

# Welcome Home Family Reunion

# The Minority Voice

Serving Eastern North Carolina Since 1981

June 17, 1999 - July 7, 1999

Have a safe and Happy 4th of July from the staff of the "M" Voice Newspaper and Joy 1340 AM

## EPPE'S Alumni Reunion Schedule



**Friday July 2nd, 1999**  
American Legion Bldg.  
St. Andrews Drive  
7:00 PM Board of Directors

8:00 PM Registration  
Sip N Chat  
Hors d'oeuvres & open Bar  
Midnight Hospitality Suite Open  
Ramada Inn (Members & Guests)

**Saturday, July 3rd, 1999**  
9:00 AM Breakfast/  
Business Meeting  
Call To Order  
Amy S. Taylor President  
Invocation / Grace  
Charles Dickens, Chaplain

Welcome Address  
Mayor Nancy Jenkins  
Response  
Hampton Roads School  
W. Imogene Dupree  
Breakfast Buffet  
Necrology  
Betty E. Nurse  
Business Minutes  
Sallye C. Streeter

Financial Report  
Sheila Latham  
Chapter Reports  
New York  
Connecticut  
Baltimore  
Hampton Roads  
Greenville  
Building/Building  
Fund Raising  
J.B. Taft Jr.  
James Milton Hines

Charles Taylor  
Remarks  
Amy S. Taylor  
Announcements  
Alma Mater  
Adjournment  
1:00 PM

Family Cultural Day  
Old Eppes Campus  
4:00 PM

Annual Reunion Picnic  
Old Eppes Campus  
9:00 PM

Annual Reunion Dance  
American Legion Bldg.  
Music by  
The MONITORS  
Hors d'oeuvres &  
Open Bar  
1:00 AM

Hospitality Suite Open  
Ramada Inn  
(Members & Guests)  
**Sunday July 4th, 1999**  
11:00 AM  
Alumni Worship Service  
Mount Calvary

## Rev. Lyons Ordered to Pay \$5.2 Million

TAMPA, Fla. The Rev. Henry Lyons, former president of one of the nation's largest Black church organizations, on June 18, was ordered to repay \$5.2 million for bank fraud and tax evasion.

Rev. Lyons, already serving five and one half years in state prison for bilking com-

panies and stealing from charities, also was sentenced by a federal judge to four years and three months behind bars. But the federal sentence will be served concurrently with the state sentence.

"I do ask for mercy today," Rev. Lyons told U.S. District Judge Henry Lee Adams Jr.

"I'm 57. I don't have a lot of time to right all the wrong I have done," Rev. Lyons pleaded guilty March 17 to federal charges related to his business dealings as head of the National Baptist Convention USA. He admitted failing to pay taxes on \$1.3 million in income, defrauding a bank and making

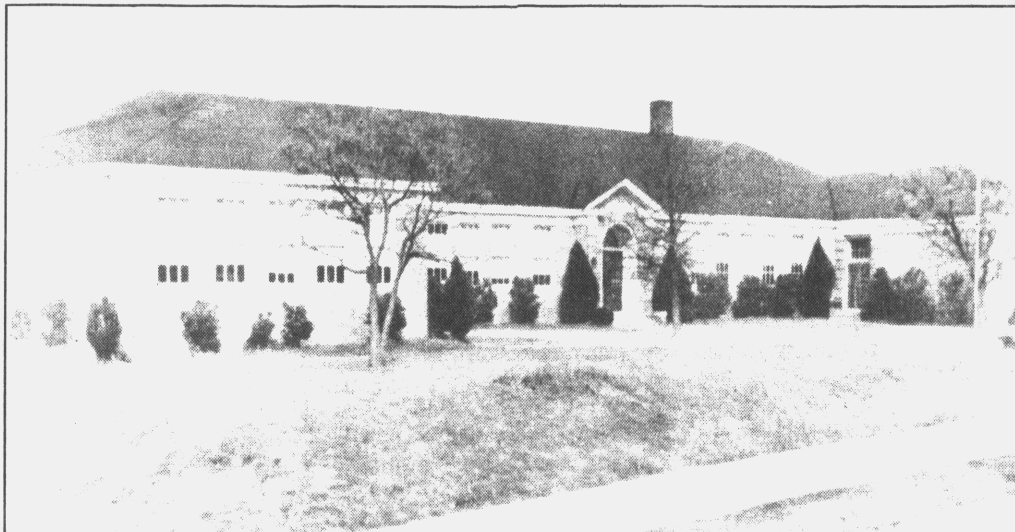
false statements. Rev. Lyons was convicted in state court in February of extorting \$4 million from companies which conducted businesses with the church Organization as well as taking a \$250,000 donation from the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith which was to have been used to rebuild Black churches that had been burned. The co-defendant in the Lyons case, Brenda Harris, plead guilty on April 12 to a single minor charge bringing her case to a halt. Ms. Harris, a planner for the National Baptist Convention, pled guilty to failing to inform the police when a crime was being committed. Ms. Harris, who claims to have had an affair with Rev. Lyons will lose the \$700,000 home purchased with money from the former convention director as well as any bank accounts. It was this home which triggered an investigation into the minister's lavish spending following a fire set by his wife

once she learned the house was Rev. shared by her husband and Ms. Harris.

Ms. Harris maintains Rev. Lyons provided her with a substantial amount of the down payment as well as lavish jewelry and gifts during their two-year relationship, but said her relationship with the

married minister was not about money or gifts, but love. "He was a good person to me," she said.

Another co-defendant in the case, conventions public relations director Bernice Edwards who was acquitted in state court, plead guilty to two federal tax evasion charges and is scheduled for sentencing in September. Sentencing for Ms. Harris is scheduled for July 26. As part of the plea agreement, prosecutors won't seek a prison term, according to her attorney Peter Strianse. Following her plea she expressed apologies for her part in the crimes.



