

THE STATE OF BLACK AMERICA

National Urban League Authors Explore Community, Economy, Education, and Employment

COMMON PURPOSE: Strengthening Families and Neighborhoods to Rebuild America

By Lisbeth B. Schorr

The loss of community has hit the poor and persons of color the hardest. A host of economic development and social ills—the decline of manufacturing, the disappearance of well-paid jobs for the unskilled, racial discrimination in both hiring and housing, the decreasing value of income supports, inferior and overwhelmed schools and services, the flight of the middle class to the suburbs, and an epidemic of drug trafficking, especially of crack—have combined to form the inner-city deserts, inhospitable to healthy human development.

But in the last few years, new neighborhood transformation projects, launched by citizens determined to make their neighborhoods decent places to live, and supported by public and philanthropic monies, are rekindling hope. These efforts may also contain the clues to reversing the decline of America's inner cities. Grounded in the communities' own institutions and their social networks, they address the multiple and inter-related problems of poverty-welfare, employment, education, child development, housing, and crime—combining physical and economic development with service and education reform. There has been a lot of trial and error about how much can be accomplished with severely constrained resources in

very little time. But a great deal of useful experience is being accumulated which justifies the hope that many attach to the new initiatives.

Efforts in the South Bronx, for example, have shown that the key to achieving an ambitious community agenda there was providing socially entrepreneurial organizations that were well-rooted in the community with a source of what was essentially venture capital (and providing them with a broad menu of experts, good ideas, and best practices).

This ready access to funds has been used flexibly and quickly to leverage additional monies and to support core activities it was so difficult to fund from other sources.

The partnership began with teams of local residents, agencies and business interests joining to plan the physical space in their neighborhoods. It was important to engage people who lived and worked in the neighborhoods in a concrete task that required significant decisions, in part because they provided the opportunity to show all how residents and community organizations could work together with local government agencies and private-sector consultants.

At first, the effort focused on deciding where parks, playgrounds, and health and child care facilities should be located, what kind of housing should be built on vacant sites, what stores and banking would be needed, and how residents could collaborate with police to reduce crime. Later, it took on the task of creating neighborhood-based em-

ployment services to reach the hard-core unemployed and help them to prepare for, acquire and retain suitable jobs.

In Savannah, Georgia, community activists were convinced by earlier experiences that physical, economic, social, and human capital strategies had to be integrated at the neighborhood level. The result was the establishment of neighborhood family resource centers. The centers offer such services as health and mental health, nutrition, eligibility for income support, and a family advocates group. As important, the centers are also home to activities that welcome neighborhood residents as neighborhood residents—without their having to define a problem to participate. These include a soccer league, the Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, conflict resolution classes, information and referral services, and day care-child development services for infants, toddlers, and young pre-school children. The centers are governed largely by community representatives, most of whom are active in other neighborhood activities, and have status in the community. Their programs are grounded in an Afrocentric emphasis on the integrity of community, the family, and the individual. Community leaders contend that middle-American values of self-reliance, self-discipline, good work habits, healthy ambition and the reinforcement of family and community ties are made more accessible to the children and families of the

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THE FUTURE OF WORK AND WHO WILL GET IT

By Julianne Malveaux, Ph.D.

For the past five years America's economy has been expanding relentlessly. The resulting euphoria and the assumptions of continued prosperity have largely submerged economic issues and problems that illustrate the unevenness of the economic expansion and the fact that a rising tide does not necessarily lift all boats.

Those issues that define the changing shape of the workplace and the changing nature of work have significant implications for the overwhelming majority of Americans who are wage earners, and they have particularly serious implications for African Americans.

Too many people are not benefiting from the economic good news. For all workers, average hourly earnings rose a scant 38 cents, to \$11.82 in 1996, from \$11.44 in 1995. Anecdotal evidence suggests that many workers are working longer hours and are reluctant to ask for pay increases because they worry about the stability of their employment.

Thus, a critical economic relationship has been severed. Once, economic expansion meant an increase in worker well being.

Now, economic expansion means an increase in the well being for some, but not all workers. Once, hard work was a sufficient condition for individual

THE RACIAL ASSET GAP

By Melvin L. Oliver and Thomas M. Shapiro

One cannot fully understand the scope and impact of racial inequality on African Americans' economic status without analyzing private wealth. Such an analysis reveals deep patterns of racial imbalance not visible when viewed only through the lens of such other measures as income, and underscores the challenges involved in improving the economic position of African Americans at the dawn of the 21st century.

The analytical distinction between wealth and other traditional measures of economic status is crucial. Income refers to a flow of money over time, what people receive for work, retirement, or social welfare. Wealth is a stock of assets owned at a particular time. It signifies the command over financial resources that a family has accumulated over its lifetime along with those resources inherited across generations. Unlike income, which most families use for food, clothing, and shelter, assets are more often used to create opportunities, secure a desired stature and standard of living, or pass class status along to one's children. Wealth captures inequality that is the product of the past because it taps not only contemporary resources but material assets that have historic origins. Thus, examining it sheds light on both the historical and the contemporary impacts not only of race but class.

economic prosperity. Now, those who are in the wrong industries, or in the wrong areas, are learning that hard work won't get them out of poverty. In today's economy, economic expansion co-exists with worker malaise, job insecurity, and the constant threat of layoffs.

Between part-time work, temporary work, and self-employment, there are millions of workers who survive at the periphery of the traditional labor market. Some of these workers are at the bottom of the wage and occupational distribution, working as cleaning service workers, as clerical temps, and in similar lower-paying jobs. But consultants, executive temporaries, and others earning much better paychecks have as much uncertainty and as little security. The peripheral workforce is likely to grow as the welfare reform legislation is implemented, pushing as many as 3.5 million women who receive public assistance into competition for jobs largely at the bottom of the occupation and wage ladder—and further erode the economic security of those already holding jobs there.

Workers whose economic security stems from their temporary and part-time work are now being joined by a growing number of workers whose small- and medium-sized employers do not provide the pension and health care benefits, vacation time, and

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Increasingly as government supports for the poor and disadvantaged are withdrawn, African Americans will have to depend more on their stored assets to provide opportunities for themselves and their children. This presents a significant problem because the combined effects of a racially biased past, persistent racial bias today, and the class bias that promotes asset accumulation for the well-off at the expense of the poor have left the African-American community substantially asset-poor. African Americans earn less than Whites and possess far less wealth. A 1988 survey of American households showed that for every dollar earned by White households Black households earned sixty-two cents. The wealth data expose far deeper inequalities. Whites possess nearly twelve times as much median net worth (all assets minus liabilities) as Blacks. In even starker contrast, perhaps, the average White household controls \$6,999 in net

financial assets (not including homes and vehicles) while the average Black household retains no nest egg whatsoever.

Differences in Black-White income levels alone cannot explain the large racial wealth gap. Even among households earning \$50,000 or more, where the wealth gap is narrowest, Blacks possess barely one-half the median net worth of their high-earning White counterparts, and the highest earning Black households possess just twenty-three cents of median net financial assets for every dollar held by high-income White households. Moreover, poor Whites control nearly as many mean net financial assets as the highest-earning Blacks, \$26,683 to \$28,310. This data indicates quite clearly that, for those surviving at or below the poverty level, poverty means one

"Assets" continued on page 3

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NEW STANDARDS, OLD INEQUALITIES: The Current Challenge for African-American Education

By Linda Darling-Hammond

The education reform movement has spurred states across the country to develop new standards students must meet to graduate, new curricular and instructional guidelines, and new assessments to test students' knowledge. President Clinton has proposed a new national test, and many individual school districts across the country are weighing in with their own versions of standards-based reform as well.

The rhetoric of these reforms is appealing. But standards and tests alone won't improve schools or create educational opportunities where they don't now exist. The bottom line for students, especially African-American and other students of color, is whether investments in better teaching, curriculum, and schooling will follow the push for new standards; or whether the new standards will simply be imposed atop the old foundation of educational inequality—and thereby reduce the now-limited access some have to future education and employment even more.

More than ever before in our nation's history, education is not only the ticket to economic success but to basic survival. Those who do not succeed in school will be cut off from productive engagement in society; those prepared only for the disappearing jobs of the past will teeter on the brink of downward social mobility.

Twenty years ago a high school dropout had two chances out of three of getting a job. Today, he has less than one in three, and the job he gets pays less than half of what he once would have earned.

