

THE 'M' VOICE

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S MINORITY VOICE - SINCE 1981

WEEK ENDING JULY 4, 1996

Welcome Home C.M. Eppes Alumni

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CITY OF GREENVILLE
NORTH CAROLINA
27835-7207

June 28, 1996

Dear Greenville Industrial, C.M. Eppes Alumni Association and Guests:

Welcome to another one of your 4th of July celebrations in recognition of the educators, students and others that were associated with the Greenville Industrial and C.M. Eppes School. The celebration and recognition have been and continue to be one of the focal points of our great City. I support the changes that have been made in the African American community since your last July 4th celebration. The City has played a major role in many of the changes including the start of the Jackie Robinson Baseball Field on the old Eppes property, the start of a low and moderate income development off Hooker Road, the partnership with the West Greenville Development Corporation (Barbara Brockett Fenner), and the George Garrett Police Substation located across from Sadie Sautter School. Most of these are supported very strongly by members of the Association of which I am a member. I am also a graduate of C.M. Eppes. The Association has played a major role in the success of our community through the leadership it has provided. The partnership that exists between the Association, its members and the City are to be commended and should always continue. I commend you again on the well-organized 4th of July weekend. I look forward to continuing to work with you and want you to feel free to call on me any time you feel I can be of service.

Sincerely,
Rufus Huggins
Rufus Huggins
Mayor Pro-Tem

City of Greenville
North Carolina
P.O. Box 7207- Greenville, N.C. 27835-7207
(919) 830-4419
FAX (919) 830-4435

June 26, 1996

Dear C. M. Eppes Alumni Friends and Neighbors:

Welcome to Greenville for the C. M. Eppes Alumni Week celebration to be held July 4-7. We are pleased that Greenville was chosen as the site for this event. I extend warm greetings to each of you and best wishes for a successful meeting.

During your stay we hope that you will have an opportunity to explore and enjoy what Greenville has to offer. The East Carolina University campus, Industrial Park, Museum of Art, Medical School facility, River Park North, and many other interesting sites are available. Greenville is the commercial, educational, medical and cultural hub of Eastern North Carolina. It offers a small-town atmosphere, with a caliber of accommodations, arts, entertainment, restaurants and shopping facilities found in much larger cities.

We take pride in Greenville's quality of life and are pleased that you are visiting with us.

Best Wishes!
Nancy M. Jenkins
Nancy M. Jenkins
Mayor

NMI/we

CITY OF GREENVILLE
NORTH CAROLINA
27835-7207

June 28, 1996

Dear C. M. Eppes Alumni Friends and Neighbors:

Welcome home again Eppes Alumni! What an honor to welcome you, your family and friends home to celebrate another C.M. Eppes Industrial Alumni School reunion on Independence Day weekend. We thank you for choosing your hometown as an annual site for this most festive event. The community looks forward with enthusiasm to the parade and other festivities that you offer not only to Eppes Alumni but you make it a community affair. For this I am grateful for organizations who look beyond their own memberships.

Your theme is awesome: "Supporting Major Black Colleges and Universities." You are to be commended for acknowledging our roots of higher education. The youth in this community cannot be exposed enough to the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU'S). They are still alive and well and will always be relevant institutions throughout this nation. I am indeed honored to be a product of the oldest Historically Black University in North Carolina and the second oldest of the 117 in the nation - Shaw University, Raleigh, NC.

Please keep all these institutions at the forefront of your agendas. Support them financially and for God sakes send your children to them. If they were good enough for your education, what is the problem now? After the first four years, the others, graduate and post graduate universities will be able to accommodate your child and believe me the HBCU'S will prepare them. In addition HBCU'S produce outstanding leaders in any community. Along with you I look forward to recruiting even more youth to our institutions. The Alumni and recruiters from these institutions look forward to educating and graduating our youth.

Since we are natives of the great State of North Carolina let us not forget our famous 11 - Barber Scott College, Concord; Bennett College, Greensboro; Elizabeth City State University, Elizabeth City; Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville; Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte; Livingstone College, Salisbury; N.C. A & T State University, Greensboro, N.C. Central University, Durham, Saint Augustine College and Shaw University, Raleigh, Winston Salem State University, Winston-Salem.

Harambee (Togetherness)
Mildred A. Council
Mildred A. Council
Council Member, District 1

READ THE 'M' VOICE

The Minority Voice Inc.

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919-757-0365/ Fax: 919-757-1793
WTOW P.O. Box 39, 902 Hackney Ave. Washington NC

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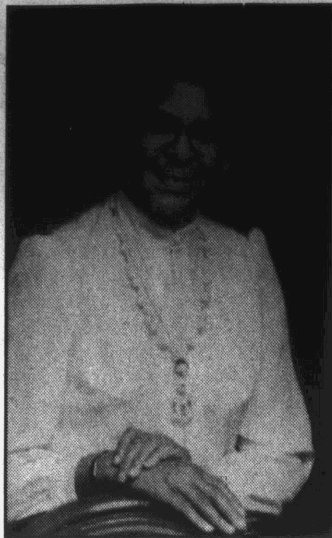
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The 'M' Voice

from the desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



BEATRICE MAYE

To the editor:

School systems across the country are feeling the impact of the changing demographics of America's population. By the middle of the next century people of color will be a majority population. Given what we are seeing as it relates to America's changing demographics, it behooves us all to take a closer look at our school system.

With 30 schools and 9000 black students, the Pitt County School System has only six black principals. There are schools in Pitt County that have no black counselors. Suspension reports indicate that 81% of all students suspended are black males. At the Rose High School graduation ceremony there was only one black marshal. According to a published report in Black Issues in Higher Education, East Carolina University was ranked in the top fifty in the United States in producing black teachers. In spite of this fact, only 17% of the teachers in the Pitt County School System are black. This abysmal situation was summed up best by Dr. Jay Robinson, Chairman of the State Board of Education who said, "We are losing too many bright and talented teachers and we have been losing them for a lot of reasons that need to be corrected". (Daily Reflector, Friday, June 21, 1996)

As the Pitt County School System continues to prepare students for the future, it is imperative that these students be adequately exposed to a diversity of cultures both inside and outside of the classroom. One method to accomplish this task is to hire percent-

ages of principals, teachers and counselors that are representative of our society. This would certainly aid black students in the system, who are badly in need of role models in the classroom. This same group of principals, teachers and counselors would be of greatest benefit to white students, many of whom have never been exposed to African-Americans in leadership roles.