## Old Eppes High School

## Blacks being Left Out of US History - Again

said a son to his father, after he read a story to the youth about a lion being slain by a hunter. "Dad, in these stories, why does the lion always lose?" The day's reply: "Son, it will always be that way - until the lion learns how to write . . . There has been a wave of controversy lately over millennium-centered "best lists" compiled by so-called "experts."

One such survey in question recently was a Time magazine compilation that named the 20 top minds of the century. No Blacks, no Hispanics, no women. That was insult enough, we guess, not to include such African-American scientists and intellectuals as George Washington Carver, W.E.B. DuBois, or Percy Julian and William Junius Wilson.

But to add insult to injury,

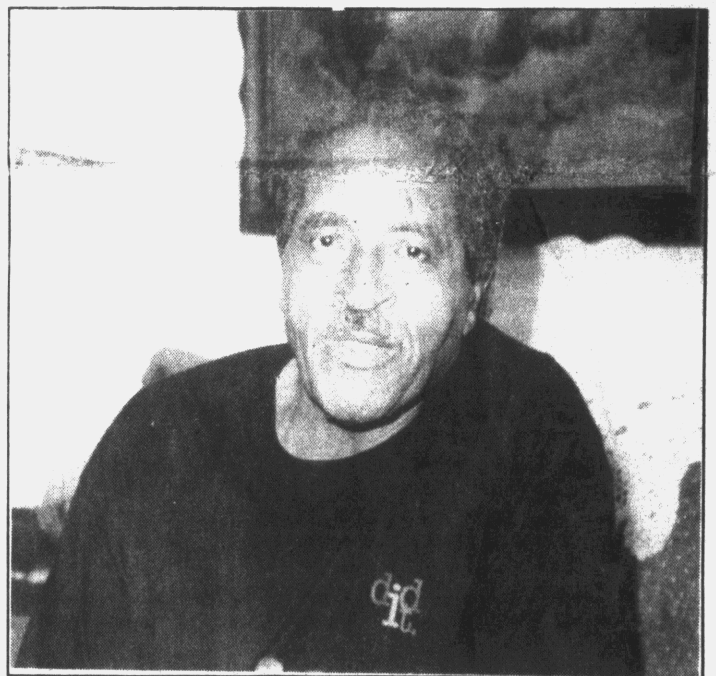
especially for sports buffs, pseudo-baseball "authorities" Street and Smith's Sports Business Journal have had the audacity to name a Major League Baseball Team of the Century that includes absolutely no African Americans or Hispanics on the first team. In fact, the great Willie Mays, John Gibson, Roberto Clemente and Ken Griffey Jr. are relegated to the bench on their faux team and no minorities made the cut for the five starting pitchers, unless you want to count Sandy Koufax, who was Jewish. Jackie Robinson, Hank Aaron and "Mr. Cub" Ernie Banks barely made the "B"

list. Does that "B" stand for "Blacks?" Joe Morgan and Ozzie Smith - perhaps the greatest shortstop ever to sit on

the bench on the "B" team.

Ludicrous. Insulting. Racist and unrealistic. Why, half of the so-called "Team of the Century" didn't even compete against the Black players of their time, who were banished to the Negro Leagues because of segregation and probably would have whipped the "Team of the Century" badly, even on their worst days. The lion has learned how to write this time, and among his admonitions are the words "bunk," baloney" and "bull" to some "best" lists. Thank God such lists do not embody the full measure of the man - and women they omit.

You can keep your doggone lists. We'll take history and reality and day over biased speculation. Now we know who wrote history as we teach it today.



Pictured World War II Veteran Ben Chapman

## World War II Vet. Speaks On Racial Slur

The "M" Voice Newspaper Was given the rare opportunity to converse with Ben Chapman a World War 2 veteran. We discussed everything from the word "Japs" the racial slur used by Commissioner Hammond to the present state of Black America.

**The "M" Voice :** How do you feel about the comments made by Commissioner Hammond?  
**Ben Chapman :** Well I believe it was a slip of the tongue lets not over react and blow this thing out of proportion. I remember on Dec. 7, 1941 I was on my way to Sunday school with my father. He turned on the radio and the President said, *the Japanese had just bombed Pearl Harbor and the "Japs" Air Force has just destroyed our Battleship* the President called them "Japs"

**The "M" Voice :** Do you think Commissioner Hammond intended any malice with his comment?

**Ben Chapman :** No, I believe in the back of his mind he thought the comment was off the record but, when talking to white America you have to remember nothing is off the record. I also think the clergy should have pulled him to the side and asked him what was your temper when you made this comment. Tell him to be frank and let him know if he is in the right they will support

him. But, the clergy in Greenville does not support each other.

**The "M" Voice :** What do you think about the comparison of Commissioner Hammond's comment "How many Japs are expected to arrive" to that of Walter Williams' comment "There's a Nigger in the wood pile?"

**Ben Chapman :** When Williams made his comment, all of his supporters stood up and spoke about how many millions of dollars he donated to ECU and what he has done for the Black community. See, he owns all of the Trade Marts in Greenville but, for as much money as he has put into the Black community he has taken an equal amount out.

**The "M" Voice :** Should Black America support Commissioner Hammond regardless of of personal feelings about the comment?

**Ben Chapman :** Yes, we can actually turn this thing around. We have more evidence on them than they have on us. We are ignorant to them, 3rd class citizens, they control the banks the schools. They are the people we have to go to for most anything, and as long as you can keep a nation dependent you can control that nation.

## Alabama Lawmakers Fight Interracial Marriage Ban

By June Preston

ATLANTA (Reuters) - A legislator in Alabama -- the only U.S. state whose laws still ban interracial marriage -- planned Tuesday to ask the Attorney General to pave the way for residents to vote in October on eliminating the prohibition.

