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Quote

It is far better to be free to govern
yourself than to be governed
by someone else."

Kwame
Presiden

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THE 'M' VOICE

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S MINORITY VOICE - SINCE 1981

WEEK OF MAY 6 - 17, 1996



CANDIDATE ASKS FOR SUPPORT. . . Valeria Lee (center) asks for your continued support as she requests a run-off election in her bid for North Carolina Secretary of State. Shown here with Ms. Lee are: (L-R) Janet Bullock, Bobby Hardy, Pastor Sidney Locks, and Ms. Lee's sister.

Staff photo by Jim Rouse

Valeria Lynch Lee calls for runoff

Valeria Lynch Lee requested a second primary in her race to become North Carolina's Secretary of State. No one candidate received a substantial plurality in the May 7th primary, and in accordance with the state's election laws and as the candidate winning the second-highest number of votes, Ms. Lee requested that North Carolinians be allowed to vote again in June.

"I have a responsibility to the people of North Carolina to let them make the choice who they want as their Democratic candi-

date in November. The person who received the highest number in votes only got 26 or 27 percent of the vote—only one in four. That means that for every four people voting, three of them voted for someone else for Secretary of State.

"I believe it will strengthen the process for the voters to have a clearer choice. The Secretary of State is an important office to the state and its people," Ms. Lee continued. "I'm running for it because I believe I have the vision, the experience, and the qualifications to do the best job.

"I believe that when people have the opportunity to look carefully at just two candidates, rather than six, they will vote for me."

State election law defines a substantial plurality as more than 40 percent of the votes cast. At approximately 26 percent, the top vote-getter in the Secretary of State's race received substantially less than the number required for victory. Ms. Lee received 21 percent of the votes cast. The second primary is already scheduled for Tuesday, June 4.

Excitement builds for BFEA Convention

Excitement and momentum have developed in North Carolina for the Black Family Empowerment Agency Convention which will be held on June 1, 1996 at North Carolina Central University in Durham. Local community groups are presently organizing representatives from each county in the state to attend the convention and over 100 are already working with eight separate issue

Groups to develop tentative agenda proposals that will be reviewed and voted upon during the convention.

The Convention recently received a tremendous boost when the North Carolina State Branch of the NAACP, the United Church of Christ Commission for Racial Justice, and the North Carolina Central University Institute for the Study of Minority Issues joined

the coalition of sponsoring organizations. In addition to their sponsorships, the three organizations have pledged to mount an aggressive campaign to mobilize their local chapters, congregations and individual members to become active participants in convention activities. "The increase in organizational support for the convention enhances the broad-based

(Continued on page 4)

Opinions

Let's Bring Our Economic Cycle Full Circle

The black dollar. A consumer nation worth \$450 billion to waiting beneficiaries, who in most cases, have to do nothing more than sit and wait for it to knock on the doors of the producers of products and services sold to our communities. To the tune of 95 percent, and in some cases (like banking relationships-98 percent), those that position themselves for black dollars are not willing to redirect the dollars back into our community.

Direct spending campaigns to educate the black consumer, be they "Don't Spend Where You Can't Work," "Buy Black," "Buy Freedom," "Buy Liberty," "Recycling Black Dollars," have always been perceived as being discriminately hostile to integration efforts. Blacks legitimate efforts to develop an economic infrastructure has always been undermined by having to announce what we do, when others do it naturally.

One of the biggest carryovers of the Million Man March has been our people's efforts to take responsibility for the condition of their communities, including the "state of its economics."

By taking control of the things we can control, a renewed spirit of awareness has come about with respect to how we use our money. Los Angeles-based Recycling Black Dollars, under its president, Muhammad Nasserdeen, initiated "Change Bank Day" that pulled down \$7 million from other banks into black-owned financial institutions.

While the money is only a mere pittance of what blacks in Los Angeles really deposit in banks, an estimated 17 billion in white-owned banks (according to reports released four years ago), it was a brilliant stroke to direct our consumer habits and start the cycle of building an economic infrastructure in black communities. New York and several other cities have followed Los Angeles' lead (for a change) in making a concerted effort to redirect black dollars.

The economic spending power of the black consumer, until ten years ago, was the biggest story never told. The biggest secret still not told is about the economic leverage our actual dollars create for those who receive our actual spending and saving dollars. Other cultures not only spend their actual dollars with their own interest in the 90th percentile (which is what the affirmative action discussion exposes), they leverage their actual dollars anywhere from seven

to twenty times.

You think they pay cash for all these skyscrapers, multibillion dollar corporate acquisitions and wealth creation opportunities (investments)? Please! It's all about the float. A float that is leveraged (whether the money is real or not). When it's not, it's called a deficit. Be it a trade deficit, a budget deficit or junk bonds, no matter how big, the cycle doesn't stop. The chase to catch the floating "money balloon" is ongoing until it pops (they never catch it). Then they start over.

The point of this little lecture is to demonstrate that our promotion of Recycling Black Dollars is a simplistic analogy if we don't complete the cycle. Directed spending campaigns are just the first step and all other components of the cycle must serve their purpose.

Now, I said all that to get the real point of this commentary.

Actress Marla Gibbs made a historical investment in the Los Angeles black community several years ago, that has become the hub of the L.A. black community's cultural renaissance. The Leimert Park Community is a "twenty for seven" college of artistic expressions, entrepreneurial shops and cultural artifacts unlike anything I've seen anywhere in this country. Totally community driven.

(Continued on page 5)

Movies on the lawn back for seventh season

One of North Carolina's most enjoyable film festivals returns for its seventh season beginning this weekend at the North Carolina Museum of Art. Movies on the Lawn, which starts May 3 and runs through September 28, features films from Down Under during the month of May followed by movie classics from the sixties in June. Folks are invited to bring a blanket or chair and enjoy the warm weather and featured movie shown on a supersized screen attached to the Museum's exterior wall. Movies are shown on Fridays and Saturdays at 9 p.m. as well as indoors on Fridays at 7 p.m. (see listings below). Ticket prices for each series or individual movie are:

* Series tickets \$10 for non-members/\$9 for Museum members

* Single tickets at the gate \$3 for non-members/\$2.50 for Museum members

* Single tickets for ages 5-11/\$2

Please review suggested ratings, as parental discretion is required.

In addition, on Friday, May 31, and Friday, June 21, WTRG-FM (100.7) and the Museum will co-host "Good Times-Great Oldies" evenings of live performances and radio shows on the grounds of the Museum Park Theater. The events featuring beach music will be held from 5 p.m.-8 p.m., and prices in-

clude admission to the featured movie. Tickets for WTRG-FM's "Good Times-Great Oldies" are:

* \$5 for concert and featured film

* \$2 for film series ticket holders

For the month of May, Australian Cinema II: Hot Films Snowed Out is a series of previously scheduled movies in January which were canceled due to inclement weather. These movies contain adult themes, and parental discretion is required. Features include:

May 17 & 18 - "Strictly Ballroom" - Sensational dance scenes, youthful rebellion and a quirky sense of humor make this movie a crowd-pleaser. Winner of the Prix de Jeunesse at Cannes. Rated PG (94 minutes)

May 24 & 25 - "Muriel's Wedding" - Muriel's plumpness complicates her desire for popularity and the perfect wedding as she searches for her place in life. Rated R (105 minutes)

For the month of June, The Celluloid Sixties series takes the viewer back three decades for a look at love, fear and the future. Suggested ratings for these films would be PG or PG-13. Films include:

May 31 & June 1 - "West Side Story" - This Romeo and Juliet story set in the streets of New York won Best Picture of 1961.

With Natalie Wood, Rita Moreno and George Chakiris. Music and songs by Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim. Choreography by Jerome Robbins. 1961 (152 minutes)

June 7 & 8 - "Psycho" - This movie is the most intense of Hitchcock's thrillers, and some say the best horror film ever made. With Anthony Perkins, Janet Leigh and the Bates Motel. 1960 (109 minutes)

June 14 & 15 - "2001: A Space Odyssey" - A quest to discover the ultimate meaning of the universe, 2001 can be taken as space fiction, as an epic of humanity versus machines or as metaphysical speculation. Directed by Stanley Kubrick. 1968 (139 minutes)

June 21 only - "Breakfast at Tiffany's" - Audrey Hepburn plays the free spirit in New York as created by Truman Capote. Henry Mancini's song "Moon River" won an Oscar. 1961 (115 minutes)

June 28 (9 p.m. only) & 29 - "Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb" - Stanley Kubrick's dark comedy takes a laughing look at the threat of nuclear destruction in the 60s. With Peter Sellers, George C. Scott, Sterling Hayden and Slim Pickens. 1964 (93 minutes)



PASTOR JAMES CORBETT of Community Christian Church (top) and local area ministers and church supporters (below) gathered recently to join forces and journey to Washington, D.C. for the 1996 Down East Rally for Jesus.

Staff photo by Jim Rouse

'Moesha' trashes Million Man March

Perhaps the producers of "Moesha" need to see "Hoop Dreams." Perhaps then they would have understood the desperate need Black men have for effective leadership. The need to feel they are not the only ones feeling what they are feeling. The need to bond more deeply as men, and the need to be called to task by people who care about them.

While on the southbound 104 bus, the bus driver echoing the babble of white folks and perhaps thinking to please me, began to complain about the Million Man March when I inquired as to

whether he was able to make it. He said, "Naw, I didn't have time. But just imagine they didn't allow women. I think that's terrible."

There were women there, but the idea was a gathering of men, Black men! The idea was that Black men should stand up for themselves. They didn't go there begging. It was a statement. (So strong, in fact, that now white males, via the group The Promise Keepers, are planning a million white man march this summer.)

Acknowledgement

The Million Man March was an acknowledgement by Black men

that they have to do better as a group for their communities.

Women have been carrying the load, and we cannot carry it alone on a community level much longer. I told the bus driver to look at it this way: if you're so sick that you need an operation, you go to the doctor. Much as your wife and children love you, they cannot go into the operating room with you. They have to wait in the waiting room, pray for you, be there for you and let the doctor operate on the cause of the problem.

The change in the Black community (Continued on page 5)

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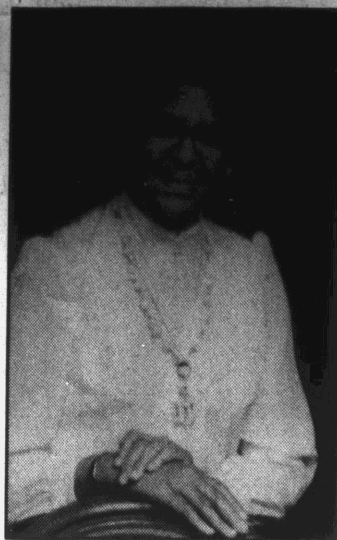
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The 'M' Voice

from the desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



BEATRICE MAYE

Memo to: Mrs. Beatrice Maye
 Fr: Tracey Bennett
 Re: "M" Voice Announcement

Tracey Bennett recently received the Expressions Magazine Staff Writer of The Year Award. The award was presented to Tracey at the annual media banquet which was recently held at the Hilton. Expressions magazine also received the award for Most Outstanding Publication on the campus of East Carolina University.