Beatrice Maye

SALUTE To

MRS. SALLIE ANN EARLY

Mrs. Sallie Ann Early joined Sycamore Hill Baptist Church when she was 14 years old under the pastorate of Rev. J.A. Nimmo. Later, she joined the Pastor's Aide Club under the leadership of Mrs. Georgia Foreman. Mrs. Early soon became Program Committee Chairman. Mr. Sharper Forbes was our 1st Advisor for the Pastor Aide Aux. During Mrs. Foreman's presidency, many enjoyable activities were sponsored for the entertainment of the members as well as putting finances in the treasure. A house coat wedding was sponsored with Ms. Early taking 1st place with \$32.68, Mrs. Dora B. Cherry 2nd place with \$18.75 and Mrs. Rosa L. Williams 3rd place with \$15.75. Mrs. Ocoma Wilson and Mrs. Hattie Little were always very strong supporters of the group. At that time, Mr. Ferdinand Barnhill ran a cafe in our town and he kindly let us sell a fish sandwich for 10 cents, apple pie slices 5 cents and bags of peanuts 5 cents each. Mrs. Laura Bush, another cafe owner, allowed us the same privilege. We used her place sort of like today's yard sale. The Lord bountifully blessed us with our finance and growth and after 37 years of presidency we gave Sister Foreman a grand anniversary.

We organized a J.A. Nimmo Choir with Mrs. Sujette Jones as organist and Mrs. Streeter as President. Mr. Luke Chance our advisor, followed by Mr. J.S. Alexander and now Mr. Monty Frizzell and Mrs. Early as treasurer. Mrs. Early joined the Jr. Ladies Auxiliary under Mrs. Nell Clark, President and Mrs. Early, Committee Chairman. Mrs. Early joined the Altar Guild under Mrs. Sallie Streeter. The Flower Committee was her responsibility. Rev. C.R. Mosley was Pastor during her acting membership. Health

conditions prevented her from serving as she desired, but she is grateful to the Master that her health is as well as it is. Mrs. Early's daughter, Evelyn Randolph Lopaze graduated from Shaw Univ. Evelyn had (5) children, James Harrell Randolph, attended ECU; Ronald Randolph, attended Chowan College; Ocallas Randolph Jr., deceased; Christopher Randolph, deceased; and Angela Annette Randolph, deceased; and Rickie Lopaze Jr. Note: Mrs. Early married Mr. Russell Early July 8, 1950 he was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

D. At our 1996 annual NAACP Banquet, President Gaston Monk presented eight (8) Life Membership, Plaques. In the absence of James E. Harris, Monty Frizzell (one of the youth leaders) received his plaque and presented it to him.

1. "How Beautiful is Youth!"
2. "How Bright it Gleams with its illusions, Aspirations and Dreams!"

3. "Books of beginnings, Story without End."

4. "Each made a Herione, and each Man a Friend, Longfellow, Morituri Salamatam."

A MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE

Scout Troop, Pack 131, sponsored by Sycamore Hill Baptist Church, Saturday June 22, 1996, participated in the Young Eagles (EAA) Experimental Airplane Association, by taking free flights at the Flanagan Airfield in Farmville North Carolina.

The Scouts - Kenneth Bowman Randall Dupree, Demetrius Turnage, Orrin Tyson Scoutmaster Warren Bowman, Sr., and liaison person Eugene Faison, contacted the pilots at the airport who agreed to sponsor this activity at no cost to the troop, by providing a 30 minute flight time in and around Farmville/ Greenville area.

During this flying session, the Scouts were allowed to momentarily take control of plane operations.

After the flying session, each Scout member was given a certificate by the pilots for their participation in this activity.

Thank you Mr. Faison for initiating an incredible experience for these Scouts. By: Beatrice Maye

Pitt County Youth NAACP SALUTE

A. It's first youth life member, Master James Edmond Harris the promising son of Mrs. Fannie W. Harris and Rev. James Harris of 110 Salem Cr., Greenville, N.C.

B. James has already "entered the main stream of productive performance" attended the Wahl-Coates Elem. School and is presently a six grader at E.B. Aycock Middle School.

C. His community involvement includes membership at St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Falkland, N.C. where he served on the Youth Usher Board, a member of the Boys and Girls Club in Greenville where he was awarded a medal for his participation in basketball recently. His favorite sports are basketball and football. At the Charles June School of Karate, he wears the Green Belt, James' hobby art. One would say he is very good for his style and age.

Interesting facts

In case you find yourself among the British peerage, you might like to know that a marquess - also known as a marquis - is higher than an earl or baron but not as high as a duke. A marquess' wife is a marchioness.

The flying lemur can glide through the air for nearly 100 yards - the length of a football field - at a time.

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TO ORDER A PAGER OR PAGE ALERT, CALL 1-888-275-2755.



Community News

A family is bigger than you think

"Your family is bigger than you think". That's the message the State's minority infant mortality campaign wants people to hear. Locally, Pitt County has adopted this message as well and to prove it the staff have joined with members of the community to spread the word about where to receive services if you're pregnant or planning a pregnancy.

Pitt County can often boast of many accomplishments, but having one of the worst minority infant mortality rates for counties that average more than 500 minority births per year is nothing to boast about. In fact, knowledge of this statistic spurred staff members of the health department and community members to write a grant to help improve the outcomes of babies born to African-American women. The Health Department received approximately \$50,000.00 each year for three years from the NC General Assembly to help reduce the number of African-American infant deaths. (An infant death is defined as the death of an infant before his/her first birthday.) In 1994, 16 African-American babies died before their first birthday. To some this number may not sound high, but if this had been 16 high school seniors, most of us would view this a tragic loss for our community.

Health Department staff and members of the community have joined together to spread the word

about where to get help and who to call if you're pregnant, parenting or planning a baby in your future. Advertisements have been placed with local radio, tv and newspaper. In addition, on May 20th members of the African-American community met to discuss infant mortality and ways they could help spread the word. Seventy-five barbers, hair stylists, other business owners, clergy, and other members of the community participated in a meeting at the Hilton. Thousands of brochures and other materials were distributed to conference participants for the purpose of sharing with others. The materials are now available in local business establishments and churches. Mary Hardy, co-owner of Headlines, said "We are pleased to join with the Health Department to provide a community service to help ensure we have healthy babies in Pitt County." Mary's sentiment was expressed by many other African-American leaders.