The law barring marriages between blacks and whites was rendered void when the U.S. Supreme Court struck it down years ago but remains in the Alabama constitution. Removing the language from state law requires voter approval although the impact would be almost purely symbolic. "Alabama has a long history of racism and this interracial marriage ban is part of it," State Rep. Alvin Holmes, the legislator campaigning for the October vote, told Reuters. Alabama was a major battleground during the 1960s civil rights movement and is still a stronghold of Confederate nostalgia, but voters are expected to approve eliminating the ban by a large majority.

A bill passed easily by the state legislature called for residents to vote to revise the Alabama constitution. But the measure ran

afoul of legal technicalities by failing to specify a date for the vote.

Lawmakers had thought it would be on Oct. 12 but the Secretary of State's office has ruled that, according to procedure, the vote must wait until the general election in November 2000.

Holmes of Montgomery, who sponsored the measure in the legislature, said he will visit Attorney General Bill Pryor Tuesday and ask him to interpret the referendum law in a way that would enable the vote to go ahead on Oct. 12. That is when Alabamians consider whether the state will have a lottery. The Secretary of State's office appeared to stand firm in its position. "It won't be on the Oct. 12 ballot," said Steve Prince, a spokesman in the Secretary of State's office.

Prince said lawmakers have two ways to get a referendum on the ballot -- set the date in the language of the bill itself or pass a resolution that sets the date.

"We don't know what happened," Prince said. "There was never a House or Senate resolution passed.

"At some point in the legislative



# Minority Voice Editorials

## Taken from The News & Observer

### A school board in discord

I've got just two questions for the scurrilous, lowdown snake in the grass who illegally leaked Durham Public Schools Superintendent Ann Denlinger's performance evaluation.

First, "How could you stoop so low as to violate the sanctity of her personnel files like that?"

And second, "Why didn't you call me instead of those other guys?"

The revelations in the leaked files were not surprising, certainly not to me. If anything, they're almost yawn-inducing, because anyone even casually aware of the infighting on the board knows that the white board members think Denlinger walks on water while the black ones think she is all wet.

That was exemplified in the evaluations, which ranged from effusive to pathetic: Arnold Spell gave her 388 points of a possible 400 — I guess ol' Arn must've figured his wife would get suspicious if he gave her 500 — while Mozell Robinson essentially "gonged" the superintendent with a score of 93. Ouch.

Even if race isn't the primary motivation — and both sides insist it isn't — the white board members come off looking like giddy cheerleaders incapable of objectivity, while some black ones risk sounding like petulant children nursing hurt feelings by criticizing Denlinger's "interpersonal" shortcomings without at least acknowledging that the schools are working — either because of or in spite of her.

In judging the Super — and even I, someone who never says a bad thing about anyone, have been a harsh critic when she deserved it — it's important to note that she didn't inherit a smoothly running system with a long, harmonious history. It was on the verge of success when she took hold of the reins, but the recently merged system was a still contentious and racially riven one which, frankly, many people wanted to see fail.

Thus, most parents, black or white, will be less concerned that Denlinger might have hurt some board members' feelings than that test scores are improving.

If some board members fail to see that, the question that must be asked is: "What's more important to them, good schools or good feelings between board members and the superintendent?"

Parents should care if Denlinger — as her critics screamed from the day she became a candidate — is truly intent upon purging all black administrators from the system, but they also have a right to know why the Rev. Philip Cousin, a black board member, disparaged Denlinger with a score of 120, yet refuses to explain why.

Remember that old Negro spiritual, "Jesus on the Main Line (Tell Him What You Want)"? I just hope the Rev. Cousin answers when Jesus calls, because he certainly isn't answering when reporters or colleagues call seeking comment.

Tension on the school board — and between the board and the superintendent — is not inherently bad. Nor is harmony inherently good. Both become bad, though, if the board members who are always pleased by Denlinger are white and the ones who are always displeased are black.

Want to tell Barry what you think? Call him at 636-2811 or e-mail him at [barrys@mundo.com](mailto:barrys@mundo.com)

June 29, 1999  
Dear Sheriff:

Please assist and assure the citizens of Pitt County by publicly responding to the following five questions surrounding the fatal shooting of Mr. Stephenson by Mr. Lee at the convenient store and your department's subsequent investigation and your seemingly rapid response to the incident:

1) Commissioner Jeff Savage says you told him that you determined the death was a result of self-defense after a two-hour investigation by your department. Neither the facts, nor your appearance on the 11:00 PM news support that. Therefore, will you please state the actual time the shooting occurred and when the case was investigated and

2) Also, there has been no report of what the store's surveillance video revealed from that evening. If there were a video tape, what, if anything, did it reveal and is it available for public inspection?

3) Media reports suggest Mr. Stephenson was armed. If so, with what type weapon was he armed, where did the bullet enter the deceased's body and were the deceased's fingerprints lifted from the alleged weapon as part of your department's investigation?

4) Rumors have surfaced that Mr. Lee has relatives who are deputies and that they were, in fact, the official investigators of the alleged crime. If this is true, was the investigation conducted objectively and fairly?

5) Finally, news reports also further stated that a sign in Mr. Lee's store read: "We don't call 9-1-1." If this is true, what did the sheriff's department conclude as the intent of the of the sign and the specific message meant to be conveyed? Thank you in advance for your prompt, professional and thorough response to your citizenry. We are confident this will give citizens of Pitt County the assurance a community needs to maintain a high level of confidence in its law enforcement.

Until President Clinton called attention to the issue in his State of the Union address, mandatory public school uniform policies were sporadic local occurrences. A few school districts had been quietly experimenting with uniforms for years, but the issue caught President Clinton's eye after the Long Beach, California school district released some numbers suggesting that after only one year, its mandatory uniform policy had not only brought about significant decreases in vandalism and fighting, but had also led to higher test scores. Now that the President's endorsement has elevated school uniforms into the realm of federal education policy, a question needs to be answered: Are uniforms a good idea?