Not only is Expression Magazine tops on the campus of East Carolina University, in The Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence Competition, Expressions was awarded the honor of Best Student Magazine Published More Than Once A Year

(in Region #2). Others competing in the region included Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia and Virginia. Expressions was in competition with 126 publications from other universities including Duke University, UNC-Chapel Hill and N.C. State University.

BIBLE BE'S
MEDICINE
CHEST

1. Matthew 5:48, Hebrew 12
2. 1 Peter 1:15, 16, James 3
3. James 5:7 Job 15
4. Job 22:21 Psalm 128
5. Matthew 14:27, Psalm 37
6. 2 Peter 3-14, Psalm 27
7. 1 Peter 5-5
8. 1 Peter 5:8
9. Ephesians 4:32
10. Joshua 1:6

CHOICE
SCRIPTURES

1. Don't let the sun go down with you still angry - get over it quickly; for when you are angry you give a mighty foothold to the devil. Eph. 4:27
2. Stop being mean, bad-tempered and angry. Quarreling, harsh words, and dislike of others should have no place in your lives. Eph. 4:31
3. Don't worry about anything; indeed, pray about everything; tell God your needs and don't forget to thank him for his answers. Philippians 4:6
4. Keep away from every kind of evil. 1 Thessalonians 5:22

5. Do you want to be truly rich? You already are if you are happy and good. After all, we didn't bring any money with us when we came into the world, and we can't carry away a single penny when we die. 1 Timothy 6:6

6. A person who is pure of heart sees goodness and purity in everything; but a person whose own heart is evil and untrusting finds evil in everything, for his dirty mind and rebellious heart color all he sees and hears. Titus 1:15

7. Drink from your own well, my son - be faithful and true to your wife. Why should you beget children with women in the street? Why share your children with those outside your home? Proverbs 5:15, 16, 17

8. Don't talk so much. You keep putting your foot in your mouth. Be sensible and turn off the flow. Proverbs 10:19

9. The lazy man is full of excuses. Proverbs 22:13

10. We can justify our every deed but God looks at our motives. Prov. 21:2

11. Lord, help me to realize how brief my time on earth will be. Help me to know that I am here but a moment more. Psalm 39:4

WHAT "CLASS"
IS - AND ISN'T

"Class cannot be bought or acquired. It is an inner quality found without regard to financial status or family background. Its essential quality is integrity, intelligence and lack of pretension. Education can expand the horizon of a person with class, but it will not give class to someone without it. Class is a state of grace that few people have". Dorothy Cullman

"Class is unostentatious quality. It is restraint. It is modesty, an elegance of behavior, a willing-

ness to let time measure your performance rather than a strident, meretricious 'selling' of your personal wares. Class is a quiet pursuit of excellence that abhors all pretension". William Bernbach

"In the behavior and appearance, I think 'class' is the impact that comes with the simplicity of understatement. That impact is almost always accompanied by a directness in conversation and a willingness to listen. I guess it boils down to a genuine regard for other people because you have the same regard for yourself". Robert Ludlum, author

"Class is a spontaneous expression of a person's character. Such a person is totally unconcerned with making an impression upon others. It derives from utter personal security...A person may be said to have 'class' who is never in doubt as to the 'right' thing to do and does it instinctively. Approval is immaterial - the person knows that whatever she is doing is 'right' because it meets her own standards". Herbert Salzman

"Class is what you ain't got if everybody knows it except you". Fifi Starr, screenwriter

"Class is when you're not concerned about it". Gay Talese, author

"Few of the people I meet have it. Many are stylish; many, successful; some, even unique. But few have that special combination of qualities: A sense of self with egotism, a sense of worth without wealth; and a sense of style achieved with ease rather than by artifice". Judy Price, president and publisher, Avenue Magazine

"A person with class possesses a deep unpretentious nobility".

William F. Maye dean, Graduate School of Business, New York University

"Class is the art of being true to oneself under all circumstances and with all people. Being gracefully unintimidated is the height of class". Vada Stanley, marketing executive

"Class, to me, comes from the inside - from the spirit, i.e., generosity of spirit - sense of loyalty - the ability to please, to love, to give. Class cannot be bought - cannot be worn".

Kenneth Lane, jewelry designer

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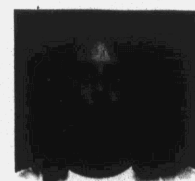
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EDGECOMBE COUNTY'S 10 MOST
WANTED
DEADBEAT PARENTS

These ten parents are being sought by the Edgecombe County Department of Social Service's Child Support Enforcement Unit for not paying their child support. If you have any information about any of these parents, please call (919) 641-7950 or (919) 985-5030.

JASON ASHLEY
KEEN

Past Due Support As Of
 03-29-96: \$2,067.00
 Age: 25
 Hair: Brown
 Eyes: Brown
 Height: 6'
 Weight: 160 lbs.
 Last Known Whereabouts:
 Rocky Mount, NC
 Occupation: Construction

CARL LEE
JOHNSON

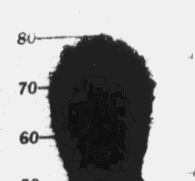
Past Due Support As Of
 02-02-96: \$16,838.20
 Age: 38
 Hair: Black
 Eyes: Dark Brown
 Height: 5'10"
 Weight: 140 lbs.
 Last Known Whereabouts:
 Tarboro, NC
 Occupation: Factory Work

MICHAEL
JONES

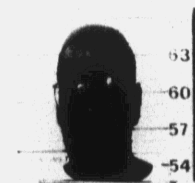
Past Due Support As Of
 03-06-96: \$11,048.38
 Age: 31
 Hair: Black
 Eyes: Brown
 Height: 6'
 Weight: 175 lbs.
 Last Known Whereabouts:
 Durham, NC
 Occupation: Delivery

PAULA ROGERS
GREGG

Past Due Support As Of
 02-29-96: \$10,401.76
 Age: 29
 Hair: Blonde
 Eyes: Blue
 Height: 4'11"
 Weight: 110 lbs.
 Last Known Whereabouts:
 Castalia, NC
 Occupation: Exotic Dancer

ELLIOT DUBOSE
FORTE

Past Due Support As Of
 03-01-96: \$9,319.56
 Age: 36
 Hair: Black
 Eyes: Light Brown
 Height: 5'7"
 Weight: 180 lbs.
 Last Known Whereabouts:
 Rocky Mount, NC
 Occupation: Laborer

DONALD
BRYANT

Past Due Support As Of
 02-29-96: \$14,774.99
 Age: 33
 Hair: Black
 Eyes: Brown
 Height: 5'4"
 Weight: 140 lbs.
 Last Known Whereabouts:
 Rocky Mount, NC
 Occupation: Laborer

MICHAEL ANGELO
REDMAN

Past Due Support As Of
 02-29-96: \$17,552.00
 Age: 32
 Hair: Black
 Eyes: Brown
 Height: 5'5"
 Weight: 160 lbs.
 Last Known Whereabouts:
 Waterbury, Connecticut
 Occupation: Farm Laborer

JOHNNY LYNN
DILDY

Past Due Support As Of
 03-06-96: \$9,951.20
 Age: 39
 Hair: Black/Gray
 Eyes: Brown
 Height: 5'7"
 Weight: 170 lbs.
 Last Known Whereabouts:
 Fayetteville, NC
 Occupation: Factory Industry

RICKY LEONARD
COLLINS

Past Due Support As Of
 02-29-96: \$20,164.16
 Age: 37
 Hair: Black
 Eyes: Brown
 Height: 5'11"
 Weight: 185 lbs.
 Last Known Whereabouts:
 Winston Salem, NC
 Occupation: Construction

PAUL ANTHONY
THORNE

Past Due Support As Of
 03-06-96: \$18,970.00
 Age: 34
 Hair: Brownish/Black
 Eyes: Brown
 Height: 5'9"
 Weight: 215 lbs.
 Last Known Whereabouts:
 Battleboro, NC
 Occupation: Retail Sales

EDGECOMBE COUNTY WORKS
 FOR CHILDREN

Community News

Community Financial Investment Groups Corporation Announces Launching of "OPERATION: Stop The Leaks"

Community Financial Investment Groups, Inc. announced the official kick-off of its OPERATION: Stop The Leaks designed to direct more of African Americans money towards quality Black-owned Businesses.

The OPERATION: STOP THE LEAKS is a 5-phase comprehensive collective economics system in which all African Americans, consumers and business owners alike, can and should participate. This program will not only start capturing and holding Black Dollars securely, but efficiently measure and track its own effectiveness and growth.

"We've been talking and mimicking various programs & slogans all over the nation in small groups for a long time. Now it's time to get serious, consolidate our efforts on a national scale, and implement an effective ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN!" states Annie Pierce, C.F.I.G. Founder. "With African American dollars only staying in our community for a mere 8 hours and Black Businesses only capturing 2% of the Black Consumer's dollar, something needs to be done and done quickly to change those statistics!"

The first phase of OPERATION: STOP THE LEAKS is the *Black Business Enrichment Program*, which depends heavily on high quality Black Businesses. These businesses will form the *foundation* of the system and consequently, the C.F.I.G. Corporation is seeking the *very best* Black-Business owners in all industries and professions across the nation to initiate this program. "With these high quality businesses and professionals in place, we will be able

to remove all the excuses Black consumers use to NOT SUPPORT BLACK BUSINESSES!"

C.F.I.G. is currently looking for potential Black Business Enrich-

ment Program Directors to help coordinate the program in various cities. For more information about C.F.I.G. Membership and on how to get involved as a Program Di-

rector and/or Business/Consumer Participant, please call 1-800-898-4696.

Inmates make bed frames and lockers

The metal bed frames and lockers going into new North Carolina prisons are being made by inmates at the metal fabrication plant at Brown Creek Correctional Institution.

"If it's made out of metal, we do it," said Donald Bullock, the plant's manager. "We've made hollow metal doors and frames. Right now, we're making inmate lockers, dormitory-style double bunks and a two-tiered style of bed for double celling inmates."

Each morning at 7:25, forty inmates report to work. Inmates work an assembly line that turns out about ten lockers and ten bunks per day. They also manufacture cabinets, racks, metal doors and customized products.

Anson Community College instructors teach classes on welding and computer assisted drafting (CAD) in a part of the prison metal fabrication plant. Inmates who complete these classes can then go to work in the plant.

"Very few of these inmates have experience working with sheet metal" said Bullock. "But with the training and the experience they get in the plant, we help them develop a good work ethic and skills to get a job."