Not surprisingly, the situation for African-American youth is critical.

First, the effects of dropping out are much worse for them than for White youth. Secondly, even gaining a high school diploma doesn't guarantee parity of opportunity: Among African-American high school graduates not enrolled in college in 1993, only 42 percent were working, compared to 72 percent of their White counterparts. Schools that serve large numbers of African-American students organized to perpetuate that situation. They are least likely to offer the curriculum and teaching needed to meet the new standards. They are typically funded at lower levels than schools serving a White and more affluent population. And they often lack the courses, materials, equipment and qualified teachers needed to give students access to the education they will need to participate in today's and tomorrow's world.

These structural inequities mean that students from racial and ethnic 'minority' groups face persistent, profound barriers to educational opportunity. This must be changed if we are to eliminate the inequality gap.

The curricula of many urban schools—beset by declines in per-pupil expenditures, rising enrollments from immigration, more students needing costly special educational services, and growing numbers of unqualified teachers—is based more on rote learning of "basic" skills than on thoughtful examination of serious literature or assignments requiring frequent and extended writing. Because the new tests focus more on reading for meaning and ask students to construct written, interpretive responses, these schools' students are at a severe disadvantage.

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"Panthers":

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death in 1989 by a young drug dealer.

When he announced for council, Hilliard said the Panthers laid the foundation for a liberal like Brown to win in Oakland and joked, "Jerry is talking like a Panther these days." Brown says

it's too early to endorse anyone for the 2000 City Council election.

But Hilliard has at least one political veteran on his side with Seale, who ran for Oakland mayor in 1973 and has worked for former Panther Bobby Rush, a congressman running for Chicago mayor this year.

Stoper thinks the political climate may be right for revisiting some of the racial and social issues first raised in the angry '60s.

"Race seems to go on and off the political agenda in this country," she says. "When it's off, people forget about it and they don't discuss issues and there isn't much effective dialogue so you get a kind of buildup of misunderstanding. It may come on the agenda for a while now. In some ways there'll be more irritation, but there'll also be more understanding."

"Community":

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neighborhood if presented within an Afrocentric framework. The hope is that these centers will become cornerstones of their communities by instilling in staff and residents alike the feeling that the centers belong to the community, not the service agencies.

The federal legislation creating Empowerment Zones to stimulate community development is another mechanism with momentous potential. It is the government's most comprehensive effort in 30 years to rebuild areas of persistent poverty. Cities are not told what to do, but asked what they could and would do to revive their most distressed neighborhoods, with a pledge of federal help in getting it done. The legislation foresees a long-term (ten-year) scope, legitimizes the neighborhood as a locus of change, and mandates simultane-

ous investment in economic and human development, community-building, and service reform-requiring that community residents, and local businesses and institutions be centrally involved in the planning. The bulk of the Empowerment Zone monies will go to just eight cities and three rural areas (60 urban and 33 rural communities were designated "Enterprise Communities," as a sort of consolation prize with fewer benefits).

In addition to tax benefits and tax credits, the staples of past efforts to regenerate depressed areas, each of the distressed communities designated an Empowerment Zone, is entitled to \$100 million in social services funds. The legislation also enables federal agencies to waive specific program requirements so that funds from different programs can be combined and reallocated. The potential of the Empowerment Zones to be the vehicle for a massive infusion of

investment to resurrect the nation's inner cities has already begun to be realized in such areas as New York's Harlem, in Detroit, and in Philadelphia. If this process achieves its promise, it will shatter precedent and enable communities to use federal resources more coherently and therefore more effectively than in the past.

Community rebuilding efforts under both public and private auspices, add up to an extraordinary social development with stunning implications for the future. The evidence suggests that we know enough about what works in putting together effective interventions in targeted neighborhoods to make comprehensive place-based interventions the key to resolving some of the deepest problems of America's inner cities. In the long-term, comprehensive community building could-alongside new macro-economic policies and other measures to restore opportunity to people now stuck at the bottom-become a major national strategy to combat poverty, rebuild the inner city, and make sure that all the nation's children will come to adulthood sharing in the American dream.

"MLK Drive":

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blame. Why didn't we demand that they rededicate a more visible street, such as Memorial Drive or Greenville Boulevard? For all the people who complain, constantly, about all the injustices put upon them, where was the indignation, the protests, the angry letters? Nowhere to be found. Because, as usual, those self-declared "community leaders" took the easy way out. The City threw them a scrap, and they gladly swallowed it, casually dismissing the fact that insult to his memory and cause. But we can't blame the "community leaders" entirely, either, because the "normal folks" are the ones that let them get away with it. The residents of Greenville

have no right to complain if they've not actively done anything to stop injustice. As a wise man once said, "to ignore evil is not only to strengthen it, but to become a part of it."

People have complained for years about the problems faced by Black students in the Pitt County School system, yet very few people show up at the meetings of the school board. People have complained about racist policies or practices at various businesses and organizations in Pitt County for years, but no one ever does anything about it.

They're afraid. The Black community has become a fractured, chaotic, apathetic entity in Greenville. Very few people are trying to effect progressive change. Everyone's afraid to upset the

status quo, afraid to draw attention to themselves, afraid that they'll lose what they have, or be labeled a troublemaker in his time, as was Malcolm X, Mahatma Gandhi, Buddha, and Christ. If being labeled a troublemaker is the mark of caring about your people, of trying to do the right things in this world, then it is a badge I would wear with pride. I'd be in honored company. I hope our "community leaders" start looking at it this way. Just as I hope you do.

It comes down to a simple question: Will the Black community allow an insult to the memory and cause of Dr. King by allowing the rededication of ONLY a small, segregated part of Fifth Street? Or will we continue to wallow in fear and apathy?

"Assets":

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thing for Whites and another for Blacks. In other words, relying on income alone seriously distorts the existing Black-White economic disparity: Blacks and Whites with equal incomes possess very unequal shares of wealth.

In our analysis, \$43,000 in net worth situates a household smack in the middle of the White community's wealth distribution; but a household with the same net worth in the Black community ranks among the wealthiest one-fifth. Similarly, a small nest egg of \$2,000 in net financial assets places a Black household in the richest one-fifth of the Black community, whereas the same amount puts a household only in the fortieth percentile among Whites.

Why is the wealth portfolio for Blacks and Whites of equal stature and accomplishment so drastically different? We address this question in three stages. In the first, we examine how much of the existing

Black-White wealth gap is related to the fact that Blacks do not share the same social and demographic characteristics as Whites and how much can best be explained by race itself.

In the second, we look at institutional and policy discrimination from the public and private spheres in one particular arena-the mechanisms surrounding home ownership, most notably, housing and mortgage markets. Our purpose is to explore the ways in which Blacks lack of access to mortgage and housing markets on equal terms severely constrains their ability to accumulate assets.


In the third, we add a historical dimension, examining the intergenerational transmission of inequality to document how an oppressive racial legacy continues to shape American society through the reproduction of inequality generation after generation.

Finally, we argue that, given the political exhaustion of the welfare state, new and bold policy initiatives are needed to help African


Americans accumulate assets to undergird their own social mobility and that of their children.

The concept of asset building as a mechanism for change centers on the proposition that families can escape poverty and achieve social mobility through savings and investment, not the spending and consumption that is characteristic of our current welfare policy. While programs providing income for consumption are essential, programs for the accumulation of assets invest in the ability of families to become self-reliant and to support their communities by stimulating education, job mobility, home ownership, entrepreneurship, and equity.

Asset-based policy is not new in the United States. An unappreciated part of America's prosperity and the development of a broad middle class is the story of governmental encouragement of asset building, via such measures as the Homestead Acts, the Federal Housing Authority, the GI Bill, and current tax policy. That help has generally not been



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"Education":

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The concentration of Black and Hispanic students in central-city schools-they made up 55 percent of all such students in 1993-intensifies inequality. Not only do funding systems and tax policies leave most urban districts with fewer resources than their suburban neighbors, but schools with high concentrations of minority students receive fewer resources than other schools within these districts. Tracking systems further exacerbate these inequalities by segregating many Black and Hispanic students within schools, thus allocating still fewer educa-

tional resources to them at the classroom level.