The most concise response to this question is, nobody knows. The superintendent of the Long Beach School District claims that the district's self-generated data showing decreases in certain form of student misconduct is proof that uniforms work. But other steps to improve student behavior, like increasing the number of teachers patrolling the hallways during class changes, were also taken by the district around the same time the uniform policy was introduced. Without further study, it is impossible to say with any certainty that the uniforms were responsible for the changes. The fact is that there are no empirical studies that show that uniforms consistently produce positive

## School Uniforms

### SPECIAL COMMENTARY

Loren Siegel

By Director, Public Education Dept., ACLU

changes in student behavior over the long run. At best, school uniform policies are purely experimental.

The experiment presents some very practical problem. First, although President Clinton said he supported uniforms "if it means that teenagers will stop killing each other over designer jackets," the Long Beach policy, like virtually every other uniform policy in the country, applies only to elementary and middle school students, and not to teenagers. While younger children may be amenable to uniforms—might even like them—teenagers are different. It's axiomatic that adolescence is a time when young people strive to express their uniqueness and individuality in many different ways, and especially through fashion. Of course as several political cartoonists have pungently observed, teens are already in uniform—baggy pants, T-shirts and baseball caps worn backward. But these are "uniforms" of teens' own choosing, and not fashions dictated from above. School administrators and teachers know the teenagers are sure to rebel against uniforms policies; that's why so far

they've been reluctant to impose them at the high school level.

Second, for a public school uniform policy to be legal, it has to have an opt out provision. Every child in this country has the right to a public school education, and that right cannot be conditioned upon compliance with a uniform policy. Some parents and children will have religious objections to uniforms. Others won't want to participate aesthetic reasons. If given a choice, it is hard to imagine that most or even many teenagers will opt to wear the uniforms.

Beyond these practical considerations, the call for school uniforms is not constructive because it is a Band Aid solution to a set of serious problem that defy my answers. There is something profoundly cynical about our political leaders promoting uniforms in the face of crumbling school buildings, overcrowded classrooms, and dwindling education funds. The debate over uniforms is a diversion. Attractive, modern and safe school buildings, small class sizes, schools with well stocked libraries, new computers and an way of

elective courses like music, drama and art—those are the kinds of changes that would produce long lasting and dramatic improvements in student deportment and achievement. But of course that would require us to invest, rather than disinvest, in our public school system.

If policy makers are serious about finding solutions to the problem of school violence, maybe they should ask the real experts: the students themselves. The ACLU recently conducted a series of focus groups and discussions with high school students and asked them what they thought would help. Uniforms didn't am make it onto the list. Their suggestions:

- 1) Since school violence mirrors that of society at large, schools should seriously confront and discuss issues of racism and cultural conflict,
- 2) "Safe corridor" programs should be supported to protect the safety of students as they go to and from school,
- 3) School entrances should be secured,
- 4) More extracurricular activities and clubs should be established,
- 5) Open-mike assemblies should be held on a regular basis to give students the opportunity to express themselves,
- 6) Programs to help students find part-time jobs should be established, and
- 7) Conflict resolution techniques should be taught.

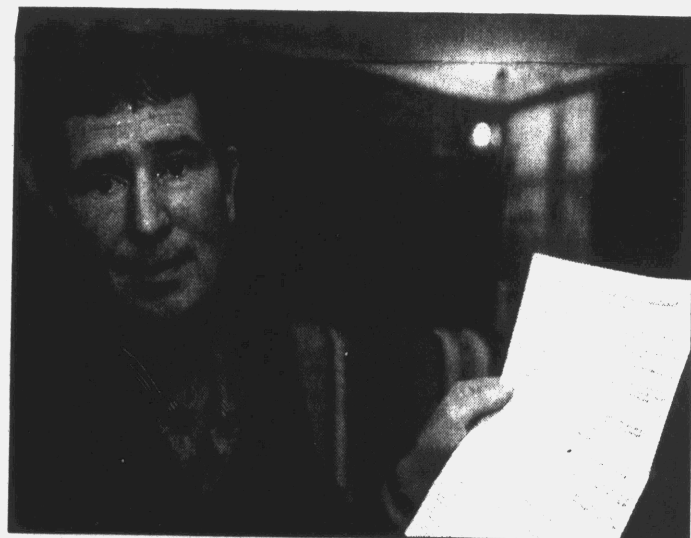
Now, that is a real plan!

## Educate Your Children Teach Them To Read

By Keith W. Cooper

On Monday June 21, 1999, the Pitt County Board of Commissioners approved the final budget for Fiscal Year 1999-2000. Unfortunately, there is not much in that budget to put smiles on the faces of blacks in this county of over 126,000 residents. There are many "missed opportunities" that should have been met and numerous mistakes which should've been avoided. Why would commissioners agree to set aside \$800,000 for a new animal shelter when too many people are homeless? The "animal castle" should not have been a top priority. Commissioners missed a chance to give the Pitt County School System the \$3 million requested for increased teacher salaries and supplements, Curriculum and Instruction, local non-certified personnel, etc. Teachers' supplements are below the state average along with per-pupil spending. What about Mental Health? Many vital Mental Health programs, like Respite, have been cut or devastated. The satellite offices in Farmville, Ayden, and Bethel were closed due to Mental Health's budget shortfall (\$1.8 million). If commissioners had implemented an oversight program many years ago, the present budget crisis could've been avoided. Who cares about the hungry? Each year, 13 million people around the world die of hunger. In this country, between 2 and 5 million children go to bed hungry each night. County Manager Tom Robinson, who makes \$101,000 annually, said he could not find money to help feed hungry citizens in this county.