A skilled CAD operator in a top-notch fabrication shop may make an annual salary in the high twenties and a skilled computerized press brake operator can make \$14 to \$15 an hour," Bullock said

Edith Warren requests runoff

This morning, Edith Warren formally requested a runoff for the Pitt County Commission seat C. Mrs. Warren made her decision due to the very close margin in last Tuesday's primary and the report that there will be a state wide runoff. Today Mrs. Warren said, "One of the key issues in my campaign is financial responsibility and I would have hated to have burdened the taxpayers of Pitt County with a new election just on my account. However, since there is state wide runoff, my election will not cost taxpayers any addi-

tional money. We need a representative in seat C that will work for cost effective and efficient government."

Mrs. Warren is a retired educator. She has spent the last 19 years as the Principal of Sam D. Bundy Elementary school. She is also a member of the First Baptist Church in Farmville and was a Pitt County Principal of the year in 1990. Mrs. Warren has been married to Billy N. Warren for forty years and is the proud mother of two daughters and one son, Cathy, Lynn and Steve. She is also a proud

grandmother of two.

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The game of mahjongg was first played in China around 2,500 years ago.

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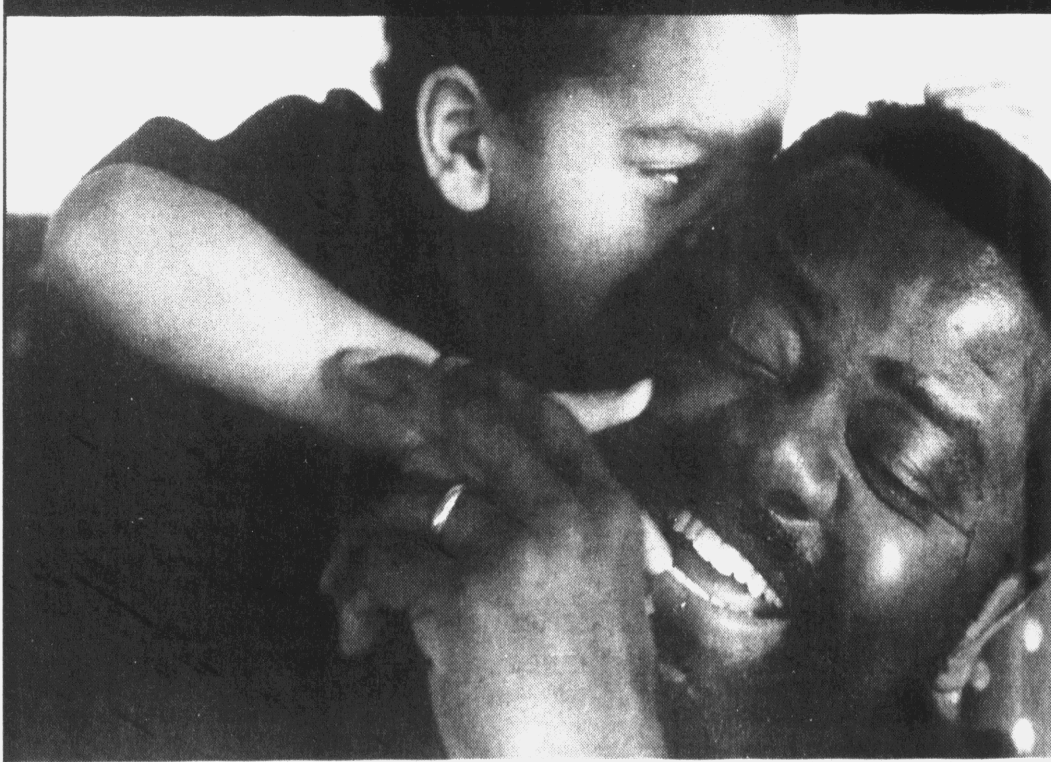
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HEROES OF THE GAME



Our heroes. They're not just on the court shooting three point shots or catching fly balls in the outfield. They're in our homes, our churches and our neighborhoods. They come in all shapes and sizes; they're our families and our friends. They're all playing the same game, the game of life.

A part of staying in the game is taking care of one's health. Unfortunately, many African-Americans get sidelined by the "Silent Killer" high blood pressure.

High blood pressure is called the silent killer because often, you don't know when your pressure is out of the ball park which can lead to a stroke.

Such strokes can result in partial or full paralysis, slurred speech and sometimes, death. It's up to you to stay in the game. Keep tabs on your blood pressure by having it checked regularly at your doctor or local health department.

Know your numbers. No adult pressure should be higher than 140 over 90. If it is, see your doctor. If you already have medication, take it as prescribed. Avoid salt, high cholesterol and high fat foods. Bench the alcohol. Get some exercise, even if it's a daily walk.

Control your pressure and get back in the game, because you're a hero and we want you in the game forever.

Be a winner. Strike out stroke.



North Carolina Department of
Environment, Health, & Natural Resources



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appeal and credibility of this process and speak loudly to the immediate need to bring Black people together to develop and implement a common agenda. After this convention, it will become clear to

everyone just how important an agreed upon and representative agenda will be for the development of Black people in North Carolina." said Professor Irving Joyner, convention coordinator. The concept of the Black Fam-

ily Empowerment Agenda was conceived by Wilmington attorney Peter Grear and initially became a project of North Carolina Black Leadership Caucus. Other sponsoring organizations have adopted the concept and concluded that

the time was ripe to bring the Black community together to articulate their own goals, objectives and priorities. These organizations have committed themselves to spearheading the implementation of the agenda items.

Reports that have been received from local organizers indicate that enthusiasm at that level is very high and representatives are preparing for the convention and presenting input to the Issue Groups for inclusion in the tentative agenda. "For too long, Blacks have felt that other people were allowed to speak for us and interpret our needs and priorities. The BFEA allows Blacks, for the first time, to develop our own agenda and to articulate those things that are important to us," said Joyner. Joyner continued: "we want to make sure that Black in North Carolina are operating from the same page."

The BFEA convention will involve a broad-based grouping of Blacks. Black church people, elected officials, civil rights, civic and business leaders have agreed to participate in this historic event. State Convention conveners include Congressional Representatives Eva Clayton, and Melvin Watt; State Senator Jeanne Lucas, State Representative Howard Hunter, and Chancellor Julius Chambers.

Convention organizers are encouraging Blacks in every community to join in the mobilization effort and participate in Convention activities. Information regarding local organizing efforts can be obtained by calling Irving Joyner at (919) 560-6293, Tracy Barley at 560-6171, or Lisa Crutchfield at 560-6115.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDDERS

Greenville Utilities Commission
Replacement of The Low Pressure Cast Iron System
Greenville, North Carolina

Sealed bids will be received by the Greenville Utilities Commission in the Engineering Center Conference Room at 801 Mumford Road, P.O. Box 1847, Greenville, NC 27835 until 2:00 p.m. on May 31, 1996 and immediately thereafter publicly opened and read, for constructing the following facilities:

Replacement of The Low Pressure Cast Iron System
Within the City of Greenville

Bids must be submitted on the complete project. Bids must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the Greenville Utilities Commission and the outside of the envelope must be marked BID FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE LOW PRESSURE CAST IRON SYSTEM. All bids must be made on blank forms provided and included in the bound document. The name, address, and license number of the Bidder must be plainly marked thereon. Oral or faxed bids are invalid and will be rejected.

Each bid must be accompanied by cash or a certified check, drawn on a bank or trust company authorized to do business in North Carolina, payable to the Greenville Utilities Commission in an amount at least equal to five percent (5%) of the total amount of the bid, as a guarantee that a contract will be entered into. In lieu of cash or a certified check, the Bidder may submit a bid bond in the form prescribed in G.S. 143-129 as amended by Chapter 1104 of the Public Laws of 1951.

Contractors are notified that legislative acts relating to licensing of contractors will be observed in receiving bids and awarding contracts.

The major items of work include installing:

3,000 LF 4" Polyethylene Natural Gas Main
18,000 LF 2" Polyethylene Natural Gas Main
103 EA. Service Renewals
Associated Incidental Work

Bidders are also advised that this contract contains provisions requiring the Contractor to document that sufficient good faith efforts have been made to provide equal opportunity for Minority and Women Business Enterprises to participate in the subcontracting and material supplier opportunities available under this contract.

Plans and specifications are on file and may be examined at the office of the engineer, Rummel, Klepper and Kahl, Raleigh, North Carolina; Greenville Utilities Commission in the office of the Director, Gas Systems, and in the Associated General Contractors office and Dodge Plan Room in Raleigh. Plans and specifications may be obtained upon application to the Engineer, accompanied with a plan deposit check in the amount of \$100.00.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on May 16, 1996 beginning at 9:00 a.m., at the Greenville Utilities Commission's Operation Center Engineering Conference Room at 801 Mumford Road. This meeting will last approximately three hours.

Deposit will be refunded in full to all bona fide bidders provided plans and specifications are returned in good condition within ten (10) days after opening of bid. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids, to waive informalities, and to award contract or contracts which, in the opinion of the Owner, appear to be in its best interest. The right is reserved to hold any or all proposals for a period of sixty (60) days from the opening thereof.

Greenville Utilities Commission

Mr. Malcolm A. Green

Please Drive Carefully

Thank you . . .

for your support in my race to become
your Secretary of State.

But it's not over.

No one won.

No one got enough votes.

So, there's a runoff Tuesday, June 4
between the two top vote-getters.
And I'm counting on you coming out
and voting for me again.

Grab your hat. Grab your friends.
Meet me at the polls.



VALERIA LYNCH LEE

SECRETARY OF STATE



Tuesday, June 4
Vote Valeria Lee
Secretary of State

Free poetry contest

A \$1,000 prize is being offered in a free poetry contest sponsored by the International Library of Famous Poets. There is no entry fee and everyone is free to enter by the deadline of May 7.

Poems may be written on any subject, using any style, but please keep copies as none can be returned. Winners will be notified by the end of June.

"This is our favorite contest of the year," says the famed Beverly Hills Poetry Editor Dr. G. Charles Nash, "because it encourages beginners. We want to find the best grassroots poets among those writing in North Carolina, and in the Greenville area in particular."

To enter, send one poem of 21 lines or less to: Free Poetry Contest, 421 N. Rodeo Dr., Suite 15-544, Beverly Hills, CA 90210.

Convention & Visitors Bureau-- Promoting Greenville & Pitt County since 1988

WHAT?

A Convention & Visitors Bureau is a destination marketing agency funded by the hotel/motel occupancy tax to serve the county as:

- a promotional agency
- an information clearinghouse
- a convention management consultant
- a catalyst for economic/social development

HOW?

- by aggressively pursuing group and convention decision-makers to convince them to choose Greenville and Pitt County.
- by providing professional assistance with a variety of tasks such as attendance promotion, tour and event planning, and on-site registration assistance.

The Bureau's past scorecard reveals:

Fiscal Year	90-91	91-92	92-93	93-94	94-95
Groups Booked	19	44	45	45	67
Groups Assisted	81	78	94	112	104

WHY?

- to lure more travelers to the area, who in turn provide economic advantages -- new jobs, increased revenue, and a broader tax base.

The US Travel Data Center research indicates:

Year	Travel Expenditures	State Tax Receipts	Local Tax Receipts
1989	\$71.65 million	\$2.88 million	\$1.70 million
1995	\$104.97million	\$5.16 million	\$2.16 million

WHAT NOW?