African-American students' lack of access to qualified teachers is a critical factor in the achievement gap between them and White students. Schools with high concentrations of Black and Hispanic students uniformly have the most teachers with the least experience and the least qualifications for the subject they teach, especially in mathematics and the sciences.

To be truly successful, the current wave of curriculum and assessment reforms must improve and equalize access to educational resources and support the professional development of teachers. This means providing all teachers with a stronger understanding of how children learn and develop, how to use a variety of curricular and instructional strategies to help them, and how changes in school and classroom practices can support students' growth and achievement. Raising teacher standards will eliminate the widespread practice of allowing large numbers of untrained newcomers to be shunted to the schools whose students are most in need of the best teachers; and it will improve the quality of instruction for all students.

Building and sustaining a well-prepared teacher corps requires local, state and federal incentives to, among other things, strengthen teacher education and certification, in part by requiring that all schools of education be accred-

ited; insist that all teachers pass examinations for licensing that demonstrate they can teach well; male teacher salaries competitive with those of college graduates in other occupations who currently earn 25 to 50 percent more, depending on the field; and recruit new teachers, especially in the shortage fields and for the shortage locations, through scholarships and forgivable loans.

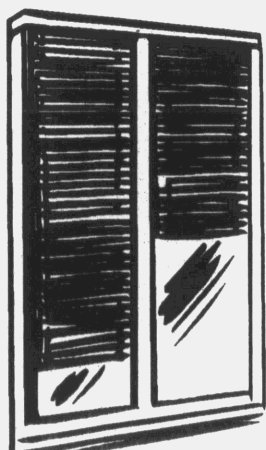
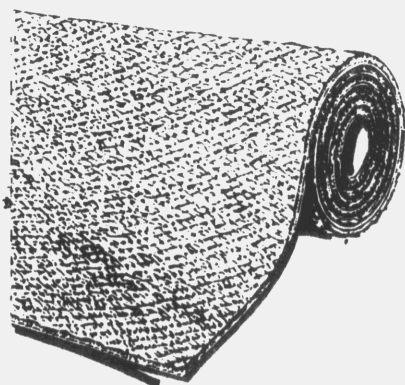
The common presumption is that education inequality is primarily the result of inadequately prepared or deficient students. The fact is, however, that American schools are so poorly structured that students routinely endure dramatically unequal learning opportunities based on their race and social status. If the poor academic performances of minority and low-income children are to improve, aggressive action must be taken to change the caliber and quantity of the learning opportunities they encounter. The interaction between teachers and students is the most important aspect of effective schooling. Thus, reducing inequality in learning must significantly depend on policies that provide equal access to competent, well-supported teachers. The American public educational system ought to be able to guarantee that every child who is forced to go to school by public law is taught by someone who is prepared, knowledgeable, competent and caring. That is real accountability.

available to half of the nation, which is asset poor. As a nation, we encourage, structure, and subsidize asset acquisition for the non-poor while actively discouraging the poor from building similar resources.

Now, however, it is both possible and desirable to fashion new asset-building policies that do not discriminate against minorities and the poor. Assets used for the improvement of human capital through such things as education, home ownership, and business development have the potential to expand social mobility. One such instrument, Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) may help promote asset accumulation among low-income and other disadvantaged groups, thus disproportionately benefiting African Americans. IDAs are dedicated savings accounts, similar in structure to Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) that can only be used for purchasing a first home, education or job training expenses or capitalizing a small business. Small savings, then, can generate big changes in the lives of many Americans.

We should consider the mechanisms and policies that have worked for poor and near-poor people in the past. They may be as successful in the future. To do less may be to consign African Americans to the economic margin well into the next new millennium.

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America's greatness is the diversity of its people. Blacks have been in throughout history, crisscrossing America, leaving marker-sand trails that would become part of the texture of America.

February is Black History Month. So, take the family, your mate, your date or a friend to visit some African-American museums, or other Black historic sites in your own town or city. Check the newspapers, magazines, television and radio schedules for special events and make a special effort to celebrate Black love.

The 1999 theme is "The Legacy of African American Leadership of the Present and Future." What an excellent time

for leadership: in the home, school, church and community. Young folks, are you polishing your leadership skills? Are you working toward academic excellence, moral strength, making wise choices, an impeccable character, worthwhile values, and a good reputation? Who will be the next Jesse Jackson, Michael Jordan, Maya Angelou, Dudley Flood, Rosa Parks, John Thompson, Jim Wynn, Eva Clayton, or Martin Luther King, Jr.?

This is a good time to highlight, honor or recognize those among us who have made, or who are making, a reputable contribution in our society...whether through church, school, or community.

Let's celebrate and live Black history every month.

Remember: "The turtle never makes any progress until he sticks his neck out."

The "M" Voice is Your Voice

Clayton Assigned to Health Care Task Force

Washington, DC:-- Congresswoman Eva M. Clayton (D-NC) was appointed to Co-Chair the Democratic Caucus Health Care Task Force. She will play a critical role in the Democrat's development of health care reform during the 106th Congress.

"I am pleased to be a part of such an important task force. This position will allow me to advocate for what many of my constituents want...real health care reform. Our goal will be to provide health care that will increase the health of our country and ensure real rights to the people," Clayton said.

The Task Force, one of four key issue task forces organized by the Democratic Caucus, will lead the

Democratic effort to develop health care policy in the 106th Congress.

"As a leading representative in Congress for a patients' bill of rights, Representative Clayton has demonstrated her commitment to real HMO reform that ensures doctors and patients-not HMOs and insurance companies--make vital medical decisions," Democratic Caucus Chair Martin Frost (D-TX) said.

"Democrats won a victory last November because they addressed the concerns of American families. I intend to continue supporting these concerns, and health care is definitely important to everyone," Clayton said.

"Work": continued from page 2

other things traditionally part of a social benefits package. This has both short and long term implications for people's well being.

Technological advances, especially the proliferation of computer technology at home and in the workplace, have hastened the transformation of the labor market. This is a mixed blessing, especially for African Americans, who are less likely to own computers and to have access to computers in the workplace. That inner-city schools are less than a third as likely as suburban schools to be wired for the Internet exacerbates the gap between Blacks and Whites for future workplace preparation. The dynamic of technological advancement may lead to African Americans being displaced in a number of job areas unless many more African Americans master

technology needed in the workplace.

African Americans, like the vast majority of workers, would be put at a tremendous disadvantage by current legislation promoting the bargaining rights of the individual worker over the right of the group. The assumption that individuals can ably create better deals for themselves in dynamic labor markets may be true for those with unique skills in markets that value those skills.

But workers at the bottom and in the middle of the occupational ladder--cashiers, salespersons, even teachers, and so on--do not have such power because the work they do is not work for which individual attributes are valued. Collectively-bargained protections like tenure or seniority, employment standards and minimum wages, provide those workers with some measure of security. This is especially true for Hispanic Americans and African Americans.

Only employers benefit when

collective bargaining is undermined. The snapshot I have developed suggests a less hierarchical labor market, with fewer guarantees than the markets of the past. For some, this dynamic situation provides opportunities. For many, the situation poses challenges and erodes employment security and well being. A new set of inequities, based overtly not on race or gender, but employer size and access to technology, will likely come to the forefront. The civil rights movement must take up issues of employment protection and the terms and conditions of work. Issues of entrepreneurship become equally important, given the negative impact of supposedly race-neutral legislation on African-American ownership.

We also must look at the impact African-American entrepreneurship has within the larger community. It makes no sense to create several Black millionaires if all they do is hire people under

the same exploitative terms and conditions of work as some non-Blacks have done. If Black-owned businesses pay low wages and have poor employment standards, is the community better off? What role does distribution and fairness play in the issues of entrepreneurship?

In seeking to build economic power, the civil rights movement needs to look at a set of emerging trends, such as the rediscovery of service work, as the economy bifurcates and trifurcates. The African-American community has essentially moved away from service, but there may now be some very lucrative opportunities in such service areas as general health care, elder care, transportation, and childcare.

In other words, the new, transformed labor market may offer less work to African Americans if we are not prepared to take advantage of emerging trends, and unable to move beyond work to deal with broader issues of economic empowerment.

Drug Task Force Agents

A four County Narcotics Task Force in north-east 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 including psychological, financial and polygraph testing. Positions include random drug testing. Agents will be responsible for the enforcement of the NC Controlled Substances Acts and the Criminal General Statutes of North Carolina. Salary depends on qualifications. A completed Sheriff's Education and Training Standards Commission form F-3 is to be received by Keith Road, P.O. Box 308, Williamston, NC 27892 no later than 5:00 P.M., Monday, February 8, 1999. The Narcotics Task Force is an equal opportunity employer. Minority applicants are especially encouraged.

