

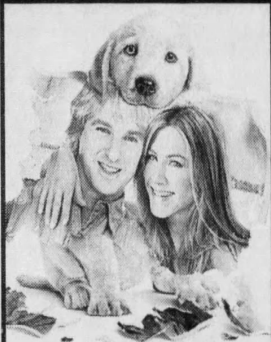
# Concert celebrates King's legacy

**MONTY, from 1D**

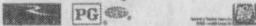
mer school and senior citizen programs, youth employment and a food pantry.

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"She's a great lady, a wonderful bringer of people together," he said. "She asked me (to do the benefit) a couple of years ago, and I did it with great joy and pleasure. I look forward to seeing West Indians and Caribbean people at the concert."

The concert also features Ron

Figuroa and his Latin Jazz Ensemble and the Ekklipse Steel Band from the Jamaica Civic and Cultural Association of Rockland, which helped present the concert.

"We're hoping they do a combined performance with Monty Alexander," said the King center's current executive director, Nathan Mungin III. "Lots of organizations are doing (the day's events) in a spirit of collaboration, to advance the mission of Martin Luther King."

This is a chance to see Alexander locally before he starts a four day gig at Birdland in New York City. From there, the Monty Alexander Trio heads to Idaho for the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival in February, then he's off to perform in Austria and Germany.

Alexander said he hopes that "around America at this time, people acknowledge what happened because of Martin Luther King and those who helped make this a more open-minded country. We've come to this incredible, important step toward the word freedom. Dear friends, come celebrate this evening with music!"

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