- continue to invest in aggressive marketing and product development.
- to remain competitive--A CONVENTION CENTER

Call the Convention and Visitors Bureau today--752-8044--to find out how our community can make a concerted effort to make sure Pitt County remains the leader in the hospitality industry in Eastern North Carolina.

From Page 1

Marla Gibbs' Vision Complex is the staple in this part of L.A. where "the people" finally own it (most of it, anyway), run it and support it. Marla Gibbs purchased the site for \$3.2 million and has paid down more than half the principal in a matter of 6 years (try doing that with your house note), much less a community landmark. Not to mention the near \$4 million in renovation and operation expense she's incurred during that time (as well as the \$4 million investment she's made into the Jazz and Supper Club).

Marla Gibbs is no stranger to our community. She's not just an actress. She's a businesswoman who invested in her people. She's asked for the community's help to "Save the Vision."

It's time for the rest of the cycle

to kick in. Understanding there are some deals in the works, it'd be nice if one of our banks would help Marla (especially after the success of "Change Bank Day"). Even if the three institutions have to form a participation to share the risk, they should loan her the money. They can do it under the allowable CRA covenants for nonconventional transactions and we're not talking about a lot of money here.

Mortgage companies that front as nonprofits (operation something or another) and bring "bus tours" through South Central, should drive 'em by Degnan Avenue to see an appropriate investment for fifty cents on the dollar loan to value. Black insurance companies that claim they do so much for the community, that invest millions of their premium and pension funds in highyield opportunities outside

the community, should look at this opportunity in their own backyard.

And what about the community revitalization organizations who have received federal funds for this very thing, build economic empowerment? It's a damn shame that one of our finest talents, who did something most of our black artists refused to do (invest in the community), has to go on the radio to publicly plead her case. It's a strategy she felt was best for her and we should respond. Yet, this city, through taxpayers' funds and private donations, carried the Music Center (downtown) for over twenty years before it turned a dime—but they kept it open and kept it in their possession.

To even think that someone outside (and maybe some in) our community (which may be why she's having problems getting major help) is waiting to pick up a community landmark for half on the dollar is a little unsettling. Par-

ticularly as much money as blacks influence in Los Angeles.

We can't just talk about "recycling black dollars," we have to bring the cycle full circle to the point where the institutions we invest in and spend our money with, can put it back when we need them to put it back. I don't spend my money with someone just because they're black (we know every blackface ain't necessarily black). I spend with them because they give back. That is part of the cycle.

Marla Gibbs has given back and has earned our support. Another part of the cycle is to invest in those things that bring a benefit to our communities. That requires us to share a common vision in a dual sense.

Yes, we need to keep the vision for our own economic liberation, but more immediately, we need to keep the Vision Complex with its owner and creator.

Send your donations to: The Vision Complex, 4310 S. Degnan Ave., Los Angeles, 90008.

Opinions

THANK YOU....

FOR THE LOVE AND SUPPORT THAT
YOU HAVE SHOWN ME
DURING MY CAMPAIGN AND
INSERVICE TO YOU
AS YOUR PITT COUNTY SCHOOL
BOARD REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 4, SEAT A

Amina J. Shahid-El

Paid for by Amina J. Shahid-El



Thank You

I want to thank the
citizens of Pitt and
Greene Counties for their
help and support in the
May Primary. Your
continued support is
essential for a successful
campaign in November.

Charles S. Ward

Paid for by the candidate

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40,000 mile limited treadwear
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High performance all-season radials
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Excellent handling and traction, wet or
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P205/75R14	64.95
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Firestone Tires

The City of Greenville and Greenville Utilities Commission's M/WBE Program is sponsoring a workshop "Doing Business with Government Entities", for minority, women and disabled business owners. The workshop will be held on Thursday, June 13th. The overall objective of the workshop is to help increase knowledge and understanding of how local, state and federal government works and handles procurement, contracts and the bidding process.

\$10.00 Per attendee and pre-registration is required. Please call 919-830-4490 for more information.

Last Call for winning beef recipes

Calling all cooks: Would you invest thirty-two cents for the chance to win twenty-five thousand dollars? All you have to do is send in a copy of your favorite beef recipe to enter the National Beef Cook-Off. But hurry—the deadline for recipe entries is June 1st. The Grand Prize winner will take home twenty-five thousand dol-

lars and a complete set of Frigidaire kitchen appliances. To qualify, recipes must take less than one hour to prepare and are limited to eight ingredients. If you are a non-professional cook and at least 18 years old, enter your original beef recipe today. Just mail it to National Beef Cook-Off Entries, P.O. Box 3240,

Dept. R, Chicago, Illinois 60654. Or call 1-800-848-9088 immediately for complete contest rules.

and entry information. Remember—the deadline for entries is June 1st.

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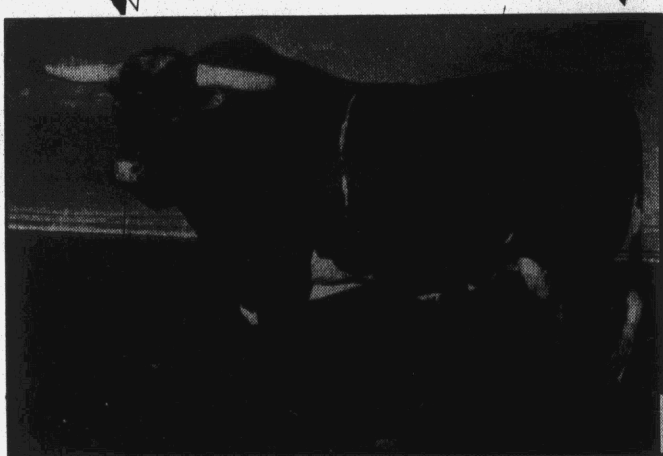
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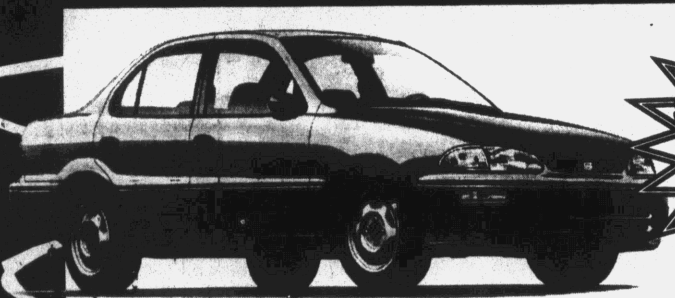
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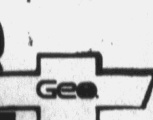




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** Drawings Friday & Saturday

From Page 1

March

munity was felt immediately. Too many Black men have become predators in the community. When you see him coming, you dread. While some of this can be blamed on Black oppression, not all of it can.

And often when the Black man gets himself together, it is as an individual, eager to get as far away from other Blacks as he can, never looking back except to give lip service, get re-elected, etc. The Million Man March has called this type of Black man to task also, to do more for his community in terms of creating meaningful jobs, recreation facilities for our youth, etc.

The Million Man March was an empowering move that needs to be reinforced regularly on some level.

Ever since the march, the media has been trying to see how they could tear this movement down. They tried denouncing it, but that hasn't worked. They've tried and are still trying to accelerate the negative imagery of the Black man and woman at every turn, focusing heavily on Black crime to show the white public Black people are still a menace to society despite the Million Man March.

Certain groups have attacked Min. Louis Farrakhan for his bold maneuvers while they themselves engage in the same international politics. You'll remember Jesse Jackson went on a world tour and was blasted by Jewish groups for embracing Yaser Arafat (who, in fact, embraced him.) Malcolm X went on a world tour.

We as a group have no obligation to hate everyone the United States hates, and love everyone the United States loves. Indeed, now we are supposed to embrace Russia, though a mere few years ago we were obliged to hate them. America needs to have some target for their seemingly inherent hate. And some groups are trying to manipulate this for their own ends, indeed to take the eyes of the nation away from them as they engage innational and banking crises (i.e. savings and loan schemes, global arms deals, reinvestment in Star Wars-type scams where billions disappear or are unaccounted for.) The latest-a billion dollar piece of equipment gets lost in outer space while human education, arts and social programs get lost in inner space.

This nation wants to step away from sound environmental projects essential for the next century, while they howl about crime being the top priority. They want to step away from any investment in non-white youth while they howl about crime. It's a scam. A diversionary tactic that even the blind can see, designed to ultimately aid a handful of giant companies.

But too many white folks love their racism and you can feed it to them any time and get over.

America has had plenty of time to mend her ways. Instead, the so-called fringe hate groups, which are not so fringed, are arming themselves to the teeth and preparing for war against us! It's a long time overdue for us to act like a nation.

Role of popular media
one of the roles of popular media has always been to shape public opinion the way the establishment wants it, or the way a special interest group can advance because of it.

TV shows are spun towards retelling today's events to vilify whoever the establishment wants vilified.

There are several shows which do this by design. "Law and Order" is one, "N.Y.P.D." is another. And now, seemingly, you can add "Moesha" to the list.

The show reaches Black youth, reaches Black women. So if you want to manipulate the thinking of this group, you spin a show aimed at diversion and vilification.

'Moesha'
On Tuesday, Feb. 20, Moesha, whose name itself is telling, and her friend Kim, played by Countless Vaughn, come into a youth meeting where brothers have gathered to plan an event to raise funds for college scholarships.

But the scholarships are for Black males. Moesha has an attitude and points out that women need scholarships also. She refuses to leave the meeting, and takes the podium. Kim flirts with one of the young men while Moesha challenges the leadership of the male at the podium, maintaining the all male group cannot do the fundraiser alone and needs her help.

Can you just imagine a couple of Black guys loudly disrupting a women's luncheon, full of attitude, boldly flirting with a singled out sister and grandstanding at the podium?

Moesha secures the popular group Jodeci to appear at the fundraiser. Meanwhile, the brother in charge cannot fulfill his obligation to secure a space for their affair, and has been lax in putting out publicity on time.

In the end, Moesha saves the day while the brother-in-charge takes credit for her efforts. The implication is—Black men are unfair; can't do anything without Black women, including put on a local affair together. And that Black men want to take credit where it is not due and hold the Black women back educationally and socially.

The young brother is totally vilified, there is no unity, and a front

page article in the school paper reads "Affair saved by a one-in-a-million girl."

Moreover the Million Man March is referred to by name and by inference several times.

"Moesha" is reportedly co-produced by Ralph Farquhar, a Black man who co-produced the short-lived series "South Central," and Sara Finney and Vida Spears, producers of "Family Matters."

Chauvinism?
Yes, there is chauvinism within the Black community. Usually in the form of lack of recognition, until, of course, white recognition is given on some level. There is chauvinism within organizations of every kind. But there are many groups run by women with indispensable women in the background.

There is, however, a growing fear among some women that Black male empowerment will simply result in replacing one oppressor with another.