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Black woman speaks for Clinton

Editorial

Editor's note: Of all the sick reasons that the House of Representatives has offered to insure the conviction of Pres. Clinton, their attempt to use the alleged violations of the civil rights of Paula Jones as a reason why Clinton should be convicted of "high crimes and misdemeanors" is the most obscene. Most Americans did not get the full importance or impact of what the Republican impeachment managers are trying to do as they dragged civil rights, a la Jones, into this debacle. Fortunately, a young, bright Black woman who happens to be deputy counsel on Clinton's White House legal staff, offered the most telling commentary about such Republican hypocrisy in her defense of the president at the impeachment hearings on Jan. 30, 1999. This woman, Cheryl Mills, defended the president against a few of the articles



CHERYL MILLS.
WHITE HOUSE DEPUTY COUNCIL

of impeachment offered to the Senate by the House of Representatives.

The following are some of her remarks.

White House Deputy Counsel Cheryl Mills: Mr. Chief Justice, managers from

the House of Representatives, members of the Senate, good afternoon. My name is Cheryl Mills, and I am deputy counsel to the president. I am honored to be here today on behalf of the president to address you.

Today, incidentally, marks my sixth-year anniversary in the White House. I'm very proud to have had the opportunity to serve our country and this president. It is a particular honor for me to stand on the Senate floor today. I'm an Army brat. My father served in the Army for 27 years. I grew up in a military world where opportunity was not just - where opportunity ... was a reality and not just a slogan.

The very fact that the daughter of an Army officer from Richmond, Va., ... can represent the president of the United States on the floor of the Senate of the United States is powerful proof that the American dream lives.

Continued on Page 6

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It can start with numbness in your arm, a throbbing in your jaw or even a slight tingling in your fingertips. The symptoms of a heart attack can be very deceptive. They can also have life threatening consequences. Swift and accurate diagnosis is a critical first step in dealing with these symptoms. And if a heart attack is confirmed, it is crucial that you receive the best care available from specialists who understand both the problem and the treatment.

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Interestingly, many major symptoms of a heart attack have nothing to do with the heart.



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98 Years Young

Pictured Above: Mrs. Adell Williams (seated, second from right) received a joyous birthday celebration at the St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Falkland, N.C., on January 16, 1999. She was joined in the celebration by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, friends and relatives. She has enjoyed 98 years of living in the Falkland community. She was raised in a Christain home, where her parents took her to prayer meetings at homes in the community. She united with the St. John Missionary Baptist Church at the age of 12. She has served her church as a member of the Senior Choir, and also as Treasurer

of the Senior Choir. She has been a member of the St. John's Mother Board for 70 years. She still attends church regularly. Mother Adell cultivated her garden at home with a hoe until 1991. She also kept the weeds from around her house because her daughter was afraid of snakes. She prepared delicious meals for her family until 1993. Her eyes are as sharp as they ever were; she still reads the paper without need of glasses. She was married to the late Julius Williams. They had three boys and three girls: the late Ernest, Willie, James, Carrie, Lula and Hazel.



Morning Market....Every Saturday morning Elder John Barnes (right) can be found on the corner of Line Avenue and Farmville Boulevard with fresh green vegetables...and the seasoning meats to cook them in. Bishop Randy Royal (left), Pastor of the Philippi Church of Christ, Sister Addie Daniels (second from right) and their friends will tell you that the line forms early. Elder Barnes hopes you'll stop by and buy.



302 South Edge Road is our House of the Month selection for January 1999. Shirley and Robert Cox are the proud owners of this beautiful red brick home.

The House of the Month is sponsored by South Lee Street Neighborhood Improvement, Incorporated, and is designed to beautify the South Lee Street neighborhood. Homes are rated according to improvements, safety issues, cleanliness of the yard area, overall care of the home, enhancement the home makes to the neighborhood, and the residents' involvement in the community.

The winner each month receives: Name and picture in the newspaper, "House of the Month" certificate, SLSNI t-shirt, gift certificate from one of our sponsors, and "House of the Month" sign in their yard for the month.

If you would like to enter your home or a home in your neighborhood, call SLSNI at 746-7003.



Office of the Mayor
City of Greenville

Proclamation

WHEREAS, for many years, February has been observed by an increasing number of Americans of all ethnic and sociological backgrounds as African-American History Month; and

WHEREAS, Black Americans have contributed immeasurably to the success of our nation from the days of early colonization to the present, despite hardships which included bigotry, disenfranchisement, laws which prevented them from owning land, and slavery itself; and

WHEREAS, Black Americans have excelled in every facet of life, including education, science, medicine, the arts, politics, and every profession; and

WHEREAS, the great state of North Carolina and the City of Greenville appropriately boast a rich and progressive history which includes numerous significant contributions made by Black citizens who clearly had in mind and demonstrated the laudable purpose of making our city a better place in which each person can live and develop; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that there is a need for each of us to know and understand our past in order to better prepare for the challenge of our future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nancy M. Jenkins, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of February, 1999, as

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

in Greenville and commend this observance to our citizens.

This the 14th day of January, 1999.

Nancy M. Jenkins
Nancy M. Jenkins, Mayor

"When you make choices in your life, make them the best choices for YOU, not anyone else."

Black lawyer defends Klansman

HILLSVILLE, Va. (AP) -- A Black lawyer representing a Ku Klux Klan member used the opinion of a Black Supreme Court justice to bolster his argument that Virginia's cross-burning ban is unconstitutional.

The hearing Wednesday in was David Baugh's second attempt to get a judge to dismiss the cross-burning charge because it deprives his White client of his right to free speech.

Carroll County Circuit Judge Duane Mink gave attorneys six weeks to submit additional arguments that he will consider before ruling whether the law is constitu-

tional.

Barry Black, imperial wizard of the International Keystone Knights of the Klan, was charged on Aug. 22 with burning a cross in a public place, a felony punishable by one to five years in prison.

Black, 50, of Johnstown, Pa., was the leader of a KKK rally in a farm pasture where 18 people wearing robes with pointed hats and carrying torches stood around a 25-foot burning cross.

Baugh, a member of the American Civil Liberties Union's Virginia board of directors, cited a 1992 case in which the U.S.

Supreme Court struck down a St. Paul, Minn., ordinance with language similar to the Virginia law.

"The sole purpose of this statute is to suppress an expression of a group despised by the majority," Baugh said. "I despise the KKK. But if we are going to have a democracy we are going to have dissent and we must tolerate political dissent."

Commonwealth's Attorney Gregory Goad argued that Virginia's law is different from Minnesota's because it is "viewpoint neutral and equally prohibits cross-burning by anyone, to in-

timidate anyone, for any reason."

Baugh said the state's argument was "disingenuous."

"Everybody and their mother knows a cross burning is a racist political act," he said. Baugh then quoted an opinion by Justice Clarence Thomas in another cross-burning case: "In Klan ceremony, the cross is a symbol of White supremacy and a tool for the intimidation and harassment of racial minorities."

If Mink upholds the law, Black, who was not in the courtroom, will be tried in March.

Life sentence in Virginia killing

INDEPENDENCE, Va. -- After being given a life sentence Friday for his role in the death of a Black man who was burned alive and beheaded, a White laborer apologized to the man's family but refused to accept blame.

"I am factually innocent," said Emmett Cressell, 38, who was convicted in November of first-degree murder.

Cressell said he had been falsely accused by his co-defendant, Louis Ceparano, who struck a deal with prosecutors to

avoid the death penalty. Ceparano also was sentenced to life in prison.

Cressell apologized to the family of Garnett P. Johnson for the anguish they have suffered since the July 1997 slaying, but didn't accept blame for it before Circuit Judge Colin Campbell imposed the sentence.

The life sentence, plus a \$100,000 fine, had been recommended by the jury. There is no possibility of parole except for

"geriatric parole" after he turns 60.

The sentence was the maximum that could have been imposed, because the jury opted to convict him of first-degree murder rather than capital murder, which could have carried the death penalty.

