

Waco is a Black Issue

THE "M"-VOICE- WEEK OF AUGUST 4-11, 1995-7

By Dr. Lenora Fulani

On July 19, the House Subcommittee on Crime and on National Security, International Affairs and Criminal Justice opened two weeks of hearings on the 1993 tragedy in Waco, Texas, in which over 80 people died-most of them women and children. The ostensible purpose of the hearings is to try to determine whether the actions taken by federal law enforcement agencies against the Branch Davidian religious group in Waco produced the tragic outcome there.

Many Americans, myself included, feel that our government has never sufficiently accounted for an operation that led to such a disastrous loss of life. We have long called for such hearings, both as an opportunity to finally learn the truth, and as a basis for avoiding such debacles in the future. Moreover, our experience in the government-sponsored bombing of the headquarters of MOVE in 1985 made clear that any time law enforcement disregards constitutional rights, the Black community is in serious danger.

It is important to remember that almost all of those who died at Waco—like those who died on Osage Avenue in Philadelphia—were men, women and children who had been charged with no crime. Another, little-publicized fact about those who died is that a large number of the slain church members were people of color. In my opinion, the Waco situation raises constitutional issues that should be of serious concern to the Black community, and to our Black leadership.

Unfortunately, the hearings have already incited a lot of partisan strife in the Congress. The

Democrats, with Rep. Charles Schumer (D-NY) in the lead, are condemning the hearings as merely a Republican attempt to embarrass the Clinton Administration, and curry favor with the National Rifle Association, which has funded many Republican campaigns. (The National Rifle Association, however, has been an outspoken and consistent critic of the agencies targeted by the hearings: the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.)

The hearings may reveal that Bill Clinton, Janet Reno and other White House staffers acted improperly, but in two years since the Waco tragedy, the Democrats in Congress have shown virtually no concern for those who died in the spectacularly bungled Federal police assaults on Waco. They seem more interested in covering up for the Attorney General and the President than in discovering what really happened in Waco. The conduct of the BATF and the FBI in the initial raid and subsequent siege violated basic constitutional rights to due process, religious liberty, and freedom from unreasonable search and seizure—issues that the Democratic Party used to pretend to care about. And yet not one Democrat—not even the members of the Congressional Black Caucus—heeded the many pleas by national organizations and grassroots groups alike to hold a serious Congressional investigation.

Now the Republicans have co-opted this righteous issue. While they pursue their predictable partisan agenda, they will at least afford us the opportunity to ask the questions we have about what our government did at Waco: Why

did the ATF choose the "dynamic entry" tactic that unnecessarily endangered their own agents and innocent civilians? Why did the FBI use lethal CS gas against civilians, including women and children, when it has been banned by international treaty even for military use? Who gave Attorney General Janet Reno the false information about child sexual abuse among the Davidians? Why did the government's tanks keep ramming the Davidians' home until the walls and staircases collapsed, crushing people inside? Why did the government bulldoze the site of the fire, destroying evidence of

what happened there?

Rep. Schumer is obviously too busy slamming the National Rifle Association (no doubt to appease his own political patrons and campaign contributors), to make sure these questions are answered. But there is no good reason why the CBC shouldn't weigh into the dialogue and make sure the hearings address the constitutional and human rights concerns shared by our people.

In the next week I will be visiting members of the CBC in the company of two Black women—Branch Davidians who were at the Waco compound and who lost their

friends and family in the tragic fire. Together we will urge these leaders to make sure that this coun-

try receive a full accounting of what was done by this government to the people at Waco.

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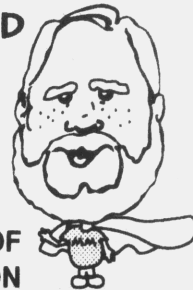
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Community News

Dr. Barnes opens office in Grifton

Dr. Madge L. Barnes of Greenville is owner of Grifton Medical Care-A Family Medicine and Baratric Medicine office located on Highway 11 N. in Grifton.

She obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Biology-Pre-Med at East Carolina University in 1981. In 1987, she graduated from East Carolina University School of Medicine with a Doctor of Medicine Degree. She then specialized in Family Medicine at Riverside Regional Medical Center in Newport News, Va, completed her training and became board-certified in 1990.

Having a strong desire to return to Eastern N.C. after residency,

Dr. Barnes moved back to Greenville to work at Snow Hill Medical Center. She worked there for two years. Realizing a need to become more knowledgeable of the business side of medicine, she enrolled in the Kron-Scholars Program for Physician Executives at the University of N.C. at Chapel Hill School of Business. The experience afforded Dr. Barnes the opportunity to work in various medical setting from a rural practice in LaGrange, to an HMO-Kaiser Permanente in Charlotte.

The idea of starting a practice in a rural Eastern N.C. remained, and on January 9, 1995, Grifton Medical Care opened for business.

Dr. Barnes provided medical care to all ages of patients. This included employee physicals, gynecologic physicals, hypertension, diabetes, and minor surgery. In May 1995, another need became apparent to Dr. Barnes. As high blood pressure, diabetes, and high cholesterol are often linked to obesity, she decided to put prevention into her practice and develop a comprehensive lifestyle changing weight loss program. Bariatrics is the specialty that deals with obesity or being overweight. She recently spent time with one of the leading doctors in the country, Dr. Robert Johnson, on weight loss programs.