Willie Lynch letter
Remember the Willie Lynch letter Farrakhan read at the march? It describes the art of divide and conquer. Divide the men from the women, the women from the men, the young from the old, the light from the dark, etc.

The producers of "Moesha" claim it is a reality-based comedy. If so, who do Moesha and Kim eventually intend to marry? Some man who can't do anything without them? Some men they have to carry? Some man they must lead around like Kim leads around the young man she picks up at the meeting? Some man that when things get too tough he takes a hike like Arthur Agee's father in "Hoop Dreams"? Some man trained from birth to look to white people for his total salvation like all the men in "Hoop Dreams"?

Ever see a sit-com without a happy ending? This particular "Moesha" show ended on a sour, divisive note. Why? Who suggested or requested that the Million Man March be denounced? Or did these flunkies do this on their own, as Willie Lynch prophesied? That show was one of the most blatant examples of use of the media to divide Blacks as I've ever encountered. It means they are desperate.

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'95 SABLE LTS, 4-Dr, Silver #P2228.....	\$17,999
'95 MYSTIQUE, 4-Dr, White #P2180.....	\$12,999
'95 TRACER Sedan, Purple #P2221.....	\$10,999
'94 GRAND MARQUIS, Silver, #5910A.....	\$16,999
'94 GRAND MARQ., 4-Dr, Blue #6214A.....	\$16,999
'94 GRAND MARQ., 4-Dr, Lt. Blue #6451A.....	\$16,999
'93 SABLE Sta. Wag, Drk Blue #6571A.....	\$10,500
'91 GRAND MARQ., Lt. Blue #5376A.....	\$10,999
'96 MYSTIQUE 4 Dr., White, #P2231.....	\$15,999
'96 MYSTIQUE, 4 Dr., Teal, #P2232.....	\$15,999
'95 TRACER, 4-Dr., Red, #P2233.....	\$11,999
'95 TRACER, 4-Dr., Silver, #P2234.....	\$11,999
'95 TRACER, 4-Dr., Green, #P2237.....	\$11,999
'95 SABLE GS, 4-Dr., White, #P2236.....	\$13,999
'90 SABLE LS, 4-Dr., Silver, #5485A.....	\$8,999

CHRYSLER

'95 LHS, 4-Dr, Green #P1011.....	\$20,999
'95 CONCORDE, 4-Dr, White #P1020.....	\$18,999
'95 LeBARON, Conv, White #P961.....	\$14,999
'95 NEW YORK, 4-Dr, Driftwood #P1040.....	\$21,999
'94 TOWN & COUNTRY Van, #6508A.....	\$20,999
'94 LHS 4-Dr, Green #6579A.....	\$16,999
'93 NEW YORKER 4-Dr, Wht. #6474A.....	\$10,999
'93 TOWN & COUNTRY Van, #6481A.....	\$16,999
'96 SEBRING JXI CONV., White, #P1049.....	\$24,999
'93 LEBARON CONV., Driftwood, #6545A.....	\$7,999
'92 IMPERIAL, 4-Dr., White, #P1015A.....	\$13,999

PLYMOUTH

'95 NEON 4-Dr, Red #P1024.....	\$12,500
'95 ACCLAIM 4-Dr, Red #P985.....	\$11,999
'94 PCOL Wagon, White #6467A.....	\$13,999
'94 LASER 2-Dr, Red #P1010A.....	\$10,999
'94 VOYAGER VAN, Green #6108B.....	\$15,999
'94 ACCLAIM, 4-Dr., Driftwood #P1041.....	\$9,995
'93 VOYAGER VAN, White #6215A.....	\$15,500
'93 VOYAGER VAN, Green #6491A.....	\$14,999
'92 VOYAGER VAN, Burg. #6179A.....	\$10,999

'92 VOYAGER VAN, Lt. Blue, #6498A.....	\$9,500
'91 SUNDANCE, 2-Dr, White #P966A.....	\$5,999
'90 VOYAGER VAN, Gray #5646A.....	\$11,999
'96 VOYAGER SE RALLEY, White, #6654A.....	\$23,999

DODGE

'95 INTREPID ES, 4-Dr, Green, #6381A.....	\$20,999
'95 AVENGER, 2-Dr, White, #P1042.....	\$18,500
'95 D1500 Pickup, Burg, #6414B.....	\$15,999
'95 INTREPID Sedan, Teal, #P1031.....	\$19,954
'94 D150 Pickup, Green/Tan.....	\$19,999
'94 RAM CONV. VAN, White, #6107A.....	SAVE!
'93 RAM CONV. VAN, Lt Blue, #6305A.....	\$12,999
'93 SPIRIT, 4-Dr., Lt Blue, #6292B.....	\$9,999
'93 CARAVAN, Lt Blue, #6305A.....	\$12,999
'93 CARAVAN, Burgundy, #6431A.....	\$8,999
'93 CARAVAN, Green, #P2182A.....	\$11,999
'93 DAKOTA Pickup, Red #P993.....	\$9,999
'93 DAKOTA Pickup, Blue #6448B.....	SAVE!
'92 CARAVAN, Blue #P977A.....	\$12,999
'89 DAKOTA P'up 4x4, Black #6596A.....	\$7,999
'88 DAKOTA P'up 4x4, Red #P2181A.....	\$7,999
'96 RAM 1500 CC, Black, #P1044.....	\$21,999
'96 NEON, 4-Dr., Red, #P1047.....	\$13,999
'96 STRATUR, 4-Dr., Green, #P1048.....	\$15,999
'95 RAM 1500 4X4, Green, #6399B.....	\$21,999
'95 NEON, 4-Dr., Blue, #P1045.....	\$11,999
'95 NEON, 4-Dr., Green, #P1046.....	\$11,999
'96 AVENGER, 2-Dr., Silver, #P1051.....	\$17,500

FORD

'96 RANGER Pickup, Blue #6403A.....	\$11,999
'95 E350 VAN, Charcoal, #P2220.....	\$21,999
'94 ESCORT Sta. Wagon, Silver #5753A.....	\$7,999
'94 RANGER P'up 4x4, Green #6564A.....	\$13,999
'94 ESCORT 4-Dr, Green #P971A.....	\$10,999
'93 FORD TEMPO, 4-Dr., Blue #6666A.....	\$8,500
'92 AEROSTAR Van, Burg, #6140A.....	\$11,999
'92 EXPLORER 2-Dr, Green #6170A.....	\$14,999
'92 THUNDERBIRD, 2-Dr, Silver #6602A.....	\$6,999
'91 EXPLORER, Blue/Silv., #P1007B.....	\$14,500
'89 TAURUS 4-Dr, White #P2191A.....	\$6,999
'86 ESCORT Wagon, Burg. #P2019A.....	\$3,999
'95 ESCORT, 2-Dr., LX, Green, #P2235.....	\$11,999
'91 TEMPO GL, 4-Dr., White, #P2224A.....	\$4,999

CHEVY

'94 C1500 Pickup, Burgundy #6367A.....	\$16,999
'94 C1500 CC Pickup, White #6393A.....	\$19,999
'94 S-10 CC Pickup, Green #6442A.....	\$8,999
'93 C1500 Pickup, Gray #6354A.....	\$16,999
'93 LUMINA 4-Dr, Red #6557A.....	\$11,500
'93 LUMINA VAN, Silver #P2188.....	\$12,999
'91 GEO Storm Hatchback, Blue #5420A.....	\$5,500
'91 S-10 Pickup, Black #6040A.....	\$7,500
'89 S-10 Pickup, Black #6302A.....	\$6,495
'89 C1500 Pickup, Tan #P1035A.....	\$10,999
'90 C1500 PICKUP, White, #6503A.....	\$7,500
'78 EL CAMINO PICKUP, Green, #6729A.....	VALUE PRICED

JEEP

'92 CHEROKEE, 4x4, Red, #5675B.....	\$14,999
'93 GRAND CHEROKEE 4x4, Green, #7011A.....	VALUE PRICED
'89 WAGONEER LTD, 4x4, #6308A.....	\$9,999

GMC

'94 G1500 CC P'up, 4x4, Gray #6334A.....	\$19,999
'95 G2500 STARCRAFT, Green, #6692A.....	PRICED TO SELL
'94 SONOMA PICKUP, Black, #P1034C.....	\$8,999

BUICK

'95 SKYLARK, 4-Dr, White #6325A.....	\$14,999
'91 PARK AVENUE 4-Dr, Burg. #5419A.....	\$11,999
'86 ELECTRA Sta. Wag, Blue #6541A.....	\$4,999

PONTIAC

'90 GRAND PRIX 4-Dr, Blue #6347B.....	SAVE!
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'87 CIERRA 4-Dr, White #5736A.....	\$5,997

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'93 DEVILLE, 4-Dr, Champagne #P2123A.....	\$18,999
'89 DEVILLE, 4-Dr, Gray #6332A.....	\$11,999

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'91 SL-1, 4-DOOR, Burgundy #6620A.....	\$6,999
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'96 SENTRA 4-Dr, Green #6310B.....	\$13,999
'94 NPU4 Pickup, 4x4, Red #6511A.....	\$16,500
'91 240 SI Hatchback, Red #6607A.....	SAVE BIG!
'93 QUEST XE, Dual A/C, #6705A.....	\$16,500

MAZDA

'92 B200, Black #6676A.....	VALUE PRICED!
'89 929, 4-door, White #5611A.....	\$8,500
'87 B2000 CC, 4x4, Blue #6340B.....	\$6,999
'94 B4000 CC LE 4X4, Green, #6648A.....	\$17,999

MITSUBISHI

'94 M2WD Pickup, Gray #6221B.....	\$8,999
'92 M2WD Pickup, Silver #6207A.....	\$6,999
'91 MIRAGE, 2-Dr, Blue #P1008A.....	\$6,999

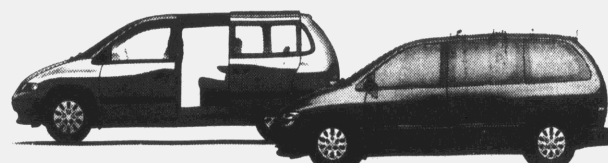
TOYOTA

'94 TPU Pickup, 4x4, Red #6645A.....	\$14,999
'92 CELICA Conv., Red, #6476A.....	\$16,999
'88 TPU Pickup, Burgundy, #6228A.....	SAVE BIG!

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'86 "PUP" TRUCK 4x4, Brown #6115A.....	\$4,999
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Community Financial investment corporation undertakes \$25 million black movie production ownership project

The Community Financial Investment Groups Corporation (C.F.I.G.) announced recently that they have officially undertaken a major \$25 million movie production project, Community Productions, that includes not only the purchase of a fully equipped 55,000 sq. ft. Television Production Studio, but also, the production, marketing and distribution of 3 full-length Black movies written, produced, directed and performed by Blacks.

"This is by far the largest Project that we have tackled" stated Ms. Pierce, C.F.I.G. President. "But we felt that we could not afford to miss this opportunity to FINALLY take control of producing our own images for television, video, and the movie theaters, so that we as a people, can finally experience truthful and positive self-images from a Black perspective!"