Johnson was doused with gasoline and set afire after an all-night drinking party at Ceparano's trailer in rural Grayson County. Authorities found Johnson's charred corpse in a pile of debris

with his severed, burned head in a freshly dug hole nearby.

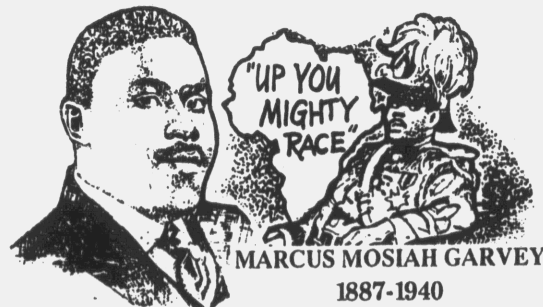
Ceparano and Cressell are White, and the slaying outraged Black leaders across the country and prompted a Justice Department investigation into whether the slaying was a racially motivated hate crime.

The department said it would review the case after the prosecutions are completed.

Jeff Johnson, a cousin of the victim, said: "This is the end of a chapter and maybe Grayson

THEODORE G. MUCHITEN, DMD

Proudly Salutes Black History



It takes courage for a person to go against the odds and the thinking of the masses of people. Marcus Garvey was such a person. He wanted to change the way his people were being treated. He also felt that Blacks should take a greater command of their destiny.

Marcus Mosiah Garvey was born on August 17, 1887, in St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica, the youngest of eleven children. His mother and father were of pure African heritage. At an early age, Marcus learned to take pride in his race. He attended elementary school in St. Ann's Bay. Marcus was very bright student and could speak very well. He was an excellent reader who tried to read every book he could find. He would often read the dictionary to increase his work knowledge and reading skills. But, at age 14, Marcus had to quit school and go to work to help support his family.

Garvey became a printer's helper in Kingston, Jamaica. In this newspaper job, he learned many skills that would be useful to him later. In 1910, he went to Central and South America in search of better jobs. In each city he visited, it disgusted him to see the prejudice aimed against his people.

In 1912, he went to London, England and studied at Birkbeck College. There he met African students for the first time. Because of his new friends, he became interested in African independence. He then began to write for the Africa Times and Orient Review. Upon reading Booker T. Washington's book, Up From Slavery, he was deeply moved by Washington's teachings of Black self-improvement.

In 1914, Garvey returned to Jamaica, convinced that Blacks must find ways to help themselves. So, he and a small group of friends founded the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA). The UNIA promoted racial unity through education, racial pride, business development, and trade with African.

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Black woman speaks for President Bill Clinton

Continued from Page 5

I'm going to take some time to address two of the allegations of obstruction of justice against President Clinton in Article II: first, the allegation related to the box of gifts that Ms. Lewinsky asked Ms. Currie to hold for her; second, the allegation related to the president's conversation with Ms. Currie after his deposition in the Jones case.

Here are some other remarks made by Mills in defense of Pres. Clinton.

Mills: Manager Hutchinson is keeping very good company. He, like the other prosecutors, does not

believe the record before you established obstruction of justice. We agree.

Before I close, I do want to take a moment to address a theme that the House managers sounded through-

Continued on Page 7



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out their presentation last week: civil rights. They suggested that by not removing the president from office, the entire house of civil rights might well fall.

While acknowledging that the president is a good advocate for civil rights, they suggested that they had grave concerns because of the president's conduct in the Paula Jones case. And some managers suggested that we all should be concerned should the Senate fail to convict the president, because it will send a message that our civil rights laws and our sexual harassment laws are unimportant.

I can't let their comments go unchallenged. I speak as but one woman, but I know I speak for others as well. I know I speak for the president.

Bill Clinton's grandfather owned a store. His store catered primarily to African-Americans. Apparently his grandfather was one of only four white people in town who would do business with African-Americans. And he taught his grandson that the African-Americans who came into the store were good people, and they worked hard, and they deserved a better deal in life.

The president has taken his grandfather's teaching to heart and he has worked every day to give all of us a better deal, an equal deal. I'm not worried about

the future of civil rights. I'm not worried because Ms. Jones had her day in court and Judge Wright determined that all of the matters we are discussing here today were not material to her cases, and ultimately decided that Ms. Jones, based on the facts and the law in that case, did not have a case against the president.

I'm not worried because we've had imperfect leaders

in the past and we'll have imperfect leaders in the future. But their imperfections did not roll back nor did they stop the march for civil rights and equal opportunity for all of our citizens.

Thomas Jefferson, Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr. — we revere these men.

We should. But they were not perfect men. They made human errors. But they struggled to do humanity good.

I'm not worried about civil rights, because this president's record on civil rights, on women's rights, on all of our rights, is unimpeachable.

Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, you have an enormous decision to make. And in truth, there is little

more I can do to lighten that burden, but I can do this: I can assure you that your decision to follow the facts and the law and the Constitution and acquit the president will not shake the foundation of the house of civil rights.

The house of civil rights is strong because its foundation is strong. And with all due respect, the foundation of the house of civil rights was never at the core of the Jones case. It was never at the heart of the Jones case. The foundation of the house of civil rights is in the voices of all the great civil rights leaders and the soul of every person who heard them.

It's in the hands of every person who folded a leaflet for change, and it's in the courage of every person who changed. It's here, in the Senate, where men and women of courage and conviction stood for progress, where senators, some of them still in this chamber, some of them who lost their careers, looked to the Constitution, listened to their conscience, and then did the right thing.

The foundation of the house of civil rights is in all of us who gathered up our will, to raise it up and keep on building.

I stand here before you today because others before me decided to take a stand, or, as one of my law professors so eloquently says, "Because someone claimed my opportunities for me, by fighting for my right to have the education I have, by fighting for my right to seek the employment. I choose, by

Continued on Page 10

American Heart Month 1999

Heart diseases, stroke and other blood vessel diseases claim 2,600 American lives every day. That amounts to an average of one cardiovascular disease-related death every 33 seconds. Extracting an annual death toll of about 960,000, cardiovascular disease is, by far, the No. 1 killer of American men and women today. More than 40 percent of all American deaths are attributable to cardiovascular disease.

Each year the American Heart Association recruits millions of volunteers to join its battle against this deadly foe. The association's

unstinting commitment to continued progress in the fight against heart disease and stroke requires a determined effort—every day, every week, every month and every year.

In 1963, Congress officially recognized the need to focus national attention on heart health when it mandated that the president of the United States issue a proclamation annually designating February as American Heart Month. Since then the American Heart Association has worked with successive administrations in pre-

paring the annual proclamation.

The significance of American Heart Month is not that it is a time of intensified effort—the search for expanded knowledge, preventative measures, cures, new medicines and new technologies is always intense. Rather, American Heart Month is significant because it is a time for all Americans to learn about, recognize and appreciate the strides the American Heart Association and other noteworthy health organizations are making to reduce the deadly risks and consequences of cardiovascu-

lar disease.

To increase public understanding, each February during American Heart Month, the American Heart Association launches a nationwide educational campaign.

In 1999, the National Women's Heart Disease and Stroke Campaign, TAKE WELLNESS TO HEART, once again will serve as the theme for the American Heart Association's observance of American Heart Month. The association will continue to reinforce messages of this campaign, includ-

ing the fact that cardiovascular disease is the No. 1 threat to the overall health and the lives of American women. Cardiovascular diseases claim more lives each year than the next 16 causes of death combined, including all forms of cancer. Yet alarmingly, only 8 percent of American women recognize cardiovascular disease as a serious health threat.

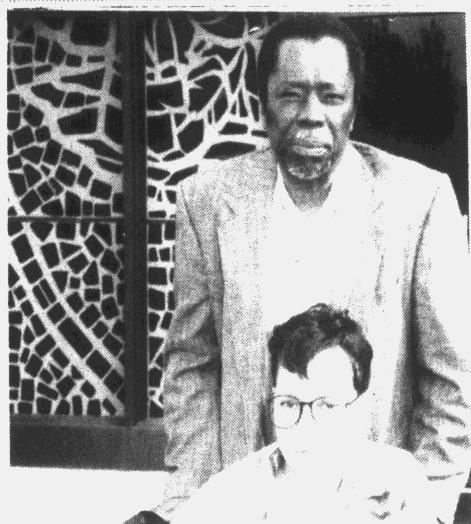
This year, the special message to women is to "Take Charge" in the fight against heart disease and stroke. The "Take Charge" message is intended to encourage American women to learn the risk factors and warning signs of heart

disease and stroke and to take action to eliminate all changeable

risk factors from their lives.