In addition to forming a partnership with the African-American community, the grant enabled the Health Department to create two resource mothers positions. Resource moms are women who have experienced childbearing and childrearing and are committed to helping other mothers have positive experiences. Resource moms are women who offer support, education, and referral to other women in the community. In the African-

American community there has been a long history of mutual support among women. Mothering and childrearing have been at the core of networking among this population. Patricia Hill-Collins, an African-American sociologist states, "African and African-American communities have recognized that vesting one person with full responsibility for mothering a child may not be wise or possible. As a result, other mothers women who assist blood mothers by sharing mothering responsibilities - traditionally have been central to the institution of black motherhood."

Pitt County is fortunate to have resource moms to visit pregnant women and women who have delivered their babies. The resource mom encourages the women to keep doctor's appointments, works

with other staff to help the women identify services such as Medicaid, housing, etc. and most importantly offers emotional and social support to women. Dietra Jones, one of two resource mothers in Pitt County, says "being a resource mom is a fulfilling and rewarding job. It's about having a positive impact in a person's life by providing whatever support they need." Starr Walker, mother of five, says "In my personal opinion this program, Resource Moms, has helped me in many areas of my life. The program has been very beneficial in giving me the emotional support that I needed. I highly recommend the program to mothers that really need support."

An advisory council is charged with helping the Health Depart-

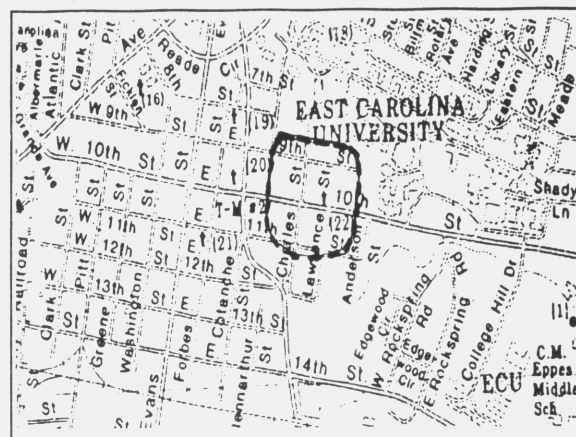
ment oversee the grant activities. Anyone wishing to participate in activities to help lower the infant death rate among African-American babies is invited to attend the next meeting of the Pitt Infant Mortality Prevention Advisory Council (PIMPAC). The next meet-

ing is Tuesday, July 16, 8:00 a.m. at the Pitt County Health Department, 201 Government Circle, Greenville. For more information about the meeting or other activities of the grant, you may call Amy Hattem at 413-1424 or Minerva Freeman at 413-1310.

NOTICE!

To improve natural gas service for our downtown customers and to provide a safer, more reliable system throughout our service area, Greenville Utilities will be rehabilitating a portion of its natural gas lines over the next three months. Construction is currently under way on Lawrence St., between 9th and 10th Streets and on 9th St. between Charles St. and Lawrence St. (see map below). As a result, it may be necessary to close this area to traffic temporarily.

We at Greenville Utilities appreciate your patience and understanding for any inconvenience you may experience as a result of this project. If you have any questions, please contact GUC's Gas Department at 551-1587.



Parks Sausage closes doors after 45 years

By Cathy Connors

"More Parks Sausage, Mom...please," a popular radio and television commercial advertising a product manufactured, distributed and sold by a Black-owned firm, will be heard no more.

Parks Sausage has gone out of business. After the death of its first president and chairman of the board, Henry Parks, the Balti-

more-based company has changed hands several times. But this time, the firm is completely out of money. It closed its doors May 24 and laid off most of the 219 employees.

But the fight to keep the company operating is not completely lost. There is word that the firm will be sold and re-opened. Raymond V. Haysbert Sr. had to tell his employees that he was unable to make payroll and that he had no money to buy raw products. Most of the workers were sent home.

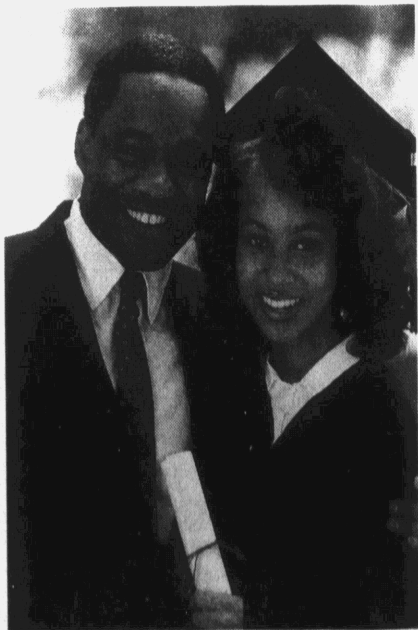
It was a sad day in Baltimore. Parks Sausage was a pride of the city. It became the first African-American owned business to sell stock to the public back in 1969. And in 1990, the company's best year, profits of \$1 million on sales of \$28 million were realized as it sold sausage to Pizza Hut and Domino's, two take-out food chains specializing in pizza and fast food delivery.

During 1995, several attempts to sell the business collapsed and after millions of dollars in loans, the company failed. But all is not quite lost. There are plans to keep Parks sausages coming...please.



THERE'S A TIME AND
A PLACE TO BE EMOTIONAL
ABOUT YOUR HOUSE.
THIS ISN'T ONE OF THEM.

You probably see your home as a place to watch your kids take their first steps. We'd like to suggest another way of thinking about it. Consider it as a place to get the money you need when you need it. For home improvements, weddings, or even college tuition. Which is why you should talk to Wachovia about a home equity loan. It's like discovering a savings



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now, it comes with a fixed rate, a fixed term and \$250 cash back. Considering that the monthly payment on a \$15,000 loan would only be \$197, the advantages become crystal clear. Plus, you'll continue to take advantage of the tax benefits owning a home can provide. Stop by any branch or call 1-800-WACHOVIA (1-800-922-4684). Being

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As you toast our independence, accept the responsibilities that come with liberty. "Know When To Say When" this Fourth of July!

The new entrepreneur



ALLSTAR MOTORS

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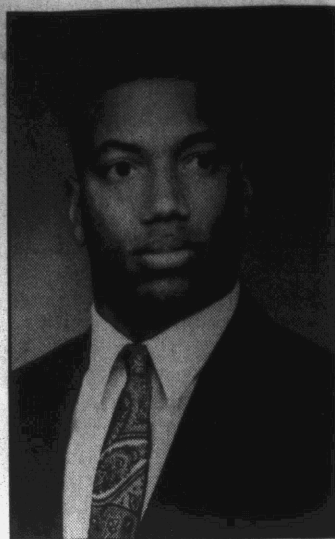
Patrick Mills, who has several years experience in pre-owned vehicle sales, announces the opening of **ALLSTAR MOTORS**.