Weight loss is 90% mental and 10% physical. A motto Dr. Barnes likes to quote is "You can't change your weight until you change your mind."

Dr. Barnes is a member of Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church where she is co-chairman of the Singles Ministry, Medical Coordinator for the Emergency Medical Team, Mass Choir member, and a consultant for the Wellness Program. She is also on the Board of Directors for the Cornerstone Christian Child Development Center.

To sum up Dr. Barnes, Philippians 4:19 comes to mind "I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me."

Dr. Andrew A. Best honored by National Medical Association



DR. ANDREW A. BEST

In 1994, the Executive Committee of the Family Practice Section of the National Medical Association (NMA) made the decision to name the Annual Family Practice Luncheon in honor of Doctor Andrew A. Best for his long-time dedicated and loyal service to the Sec-

tion. The luncheon, established in 1971, will now be called the Andrew A. Best Annual Family Practice Luncheon. It is only fitting and proper that this honor be bestowed upon Dr. Best, who conceived the program and has been its moderator since its inception.

Dr. Best has been a member of the NMA since 1955 and holds the distinction of having attended every Annual Scientific Assembly and Interim meeting of the Association ever since. In addition to his activities with the Family Practice Section, Dr. Best has served on the nominating committee for three years and on the constitution and by-laws committee for the past eleven years (serving as its chair for five of these eleven years) and has been a member of the House of Delegates for forty years. In 1991, Dr. Best was the recipient of the NMA's Distinguished Service Award, the Association's highest award presented annually to a member who, among other things, has done exceptional work in one or more of

the three areas wherein the medical profession expresses its concern for mankind, namely; service, research and teaching.

Dr. Best is a 1947 Summa Cum Laude graduate of A&T College, his graduation being delayed by service in the Army during WWII. He received his M.D. degree from Meharry Medical College in 1951 and did an internship and two years of Post Graduate service in the military, attaining the rank of Captain by the time of discharge.

Dr. Best, a native of the Kinston, North Carolina area, began his medical practice in neighboring Greenville in 1954 because of the availability of practice opportunity and privileges at Pitt County Hospital in that city. Dr. Best was instrumental in the establishment of an open admission policy at that facility. A beloved practitioner by the community, his busy practice included obstetrics until 1985, when malpractice insurance premiums became too costly.

Dr. Best played a crucial role in the establishment of the East Caro-

lina University School of Medicine, which is believed to be the only medical school in the country that has Enabling Legislation mandating the recruitment and retention of minorities and females. He participates in the preceptorship activities in cooperation with the school and is part of a voluntary mentor program for the minority students there.





Dr. Best is a loyal and dedicated member of Jericho AME Zion Church. Among his many services to the church, he has been president of the lay Council of the Cape Fear Conference since 1973.

In addition to the NMA's Distinguished Service Award, Dr. Best has received numerous awards and honors for distinguished service to his community, State, Church, organized medicine and formal education arena. The measure of his numerous achievements is told best by Dr. Samuel Proctor, former president of A&T State University, who said, "if A&T produced just one Andrew A. Best per century, it would have justified its existence."

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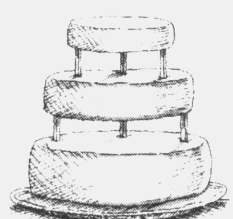
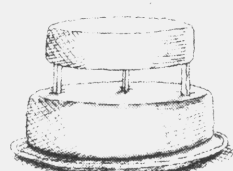
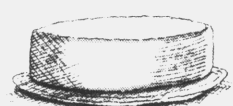


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THE 'M' VOICE

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WEEK OF AUGUST 4-11, 1995

115 years later, black cadet wins West Point commission

By Kim I. Mills

President Clinton awarded a posthumous commission Monday to one of the first Blacks ever to attend West Point, more than a century after the former South Carolina man was expelled following a racist attack.

"Johnson Whittaker was a rare individual, a pathfinder, a man who through courage, example and perseverance paved the way for future generations of African American military leaders," Clinton said at a White House ceremony attended by Whittaker's descendants, the Secretary of the Army and both South Carolina senators.

"We cannot undo history. But today, finally, we can pay tribute to a great American and we can acknowledge a great injustice," Clinton said.

Johnson Chestnut Whittaker was born a slave in 1858 in Camden, S.C. In 1880, he was in his fourth year at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., when three cadets burst into his room and attacked him.

He was the only Black at the school at that time.

The masked intruders slashed his face, hands and ears with a razor, smashed a mirror over his head and left him unconscious and bleeding.

When no one confessed to the attack, school officials concluded

that Whittaker attacked himself to discredit the military.

Secretary of War Robert Lincoln discharged Whittaker from the academy, saying he had failed a philosophy class. President Chester Arthur overturned Whittaker's court-martial, but Whittaker never got his commission.

"Life at West Point was harsh for all cadets, but for the few African Americans like Johnson Whittaker, it was doubly difficult," Clinton said at the ceremony. "He was ostracized by his white peers. Few spoke to him except to issue orders and commands."