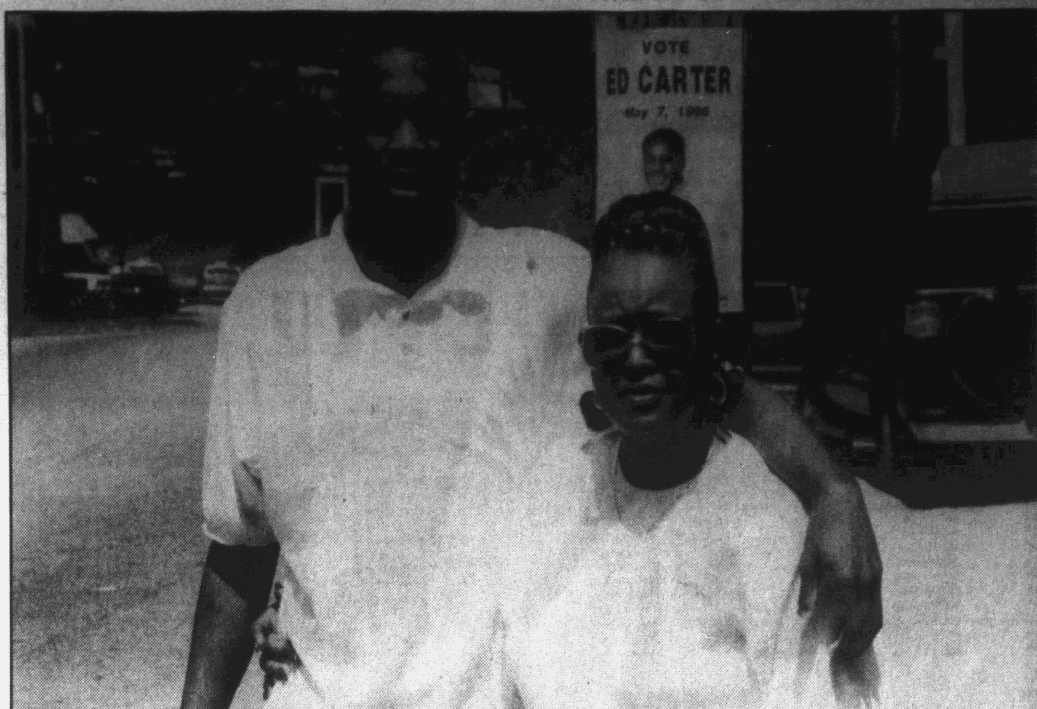
The Community Financial Investment Groups Corporation was founded in 1993, as a direct result of the Los Angeles Rebellion, and since then, the Board of Directors has been diligently and unceasingly working on forming a collective economics structure that will continuously benefit grass roots African Americans, Africans, and Pan Africans on a global scale. Community Productions is just one of several collective economic projects which the C.F.I.G. members have the opportunity to own.

Other projects include, Community Invention, which was structured to assist Joe Jackson, a Black inventor, go into manufacturing, distribution and sales with his wonderful invention *The TeleCommander*, which literally "runs rings" around the not-fully-developed "VChip" technology mentioned in the recently signed Telecommunications Bill. The TeleCommander puts parents in total control of what their children view on television using a simple easy-to-use remote control device. Ms. Pierce states, "If Joe Jackson already had the \$2 Million that he needs to confidently go into production, distribution and sales, he could be selling his "chip" right now to TV manufacturers from coast to coast, since it is now a government MANDATE that such viewer discretion technology be installed in EVERY television manufactured in the United States. This is a tremendous opportunity for the African American community to 'go to the bank' with a very talented and prolific Black Inventor!"

The C.F.I.G. GLOBALFUND is another tremendous opportunity for African Americans to collectively participate in International Trade, including foreign currency, commodities and other lucrative international exchange. Ms. Pierce explains, "International Trade is where trillions of dollars are ex-

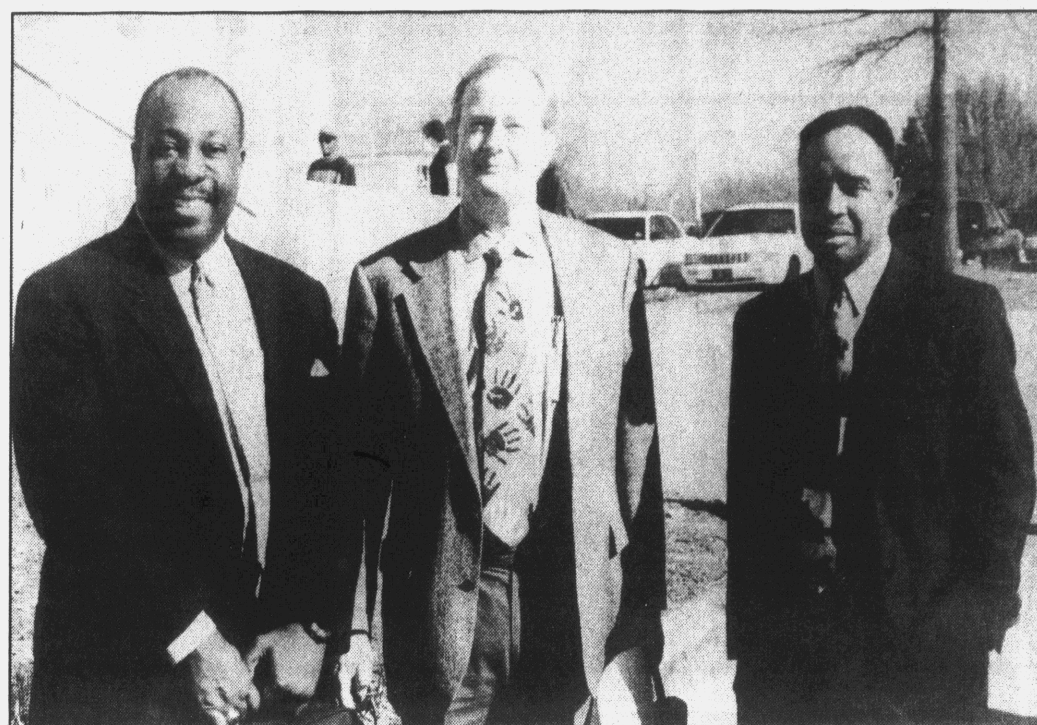
changed EVERY SINGLE DAY, and the C.F.I.G. Board of Directors believes that African Americans need to position themselves to direct some of that vast wealth into our communities! That's the purpose of the GLOBAL FUND: to *train international wealth into Black community wealth.!*"

Other benefits of C.F.I.G. Membership include access to C.F.I.G.'s CREDIT UNION to help members develop a discipline about SAVINGS and learn how to get out of debt; participation in the C.F.I.G. BUYING CLUB where members will soon earn monthly rebates for "Shopping in the Black" with quality C.F.I.G. members' businesses; access to continued education through the COMMUNITY LEARNING EXCHANGE which will allow members to acquire knowledge through lectures, seminars and workshops concerning topics such as finance, real estate, holistic health, computer literacy, cultural and spiritual awareness, and any other topics needed for totally uplifting our people and balancing their lives; and last, but not least, participation in the BLACK BUSINESS ENRICHMENT PROGRAM, designed to assist new and existing Black Business owners in meeting and maintaining the quality standards of Black Consumers.



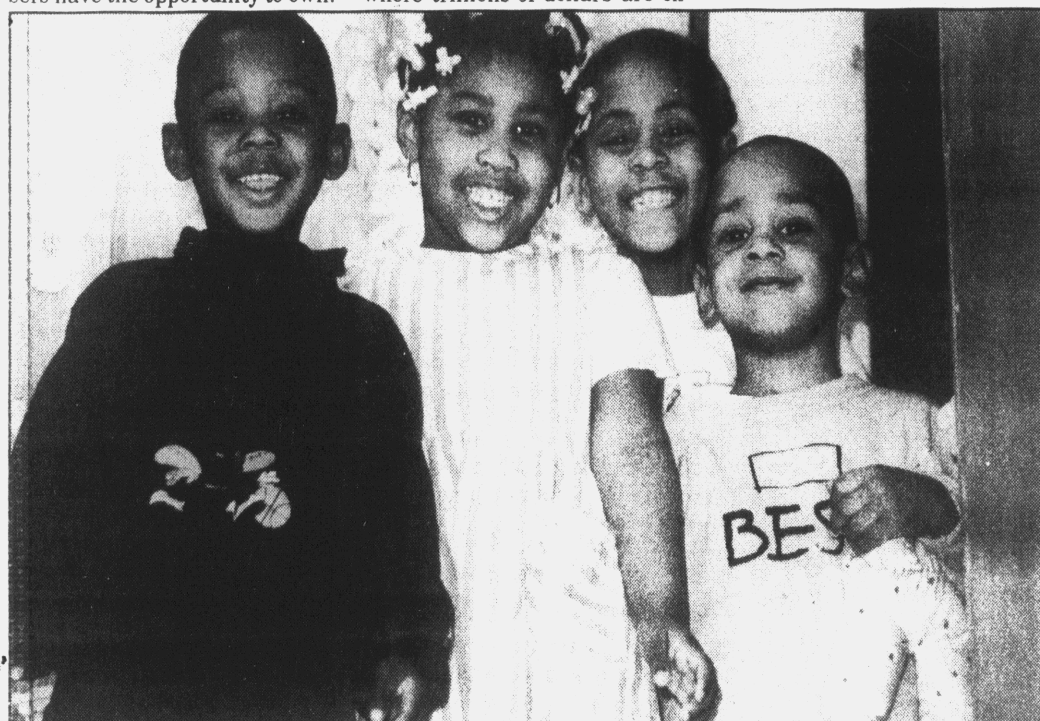
BROTHER MONTE ROUNTREE GIVES HIS MOM... Lady Ann of S.T.'s Restaurant a loving hug and lots of love for Mother's Day.

Staff photo by Jim Rouse



JUDGE E.B. AYCOCK (center) wins his race for re-election for Superior Court Judge. He is joined here by brothers Willie Gray and Ivey Rhodes, (L and R) who are associated with programs for prison inmates and facilities.

Staff photo by Jim Rouse



OUR MAIN MAN....DAA DAA (grandson of Brother Jim Rouse) (L) is joined by friends on a recent visit to the city. If his big smile is any indication, he had fun, fun, fun!!!

Staff photo by Jim Rouse

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notice

City Council Member Mary Alsentzer invites you to join her in a discussion of your concerns about City of Greenville issues in a Town Meeting for Greenville District 5 citizens.

Tuesday, May 28
7:30-9:00 p.m.
Pitt Community College
Whichard Bldg. 221

For more information, call 756-5352.

Notice

The Greenville Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Tuesday, June 18, 1996, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building located on the corner of Fifth and Washington Streets.