Patrick would like to thank all of his past customers and welcomes all to his new store.

Come and see Patrick!



Patrick Mills



ROSWELL STREETER

Roswell Streeter, the former assistant manager of Gardner Bonding has ventured out on his own to begin All-American Bail Bonding. Roswell became employed with Gardner Bonding for profit, but realized the service he could offer to the community. All-American Bail Bonding is located at 310 South Evans Street, across from WOOW radio station. The down sizing of Glaxo Wellcome where Roswell is presently a Production Supervisor, also had a part in Roswell becoming an entrepreneur. Roswell, is a native of Greenville, North Carolina, and a graduate of J.H. Rose and East

Carolina University. At East Carolina University, Roswell was a standout football player and team leader. Roswell is the son of Frank and Olivia Streeter, he is married to Angela Renee Streeter of Greenville and they have two chil-

dren. All-American Bail Bonding will be open 24 hours and financing is available. Roswell admits that his East Carolina University grid Iron performance was less than All-American status, but he believes those experiences has

helped to prepare him for the worldly challenges of operating his own business. Roswell feels his strongest attribute to the business will be his ability to interact with people, and his goal is to point people in the right direction. People that know Roswell personally say that he is a firm but straight-up person that is always willing to help, and he is not to be taken for granted. In a very humble demeanor Roswell acknowledges that hard work, dedication, and worldly experiences will be the characteristics needed to make his business successful, and he also states that he believes the results of his business good or bad will be God's will and to "To God Be The Glory".

NOTES FROM THE PUBLISHERS DESK....

Editors Note: This is Part I, of a three part series on "The Real Black Power"

"The African American Community of Reading and Berks County Has Real Black Power"

If only the more than nine to twelve thousand African American people living in the Berks county community, and surrounding communities would realize the power it has collectively, locally once tied into the national African American population.

With more than \$400 billion in income, African Americans have grown into a powerful force. But, are we spending our dollars wisely? Most African Americans expect, and accept, the fact that their patronage is often not valued in the same way as others. When we are mistreated, many of us, are willing to vote with our feet and take our business elsewhere. And when African Americans are egregiously wronged, we have proven ourselves capable of making companies, cities, states and even entire countries pay via targeted boycotts and economic sanctions as well as the civil court system. Prominent examples include the successful class-action discrimination suit against the Denny's restaurant chain, the boycotts of Miami (after city leaders snubbed future South Africa President Nelson Mandela) and Arizona (after the state voted against a holiday in recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.) and the economic isolation of South Africa under apartheid. A more recent victory is New York publishing company Essence Communications and the National Urban League's successful effort to get newly elected Louisiana Governor Mike Foster to reconsider his declaration of war against race based affirmative action policies in the state. The threat to pull the National Urban League Annual Con-

ference and Essence's popular music festival-representing a combined economic impact of \$93 million-out of New Orleans. These individual triumphs, though pro-

(Continued on page 5)



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Salutes

The C.M. Eppes Alumni



Drug Task Force Agents

A Three County Narcotics Task Force in northeast North Carolina is seeking applicants for undercover agents. Applicants must possess the highest degree of integrity, be certified in NC as law enforcement officials. Experience in narcotics enforcement and/or financial investigations is preferred. Applicants must also be willing to undergo background investigations including psychological, financial and polygraph testing. Positions include random drug testing. Agents will be responsible for the enforcement of the NC Controlled Substances Act and the Criminal General Statutes of North Carolina. Salary range begins at \$17,000. A completed Sheriff's Education and Training Standards Commission form F-3 is to be received by the Winfred Hardy, PO Box 176, Winton, NC 27986 no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, July 26, 1996. The Narcotics Task Force is an equal opportunity employer. Minority applicants are especially encouraged.

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From Page 6

Notes

ductive, have not translated into a root change in attitude toward African Americans as a critical economic force. Forty years after a tired seamstress named Rosa Parks triggered the Montgomery Bus Boycott, the economic status of African American has improved, but our economic clout has not. Some might even argue that it has

declined. Each year in the Reading and Berks county community the African American community spends thousands of dollars on banquets, social events by social and religious organizations. The restaurants of fine dining such as; Sheraton hotel, Inn at Reading, Chef Allan, Closter at St. Joe's, Shillington Restaurant, Riveredge

and others just to name a few. Several organizations have moved their events to the Black owned Union Community Center, at 201 Jefferson street, Reading. The Union Community Center, owned by Union Baptist Church, Pastor Edward Ward. Union Baptist Church purchased the former Wagner Engineer building in 1994, and has been attempting to get the Black community to use this facility instead of spending the dollars outside the community with white owned facilities that do not give back to the Black community. To be continued.....

Gray receives awards and scholarships

Clifton Gray received eight scholarships and awards when Washington High School graduated earlier this month.

His honors included the NAACP Citizenship Award, the Elder G.R. and Sara Lovick Scholarship, the MLC Civic Club Scholarship, the P.S. Jones High School Reunion Committee Scholarship, the Tender Love Day Care Scholarship, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Scholastic Achievement Award, the Albritton Achievement Award, and the Elder Bobbie and Sister Josie Roulhac Award and The Herbert-Gray-Smaw Youth Image Award.

In high school, Gray was battalion executive officer for the Washington Junior ROTC, vice president of the Multi-Cultural Affairs Association, host of the high school radio show "What's Up Today," a member of the Pam Pack Band, and was recognized by Who's Who Among American High School Students and with a National Honor Roll Award. He also said the bene-

diction at the Senior Awards Ceremony and spoke at commencement.

He is affiliated with radio sta-

tion JOY 1340 AM in Washington; his radio name is the Wonder Boy. He is the son of Clifton and Carolyn Gray.

The Play

ALL GOD'S SAINTS GO TO HEAVEN: NOT!

Saturday, August 3, 1996

Performances at 3:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

T-Tyme Productions - From New York City
Presents The

HOTTEST Gospel comedy of the YEAR!!

Written by T. Ballard

With Special Guests:

Bobby Jones

Host, Bobby Jones Gospel/Video Gospel

Shirley Hopkins

Trinity Broadcasting Network (PTL)

Luther Barnes

Vision Award Winner

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Tar Heels choose Army College Fund to offset education costs

More and more young people are choosing the Army to help offset the rising costs of going to college, the head of recruiting in North Carolina said recently.

Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth L. Eubanks, commander, U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion Raleigh, said that through the second quarter (ending March 31), 254 enlistees had opted for the Army College Fund which equates to more than \$6.5 million in education benefits.

"This is quite impressive when you consider that 279 enlistees received college money in all of fiscal year 1994," he said. "In fact, we're on track to surpass last year's total of 439 enlistees and \$11.7 million."

Any qualified person can earn up to \$30,000 in college money depending on the length of the enlistment, Eubanks said.

A two-year enlistment nets \$20,000, three years, \$25,000 and four years, \$30,000.

For more information on the College Fund or other Army benefits, contact your local recruiter.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
SANITATION DIVISION

JULY 4TH HOLIDAY Residential Bulky Trash, Garbage, & Recycling Schedule



For Information Please Call
830-4522

- Monday, July 1
Regular Schedule as usual
- Tuesday, July 2
Regular Schedule as usual
- Wednesday, July 3
Wednesday's Bulky Trash Routes
Thursday's Garbage & Recycling Routes
- Thursday, July 4
No Collection
- Friday, July 5
Thursday's Bulky Trash Routes
Garbage & Recycling Schedule as usual

Schedule includes Garbage
& Recycling Collection

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEE MEETING DATES & LOCATIONS WEEK OF JULY 1, 1996

No meetings are scheduled.

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Time to move on

By Lenora Fulani

Until the 1930s, the Republican Party was the political party of Black America. Between 1932, when Franklin Delano Roosevelt was first elected President, and 1936 — his first re-election — many Blacks switched their votes to the Democratic incumbent while retaining their loyalty to the party of Lincoln. Most Blacks were in fact "Roosevelt Republicans".

Black voters remained split between both parties until the 1964 presidential election. Having secured passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Democrat Lyndon Baines Johnson was the beneficiary of a surge of support from Black voters. And the following year, 1965, using his superior (some say Machievellian) legislative skills, he won passage of the Voting Rights Act and legally abolished all forms of racial discrimination in electoral politics.

Beginning with the passage of that bill, large numbers of African Americans registered to vote for the first time — most as Demo-

crats. Before long, the balance in Black identification with the two parties was tipped; 71% of Black voters were Democrats. This percentage continued to climb over the next 20 years, as successive campaigns drew higher and higher percentages from Black voters for Democratic candidates.

But increased Black voter participation in the Democratic Party did not sit well with all Democrats. With the big jump in 1964-1965 came a mass exodus of Southern white Democrats to the independent and explicitly racist presidential candidacy of Alabama Governor George Wallace. Major splits in the Democratic Party over racial matters began the moment Black voters began participating in significant numbers. They continue, unabated, to this day.

The 1964-1965 decision by Black voters to move en masse into the Democratic Party was both the impetus for the political restructuring produced by the Voting Rights Act and the result of that restructuring. In other words, a significant portion of Black

America decided that there was a need for political restructuring; then, the fact of a logical restructuring made it logical for them to become Democrats.

That restructuring produced greater political and economic assimilation into the American mainstream for Black people. Political assimilation reached its height in Jesse Jackson's first run for the presidency. Although Jackson did not become the Democratic nominee, Black voter participation peaked that year at 55.8%. In 1988, however, after the party confronted Jackson's onslaught and turned him away at the gate, Black participation dropped again — to 51.5%. Indeed, some analysts argue that low Black turnout in key states like California, Maryland, Illinois and Pennsylvania cost Michael Dukakis the election that year. Moreover, in 1988, 65% of Black voters surveyed said that if Jackson had run as an independent that year they would have abandoned the Democratic Party and supported him as a third party candidate.

There is little debate nowadays about whether the Black attachment to the Democratic Party can further the interests of our community. Loyalty to the Democratic Party is predicated solely on the "lesser of two evils" approach, not on the basis of any belief that Bill Clinton or Al Gore or whoever comes next will improve the African American condition.

How do we go forward? With another political restructuring which has the potential to awaken the vast numbers of Black youth so alienated from the political process that they do not register and do not vote — another political restructuring which will not only surpass the Voting Rights Act for its capacity to give Black America a voice, but join Black Americans with disaffected white voters to create a new and independent electoral majority.

What is entailed in such a restructuring? The creation of a new political party. What is that party's agenda? Political restructuring. Term limits. Campaign finance reform. Initiative and referendum.

Same-day voter registration. The myriad political reforms that will break the grip of the Republicans and Democrats on a stagnant governmental process and allow the people in. Let history record 1996

as the year that Black voters, en masse, moved out of the two-party system to create a new political partnership, a new political party, a new America.

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. While developing their skills working in the plant, the inmates are paid seventy cents a day.

"Brown Creek's metal fabrication plant teaches inmates a trade and important job skills," said Correction Secretary Franklin Freeman. "And it also provides the prison system with products that we need."

Brown Creek is a medium security prison for adult males. It houses 730 inmates.