Clinton also presented the family with Whittaker's Bible, which had been confiscated as part of his court-martial and had been kept in the National Archives.

"Today, fading words on the inside cover of that fragile volume reveal a young man whose essential goodness still offers a lesson to all of us," Clinton said. "Try never to injure another by word, by act, or by look, even," he wrote in his second year at the academy. "Forgive as soon as you are injured, and forget as soon as you forgive."

Whittaker's granddaughter, Cecil Whittaker Pequette of Los Angeles, called it "a happy day and a proud day."

"It keeps our faith in America strong, and America will be strong

(Continued on page 2)



DR. TOMMY HARRIS, ROCKY MOUNT GYNECOLOGIST, Mr. Richard Washington, Brooklyn, Ny, and Deacon Roscoe Norfleet join Greenville Attorney, Robert White for a brief "Tete-a-tete." What a power coup!!!

Photo by Jim Rouse

Black Men's "Long March to Freedom"

By Askia Muhammad

When on million Black men descend on Washington Monday, October 16 there will doubtless be many proud tears shed that day.

Not in that "touchy-feely" corny-kind-of-way, but in that appreciative, humbling way many of us feel when we've been blessed to overcome staggering odds to accomplish the impossible, and to achieve spiritual growth in the process. Getting one million Black men together peacefully in one place at one time qualifies for adjectives like miraculous.

We all know the drill. Black males—"Brothers," "bucks," "Homeboyz," "O.G.s," "Studs," "Zoot-Suiters," from the Scottsboro Boys, to Willie Horton, to your worst nightmare—mean trouble.

Three or more Black men together on the street constitute a "mob." The sight of one in a store automatically triggers a surveillance camera, a detective, and a phony: "May I help you?" from a sales supervisor.

And while the negative stereotypes are all too fitting, they are still false, in the cases of MOST Black men. But the ideas of sober, responsible behavior is easier to associate with Black women, mothers, heads-of-households, than it is with our men.

So, the idea of Black men doing anything constructive, organized, and on a large scale, without the guidance of our women is hard to fathom. Enter, Min. Louis Farrakhan, leader of Nation of Islam.

Min. Farrakhan and the Rev. Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., leaders of the National African-Ameri-

can Leadership Summit are well on their way toward organizing a "Million Man March" on Washington, the most startling demonstration of Black Power in America since Douglas Turner Ward authored the play: "A Day of Abs-

sence."

"We hope to declare the first 'Holy Day' since our fathers were brought to this country in chains, a day of atonement" Min. Farrakhan told a group of report-

(Continued on page 2)



MS. KIMBERLY MOORE (L), assistant district attorney, Greenville attorney Earl Brown, (C), and Ms. Michelle Scott (R), child abuse coordinator, paused for our camera recently.

Photo by Jim Rouse



DR. MADGE BARNES, (far left) is shown outside of Cornerstone Baptist Church with other church members. Photo by Jim Rouse

March – a way to get black men in step with family obligations

By Lisa Weathers

When I first heard about Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan's plans for a fall march of 1 million black men, it struck me as a good idea. And while I don't agree with his theology or politics, Farrakhan's rhetoric in the radio mini-soundbite was stirring, as usual. "Black men need to straighten their backs and lead their families," he said.

In my mind's eye, I could picture black men of all shapes, colors and sizes, thousands strong, marching with their heads held high, united in purpose and in the determination to save our children. I imagined seeing a sea of bodies marching, marching down the streets of Washington. I wanted to be able to share that picture with my sons, who happened to be riding in the car with me. I also wanted to know what their perceptions were of the reasons for such a march.

Jonathan was in the back seat, stereo cassette headphones in place. Jason, in the front passenger seat, had just reiterated his need for a moped and seemed to be lost in thoughts of what it would

be like to actually have one. Justin, our youngest, was dozing in the back seat. Justin always sleeps in the car.

"Did you hear that?" I said loudly enough for Jonathan to hear over his music. "What did you say?" he asked, removing the headphones.

"They just said on the radio that Louis Farrakhan is trying to organize a march of 1 million black men," I said, glancing at Jonathan in my rear view mirror.

Silence. "He says black men need to straighten their backs and lead their families," I continued. "What do you think?"

Jason looked at me with a smirk and twinkle in his eye. "Mom, you're trying to start one of those deep conversations again."

I chuckled. I had been caught. But I was undaunted.

"I really want to know what you think," I said. "Before long you'll be the black men people refer to. A lot of people say the problems in the black community come from what black men are doing, or not doing."

Silence.

I pressed on. "Tell me what you think," I said, turning off the radio. "What do black men need to do?" I asked, hoping somebody was listening.

"Black men need to be there," he said.

"What do you mean?" I was thrilled to get some feedback.

"Just be there," Jonathan said. "Be there for their kids. It's about doing what's best for them."

I nodded, somewhat amazed at his words. "That's right, Jay," I said softly "You're absolutely right."

Jonathan must have sensed that he had given me something to think about. Or maybe he'd just finished what he had to say. Anyway, he put his headphones back on and reentered the musical realm leaving me to wonder where the seed of his thoughts had been planted.

