**Teresa Ann Hailey**

*Born to Be Great*

*Teresa Hailey-* discovered her organizational talents at an early age. At 14, she founded and directed TWIGS, Tiny Workers in God’s Service. TWIGS members, ages 5 through 15, sponsored various fundraising activities for Scott United Methodist Church in Denver, Colorado. As a teen, Teresa was also First Vice President of Thomas Jefferson High School’s chapter of Distributive Education Club of America. Denver Public Service Company recognized Teresa as Student of the Month in October 1977 and awarded her a cash prize.

 In September 1979, Teresa began laying the groundwork for a Denver youth chapter of the NAACP, and served as President of that group until 1983. Under her direction, the chapter initiated numerous educational and youth-oriented programs: NAACP Tutorial Program, Youth Basketball and Cheer leading Squads, Youth Against Crime/Off the street Summer Program, NAACP Prison Program, Voter Registration/Education/Get Out the Vote and Operation Job Fair. Teresa was responsible for organizing Denver’s King Week activities in January 1983 and bringing in Martin Luther King III as guest speaker.

 Teresa was selected as one of the **Outstanding Young Women in America**in 1981. This awards program recognizes young women who give of their time, talents and service to enrich the quality of American life. This was one of many honors she has received. She has also won 11 trophies, five ribbons and four award pins for her tap dancing and ballet. Teresa’s list of achievements is numerous.

 Politics is a very important part of Teresa’s life. She has worked in political campaigns from the State Representative level up to the Presidential level. Gaining her most rewarding experiences while living in Atlanta, GA., Teresa traveled throughout the state working on the Rev. Jesse Jackson’s 1984 Presidential campaign. After an incident during a voter registration drive, Teresa calmly faced down five Ku Klux Klan members dressed in full KKK regalia. Her will and desire to stand up and fight for her beliefs were rewarded with an opportunity to travel with Hosea Williams, a renowned leader on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr’s staff.

September 1, 2007 Teresa opened Mary’s Manor Banquet Hall/Houston, TX in honor of her mother who passed in 2006 from Lung Cancer. Teresa has earned three college degrees. Teresa is an author, with one published book under her belt and two in the making.

 This Power House has set her goals and dreams very high. Keeping with the national theme,

*“Yes We Can*”,