"Take Charge" also addresses another special message for American Heart Month 1999 — the American Heart Association's growing concern about the importance of compliance (compliance with prescription instructions, medical instructions and doctor directives) to cardiovascular health. The aim of this effort is to call special attention to the unique contributions women can make to ensure the wellness of their families and loved ones.

Ensley Named to National Fellowship



Greenville-- Dr. Donald Ensley (pictured left) East Carolina University associate professor and Chairman of the Department of Community Health in the School of Allied Health sciences, has been named to The Healthcare Forum's 1999-2000 Cardiovascular Health Fellowship.

One of 30 health professionals selected from across the nation, Ensley will develop a community action project addressing heart disease as part of the fellowship. The Healthcare Forum is an organization that studies cardiovascular diseases, such as strokes and hypertension, and establishes community-based projects aimed at reducing incidence and severity.

"I'm excited about being able to

study the communities of this disease with experts from throughout the country," Ensley said. "Heart disease and stroke have such prevalent mortality and morbidity rates in eastern North Carolina and the Southern United States. Through my project, I hope to bring more public awareness to the issues surrounding cardiovascular disease and its prevention."

Ensley co-chairs the North Carolina Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force with state Senator Ed Warren, and serves on the executive committee of the Stroke Belt Consortium which encompasses 13 states. At ECU, Ensley chairs the Department of Community Health in the School

of Allied Health Sciences. He has taught at the University for 21 years, and serves on the Pitt Partners for Health Task Force.

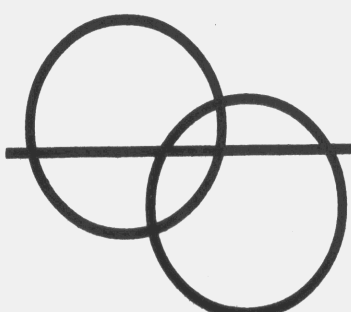
"We are fortunate to have someone of his caliber and skill to serve on the state task force for such an important health concern as heart disease," Warren said. "I think selection to the fellowship speaks well of not only his work throughout the state, but also at the university."

A graduate of North Carolina Central University, Ensley earned his master's and doctorate's degrees from Michigan State University, where he also served as Assistant Director of Admissions for the College of Osteopathic Medicine. In 1976, he earned a

separate master's degree in Public Health from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

The fellowship is sponsored through an unrestricted grant to The Healthcare Forum from Astra Merck. In 1996, the American Association for World Health recognized the forum for its leadership in creating healthier communities. The fellowship will begin in April with a meeting in San Francisco, followed by six computer conferences throughout the year, along with additional meetings at different sites in the United States. It will conclude on May 2, 2000, with a conference in Orlando, Florida.

Eastern Digestive Proudly Salutes Black History Month



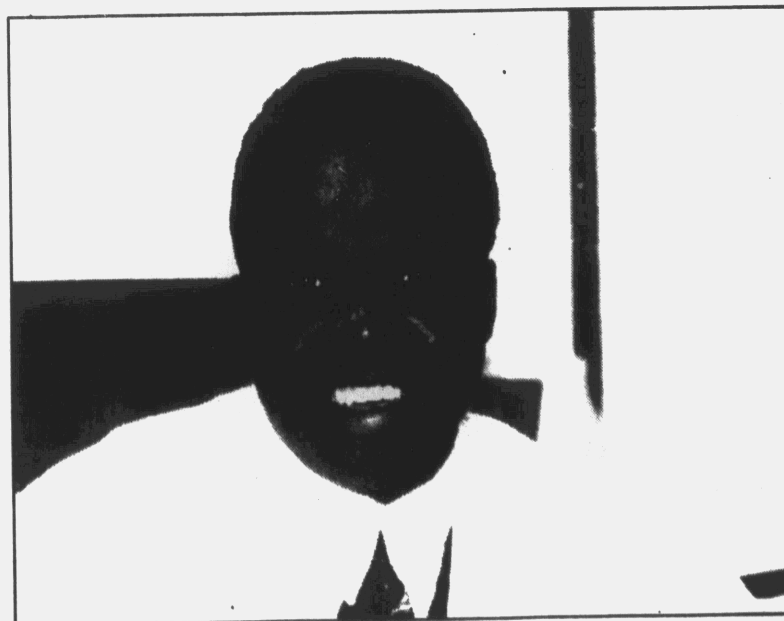
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Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

NAACP President Gives Dedication Speech



Keeping the Dream Alive....SCLC President Bennie Rountree (center) is shown here after feeding hundreds of people at the SCLC's Poor Man's Feast held each year during the Martin Luther King Day Celebration. This year's feast, held at York Memorial AME Zion Church in Greenville, featured speakers including Bishop Randy B. Royal (not pictured), City Councilwoman Mildred Council (left) and Pitt County Commissioner Jeff Savage (not pictured). This year's celebration was made more special with the dedication of a new street named in Dr. King's honor. (Photo by Jim Rouse)



Standing Tall.....is Pitt County's newly elected Sheriff Mac Manning (second from right) at the King Day celebration held at a local church. The sheriff is flanked by Rev. Sidney Locks (right) and the Rev. Dr. C.B. Gray, along with other area dignitaries. Many King Day observances were held throughout the community all day.



Honoring the next generation....Mayor Nancy Jenkins (center) congratulates a student from J. H. Rose High School. The student (second from right), won an essay contest. Others present included City of Greenville Police Captain Cecil Hardee (Second from left) and radio talk show host Monte Williams (far right). (photo by Jim Rouse)



Future leaders.....Troop Leader Bill Sanders is shown with the Boy Scout Troop from Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church, who encourage young men to get involved with their community. They suggest camping as an excellent method of teaching discipline, preparing our young men for their leadership of the future. (photo by Jim Rouse)



Role model.....Tobias "Toby" Crandol is shown here with his family and friends as they gathered to share some love and congratulations with him for having been selected as "Park Ranger of the Year" by the City of Greenville Recreation and Parks Department. (photo by Jim Rouse)

On January 18, 1999, The City of Greenville officially unveiled the newly dedicated Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive. The Master of Ceremoies for the occasion was Mayor Nancy Jenkins.

The following is the speech presented by Mr. Gaston Monk, President of the Pitt County chapter of the NAACP.

Members of the City Council, Ladies and Gentlemen:

This is indeed an historic, momentous occasion-- the Dedication Ceremony for the Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive in Greenville, North Carolina. When I was asked to be on the program, I asked myself what could I say about Martin Luther King, Jr., that the people don't already know. His life and works have been on radio, TV and other media sources continuously for weeks. So I asked myself, why was there a need for one as Martin Luther King, Jr., if we were all born equal and guaranteed the same rights under the laws? My mind went back to the year 1740 when the American Colonies began enacting compulsory ignorance laws prohibiting the teaching of slaves or free Blacks. Despite the risk of punishment and even disfigurement for learning to read, thousands of enslaved African Americans defied the laws.

For a young Frederick Douglass, gaining an education was a direct route to freedom. Born in 1818 on the eastern shores of Maryland, Douglas was raised by his grandmother on a plantation.

He was sent to a new master in Baltimore at age eight. At first, his new master's wife encouraged him to read and write until her husband convinced her that "learning would spoil the best slave." The master forbade the continuance of his instruction, telling her that it was unlawful, that it was unsafe, and could only lead to trouble. To use his own words, he said, "if you give a slave an inch he will take a mile; he should know nothing but the will of his master, and learn to obey it. If you teach him to read the Bible there will be no keeping him, it would forever unfit him for the duties of a slave. As to himself, learning would do him no good, but probably, a great deal of harm--making him disconsolate and unhappy. If you teach him to read, he'll want to know how to write and with this accomplishment he'll be running away with himself." These words stayed with Douglas and stirred up a feeling of rebellion and made him understand the direct pathway from slavery to freedom. The yearning for freedom eventually manifested

made MLK, Jr., a national leader and culminated in historic civil rights legislation in the 1960's. Mrs. Parks was arrested for her refusal to give up her seat. Martin was informed of the incident and the arrest after bail had been posted for Mrs. Parks. He organized a meeting of the leaders of the community and they formed the Montgomery Improvement Association and elected King as president. A boycott was organized and started on December 5. The success of the boycott led to the Supreme Court's affirmation that Alabama's laws requiring segregation on buses were unconstitutional.