Several days later I listened to a television magazine show profile of the son of jazz legend Theolonius Monk. Theolonius Mon Jr., now an accomplished jazz musician in his own right, shared that his mother had recently visited his

(Continued on page 4)



REV. PAUL THOMAS Joined in with many other worshippers, well-wishers, and fans to hear the illustrious gospel recording artist-The Rev. John P. Kee and his "New Life" Choir. They enjoyed all of his gospel hits including his new release "Show Up." Photo by Jim Rouse

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Many new customers have questions about the application process, etc. The most-often-asked questions are addressed below:



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Q. When I Apply For Natural Gas, Do I Have To Pay A Fee?

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Q. If I want gas logs, a gas furnace, gas water heater, etc., who should I contact to install the appliances? Does GUC do that type of work?

- A.** No, GUC does not install gas appliances. We do recommend that you **contact a licensed contractor** who is qualified to work on gas equipment. Check your Yellow Pages for listings. Your contractor can help you determine whether you need a two-pound or ounce metering system. GUC will need that information when you apply for service.

Q. Will GUC Locate My Gas Meter Where I Want Them To?

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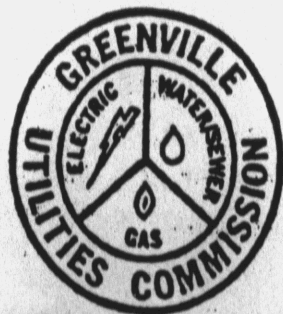
Q. What Are GUC's Natural Gas Rates?

- A.** For year-round, residential natural gas customers, there is a Basic Facilities Charge of **\$3.00/month**. Customers who use natural gas only for heating pay a Basic Facilities Charge of **\$6.00/month** during the winter and **\$3.00/month** during the summer.

In addition, all natural gas customers pay a commodity charge based on how much natural gas they use. These rates are based on the price per hundred cubic feet (ccf). Complete rate schedules are available through the Customer Service Office at the Main Office.

We hope we have answered most of your questions about natural gas. If you would like further information, please call GUC at 551-1587.

Greenville



Utilities

Clayton comments on president's affirmative action speech

Congresswoman Eva M. Clayton (D-N.C.) commends President Bill Clinton on his thoughtful speech on Affirmative Action delivered today at the National Archives.

"I want to commend President Clinton for his eloquent, thoughtful and perceptive statement on a very sensitive and difficult subject — Affirmative Action," said Clayton. "The president outlined an approach to this issue which not only conforms to the state of the law, but takes into account the concerns that some have raised about affirmative action."

President Clinton delivered his speech to a full house of legislators, business owners, Cabinet members and other luminaries.

"I agree with the President that fraud and abuse, fronts and pass-throughs, in affirmative action programs should not and will not

be tolerated," said Clayton. "I also agree with the President that reverse discrimination, quotas and promoting unqualified individuals has no place in society."

A recent report by the Glass Ceiling Commission has shown that white males hold 97 percent of all senior management positions in Fortune 1000 Industrial and Fortune 500 service industries, African-Americans represent 0.6 Percent, Asian 0.3 percent and Hispanics 0.4 percent.

"Discrimination is not just morally wrong...It hurts everyone," said Clayton. "While we begin to debate the issues surrounding affirmative action we must not get caught up in the political rhetoric and fervor that plays on fears and insecurities. We must focus on the realities and the meaningful, productive work left to be done."

Local Projects share in federal Grant Funds

Local teachers and administrators in North Carolina had some good ideas that needed funds and wrote 66 proposals from across the state for the money. This month, 15 projects were approved by the State Board of Education to benefit 30 of those school systems. They will share \$1.5 million to carry out their ideas for next year.

Projects range from improving reading to effectively using the Internet, from improving math in low-performing elementary schools to purchasing a bus and developing a learning program to allow students in a poor area overcome isolation and poverty by taking learning on the road.

The money comes from federal

funds allotted to each state. Known in this state as the North Carolina School Improvement Grants, it is the first year the money has been available.

The proposals underwent a two-level review process, with 35 proposals identified in the first review and those 35 being subjected to a second level review. In the second level review, factors such as disadvantage, urban/rural status, and geographic distribution were considered, narrowing the grants to 15. Grants range from \$60,000 to \$75,000 for a single school system to \$120,000 to \$150,000 for school systems submitting joint plans with other systems.

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NUTRITIONIST II (Salary Grade 66 - \$25,197) Good Health Grant. Grant funded for 27 months. Graduation from a four-year college or university with a Bachelor of Science degree in Foods and Nutrition, Public Health Nutrition or Dietetics and one year of nutrition experience; or a Masters degree in Nutrition or Public Health Nutrition; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Valid NC drivers license and proof of rubella immunity required. Prefer LDN, RD or registry eligible.
15-5-50-123.01

PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATOR II (Salary Grade 67 - \$25,197). Good Health Grant. Grant funded for 27 months. A master's degree in public health education or in public health with a major in public health education; or graduation from a four-year college or university with a major in health education and two years of experience in public health education or a related field; or graduation from a four-year college or university and three years experience in public health education; or an equivalent combination of training and experience. A valid NC driver's license and proof of rubella immunity required.
15-5-50-123.00

MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

REHABILITATION THERAPY ASSISTANT (Salary Grade 60 - \$19,017) Genesis. Completion of a four-year degree in a human services field; or completion of a two-year associate degree program in recreation or a human services field which includes a practicum or internship in a similar work setting (one year of experience may be substituted for the practicum) and one year of experience in providing support services or instruction to population typically found in a psychiatric or mental retardation setting which requires development of goals and integration of activities to meet program plans; or graduation from high school or equivalent and three years of experience in providing support services or instruction to population typically found in a psychiatric or mental retardation setting, two of which must have been at a level which requires development of goals and integration of activities to meet program plans; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.
14-5-36-121.20

No matter what the Court says, Term limits will reign supreme

Last month the Supreme Court ruled, by a narrow 5-4 vote, that Americans may not limit the terms of members of Congress, except by amending the US Constitution. *U.S. Term Limits v. Thornton*

struck down the congressional term limit laws that Americans have enacted in 23 states—through the use of voter initiatives, or in the state legislatures—since 1990. The decision does not affect term limits

on state and local officials, and indeed, twenty state legislatures, 40 governors, and over 15,000 local officials around the country are still subject to term limits. The decision indicates to many Americans that the time has come to impose term limits on the Supreme Court, too. At issue in *U.S. Term Limits v. Thornton* was the Constitutional question of whether individual states—and the people of those states—are permitted to make additions or changes to the qualifications for Senator or Representative that are already listed in the Constitution. Article I of the Constitution provides for only three qualifications: a minimum age, U.S. citizenship, and residence in the state represented. The term limit law that was challenged and brought to the Supreme Court was an initiative passed in 1992 in Arkansas, that stated "The people of Arkansas find and declare that elected officials who remain in office too long become preoccupied with reelections and ignore their duties as representatives of the people." The law imposed two terms on senators, and three terms on representatives. According to the Supreme Court's decision, this amounted to an additional, unconstitutional, qualification being imposed on candidates for Senate and House of Representatives.

Justice John Paul Stevens ruled that imposing additional qualification would violate that funda-

mental principle of our representative democracy and that the people should choose who they want to govern them. Of course, this conveniently ignores the fact that it was the people of Arkansas who decided to limit the terms of their Senators and Representatives, because, as they spelled out in the initiative, "Entrenched incumbency has reduced voter participation and has led to an electoral system that is less free, less competitive and less representative than the system established by the Founding Fathers."

In his dissent, Justice Clarence Thomas pointed out the irony of using the voters' "right to choose whom they please" argument to overturn a term limit initiative that won nearly 60% of the vote and carried every congressional district in the state. According to Justice Thomas, "the Constitution is simply silent" on the question of whether the voters may limit the terms of their elected officials, and "where the Constitution is silent, it raises no bar to action by the states or the people."

With this Supreme Court decision, the battle for term limits moves to Congress, where a Constitutional Amendment must receive two-thirds of the vote. Thanks to opposition by virtually all Democrats, and two-faced parliamentary maneuvering by the Republican leadership (allowing four different versions of a term limit amendment to be brought to the floor at once), a term limit amend-

ment has already failed to pass in the House this year. With professional politicians of both major parties clearly reluctant to shorten their careers, pro-term limit voters will have to look elsewhere for allies in the 1996 elections. Pro-term limit independent parties, like the Patriot Party, will be offering voters a choice on this issue in 1996, including an independent pro-term limits choice for president. A poll currently being con-

ducted by the Committee for a Unified Independent Party shows that 58% of Americans—no matter what their political affiliation—would support an independent presidential candidate who made support for term limits the centerpiece issue of their campaign. The decision in *U.S. Term Limits v. Thornton* may turn out to be yet another catalyst for the dramatic growth of the independent movement in 1996.

Female inmates learn what work is

Fountain Correctional Center for Women has become the state's first female prison to put inmates to work in the Community Work Program which started in January.

By 7:30 each morning, more than two dozen inmates are taken by two correctional officers to Rocky Mount Senior High and Northern Nash High schools. This is where they'll spend the rest of the day doing yard work and painting under intense heat. Across the state, inmates have worked on more than 700 projects similar to the one at Rocky Mount.

"Governor Hunt wants to see every able-bodied inmate working and this department plans to make that happen," said Correction Secretary Franklin Freeman. "It's a

win-win situation because working inmates help themselves as well as taxpayers."

Upon arriving at Rocky Mount Senior High, the first group of inmates quickly unload all their maintenance equipment and get to work, hoping to get a lot done before the sun becomes unbearable. By mid-morning, the mercury in the thermometer on this July day has pushed beyond the 90-degree mark. In spite of the sticky, humid weather, inmates continue their fast-paced work schedule.

Three inmates are pushing noisy lawn mowers back and forth across the front yard of the campus, four are raking and piling the stacks of weeds and grass into trash bags. Two others are trimming around trees and corners with weed-eaters. Inmates' faces are covered with beads of sweat and their shirts are drenched with perspiration.

All the inmates are trained in how to safely operate the maintenance equipment.

"This work is a good experience," said Susan Taylor, an inmate. "I'm learning the importance of patience and working together. This campus looks a lot better than it did when we first got here." Taylor likes yard work and said she hopes to get a job in the landscaping business once she gets out of prison.