Furthermore, commissioners didn't pressure him to help meet the needs of those less fortunate than we. Since blacks proportionately go to bed hungry in Pitt County, the black commissioners should have demanded money to address the problem. Instead, they let Robinson have his way. Are commissioners adequately represent their constituents or themselves? Look around you. Has the quality of life improved for you and your families since those commissioners were elected. If not, we must send a clear message to those "do-nothings" when they seek reelection. We don't have to settle for mediocrity and business as usual. We deserve better. How might an \$800,000 animal shelter look? Well, the door-knobs might be gold plated. A poodle might parade around with a powdered nose, rouged jaws, and lipstick. A Dalmatian might take a picture beside a replica of an antiquated fire truck. Also, a Saint Bernard might be given a pulpit where he can preach a sermon on how commissioners became the laughingstock of the county by accepting Robinson's ridiculous proposal. By the way, Kibbles and Bits may be replaced with Kibbles and Chunks. Fancy Feast could become Fancy Feast with Caviar.



Chris Roos holds an exam paper on a reading assignment that included a derogatory term for blacks. The assignment outraged black parents. Roos was fired but plans to try to get his job back.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Story with slur costs S. African teacher job

The assignment was meant to teach racial equality. The reaction to it illustrates the problems that remain five years after the end of apartheid.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — When a white teacher assigned his racially integrated class a story containing a derogatory term for blacks, it cost him his job — even though the work's message was that regardless of skin color, everyone is the same underneath.

Chris Roos' dismissal Wednesday underscores that five years after apartheid's demise, race remains a flashpoint in South Africa's schools.

Black parents were furious that Roos assigned "Unto Dust," a book containing the word "kaffir," a racial slur in South Africa. The story by Herman Charles Bosman, who died in 1951, explores the theme that blacks and whites are equal.

About 100 angry parents protested Monday at the Cullinan Combined School in the capital, Pretoria.

Roos said he assigned the story to his sixth-graders "to explain to the children the issues of racism and that we are all equal."

"But I'm the pig of the school now," he said. "The headmaster told me to leave and said I'm not capa-

ble of teaching students."

An Education Department spokesman thinks Roos' intentions were good but said wounds from white rule remain too fresh for him to have addressed racial issues in that way.

"The story has a very powerful anti-racist message. I am convinced the teacher's intentions were noble," said Aubrey Matshiqi, spokesman for the provincial Education Department. "But maybe the timing is a bit incorrect. Our schools are still trying to grapple with race issues."

The parents maintained that Roos showed a lack of sensitivity in assigning the story and that some of their children were upset by it.

"If we're living in a new South Africa, it's stupid to come up with such assignments," said one father, who refused to give his name.

The dispute exposes racial sensitivity that goes deeper than the use of a hated word. A government commission recently denounced the "virtual apartheid" that persists in schools, with the separation of white and black residential areas hampering true equality in education. School playgrounds have become "battlefields" between black and white students, the report said.

Roos said he plans to go to the teachers' union and Education Department to try to get his job back.



# Political Perspectives

## Is There Common Ground for Blacks and Republicans

Raleigh, NC - The political landscape may be green on both sides of the (political) fence for North Carolina African Americans Twelve (12) Pastors from key regions of the State gathered in Raleigh to meet with the leadership of both parties to discuss education initiatives for children in low wealth communities. The group identified themselves as Pastors for Children--" It is not uncommon for Black clergymen to meet with Democrats. However, when prominent Black Leaders request to meet with conservative Republicans it might tend to raise a few eyebrows. Perhaps former Republican House Speaker Harold Brubaker stated it best when he said, This the first time in my 24 years in the House that something like this has happened" Rev. William Barber II (Goldsboro), one the organizers related to following, "This is a very diverse group, some are Democrats, some are Republicans and some are registered Independent Party affirmation is not the issue we care about the plight of children living in low wealth communi-

ties." Rev. Barber is registered independent. "More informed voters are realizing that local Democrats or Republicans), and state (Democrats or Republicans) are not necessarily the same and are often times very different depending on what level YOU meet them at," Barber concluded. Black voters in North Carolina are becoming more politically diverse. Rev. Troy Williams (Fayetteville) a black Republican offered this perspective. "This kind of dialog is promising. I have all confidence the North Carolina Republican leadership is more than willing to continue open discussions with the African American community. Blacks have nothing to lose and everything to gain by keeping their political options open." After meeting with the House Democrat leadership they (Democrats) suggested the Pastors for Children skip their meeting with Republicans based upon the history of the Democrat Party with the black

community. Former House speaker Brubaker, Minority Leader Richard Morgan and Rep. Julia Howard were the three Republicans who met with the group (Pastors for Children). The (Republicans) outlined very candidly and in a straight forward manner their conservative agenda. It was clear that there were some philosophical differences, however, some Black Pastors were admittedly surprised to learn that on many points they agreed. One Pastor commented on the Republican presentation referring to the Bible to make his point said, "Like King Agrippa said to Apostle Paul in the Book of Acts . . . almost thou persuadest me!..." Black leaders keeping an open mind and hearing both sides (Republicans and Democrats can only mean a win/win scenario for the African American community. additionally, maybe just maybe Republicans will get lucky and Blacks will really remember their history and return to their party roots. The Party of Lincoln.

## Black Women More Likely to Die Giving Birth

NEW YORK, Jun 17 (Reuters Health) -- Black women are four times as likely as whites to die during or shortly after childbirth -- one of the largest health-related disparities between the races in the US, according to a report released Thursday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia.

African-American women are more likely than whites to die of any pregnancy-related cause, including hemorrhage, blood clots or hypertension, and regardless of whether or not they have received prenatal care. Overall, about 7.5 maternal deaths occur for every 100,000 births, a number that could be reduced, say CDC officials.

At least three states -- Massachusetts, Nebraska and Washington -- have reduced that rate to about 3 deaths per 100,000 births for white women, the national goal for all women by the year 2000. "The main thing to remember is that maternal mortality is a rare event.

On the other hand, it can serve as a marker for other issues," said Dr. Lynne Wilcox, director of the division of reproductive health at the CDC, in an interview with Reuters Health.