On December 21, 1956, Montgomery's buses were peacefully integrated. Inspired by the Montgomery bus victory, movements sprang up in other cities. As Black Congressman John Conyers later exclaimed, "Rosa Parks moved civil rights issues from the back of the bus to the front of America's conscience." When Dr. King's house was bombed in Montgomery in 1957, crowds of Black people rallied in front of the

house, many with rifles, shot guns, and pistols. The question of self-defense was raised as an exact response to its obvious need in real life. National leadership was thrust upon Dr. King by the media when he commuted the crowds' deepest and most immediate emotions into a Black Christian alternative. "If any blood be shed -- let it be ours!" Newsweek and Time magazines carried these words and a part of America confirmed King's vision. The church, the voice of Southern Black religion and its professional class would reassert its leadership, and Christianity, now would be the clothing democracy would need. If we were righteous, we would overcome, as the Bible and Jesus promised.

On February 11, 1960, four Black college students sat down at a White-only lunch counter in Greensboro. Their simple but grave gesture--ordering coffee--launched the sit-in movement. Non-violent protest movements consisting mostly of Black youth, (sit-ins) spread throughout the South, eventually causing establishments to end their segregationist practices or suffer dire economic consequences. Like the Montgomery bus boycott, sit-ins galvanized people and proved that non-violent action could bring on momentous change.

In spite of all the positive changes that have taken place, today, January 1999, finds life in America for a Black man still not a comfortable existence. It means being a part of the company of the bruised, the battered, and the scarred. Being a Black man in

their own, another White male.

It is impossible to create a formula for the future which does not take into account that our society has been doing something special against the Black man for hundreds of years. How then can he be absorbed into the mainstream of American life if we do not do something special for him, in order to balance the equation and equip him to compete on a just and equal basis? In asking for something special, the Black man is not seeking charity. He does not want to be given a job he cannot handle. Nor does he want to be told that there is no place where he can be trained to handle it. Few people consider the fact that, in addition to being enslaved for two centuries, the Black man was, during all those years, robbed of the wages of this toil. No amount of gold could provide an adequate compensation for the exploitation and humiliation of the Black man in America down through the centuries. Not all the wealth of this affluent society could meet the bill. Yet a price can be placed on unpaid wages.

As you ride through the county and state, you see roads named for people whose only claim to fame is that they own many acres of land that was cleared by slave labor and passed down from generations to generations within the same family. Martin Luther King, Jr.s leadership and works qualified him for this honor; he got it the old fashioned way--he earned it. I want to thank the mayor, and the city council, for honoring our request.

To those of you who live in West Greenville, and those who travel down Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive, I want you to feel a sense of pride and remember the hard work, the suffering, the degradation it took to get us here. Remember that the greatest victory of our time has been internal. As with other races we have our share of drug addicts and criminals. Yet the real victory is in what has happened to the mind of the Black man. The greatness of this time is that we have armed ourselves with dignity and self-respect. The greatness of this time is that we have straightened our back up. A man cannot ride your back unless it is bent. As we live on and travel upon this--the Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive--let us do so in remembrance of the legacy of non-violence that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., left us. A legacy we must strive to carry forth.

Mr. Gregg's Salon News

Happy new year!! With 1998 now behind us and 1999 just beginning, Mr. Gregg's Total Care Salon Services is blowing up! There are many changes planned for the new year; new stuff, new equipment and new services. We are happy to announce the addition of a new Styling Team, as well as a new Nail Care Team. It is our goal to have an all purpose, multicultural salon that provides the best service with a professional and comfortable environment. With the addition of these two professional teams, we are well on our way to providing our clients with the best of all services available.

Styling Team Members

Name	Specialty
Mr. Gregg	Hair Care Color, and Cuts.
Tasha Chamberlin	Extention Styles
Tanya Davis	Hair Care

Nail Care Team Members

Name	Specialty
LaKeisha Godley	Nail Art
"Dee" Greene	Nail Care
NaKeisha Speller	Natural Nails and Pedicures

Mr. Gregg's is blowing up !!!



Dee Greene, Nail Care Technician



Tasha Chamberlain, Hair Stylist

Happy 1st Anniversary!!!

on February 2, 1999, Mr. Gregg's Total Care Salon will celebrate its 1st anniversary. This has been a great year for all of us here. We have had some great times together, and would like to thank some very special people. Ruby at Ruby's Photography, for the photos taken for the calendar; Cathy Perkins for the free makeovers, and serving as the makeup artist for the models; and to all of you for making this salon the finest multicultural salon in Greenville. Thank you all for your support. We couldn't have done it without you. Cheers!!!

Nail art is now available at Mr. Gregg's. With the addition of LaKeisha Godley to our nail care team, Mr. Gregg's will now offer our clients nail art. In order to introduce you to this new service, LaKeisha will offer free nail art with any full set of nails. Make your appointment today. Don't miss out on this great pricing break.

Lakeisha Godley, Nail Artist

Birthday Wishes.

We would like to extend our January Birthday Wishes to:

Elena Cray 1/8
Jerri Darden 1/12
LaDonna Hart 1/12
Diane Eley 1/27
Natasha Darden 1/29

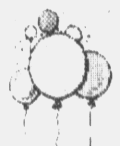
Feuary Birthday Wishes:

Vetta Higgs 2/8
Traci Eley 2/25
Tashayna Spellman 2/28

If you would like to include a name for the birthday wish list, please give it to any staff member.



Mr. Gregg's Total Care Salon
502 Dexter Street
Greenville, NC 27835
(252) 353 - 6489



City of Greenville Salutes Dr. Martin Luther King



"Herbs for life/Healthy Living"**Are you tired of being SICK and TIRED?****DO YOU NEED ENERGY, STRESSED OUT, SUFFERING FROM PAIN, CRAMPS AND ACES?**

If your answer to those questions is yes,

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HONEY BEE POLLEN

Helps with digestion; quick energy, strength and stamina, endurance and allergy relief...

THIN-ERGY

Builds muscles, increases mental alertness, helps with sinus congestion, lowers blood pressure, curbs appetite...

PROSTATE FORMULA

Helps prevent prostate cancer, reduces swelling of prostate...

CALL TODAY AND PLACE YOUR ORDER. REMEMBER, AN Ounce OF PREVENTION IS WORTH MORE THAN A POUND OF CURE.**CT ENTERPRISES****SOLICITATION OF PROPOSALS
TOWN OF WINTERVILLE
SOUTHERN SEWER EXTENSION
1999**

The work will consist of the following major items of works:

- Install new duplex lift pump and pump tank.
- Install approximately 3680 linear feet of 8 inch force main.
- Install approximately 11,600 linear feet of gravity sewer.

All contractors are hereby notified that they must have proper licenses under the state laws governing their respective trades and have experience in performing the type of work specified.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a cash deposit, certified check drawn on some bank or trust company insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation of an amount equal to not less than 5% of the proposal or in lieu thereof a bidder may offer a bid bond 5% the bid executed by a Surety Company licensed under the laws of North Carolina to execute such bonds conditioned that the surety will upon demand forthwith make payment to the obligee upon said bond if the bidder fails to execute the contract in accordance with the bid bond and upon failure to forthwith make surety shall pay to the obligee an amount equal to double the amount of said bond. Said deposit shall be retained by the owner as liquidated damage in the event of failure of the successful bidder to execute the contract within 10 days after the award of to give satisfactory surety as required by law.

TOWN OF WINTERVILLE
PO BOX 1459
WINTERVILLE, NC 28590

Sealed Bids for the construction of the following major elements of the works..

- Install new duplex lift pump and pump tank.
- Install approximately 3680 linear feet of 8 inch force main.
- Install approximately 11,600 linear feet of gravity sewer mains.

Will be received by The Town of Winterville at the office of the town in Winterville, NC until 2:00 P.M., (Eastern Standard Time), February 17, 1999, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud. The Contract Documents may be examined at the following locations:

Office of the Engineer,
Carolina Benchmark,
Engineers-Surveyors-Planners, Inc
102 Oakmont Drive
Greenville, NC 27858

Sealed proposals will be received by **The Town of Winterville, North Carolina** in the **Town Offices** until **2:00 P.M.** local time the **17th day of February, 1999**, and immediately thereafter opened and read for furnishing of labor, materials, and equipment entering into the installation of building repairs.