"I'm learning how to do something useful rather than a crime," said Aprilyn Ellerby, an inmate from Wilmington who has been at Fountain for five months.

A few miles down the road at Northern Nash High School, other inmates are busy painting hallways throughout the school. They also have been trained on proper painting techniques.

"This wall was in bad shape and had a lot of peeling," explains inmate Marie Downey from Winston-Salem. "I had to scrape it a lot before putting on a fresh coat of paint." Another inmate, Monique Cheek said, "It's not easy and you figure that this hard work is worth more than the dollar a day we're paid. But I keep working because I know that in the long run, I will benefit from the work. I want to do a good job and keep the Community Work Program going. It's a good opportunity for me."

"These female inmates are doing an excellent job in what was previously a male-dominated profession," said Fountain Correctional Center superintendent Bonnie Boyette. "They're learning important skills they can use when they're released from prison."



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From Page 1

March

new home for the first time. He said she gazed in silence at the beautiful spacious home. When he asked her what she thought about the place, she said, "You know, when your daddy and I were living on 68rd Street with the piano in the kitchen, we dreamed of this for you and your sister. And now I am so happy to be here and to see this."

It's hard to tell when we as a people began to slide off the edge. When did we forget that our children's future will only be as good as our determination to sacrifice to make it so? When did we begin buying into the me-first, buy-now, forget the future mentality? When did we stop dreaming for our children?

Jonathan's words were true. Once you have a child, it's not about you anymore. It's about your child. I don't know that a march of 1 million black men will get that point across. But maybe we need to put our differences aside for a while and agree on this one thing: If we don't save our families, they won't be saved. If a march gets us thinking in that direction, so be it.

Employment Opportunity Greenville Utilities Commission

Temporary General Utility Worker

Two positions available for persons to perform semi-skilled laborer work in the Gas Distribution Section. Requirements include possession a valid North Carolina driver's license and residence in Pitt County. Salary \$5.50/hour. Applications will be accepted through August 15th, 1995.

Interested persons should contact the Personnel Office, Greenville Utilities Commission, P.O. Box 1847, Greenville, NC 27835. Employment is contingent upon passing a physical examination including a drug screening urinalysis.

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Sealed proposals will be received until 3 p.m. on Thursday, September 7, 1995, in the Office of Adjutant General, 4105 Reedy Creek Road, Raleigh, NC, attn: Capt. Rex Williams-AGEO, for the construction of NC National Maintenance Shop (OMS)

Kinston, NC
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at which time and place bids will be opened and read.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Thursday, August 24, 1995, at 10 AM at the Old Kinston Armory, 801 Highland Avenue, Kinston, NC. Complete plans and specifications for this project can be obtained from The East Group, PA, 324 South Evans Street, Greenville, NC 27834, during normal office hours after August 11, 1995.

Plan deposit \$150.

The state reserves the unqualified right to reject any and all proposals. Signed: Capt. Rex Williams
NC National Guard
Raleigh, NC

Ballot box can ensure Affirmative Action

"Why affirmative action?"

Because the wrongs have not been undone. 200 years of systematic barriers established to hold the Black community back cannot be overcome by 15 years of affirmative action.

Addressing the question was Robert L. Green, former president at the University of the District of Columbia, at the biennial Leadership Seminar of Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA), a 140,000-member black women's organization, July 13-16.

His position was paralleled by

AKA international president Dr. Eva L. Evans of Lansing, Mi., and other speakers, including U. S. Rep. John Conyers (D., Mi.), U. S. Rep. Louis

Stokes (D., Oh.) and Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer.

Evans also took her case to the Michigan House Judiciary Committee as it debated a civil rights resolution to the Michigan Constitution.

Testifying, she queried, "What has gone so egregiously wrong in Michigan that there is a need to alter our most fundamental equal opportunity documents in a way which will lock out a large share of Michigan citizens from an opportunity to be employed and promoted in the workplace, and other facets of Michigan life?"

While Evans called on the committee to retain measures which provide access for minorities, she and the speakers at the conference said the solution is at the ballot box.

Resultingly, AKA has taken steps to defend affirmative action and back candidates who support it. "We are increasing the number of blacks registered and we will insure that they vote," Evans said.

AKA is also supporting organizations at the forefront of the affirmative action battle. It supplemented its annual chapter donations to the NAACP with a \$10,000 check.

The conference agenda also featured training for AKA's math-science initiative, its partnership with the American Red Cross, and its chapter operations, and AKA presented 250 books on Blacks in Math and science to students enrolled in the Mae Jemison Academy, Detroit.

Clayton celebrates anniversary of Medicare

Congresswoman Eva M. Clayton (D-N.C.) will mark Medicare's 30th Anniversary with celebrations in Rocky Mount and Warrenton July 30 and 31.

Clayton will address constituents July 30 during the 11 a.m. worship service at the Ebenezer Baptist Church at 652 Raleigh Road followed by a 2:30 p.m. visit to the Heritage Retirement Center at 1650 Cokey Road in Rocky Mount.

She will also visit the Council for Senior Citizens of Warren County on the Hawkins School Campus July 31 at 10 a.m. in Warrenton.