"What we are finding is that this is a persistent disparity. We are calling for looking more closely at monitoring and identifying these deaths.

But also we think there needs to be a great deal more research, particularly prevention research, that looks at things like content of care, whether or not women are

getting to care in time, whether or not there are health behaviors that may be affecting their behaviors, if violence is an issue," she said. "There are a number of areas here that need further investigation"

It is not exactly clear why black women are at greater risk than whites, but it does not appear to be race per se that is to blame, or a lack of prenatal care.

"Although prenatal care reduces the risk for maternal mortality, healthcare access and use do not explain fully the disproportionate risk for maternal death for black women," according to the CDC report. "Other factors, such as quality of prenatal (care), delivery and postpartum care may explain part of this difference."

The CDC report included data on maternal mortality in the US between 1987 and 1996, a time when maternal mortality remained stable at about 7 deaths per 100,000 births and a total of 3,086 women died during childbirth or as a consequence of pregnancy-related complications. In an analysis of 26 states, the maternal mortality rate for white women ranged from 2.7 in Massachusetts to 9.2 in Vermont. For black women, the maternal mortality rate ranged from 8.7 deaths in Massachusetts to 28.7 in New York.

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# Don't Drink and Drive

## CHEAP AND DANGEROUS

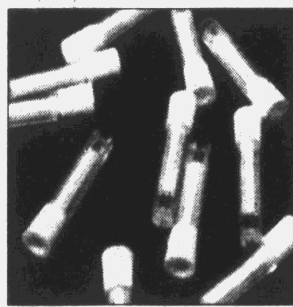
Crack cocaine -- the powerful, smokable and very destructive form of the drug -- accounts for more than 80% of cocaine arrests in New York City. "Crack is extraordinarily addictive," says Dr. Brian Grobstein, deputy chief of psychiatry with the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services. "People are willing to do anything or everything to get their next fix."

"Crack is different than heroin or alcohol," agrees Tiya Ashwood, of the Family Health & Support Center. "The addict's attention span is less, the cen-

tral nervous system is more affected, so they're more fidgety. And the addiction accelerates quickly. The end comes quicker. A heroin addict or alcoholic can maintain themselves much longer, years."

The powerful addictive properties of crack have much to do with the fact that it is smoked, not snorted. This allows it to reach the brain much more quickly. Crack is also cheap (sometimes as little as \$1 or \$2 a hit) and short-lived (the high lasts five or 10 minutes). Unlike powdered cocaine, which became a favorite of the middle class and

is used more by men than women, crack tends to be used by poor, black women of child-bearing age.



JOHN MCCONNICO

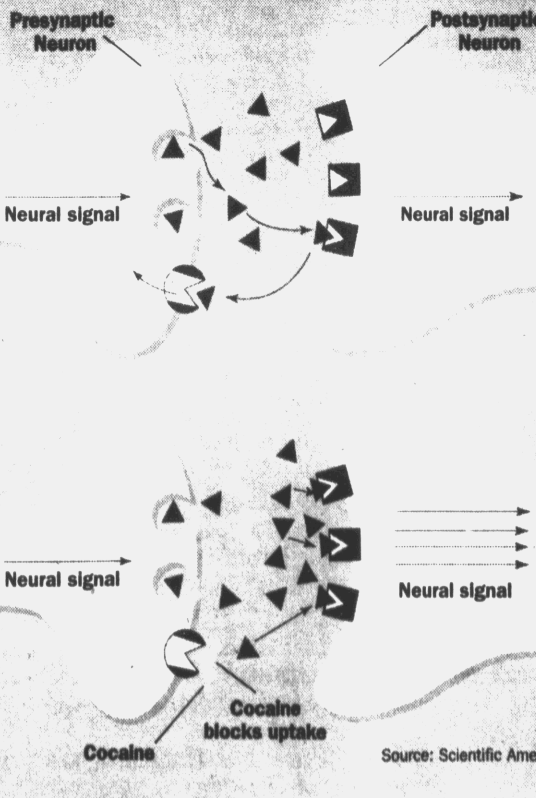
## THE BIOLOGY OF COCAINE

Cocaine activates the production of dopamine, the brain chemical responsible for stimulating pleasure when we eat, socialize or have sex. Under normal conditions, dopamine carries the electrical signal for pleasure from nerve to nerve, turning off when it is blocked by a particular protein. Cocaine, however, blocks that protein so there is nothing to decrease the levels of dopamine and, by extension, the feelings of pleasure. Cocaine -- and particularly crack cocaine, the powerful, smokable form of the drug -- bestows an overstimulated, overenergized, hyped-up kind of pleasure.

Prolonged use of cocaine and/or higher doses of the drug can cause paranoia as well as erratic and violent behavior. Prolonged snorting can result in ulceration of the nose's mucous membrane and can damage the nasal septum enough to cause it to collapse. It can also be fatal: A report published this month in the Journal of the American Heart Association has found that the risk of heart attack increases nearly 24 times in the hour after using cocaine -- even among individuals who had no prior symptoms of heart disease.

The reasons for that increase are many: a sudden rise in blood pressure, heart rate and contractions of the heart's left ventricle, or constriction of the coronary arteries so that blood flow to the heart is obstructed.

Cocaine can become addictive by exciting a brain circuit -- which promotes a feeling of exhilaration. Stimulation occurs when the neurotransmitter dopamine accumulates in the synapse (contact point) between two parts of the brain. Normally, dopamine is cleared from the synapse (top diagram) by neurons that release it. In the drugged brain (lower diagram) that clearance is blocked, causing the dopamine to accumulate and activate the circuit.



