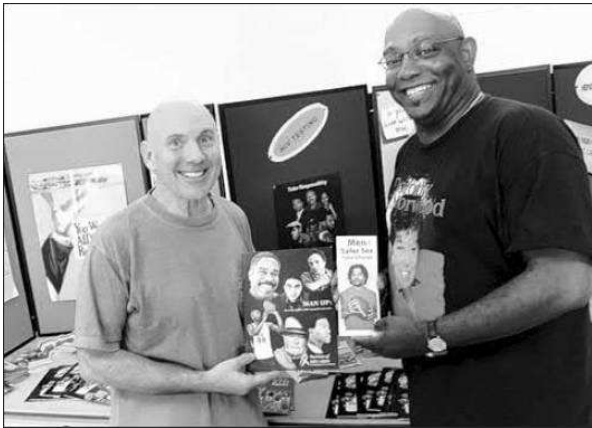


Engaging teens in the fight against HIV



Entertainment for the Teen HIV/AIDS Awareness Day was the Jirehs of Praise dance team that ministers through American Sign Language mixed with dance. Pictured are: front, Tess Pierre, 18; and back row, from left, Cykecia Russ, 18, Andre Brunel, 18, Alix Michel, 15, and Andrea Brunel, 18. Their director, Metrecia Russ, hopes to book the group with more programs like the one held Saturday to get the word out. For more information about Jirehs of Praise, call 772-216-9809.



The Cooper Street Community Learning Center in Punta Gorda was the site Saturday for Teen HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, sponsored by the Charlotte County Health Department, the Charlotte County HIV/AIDS Pastoral Care Committee and Cooper Street. Hosting the event were Eric Stockley and the Rev. Lance Abercrombie.