"For more than three decades, Medicare has been the centerpiece of our health care delivery system for many senior citizens," said Clayton. "Under the Majority's Plan, senior citizens will be forced to pay thousands more, per couple, for Medicare, by the year 2002."

Some Congressional Democrats will join House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt in Independence, Mo. July 30 for a national salute to mark the 30th Anniversary of Medicare. The Democrats will return to the auditorium where President Lyndon B. Johnson, with former President Harry S. Truman at his side, signed Medicare into law July 30, 1965.

The event will be linked by satellite to town hall meetings in Boston, Massachusetts; Portland, Oregon; Tampa, Florida and Cleveland, Ohio. These events will be interactive, and attendees will be able to ask questions. The event in Independence, Mo. is open to press coverage.

"This Nation was built by advancing, not retreating and languishing," said Clayton. "Let's properly celebrate this important birthday and — Keep Medicare."

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Perkins selected for promotion

THE "M" VOICE- WEEK OF AUGUST 4-11, 1995-5

Army Maj. Nathaniel "Nat" W. Perkins, son of Lula M. Perkins of Greenville, was selected for promotion to the rank of Lt. Col. Perkins, the chief of communi-

cations electronic analysis at the Joint Command and Control Warfare Center, was selected in the Army's competitive category and will pin on his new rank Nov. 1,

1995. The J.H. Rose High School graduate began his army career in 1979 after graduation from Winston-Salem State University, Win-

ston-Salem. Before coming to the JC2WC in May, 1992, the major was assigned to the 1114th Signal

Battalion at Fort Hood, Texas. Major Perkins is married to teh former Theresa M. Dent of Phila-

delphia, Pa., who is a grade school teacher in San Antonio, Texas.

Too young for kindergarten?

Pitt County Schools will have nine classes next year for four year olds. Applications are now available at all elementary schools and at the Third Street Pre-Kindergarten Center. Parents may call 752-2360 or 355-9555 for more information. Those who turn in applications will be screened in late August to determine eligibility for this federally funded program.



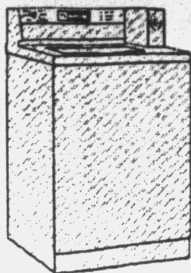
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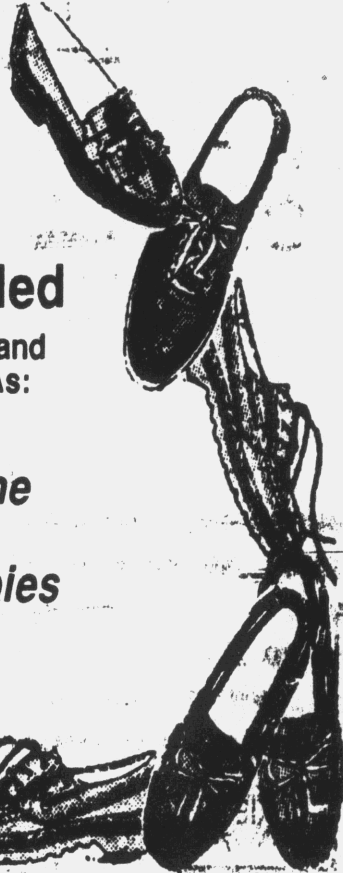
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Faces & Places



From Page 1

ers in Washington this week. It will be "holy," he said, because on that day, men will be instructed to "reconcile their differences in churches, in mosques, in temples, in synagogues, so that by the end of the day they will be stronger."

From Page 1

as long as families continue to be families," she said at the ceremony. Afterward, she said she would present her grandfather's Bible to the archives at South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, where he had been a professor. He died in 1931. Sen. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., heard Whittaker's story in 1993 and asked the Army to open an inquiry. Three months later, he introduced a bill urging Clinton to grant the commission. "They should have done this long ago," Hollings said Monday. U.S. Rep. John Spratt, D-S.C., said the White House also should grant a commission to James

Long march

In addition to bringing a million men to the Nation's Capital for a spine-stiffening show of family leadership, moral rejuvenation, and a redress of Black political grievances in the face of a White conservative backlash, "we are asking on this Holy Day, that none of us go to work, none of our children go to school. We hope that day, we will not be seen in any stores, bars or sporting events. We are asking our athletes and entertainment figures not to entertain White folks on that day," Min. Farrakhan said. "Since America seems to be saying they don't want us, we want White America to see how tasteless, colorless this country would be without us. If you want us in society, you must open your doors