Source: Scientific American

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American Heart Association



# We've Come a Long Way

## Black Reparations Conference

Learn how to make your legal claim for reparations. In a conference to educate African Americans how to successfully make and obtain claims against the U.S. government, leading reparations activist, Dr. Robert L. Brock, says "The wealth of America is your legal property and you must make claim to obtain what is due you". The keynote speaker for the Friday, June 11 event is Daryl Jones, a Florida State Senator, who lead the legislative process that helped victims of the Rosewood (FL) Massacre get over \$2 million in compensation. The event will occur at the Metropolitan A.M.E. Church, 1518 M Street, N.W., Washington, DC \$20 registration fee. Contact: Cosmopolitan Brotherhood Association, P.O. Box 15288, Washington, D.C. 20003—(202) 544-5366.

## North Carolina continues to loose millions of dollars due to inaccurate census

Over the past decade North Carolina has lost over \$68,300,000 in federal funding. This misappropriation was due to the 1990 census, which undercounted North Carolinians by 1.8% or 124,538 people. This discrepancy was the 7<sup>th</sup> highest undercount in the nation. The 1990 undercount drastically affected states and their funding. 22 of 25 important federal programs are based on census information. Included in these programs are Medicaid, WIC, Vocational Education funds, Head Start, and Safe and Drug-Free Schools.

## Are you ready to give up Coke, Cognac and Coors?

Saying "We must stop underwriting our own oppression by cooperating with businesses that disrespect us," a coalition of groups and individuals, that gathered recently in New York City, have launched a national campaign of economic sanctions and avoidance, to fight racism. Civic, media and religious leaders the likes of Rev. Calvin Butts of New York's Abyssinian Baptist Church; Kwame Keyatta of the Detroit-based FIHANKRA International; national Black talk-show host Bob Law; and others, are in the vanguard of showing African Americans how billions of dollars can be accumulated if we pare down our consumer spending habits and invest in our own communities. Law says, "our target now is to empower ourselves by giving up malt liquor, colas and the local daily newspaper." To spread the word, program organizers are relying on Black media and selling tee shirts inscribed: "Freedom Summer, No Justice, No Profit." Whether Black America will respond to the call, or continue, as the nation's most ardent consumer groups remains to be seen.

# Read



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## We've Come A Long Way

By James Vines

As the summer began to fade away and Fall was just around the corner, the memory of my friend still fresh on my mind, I decided to go in seclusion until I could get the horrible sight of my friend out of your mind. So I got a list of my books that I was to use in my senior year in school. The closer the opening date got, the sadder I got, because I knew that I would never hear the voice of my friend call for me every morning as he passed my house on his way to school. I remember the times we had walking with the rest of the girls and boys as we hurried to get to school before the bell rang.

I studied real hard that year because I had made up my mind that I would leave home and go North after I graduated from high school. The school year ended May 31, 1941 and I was among the best students graduating with a B+ average, but that did not erase the memories of my best friend. I did what some folks thought was good, but I knew that I should have finished with straight A's but sadness was still in my heart. After the graduating exercises were over I gathered my things together and planned to leave the next day, but this was not to be. I don't care how far ahead you plan but you can not out-plan God. So I

decided to spend on more week with my mother whom I love very dearly, but I didn't know that my aunt and my mother had already planned to give me a graduating present that included a trip to Baltimore. So June 21, 1941 we packed our clothes in the 1939 Buick owned by my aunt's friend. After everything was packed in the car we said our goodbyes and headed for Baltimore. It started out to be a very lovely trip as we rode through northeastern North Carolina. The tobacco was just beginning to grow and the early corn was just about to tassel out. It was harvesting season for white potatoes and as we rode through the country we could see the workers as they picked up the potatoes and carried them to the dumping truck.

On one occasion we stopped and chatted with some of the workers. We finally reached the N.C./Virginia border after passing through Weldon, N.C.

Our next stop would have been Petersburg, VA, but about six miles out of Petersburg we met another car driving on the wrong side of the highway and crashed head on into us. After the crash the only thing I can remember is getting out the car lying on the side of the road and then I blacked out. I don't know to this day when and how I got to the hospital. After I had been there about two days my mother came to see me, and I have never been so glad to see someone from home in my life.

She came to the side of the bed and took me by the hand and began to pray. After she finished praying the only thing I could think of was "Mama, I am going to be a better boy." After the accident I had a lot of hatred and malice that had grown in me after what had happened to me and my friend.

I believe God shows us how we should live in many ways. After my mother left the room they said I could have one more visitor so she left and my next visitor was Donovan Phillips who was just opening a new undertaking business in Greenville.

I don't know how to say I was glad to see an undertaker

but I was glad to see him. He came up to the bed and said, "Little Bro. how are you doing?" I said I was fine and that I was glad to see him. Then he said to me, "I have come to take you home." You know what kind of thoughts came into my mind, when he said, "home". We packed what we had and the nurse came in and took me to the car and we headed back for North Carolina.

Be sure to read the next episode of this true story next week.





# Faith & Inspiration

## From the Desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



POOR MOM

Mom is a scholar, a child psychologist, a race car/stunt driver, medical expert, clairvoyant/find spouse's keys, kids library books, peacemaker, magician (extraordinary home-budgeting skills, assembling dilapidated science fair projects, semi-professional athlete (developing proficiency in soccer, basketball, Little League baseball, pre-beginner ballet, hobbies (dabbling in cooking, cleaning and laundry), and yet Dad comes in and says, "What have you been doing all day."

### THE WAY WE'LL BE - 10 FUTURE TRENDS IN FAMILY LIFE

- 1) Work - Working at home will give parents more flexibility, but probably won't make life any less hectic.
- 2) Homegrown enterprises or microbusinesses - "will cut into the mass-produced retail market and thrive on a revitalized main street.
- 3) Families - Ten years from now, divorce will decline but so will traditional marriages. Instead, you'll see more unusual arrangements: communal living and serial marriages, with starter marriages as a first tryout in living together.
- 4) Parenting will take place later and later. Forty-year-old MOBY'S (Mother Older, Baby Younger) will be commonplace, child-rearing takes place after a full career.
- 5) The percentage of married couples with children fell from 50.3 percent. Following this trend, an entirely different household will emerge. More people will live together in multi-family arrangements

more kids will live with one parent; more children will be born to unmarried parents; and the family will once again become an extended family.