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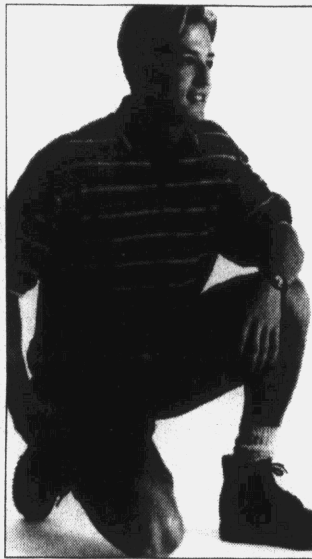
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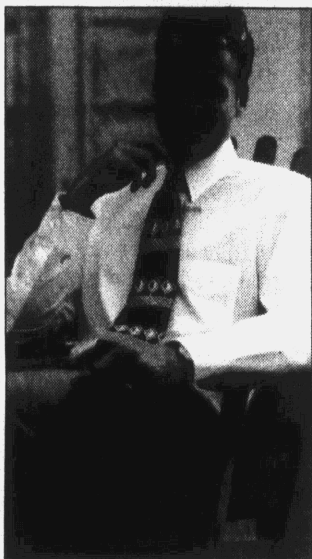
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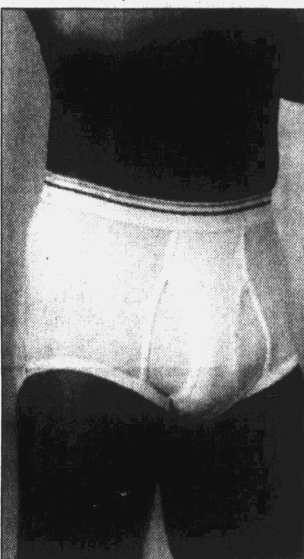
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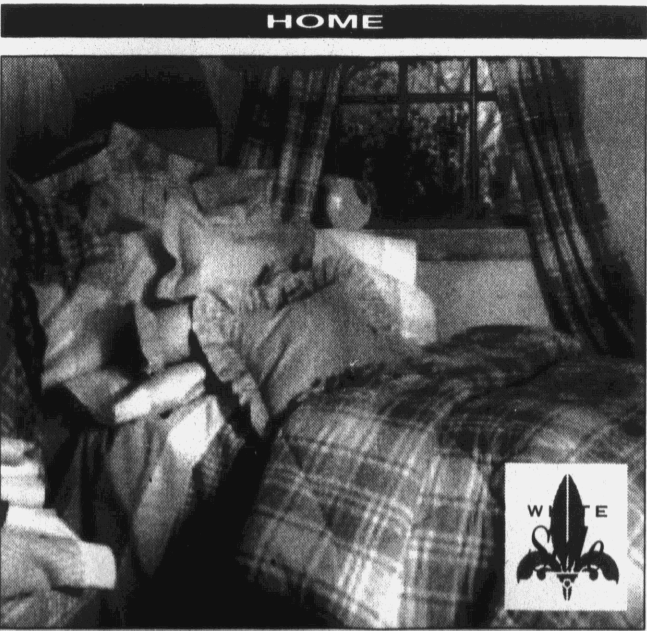
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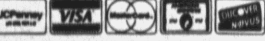
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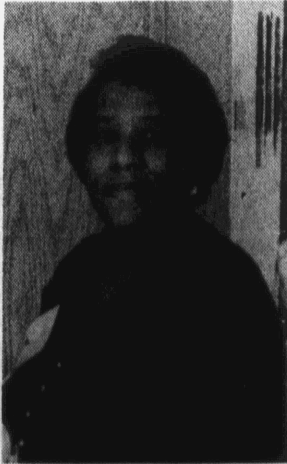
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For Kudirat Abiola and Nigerian democracy

By Dr. Lenora Fulani

Kudirat Abiola died on June 4 from a gunshot wound to the head. She was 44 years old — a woman, a wife, a mother, in the prime of her life. She was dedicated to winning the release from prison of her husband — Chief Moshood Abiola, who on June 12, 1993 became the duly elected president of Nigeria — and to having the mandate of Nigerian people carried out so that Chief Abiola should serve his country as the president of Nigeria.

Kudirat Abiola was outspoken in her opposition to the regime of General Sani Abacha, part of the military junta which illegally annulled the results of the June 12 election and, one year later, put Chief Abiola in prison. Because of her efforts she was arrested and charged with sedition, banned from being allowed to visit her husband in prison, and faced possible im-

prisonment herself

Less than 10 days before her murder, the Nigerian magazine Tell published an interview with Kudirat Abiola, in which she spoke in detail about her husband's situation, the government's manipulation of attempts to negotiate bail terms for his release, the intrigue within the Abiola family over the issue of legal representation, and the threats that she herself faced. At one point in the interview the reporter asked how she responded to the suggestion that she should soft-pedal her views because she was embarrassing the Abacha government. She answered: "For me to now shy away from what I believe in ... is impossible. I cannot." The reporter commented that it was said of Kudirat Abiola that she was matching force with force. "How do they want me to react?"

she responded. "I am only being truthful. I want them to do the right thing so that the country can be in the right place. Without doing the right thing ... there will be no peace."

When I read this interview I was struck by her tremendous courage and her integrity. And one phrase echoed in my mind over and over again. "I am only being truthful," she said. Ten days later she was dead.

Truth-telling is a dangerous business in this world. It is a dangerous business in Nigeria. It is a dangerous business in many African countries where dictators of one or another stripe hide behind their Black faces and African proverbs while they control, divide and oppress the African masses.

Truth-telling is a dangerous business here in the United States,

too, where African Americans undergo many kinds of manipulation — often at the hands of other Blacks.

Very often it is women of color who are willing to tell the truth about these kinds of manipulations, about the sordid politicking and business dealing that goes on at the expense of our people.

Why? For one thing, we have a great love and caring for our people, our children, and our community. At the same time, because we are women, we have little motivation to protect the political establishment; after all, we ourselves have been so systematically excluded from it, whatever its color.

Thus we are the truth tellers. Kudirat Abiola was no exception. It is a great tragedy and a great loss for the people of Nigeria that her truth-telling resulted in her

death.

In the days that have followed her assassination there have been many rumors and much speculation concerning who was responsible. Various forces have rushed to put their own "spin," or interpretation on the murder. All sorts of theories have been advanced: one is that she was gunned down by rogue elements in the military in defiance of General Abacha; another is that she was shot by competing elements of the democracy movement who saw her as a threat; yet another is that she died at the hands of members of her family seeking control over the defense attorneys representing

Chief Abiola.

These theories all have a common thread — namely, that they exonerate the Abacha regime of any responsibility for her death. I do not know who pulled the trigger that put the bullet in Kudirat's head. But I do know this: the Abacha regime was conceived in violence; it has ruled by violence; it has repressed the opposition through violence; it has elevated violence to an acceptable — indeed, preferred — method of political decision making. And, in my opinion, there is no way that such a regime cannot be held responsible for the violent death of Kudirat Abiola on June 4.

On The Road To Success

Often opportunity has a sly way of slipping by the back door. Opportunity may come disguised in the form of misfortune or temporary defeat! When defeat overcomes a man his first line of defense may be to quit to rid himself of the pain.

Failure can perform as an optical illusion that can rob a man of his hopes and dreams. Many of Americas successful men and women have acknowledged that success arrived just one step beyond the point in which defeat had overtaken their dreams.

You should learn. Never stop just because men say NO...

A Simple Lesson in Persistence

On a large farm where a number of colored farmers lived. A young girl from one of the families was sent out by her mother to go see the farm owner. Shortly, the little girl stepped into the barn where

the owner was working and took her place by the door. The child meekly said to the busy owner, "My mama say send her fifty cents" The owner replied "I'll not do it, Now run on home." Yas sah the girl said, but she did not move. The owner went on with his work. A moment later he noticed the girl still standing there. The owner then yelled at her. "You go home right Now! before I take a whipping to ya". The littler girl said "Yas sah" but she did not move.

