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*A*s you may have noticed in this and our last *Islas* issue, my co-founder Dorothy Jenkins is no longer working on *Islas* or the Afro-Cuban Alliance. Because of other life priorities, she is now unable to devote sufficient time to this publication. But her inability to work on *Islas* in no way diminishes her commitment and support of all people of color in

Cuba, here in the United States of America, or wherever you live. Dorothy grew up in a world of segregation and discrimination, and the influence that experience has had on her life was one of the reasons we developed *Islas*. As a proponent of civil rights, a union activist, and product of the South, no one knew better than Dorothy the importance of continuing the dialogue that we've started. We at *Islas* will miss her insights as we strive to make sure that each issue of *Islas* is moving up on the trend line – on the good, better, best scale.

And, we can achieve that goal with input from you, our readers. We are pleased that with each issue of *Islas*, we are hearing more and more from you, about the value *Islas* brings to your life. Some of our readers are Afro-Cubans on the island who praise us for speaking out on the historical and current challenges, frustrations, and desires of such an important segment of Cuban society. Others are Afro-Cubans here in the U.S. that applaud us for tackling an issue that they felt few knew much about. It is our deep desire to continue to bring provocative and stimulating articles for all of our readers. Please keep the letters and email messages coming, we read and value each and every one of them.