

RELIGION

3 Summer Gospel Music Festivals Set



Marla Amado

Longtime community activist Joyce Boles has announced a schedule of three gospel music festivals for June, July and August this year. She said that everyone is invited to attend, or set up a booth, or sing, or whatever.

The events will be emceed by Eugene Blackmon, the well-known local gospel artist who is also a teacher at Jefferson High School. Marla Amado,

daughter of Dorothy Davis of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, and sister of Terry Davis at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, will also appear as a soloist.

The three festivals will feature all local choirs and groups performing from noon to dusk, as well as 50 or more tables and booths featuring sales of local food, art, and wares from local artists, groups, and organiza-



Eugene Blackmon

tions, Boles said. Many of the vendors from last year's festival will be returning, she added.

Building on her 1993 festival under the auspices of Eliot Neighborhood, which Boles produced in Dawson Park, she said this year's events will repeat the same winning combination of live remote radio broadcast by KBMS, community fair, and gospel music.

"Last year, we had an absolutely sublime party," said Boles. "And we're going to do it again, times three."

The festivals are set for June 25 at St. Andrew Church, and July 16 and August 6 at Dawson Park across from Emanuel Hospital. Each festival will benefit a different non-profit organization: St. Andrew, Janus

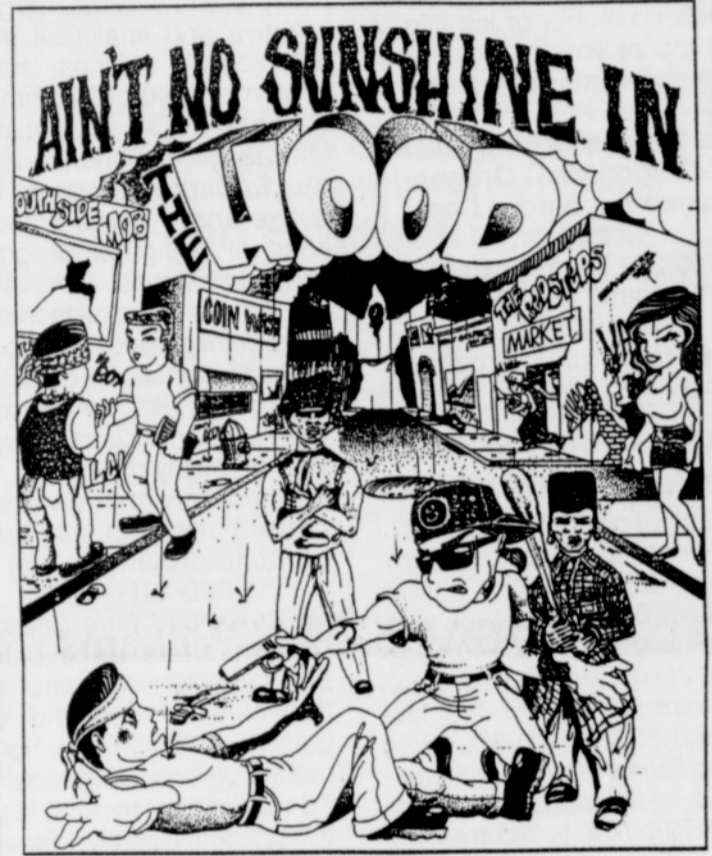
Youth Programs, and a group of African-American Clergies. Boles stressed that while some persons working on the festivals will be paid, she herself will not.

"I'm doing this to glorify Jesus," she said, "And for the fun of working in the community." She invites anyone interested to call 284-9043.

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