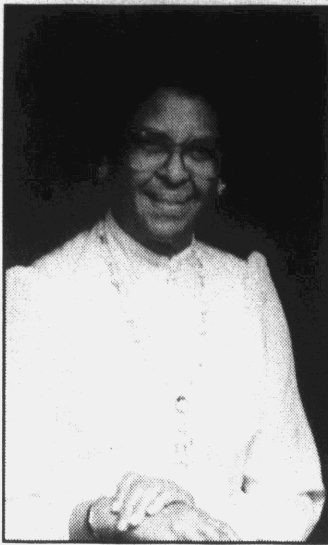
and take us in with justice." Black men, he said are ready to take their place as full and equal leaders, as better fathers, husbands and brothers, closer to God, proceeding on "the long march to freedom." In his play, Mr. Ward wrote about a scenario in which Black protesters organized a day in which African-Americans were "absent" from their jobs, schools, and places of business, and the entire nation was brought to its knees, because Blacks are an indispensable part

of the American fabric of life. Mumia Abu-Jamal Update While the leadership of the National Association of Black Journalists is being blasted for its weak support of former Philadelphia Association President Mumia Abu-Jamal, who is currently on Pennsylvania death row and, scheduled for execution on the second day of the organization's 20th anniversary conference in Philadelphia, August 17; Mr. Abu-Jamal's lawyers have won a small victory in court. So-called "hang-

ing judge" Albert (who has sentenced more convicts to death than any judge in America) Sabo's ruling that a hearing for a new trial in the case of a slain police officer begin immediately, was overturned by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, allowing Mr. Abu-Jamal's lawyers one week to prepare. His lawyers are hopeful that once Judge Sabo rules on the tainted evidence in the 1982 trial, he will be granted a stay of execution, either in Judge Sabo's court, or on appeal.

"Carefully avoid in yourself those things which annoy you in others." Thomas A. Kempis

from the desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



BEATRICE MAYE

To the editor,

Isn't it sad that Susan Smith repudiated her nine days' lie that a carjacker had abducted the boys?

Isn't it sad that no one was concerned about the carjacker's innocence? Is it because he was black and most false accusations are pinned on blacks? This too often is the black man's curse. How much of a chance does a black man have in America today? John Amos, star of TV's 'Good Times' said, "Hollywood still does not give black actors the same respect and opportunities that white actors are given", stated the NEWS AND OESERVER, Thursday, August 3, 1995. Is this not true of blacks in whatever or wherever they are involved? Too many blacks are sentenced or doomed before birth. It is hard to not believe had a black committed this crime, she'd been given the electric chair. Color/race is a deciding factor in most if not all cases. There is only one race, the human race. In what direction are we headed? Susan's first thought after committing this hideous, asinine crime was to falsely blame a black man. Is this

the way most whites think? In contrast and additionally, too often the verdict is we cannot find black qualified educators/teachers. "We know the percentage is not what it should be, but we're working to increase that percentage", we hear state and nationwide. Let's give blacks their equal opportunities and respect. Until we do, expect to deal with crime and violence, guns and weapons. Even too many of our young people/children are filled with anger and hatred. Where do they first see it? The answer is in the home. "Anger closes doors; love keeps them open". It is necessary for Christians to promote justice in our communities.

(Mrs.) Beatrice Maye
1225 Davenport Street
Greenville, NC 27834

A large dinner napkin is opened in half with the fold on top. The open bottom half may be used to blot our mouth.

A small luncheon napkin may be opened all the way. Remember, a napkin isn't meant to be a bib, towel, or handkerchief. We never blow our nose in a napkin. We use napkins to blot or wipe the mouth. TOOTHPICKS are acceptable at home, but not in public.

"Eating slowly helps to keep one slim; in other words, haste makes waist". A.H. Hallock

Never feel embarrassed to bow your head in a restaurant and thank God for your food.

The standard tip is 15%. Some people tip 18% or 20% if they feel the service has been very special. Speak clearly if you speak at all...

Carve every word before you let it fall. Oliver Wendell Holmes

COMPLIMENT: A compliment really says we're not self-centered. We're interested in others and find things about them to admire.

How do we honor our parents? We...

- Ask for their advice
- Look at things from their perspective
- Try to please them
- Have a good attitude
- Show respect
- Thank them
- Compliment them
- Obey them.

Sisters and Brothers: Many problems can be avoided if we...

- Don't tease
- Don't be sarcastic
- Showed love
- Helped one another
- Picked up for one another
- Didn't worry about "favorites"
- Didn't count chores
- Didn't say things like, "Why make me? He didn't have to"
- Don't mock
- Stick up for one another

Our Behavior in the Sanctuary:

Sit quietly in reverence Be on our best behavior

Don't rattle paper during the service

Keep our feet off pews Don't play with guest cards, envelopes, etc.

Keep crayons, pens off pew cushions

Refrain from giggling and talking

Bow our heads in prayer

Sing the hymns and digest the words

Above all else, worship God. "Going to church doesn't make us a Christian any more than going to a garage makes us a car."

A Church Garden... Three Rows of Squash

1. Squash indifference 2. Squash criticism 3. Squash gossip

Four Rows of Turnips

1. Turn up for meetings 2. Turn up with a smile

3. Turn up with a visitor 4. Turn up with a Bible

Five Rows of Lettuce

1. Let us love one another

2. Let us welcome strangers

3. Let us be faithful to duty

4. Let us truly worship God

5. Let us give liberally

A Leader has been defined as one who knows the way, shows the way and goes the way. In other words, good leaders inspire and set an example as well as organize and direct.

From: An apple a day—1991 Great Quotations, Inc.

SUCCESS is a journey, not a destination. Ben Sweetland

FAILURE is not the worst thing in the world. The very worst is not to try.

FAILURE is success if you learn from it, Malcolm S. Forbes

The price of Success is perseverance. The price of failure comes cheaper.

Failure is only the opportunity to begin again more intelligently. Henry Ford

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