The owner then picked up a barrel stave and started towards the little girl to whip her. Just as he got close to her, the little girl stepped toward him and said again "My mama has to have fifty cents!" The owner stopped and looked her in the eyes for a moment, then laid down his stave, reached into his pocket and gave the little girl half a dollar. The little girl then backed slowly towards the door never taking her eyes off of the man who she had just conquered. After she left

the owner sat by the window wondering in awe over the whipping the ad just taken!

I'm looking for a few good black men and women who want to get on teh road to success with me. My office is looking for African American leaders. In our Greenville office, we are in the business of developing business owners and leaders. This is Your Opportunity! Call today 1-800-578-5686 ext. 27.

Fuentes recently reported for duty

Marine Staff Sgt. Victor R. Fuentes, whose wife, Stephanie, is the daughter of Inell Bowden of 2816 Best St., Greenville, recently reported for duty with 1st Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Okinawa, Japan.

Fuentes' new assignment is an example of how Navy and Marine Corps men and women are as-

signed to ships, squadrons and shore commands around the world. Whether serving in the Persian Gulf near Iraq or in the Adriatic Sea near Bosnia, people like Fuentes are making a difference as they work to improve their knowledge and skill as part of the most highly technical naval force in history.

The 1978 graduate of Boys High

School of Brooklyn, N.Y., joined the Marine Corps in July 1978.

Famous quote

Hope is a good breakfast, but it is a bad supper.

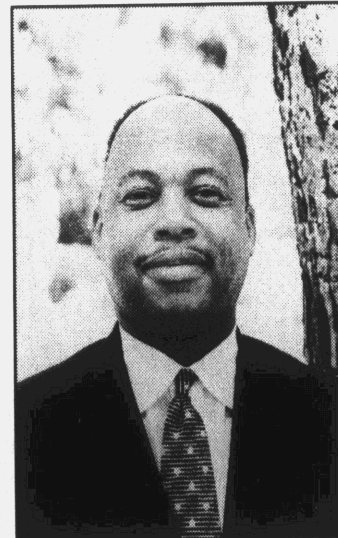
Prosperity doth best discover vice, but adversity doth best discover virtue.

Francis Bacon

McGill named assistant division chief

Correction Secretary Franklin Freeman named Cornell McGill assistant division chief for the N.C. Division of Adult Probation and Parole's 1st Division in Greenville.

As assistant division chief, McGill will work with Division Chief Glenn Mills in supervising probation and parole staff in 12 judicial district offices covering 32



CORNELL MCGILL

eastern North Carolina counties. "Mr. McGill's experience and background will serve the division well," said Secretary Freeman.

McGill was promoted from his post as judicial district manager, 2nd Judicial District with offices in Washington. He had served there since October 1993. He served as a unit supervisor for probation/parole officers in Hyde, Martin, Tyrrell and Washington counties from 1989 to 1993.

McGill joined the department in February 1982 as a probation and parole officer in Beaufort County.

A native of Washington, McGill graduated from Washington High School and St. Augustine College of Raleigh.

He is married to Gail Evette McGill. They have two sons, 17 year-old Asim and 5 year-old Cornell Morgan.

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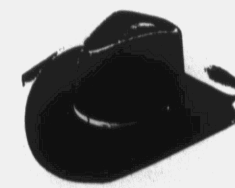
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THE COASTAL CAROLINA CHAPTER... of the Gospel Music Workshop of America met and shared an evening of festivities, fun and good fellowship at their Annual Gala Affair. National gospel music personalities were on hand to offer their congrats, along with the mayor of Greenville—Mayor Nancy Jenkins, family and friends. **Staff photo by Jim Rouse**

Feeding Hummingbirds

By James B. "Jim" Kea

One of the joys of spring and summer is watching hummingbirds darting around our flowers and feeders.

The ruby-throated hummingbird is the only hummingbird to breed east of the Mississippi River. These little bundles of energy lay 2 white eggs about the size of large peas. Only the female feeds the young. Nests can seldom be seen in the spring or summer, but can be found in winter after leaf fall. A nest will be about tennis ball size and is often made with lichen. Lichen is the frilly plant that grows on tree limbs and is often gray to greenish gray in color. Sweetgum trees in swampy areas seem to be popular nesting sites.

Other western species of hummingbirds such as a rufous (black chin), Cuban emerald, broad tailed Anna's, or Allan's also may be seen.

Hummingbirds are easy to attract to feeders. These little birds are attracted to red flowers, and that is why feeders have red tubes or red plastic flowers. The feeder should contain a syrup of 3 parts water and 1 part sugar. Boil the water first and store excess in the refrigerator. If it spoils, throw it out. Do not add red food coloring to the syrup. It is the color of the feeder, not the syrup, that attracts them; and there are indications it could be harmful to the birds. Disinfect the feeder with boiling water or a 15 to one bleach solution (rinse well if bleach is used) before refilling. Change mix every two days during hot weather. Add feeders if fighting gets out of hand.

Many people are concerned about when to take down the feeders.

Hummingbirds will migrate when the time is right, so keep the feeders up until the birds quit using them.

Several plants will also provide good natural sources of nectar and small insects and spiders for hummingbirds. Trumpet creeper (cow itch), columbine, bee balm, sage (salvia), jewelweed, cleome, zinnia and morning glory are highly favored. Other plant possibilities include mimosa, hawthorn, azalea (late blooming), clematis, hon-

eysockle (red and yellow), day-lily, foxglove, fuchsia, geranium, gladiolus, larkspur, lupine, petunia, phlox and snapdragon.