Notice

The Subdivision Review Board will meet on Wednesday, June 12, 1996, and Wednesday, June 26, 1996, at 4:30 p.m. in the third floor office of Harry V. Hamilton, Jr., which is in the Community Building located on the corner of Fourth and Greene Streets.

Notice

The Greenville Board of Adjustment will meet on Thursday, June 27, 1996 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building located on the corner of Fifth and Washington Streets.

Notice

The Greenville Environmental Advisory Commission will meet on Thursday, June 6, 1996, at 5:30 p.m. in Meeting Room B of the Police Fire/Rescue Headquarters located at 500 S. Greene Street.

Obituary

Services in Loving Memory of

Walter Edison Cordon, Sr.

Thursday, May 9, 1996 6:00 P.M.



Zion Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church

403 Ghent St. Windsor, NC

With very little formal education, Walt learned to live, and while he lived he was a learner.

Therefore, we are establishing **The Walter E. Cordon Foundation** and **"The Little Walt Sent You" Scholarship Funds.** Donations will be

used to help deserving youth in Northeastern North Carolina get a college education. Send or mail your tax-exempt donations to:

The Walter E. Cordon Foundation

P.O. Box 370

Lewiston-Woodville, NC 27849

(For academic achievement toward college.)

You Can Take Three Simple Steps to Avoid Skin Cancer

1. Avoid peak sunlight hours, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., when the sun's rays are most intense.
2. Apply a sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of 15 or more. Be sure to use your sunscreen at least 30 minutes before going outdoors. Repeat every two hours that you are exposed to the sun.
3. Wear protective clothing, including a hat with a wide brim, long-sleeved shirt and long pants, when you're going to be out in the sun for more than a few minutes.

Early detection is essential for the successful treatment of melanoma and other types of skin cancer. That's why the Leo W. Jenkins Cancer Center, medical center physicians, the American Cancer Society and the American Academy of Dermatology offer free skin cancer screenings each year. These screenings are part of a national effort to encourage early detection and teach prevention of skin cancer.

Free Skin Cancer Screenings
Leo W. Jenkins Cancer Center
May 18, 8 - 11 a.m.

Call 816-7867 or 1-800-223-9328
to schedule an appointment.

The Leo W. Jenkins
Cancer Center
UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER OF EASTERN CAROLINA-PITT COUNTY

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Down East For Jesus Rally 1996



The DownEast for Jesus Rally sponsored by the Pastors United for Revival was held on Sunday, April 28th at the Town Commons. It was coordinated by Pastor James Corbett, Chairman of Pastors United for Revival with 30 areas churches participating. There were 3,000-5,000 people in attendance.

The purpose of the rally was for Christians to come together (inter-racial and interdenominational) to proclaim the lordship of Jesus Christ and to pray. The even began with a prayer march from the town common to the courthouse then back to the town common.

The rally included praise and worship and prayer of repentance, prayer for the community, body of christ, youth, government/ elected officials, churches/pastors, prayer for unity and a message to the church. Various area pastors participated. Mayor Nancy Jenkins provided greetings and Dr. Edgar (Dick) Douglas was the guest speaker. Musical selections were provided by several area churches.

The questions asked immediately following the rally were "When will we do this again?" and "Will we have to wait a whole year?" The Rally was a successful event.

Robinson wins State Superintendent nomination; makes history

By Roxane Perles

Vernon Robinson, a former Winston-Salem State University professor, won the GOP nomination for North Carolina State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and by so doing, wrote himself into the history books. Robinson, 40, President of the North Carolina Education Reform Foundation, became the first black nominee for State Superintendent in North Carolina history and the first black candidate to defeat a white opponent in a contested GOP primary statewide.

With 100% of the 2500 precincts reporting Robinson won 52% while his opponent, Bill Sharpe, a retired educator from Wilson won 48%. Sharpe was criticized in some quarters for raising the race issue in the last weeks of the campaign. A GOP party insider said that "a number of us were on pins and needles when the earlier returns showed the two candidates neck and neck. Had Robinson lost, it would have been devastating for the party."

Robinson's victory statement said that his nomination was a victory for the parents and children of North Carolina. "I've been accused of being a one issue candi-

date and I plead guilty. My one issue is you must change the incentives in the public school system if you want to change the system. Money is power. As long as the politicians and the bureaucrats have the money, they have no reason to address your concerns. We must take the money from the politicians and bureaucrats who don't even know your child's name and give that power to parents," commented Robinson.

Robinson wrote HB 955, the Charter School Educational Opportunity Act. The bill would create a new type of public school, one that would be held accountable by student performance criteria in the charter and parents who would have to choose the school for it to receive any funding. "New or existing community based organizations would be able to apply for charters to run schools that are more likely to meet the learning needs of children and provide teaching opportunities for teachers" observed Robinson.

Robinson is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy. He faces former Granville County School Superintendent Mike Ward in the November 5th general election.

Women's Caucus offers campaign training session

The North Carolina Women's Political Caucus is offering a day and a half long campaign skills training session—designed and taught especially for women by the best trained campaign professionals in the country. The North Carolina Women's Political Caucus is a chapter of the National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC), which is conducting similar campaign training sessions nationally to increase the number of women in elected office at all levels.

"This training session will provide the nuts-and-bolts skills needed to run a successful campaign" said Mary Dalton, President of the NC Women's Political Caucus. "We still fall behind the rest of the nation in electing women to statewide office. This is our op-

portunity, in 1996, to vote our first woman onto the Council of State," Dalton says. Offering this day and half-long information and skills training session to both women running as candidates and those interested people in working on women's campaigns will help realize this goal. The National Women's Political Caucus is presenting the training with speakers and experts on various topics including media training, fundraising and recruiting motivated staffers.

The training session will be held June 1-2 at Bennett College in Greensboro. Registration fee is \$50 and includes some meals and all training materials. The deadline to register is May 25. Contact Karen Savage at (910) 679-9826 for further registration information.

ME seen ruling death of Mariah a homicide

The city's chief medical examiner is expected to call Mariah Scoon's death a homicide, possibly the result of "shaken baby syndrome," sources said yesterday.

Ellen Borakove, a spokeswoman for the medical examiner, said the examiner's officer had no new information to announce last night.

But sources close to the investigation said that the office would rule—possibly as early as today—that the 5-month old baby's March 13 death was believed to have been the result of someone else's actions, rather than natural causes.

Mariah died at St. Vincent's Medical Center in Manhattan after being transferred from Long Island Jewish Hospital in Queens, where doctors had declared her brain dead and sought a court order to disconnect her from a ventilator.

Her parents, Malcolm and Lois Scoon, fought the hospital's efforts in an emotional court battle, saying that as born-again Christians they believed only God could take their daughter's life.

Sources said the medical examiner's finding raised questions about whether Mariah might have been abused, which the Queens district attorney's office is

investigating.

Mariah's parents have said she was not abused.

Mary de Bourbon, a spokeswoman for District Attorney Richard Brown, said the case is still under investigation.

"We are awaiting the autopsy results and medical reports," she said.

Even if the medical examiner ruled Mariah's death a homicide, it would be up to prosecutors to decide if criminal charges are warranted or if the case should be presented to a grand jury.

Ronald Kuby, the lawyer for the Scoons, was not available for comment, his office said last night.

Mariah was taken to Long Island Jewish on February 19 by her father, an anesthesiologist, who told investigators he found Mariah gasping for air in their Cambria Heights home and tried to resuscitate her. When he failed, he called paramedics, he said.

He later said he "lightly roused" the girl in a bid to revive her.

Once at Long Island Jewish, though, doctors there determined she had suffered brain injuries caused by trauma. They declared her brain dead.

**READ
THE 'M' VOICE
NEWSPAPER
TODAY**

This time, we must be included

By Dr. Lenora Fulani

In 1776, when the Founding Fathers met to draft and sign the Declaration of Independence, they unified the colonies with a critical compromise on democracy — they kept slavery fully intact. At the Constitutional Convention of 1787, our republic was founded — but the compromises of 1776 continued. Slavery would remain an American institution and Blacks would formally be recognized as three-fifths of a human being.

There is much about this formative moment in our country's history that is deeply troubling. But let us consider this: Which is more troubling? That slavery was ratified at the two most significant gatherings in the founding of our nation? Or that Black people were not present at either of those gatherings and could not speak for ourselves? We were not there, so we could not participate in the founding and the shaping of our own country.

The decision to preserve slavery — a cruel and cowardly decision — was made by the representatives who created those documents. It was wrong. But worse than that, there was nothing we could do about it. Because we were not there.

African Americans can no longer accept having what we don't have, and not having what we don't have, at the behest of an unrepresentative body of leaders and decision makers. If we are to be free, if we are to be full participants in American society — we must be politically included. We must be there. That is why I am in the third-party movement. It is where I believe we must be to play a part in the re-creation of American democracy.

I think it's fair to say that there is inexorable motion among African Americans toward independent politics. At the Million Man

March, Minister Louis Farrakhan called on the Black community to become an independent "third force." His remarks were not simply a description of what should happen — he was describing what is happening. Becoming a third force, part of a third party, is my strategy for empowerment.

I think the success of that strategy turns on our willingness and readiness to stand up in our communities and bring this message out. I think it turns on our will-

ingness to expose the extent to which we have been politically misled as a people — in part by our own people. That misleadership has been based on two different but equally problematic notions. The first is that Black people already have political power and a role in government because we are a part of the Democratic Party. Let's put that illusion to rest right now. We are not a part of the Democratic Party — we never have been. We're merely guests

— and not very welcome ones at that. We weren't included in the party's founding. We were brought in during the 1930's to forge a new majoritarian electoral coalition that could help the Democrats get and hold onto power. We are the permanent outsiders inside the Democratic Party.

An alternative notion is based on the assumption that to become empowered the Black community must break with the Democrats for the purpose of

building an all-Black party. This one has an especially militant ring to it. But it simply makes no sense to build an all-Black party. This is not an all-Black country. If Black America wants to pursue a course that will lead to our inclusion and to our empowerment, we must build bridges with white Americans — independent of the machinations of the Democratic Party.

The Black-white coalition in the Democratic Party is no coalition at all. It is simply us tagging

along for a ride to nowhere. An all-Black party is not a genuine alternative. If the Congressional Black Caucus were elected by an all-Black independent party instead of via the Democratic Party, the CBC would have less power than it does today — not more. It would be isolated and without impact.

This is the message that we've got to bring out to the African American community. We've got to be ready to confront these grave political misconceptions. And the time to do that is now.

Summer Program

Operation Sunshine will offer a Summer Program on Monday-Friday from June 17-August 9. Field trips, arts and crafts, indoor and outdoor activities are planned from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. each day.

Application will be accepted on June 10, from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Transportation is not provided. There is a \$20.00 registration fee, cash only please. Limited space.

For more information, please call Barbara D. W. Ormond at 758-5315.