Proposals must be enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed to the Town of Winterville, City Manager, P.O. Box 1459, Winterville, North Carolina 28590. The outside of the envelope must be marked "BID FOR SOUTHERN SEWER EXTENSION". All proposals must be made on the blank forms provided for that purpose. The name, address, and license number of the bidder shall be plainly marked on the outside of the sealed envelope.

Complete plans, specifications and contract documents will be open for inspection in the office of the Engineer, Carolina Benchmark, 102 Oakmont Drive, Greenville, NC 27858, the office of Associated General Contractors, Raleigh, N.C., the office of the Pitt County Health Department, Greenville, N.C., or may be obtained from the office of the Engineer by those who will make a bid upon deposit of TEN DOLLARS (\$10.00) in cash or certified check. The deposit will be returned only to those submitting a bona fide proposal provided plans and specifications are returned to the Engineer in good condition within five (5) days after the date set for receiving bids.

Charter schools a growing trend

Greenville:--On January 22, the League of Women Voters of Pitt County hosted an educational forum. Held at Pitt Community College, the forum was designed to inform the community of the advantages of charter schools, a new type of public schools that are spreading rapidly throughout North Carolina.

North Carolina's 90 charter public schools were North Carolina's accountable public schools because charter schools are accountable to both the parents and the taxpayers, said Vernon Robinson, President of the NC Education Reform Foundation, and father of the state's charter school movement. Robinson joined Richard Clontz of the State Department of Public Instruction in presenting information and answering questions. Representatives from three area charter schools rounded out the panel.

"Charter schools are the only public schools that are accountable to the taxpayers for performance and accountable to parents for customer satisfaction," said Robinson. Charter schools only get operating funds to the extent that they perform. Failure to perform means revocation of the charter and closing of the school.

"Unlike public schools, which have students forced to attend by attendance districts and no other choices available, the only way charter schools keep their budget is to keep parents satisfied. If the parent is not satisfied with the service the school provides, the charter school no longer gets money for that child. If enough children leave, the school is no longer financially viable and is closed. Since 1997, three charter schools have been closed for just such a difficulty. "Please let me know the first time a district-run public school is closed because it did not do its job of educating children," challenged Robinson.

"Charter schools are the greatest success in public school reform since the NC Constitution guaranteed a free public education. Charter schools have shown how to be better stewards of public funds with regard to providing learning space, transportation and spending learning dollars in the classroom. Unfortunately, these successes horrify the traditional education establishment, and for that reason this success story has not been told," he said.

Robinson provided numerous examples for charter school success. The two top public schools, according to NC Department of

Public Instruction testing data, are Magellan Charter public school and Exploris public charter school, both located in Wake County. Charter schools have also shown stunning achievement with regard to "at-risk" students. Healthy Start Academy of Durham has a student population that is 98% black, 80% single parents and over 70% eligible for the federal free and reduced lunch program. While these are the type of statistics that school districts use as an excuse for not teaching children, Healthy Start Academy scored in the 99% percentile for Kindergarten and the top third for 2nd grade on the Iowa Test of Basic skills--both nationally recognized systems of standardized testing.

"Politicians and bureaucrats have told you forever that they wanted to put more money in the classroom, and so they asked you for more money," Robinson said. "However, about half of it never made it to the classroom. In North Carolina, 52% of the personnel employed by school districts do not teach a class, and that number has been dropping for 20 years. Compare that to the staffing ratio at Healthy Start Academy (charter school) which has 78% of its personnel teaching a class. They contract out

specialized services and obtain them more cheaply. And since they don't have to pay that other 22% to not teach, the teachers there are paid 40% more than the Durham school system pays. They also can, and do, fire weak teachers on the spot." Robinson challenged the district-run public schools to state their own example of when they had immediately terminated non-performing instructors.

Unlike traditional public schools, Robinson noted, charter schools don't have beginning teachers with the bad assignments, they don't have beginning teachers with tougher kids. They expand the professional responsibility of teachers and treat them like professional and "pay the A-team like the varsity, as opposed to the union workrule pay chart based on seat time in the classroom," he said.

"The most important success of the charter school movement," Robinson said, both here and in other states, "is that the system of accountability to taxpayers and parents shows the way all public schools should be designed. In this fashion, we will create educational opportunity for the vast majority of children who will remain in public schools in the short and intermediate term."

The Leukemia Society Needs YOUR help!

Dear Friends and Family:

On June 19, 1999, I will be running in the Mayor's Midnight Sun Marathon located in Anchorage, Alaska to benefit leukemia patients. I am writing you to seek sponsorship for training and running in this race.

I will be running as a member of the Leukemia Society of America "Team in Training." This team will consist of runners who are joining forces to train for marathons while raising money for local leukemia patients and research. This program is sponsored by "Runners World" magazine. By contributing to the Leukemia Society of America as one of my sponsors, you will help me to raise much-needed funds for patient financial assistance and research to help find a cure.

Over the next five months I will be running between 500 and 750 miles to prepare for this race. Although the training and the distance of the race itself (26.2 miles) is a formidable challenge, it is small in comparison to the challenges faced day by day of leukemia patients. I have to raise \$3,300 to be able to participate in this marathon.

I fully realize any blood, sweat, and tears I encounter in training for this marathon will pale in comparison to the physical and emotional pain of all leukemia patients around the world. Together we can help to find a cure, hopefully by the year 2000.

This will be the most worthwhile thing you will ever do! Please join me in this fight against leukemia and help make some dreams come true!

If you would like to sponsor one of the most inspiring and charitable events of your life, make checks payable to the Leukemia Society of America in care of Mary Ann Sembera. Please send donations to the following mailing address:

MARY ANN SEMBERA
710 West Third Street
Ayden, NC 28513
(252) 746-8161

Thank you for your help!

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Sale Price \$2,789.16 29% @ 78 weeks

1988 Chevrolet Beretta - 2 dr, A/T.

Sale Price \$2,789.16 29% @ 78 weeks

1986 Honda Accord - 4 dr, A/T.

Sale Price \$2,789.25 29% @ 78 weeks

1993 Hyundai Excel - 4 dr, A/T, A/C.

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*Down payments may vary

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**Spiritual
Thoughts**

by Dr. George A. Hawkins

"Of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness and sanctification and deliverance" (1 CORINTHIANS 1:30).

If you notice in this scripture quote, WISDOM is given first, which means that it is the most important step in the plan of salvation. The testimony of the Wise Man also agrees with this, saying "Wisdom is the principal thing... with all thy getting, get understanding." In all of our weaknesses or strengths, wisdom is necessary to our taking the proper course. All intelligence seeks for more knowledge and wisdom. Foolish mistakes and foolish decisions may not appear at the time to be unwise or foolish. This was the case of Mother Eve who longed for knowledge and wisdom. The forbidden tree from which ate seemed to her to be a door to wisdom, but little did she realize that her thirst for it created her first sin which was disobedience to God.

We all need a wise counselor to guide us in the ways of pleasantness and peace. What better counselor than the Word of God... the Scriptures? If Mother Eve, whom God created perfect, needed a wise guide, how much more do we as her fallen imperfect children need such a guide. Our Heavenly Father knows that our own wisdom is not to be depended upon and that the wisdom of the Adversary (the Devil) is meant for our bad.

Therefore, let us look to Jesus Christ and his Word for our spiritual enlightenment.

'The very fact that the daughter of an Army officer from Richmond, Va., ... can represent the president of the United States on the floor of the Senate of the United States is powerful proof that the American dream lives.'

Continued from Page 7

fighting for my right to be a lawyer, by sitting in, and carrying signs, and walking long marches, riding freedom rides, and putting their bodies on the line for civil rights.

I stand here before you today because America decided that the way things were was not how they're going to be. We the people decided that we all deserved a better deal. I stand here before you today because President Bill Clinton believes I could stand here for him.

Your decision whether to remove President Clinton from office, based on the articles of impeachment, I know will be based on the law and the facts and the Constitution. It would be wrong to convict him on this record. You should acquit him on this record. And you must not let imagined harms to the house of civil rights persuade you otherwise.

The president did not obstruct justice. The president did not commit perjury. The president must not be removed from office.