hugs.



Planting the Seeds for Success

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