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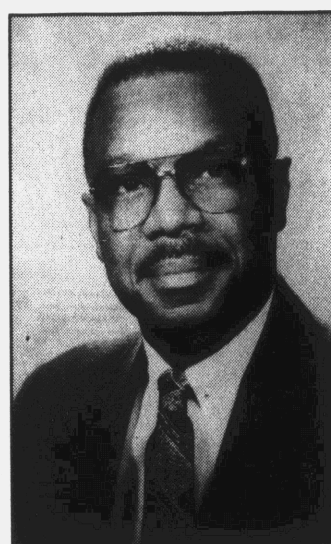
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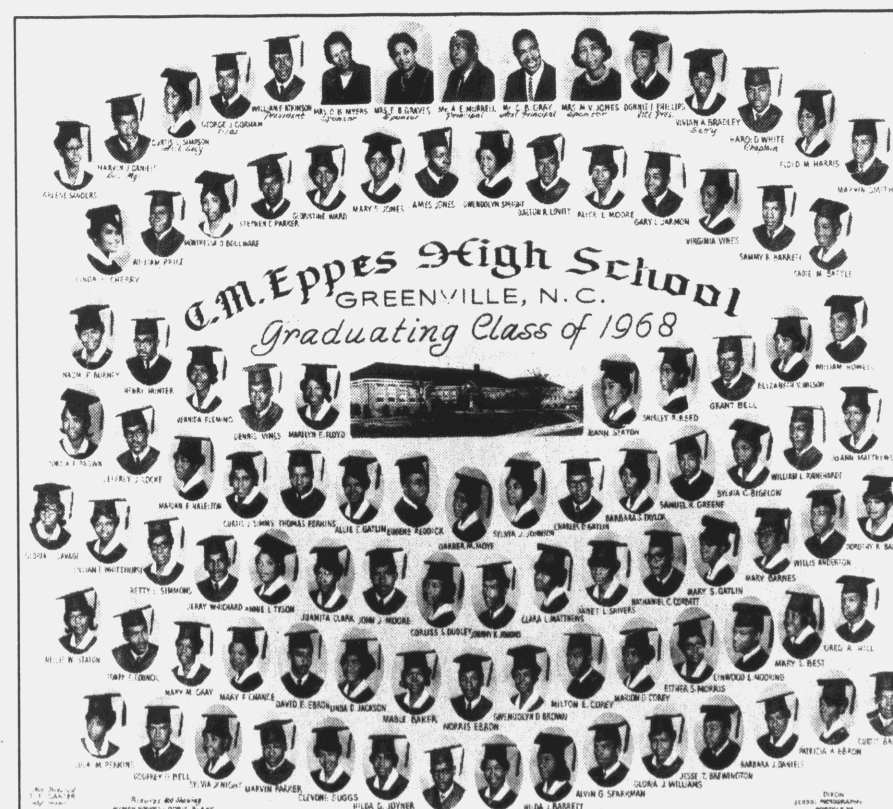
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SORORITY ATTENDS CONFERENCE . . . Standing L-R: Helen Harrell, Gloria Hines, Daryln White, Jennifer Congleton, Karen Ellis, Nola Dixon, Amber Harris, Shelia Harrell, Sharon Evans, Tamaira Johnson. Seated L-R: Dorothy Jordan, Darlene Keene, Sondra Morris, Ella Harris, Delilah Harris and Barbara Johnson. Not pictured: Venus Johnson, Laura Carmon, Maxine Whitener and Sharon Ward and Virginia Hagans.

Sorority members attend conference

Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, attended the 43rd Mid-Atlantic Conference in Vienna, Virginia recently. More than 1400 members led by Doris R. Asbury, Regional Director from Charlotte, were in attendance. The keynote speakers for the conference included Dr. Eva L. Evans, 24th International President, Lan-

sing, Michigan and Norma White, International Vice President, Tallahassee, Florida. The theme: "Building the Future: The Alpha Kappa Alpha Strategy-Making the Net Work" gave workshop presenters and to International committee members an opportunity to focus on program goals and other topics of interest. Updated infor-

mation from the committee representatives gave members an opportunity to discuss Alpha Kappa Alpha business and to participate fully in the deliberations and social activities of the conference. Members attending from the local chapter were: Laura Carmon, Jennifer Congleton, Nola Dixon, Karen Ellis, Sharon Evans, Virginia Hagans, Helen Harrell, Shelia Harrell, Amber Harris, Delilah Harris, Ella Harris, Gloria Hines, Barbara Johnson, Tamaira Johnson, Venus Johnson, Darlene Keene, Sondra Morris, Sharon Ward, Daryln White and Maxine Whitener. Several members of the undergraduate chapter at East Carolina University also attended the conference.

Karen Ellis is the president of the graduate chapter and Kia Samuels is president of the undergraduate chapter.

"Rathers"

Of all the professions beginning with "P".....
the "Promising Politician"—I would not choose to be.
Of the other professions beginning with "P".....
The "Prayer Preacher"—I would not choose to be.
But, of all the professions beginning with "P".....
The good old "Practicing Physician"—I would always rather be.

Submitted by Dr. Andrew A. Best
Practicing Physician

Interesting fact

Historians believe the Maltese was the world's first lap dog, developed more than 2,000 years ago.

FISCAL SPECIALIST II

A regional planning commission in Eastern North Carolina is seeking a qualified individual with experience and expertise in performing a variety of governmental accounting functions. Must have experience in maintaining a computerized general ledger, accounts payable, and payroll module and ability to perform daily accounting functions. Ideal candidate will have a four year degree in Accounting or equivalent, and at least two years experience in accounting. Excellent fringe benefits. Salary low to mid twenties, depending on experience and education. Minorities are encouraged to apply as we are an Equal Opportunity Employer. Deadline for receiving resumes is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 12, 1996. Send resumes to Executive Director, Mid-East Commission, P.O. Box 1787, Washington, NC 27889. Applicants must be willing to reside in the region.



RANDY DUPREE, NATIONAL PRESIDENT of the Greenville Industrial/C.M. Eppes High School Alumni Association, is joined by Emma and James Hines as the Alumni celebrates a glorious reunion recently.

Voice photo by Jim Rouse



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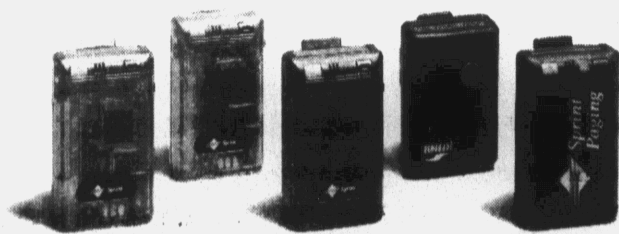
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GET
THROUGH
TO
TEENAGERS?



GET THEM A PAGER. THEY'LL GET THE MESSAGE.

Reaching teenagers isn't that hard to do. Granted, they're hardly ever home, but that shouldn't stop you from telling them a thing or two.

If they have a Motorola pager from Sprint, all you have to do is page them. Or if they have Page Alert, you can call and leave them a voice mail message like "Get home now." Their pager will alert them to your message.

Sure, a pager is convenient, but it's also affordable and payments are incredibly simple. All pager costs are added to your monthly phone bill. And for a limited time, there's no service activation fee. There's just no easier way to make sure your teenagers get the message.

TO ORDER A PAGER OR PAGE ALERT, CALL 1-888-275-2755.