Letter to Editor:

Officer who presented to E.B. Aycock Junior High School a video on "Drug Infested Neighborhoods"

How would you feel if your thirteen year old child came home from school one day, and you asked, "What did you do in school today?" Your sons response was not, "we dissected frogs today" or "we started fractions today in math." What if your son said, "That my home is sitting in the middle of a drug infested neighborhood and it was on a video for the whole class to see." How would you tell him to respond to remarks from his classmates such as, "When you go outside to get the paper do you see a drive-by or y'all must be like Boys in the Hood" (referring to the movie). I say to you Greenville Police Department, we as parents in our communities are trying to instill in our young children, who go to school and learn, that our communities have kids playing in their yards, walking their dogs, riding their bikes and other normal activities just as Brook Valley, Cherry Oaks, and other up-standing communities do. How can we teach our children to be proud of their communities if you, without our (we, the residents of the West 4th Street area) permission, choose to video our homes and show our community as drug infested? You unnecessarily upset our children for your inability to do your job and clean up the true infested areas. Please do not use us for your guniea pigs. If the point is everything that glitters is not gold, then film or video Brook Valley and other so-called drug-free communities. I know all of the residents on our street and none of them are drug dealers.

Signed Concerned and Angry Parent and Citizen

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GE AIR CONDITIONING Model AQV05LAM <p>5,000 - 28,000 BTU's \$269⁹⁵</p>	FREEZERS <i>It's The Season To Start Freezin!</i> Upright 12 cu. ft. \$369⁹⁵ 15 cu. ft. \$399⁹⁵ 20 cu. ft. \$479⁹⁵ Chests 5 cu. ft. \$249⁹⁵ 10 cu. ft. \$299⁹⁵ 15 cu. ft. \$349⁹⁵	Amana Keep Food Fresh, Not Just Cold, with Amana's Temp-Assure System Enjoy these other fine features by Amana: • Patented Crushed/Cubed Ice "N Water" Dispenser • Refrigerated Deli Chiller • 22.1 Cu. Ft. of Storage Space Model SXD225ZW \$1099⁹⁵ / \$33 per mo.	HOTPOINT Model CTX14CY REFRIGERATOR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 cu. ft. capacity • 5.14 cu. ft. freezer • Adjustable glass shelves • Twin vegetable/fruit pans • 2 dairy compartments • Meat pan \$469⁹⁵ / \$20 per mo.
Caloric Model RLN383UW 30" GAS RANGE • Sealed Burners • Easy to clean upswipe surface • Ultra-fast gourmet broiler • Electronic precision controls. (select models) \$439⁹⁵ / \$20 per mo.	Amana Model TAI18TW REFRIGERATOR • Free Factory Ice Maker • Gallon Storage In Door • Meat Drawer • Glass Shelves \$599⁹⁵ / \$20 per mo.	Amana Model MVH220E Over the Range and Out of the Way Enjoy these fine features by Amana: • Radarange™ Microwave Oven/Vent System installs over Range or Cooktop • 750 Watts of Power • 1.0 Cu. Ft. Usable Oven Capacity • Removable Oven Rack • Black-On-Black Styling \$399⁹⁵ / \$20 per mo.	MAYTAG Model LAT5005 WASHER • Heavy duty • Large capacity • 3 Temperatures - regular, permanent press • Self cleaning lint filter • 6 Cycle \$479⁹⁵ / \$20 per mo.
ZENITH Model SMS2504K 25" STEREO CONSOLE TV • Remote control • On-screen menu display • Auto channel search • Video sentry • Sleep timer • In pine or maple cabinet \$499⁹⁵ / \$20 per mo.	MITSUBISHI Model VS4541 45" SLIM STEREO BIG SCREEN WITH MULTI-BRAND LEARNING REMOTE • Picture In Picture • 850 Lines of resolution • Antenna A/B switch \$1999⁹⁵ / \$60 per mo.	Amana LAUNDRY PAIR WASHER Model LW825ZW • Extra Large Capacity • 2 Speed • 7 Cycle DRYER Model LE8217W2 Auto Dry w/4 Cycles Pair Only \$699⁹⁵ / \$21 per mo.	JVC GRAX200 With Free Case NEW • 12.1 Hyper Zoom • 2 LUX low light sensitivity • Self Timer • Direct Playback on your VHS VCR Ideal On Vacation \$569⁹⁵ / \$20 per mo.
JBL J SERIES: VALUE LISTENING FROM JBL Model J830 \$379⁹⁵ / \$20 per mo.	PIONEER The Art of Entertainment Mini-Sized Shelf System CD Changer with Remote Control Model CCS-204 \$349⁹⁵	JVC Model AV31BP6 31" TELEVISION With Picture-In-Picture • Surround sound • Remote control • On-screen display • 35" Available \$899⁹⁵ / \$24 per mo.	RCA Model DS3330RA DIGITAL SATELLITE SYSTEM • Access to over 175 channels of programming excitement • Laser Disc Quality Pictures® • CD Quality Sound® SAVE

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Safe Drinking Water: *It's Our Business*

Most likely, when you drink a refreshing glass of ice water, the last thing on your mind is ... "Hm, I wonder where this water comes from, and who is responsible for treating it." That's ok. People very often take clean, safe, good-tasting water for granted. That's why it's good to take a minute and focus on water-related issues.

Behind every drop of water that GUC customers drink is a hard-working team of professionals who are committed to protecting the public health. It takes the combined efforts of the entire Water Resources Department -- all 94 employees, including engineers, distribution personnel, etc. -- to ensure the high quality of your drinking water.

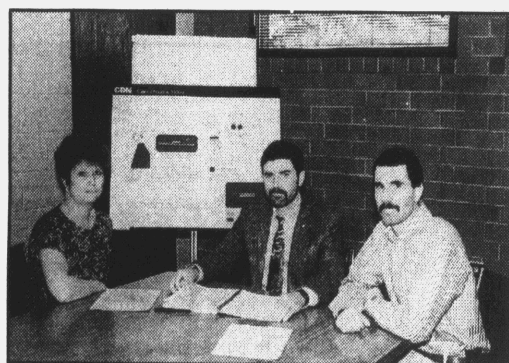
Let's take a look at those most directly involved with GUC's water treatment process -- the staff of the Water Treatment Plant (WTP). These dedicated employees ensure the safety of our customers' water 24-hours-a-day, 365-days-a-year.



GUC's Water Treatment Plant

GUC's main water supply is from the Tar River with a limited amount of groundwater from a network of deep wells. Our Water Treatment Plant was built in 1983 and is located on Old River Road, just west of the Pitt-Greenville Airport. The plant was built with a capacity to treat 12 million gallons of water per day (mgd). Since 1983, the plant has been upgraded and now has the capacity to treat 15 mgd on a routine basis and 18 mgd in emergency situations. (Our average daily production is 10 mgd). GUC's deep wells can produce approximately 1 mgd.

Treating water is an involved process, but basically it works as follows: Raw water is pumped from the Tar River to an eight-acre, 63-million-gallon impoundment basin. The water is kept there for several days while solids settle to the bottom. As the water enters the WTP, a coagulant is added to facilitate further settling of solids. After the settling period, the water passes through filters, and the final conditioning chemicals are added. The finished water is pumped into two three-million-gallon storage tanks. Finally, water is pumped out of the storage tanks, into the 431-mile distribution system -- and into the homes and businesses of our 22,800 water customers.



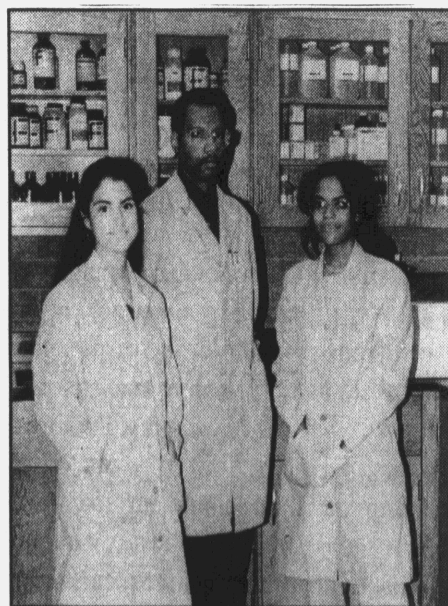
Jackie Hardy, Ron Elks and Rick Langley

Ron Elks provides overall supervision as Director of GUC's Water Resources Department, which includes the Water Treatment Plant. Rick Langley, Superintendent of the WTP, supervises the plant staff who all work together to see that the treatment process operates smoothly. Jackie Hardy provides invaluable secretarial support to the entire operation.

Our treatment process is monitored every step of the way by Water Treatment Plant Operators Cliff Strickland (Chief Operator), Sharon Daughtridge, Bud Greer, Don Sullivan, Danny Gaylor, Randy Buck and Jesse Staton. The operators regulate the treatment process with the support of a "real-time" computer system located in the WTP Control Room. Water quality is continuously monitored and tested by the Operators who make adjustments and chemical changes as needed. Bud Greer, Chief Operator of Remote Facilities and Special Projects, assists the Chief Operator and takes charge of the plant in the Superintendent's absence. In addition, Bud is responsible for remote sites (deep wells, elevated tanks, etc.) and special projects.



Cliff Strickland, Sharon Daughtridge, Bud Greer, Don Sullivan, Danny Gaylor, Randy Buck and Jesse Staton.



Angie Konstandinides, Jesse Chadwick, and Keisha Council

The Laboratory Staff -- Chemist Jesse Chadwick and Laboratory Technicians Angela Konstandinides and Keisha Council -- work very closely with the Operators. Our laboratory is certified, and the staff's responsibilities are twofold. First, daily samples are taken from the plant for bacterial and physical analysis. Results are required to be sent to the N.C. Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources. Equally important, the Laboratory Staff takes samples from throughout the distribution system. Every month over 100 samples are taken, tested and analyzed. Those results are also required to be sent to the state regulatory agency. If you have any questions or concerns about water quality, feel free to give the Lab Staff a call at 551-1563.



First row (from left) Lyndell Williams, Larry Clemons, Frank Spellmon and John Benson. Back row (from left) David Dickerson, Bob Woods, Luther Cox, Ronald Smith and Nathan Scott.

The Maintenance Section is under the supervision of Nathan Scott, Superintendent of Maintenance. Nathan oversees two divisions (1) the WTP Plant Maintenance Staff and (2) the Grounds Maintenance Crew. The WTP Maintenance Staff is comprised of Bob Woods, WTP Chief of Maintenance; Luther Cox, WTP Maintenance Mechanic; and John Benson, Plant Facilities Technician. These highly-skilled employees are responsible for keeping all instrumentation and equipment in top working order and performing any necessary mechanical repairs. The Grounds Maintenance Crew -- Crew Leader Ronald Smith and General Utility Workers Larry Clemons, David Dickerson, Frank Spellmon, and Lyndell Williams -- maintain the grounds for all GUC facilities and assist with major repair projects at the WTP and deep well sites.



Greenville Utilities



Bennie Tyson and Julius Phillips

Maintenance Workers Bennie Tyson and Julius Phillips keep the plant in sparkling condition. The plant's appearance is important for several reasons, including the 800 visitors who tour the facility each year.