- 6) Education - Parents will increasingly home-school their children. In 1946, about 1.2 million students were taught at home this figure is growing, at a rate of 15 percent a year and will skyrocket as more parents begin working at home.
- 7) Students will begin going to school only two or three days a week and instead use on-line "distance learning", software and televideo phones to participate in a virtual classroom. Interactive schools will feature academics superstars from every field of study.
- 8) Health = People will live past 125 years. AIDS, even most cancers, will be cured. A specialist, thousands of miles away will examine you via a long-distance doctor or patient monitor, foods to eat will take resourcefulness, as more bacterial scares "will surface - just magnify the tainted apple juice situation.
- 9) The hottest rage is going to be longevity centers ranging from family clinics to luxury retreats. These will feature clean air,

clean water and doctors schooled in anti-aging therapies who teach you how to improve your health.

10) Fast food for the increasingly health-conscious will mean clean, pesticide-free food—not burgers and fries.

By: The Tutarist (Gerald Celent, Director of Trends Institute and author of Trends 2000. Eric Clemons, Professor of Operations and Information management, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. Faith Popcorn and Lys Marigold, Consumer Trend Experts and author of Clicking.

### A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MRS. ESTHER LAUGHINGHOUSE

Mrs. Esther Laughinghouse was a woman of strength, character and dignity, of patience and calmness. When she spoke, her words and kindness was the rule for everything she said. Her children bless her. There are many women in the world, but she was one of the best.

She feared and revered the Lord. She's to be praised for the many fine things she's done, the spotless life she lived for she was a friend to the friendless, and a

neighbor whose qualities were worthy of emulating. She was not a carrier of gossip. Her personality was pleasant—a lady of few words, good listener, and an exemplary neighbor and friend. Her children are model children, who visited and cared for their mother. The only thing they didn't do for her was to breathe and if they could have done that, they certainly would have. Your children, are patterns for other children. Your mother didn't want for anything. "The finger of God touched her and she slept".

Beatrice Maye

### CONDOLENCES

Reverent sympathy to the Emma Everleaner Grice Jones, the Mary Koontz, the Carlton Boyd of Winterville, the Mamie Glynn Ma'y Garrett, and the Esther Laughinghouse families.

### MONEY TIPS

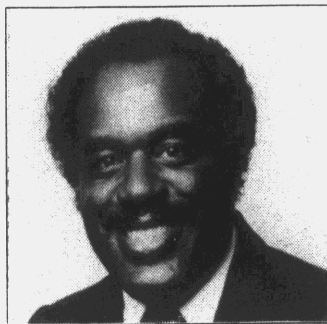
Control your spending. Don't spend without planning. Discipline your spending. Learn from your mistakes.

HOW TO PUT THE EXTRA IN ORDINARY DAYS (By: Barbara Bartocci)

- 1) Be happy.
- 2) Don't quit. (Don't let failure discourage you.)
- 3) Accept today. (Realize that problems offer us opportunities to grow.
- 4) Say thanks. (Count your blessings.)
- 5) Don't worry. (Ask Is it something I can fix?)
- 6) Be kind. (Do something kind for a friend, a stranger someone who rubs you the wrong way.)
- 7) Reach out. (Honor each person with eye contact and a smile. It doesn't matter if the person smiles back.)
- 8) Seek grace. (Look past your doubts to see God.)
- 9) Stay honest. (Do it always and in all ways.)

**READ: IT EXPANDS YOUR MIND**

## Spiritual Thoughts



"A CARNAL MIND"

A carnal mind is defined as a mind that is sinful, worldly,

fleshy and unspiritual. Shelhamar has listed these traits of a carnal mind:

- 1.....A secret sense of pride; an exalted feeling in view of your success or your position.
- 2.....A love of human praise; a secret fondness to be noticed.
- 3.....Stirrings of anger or impatience; a touchy sensitive spirit.
- 4.....A self will; a stubborn unteachable spirit.
- 5.....A carnal fear; a shrinking from reproach and duty.

6.....A jealous disposition; a secret spirit of envy.

7.....A lustful stirring; undue affection and familiarity toward those of the opposite sex.

8.....A dishonest deceitful disposition; covering up your real faults.

9.....Unbelief; lack of faith and trust in God.

10.....Formality and deadness; lack of concern for lost souls; indifference.

11.....Stinginess; being over-

exacting about trifles.

12.....Sectarianism; cool and callous toward others who differ with you; failing to cooperate with others for the salvation of souls; sitting back with a critical and over-wise air.

Perhaps you ask yourself, "How can anyone be without some of these traits to say the least of all of them?" The answer is we will never be one hundred per cent free from some carnality and certainly not free from all of the twelve traits listed because the Scriptures tell us that we were born in and shapen in iniquity. Therefore, it

is a constant hourly and daily struggle. We cannot, in our own strength, solve the great, self-purifying problem, but by giving ourselves wholly to Christ and constantly denying the demands of the personal self. We grow into the divine image and claim our ultimate freedom.

The Apostle Paul, who was the greatest ambassador for Jesus Christ, and to whom God revealed more things than he did to any other disciple, says, "I die daily." It means dying to all of the carnal traits heretofore mentioned. Paul further states in

ROMANS 7:14-24: "For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin...For I know that in me (flesh) dwelleth no good thing...For the good that I would do not; but the evil which I would not, that I do...wretched man that I am: Who shall deliver me from the body of this death."

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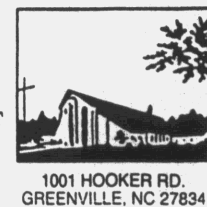
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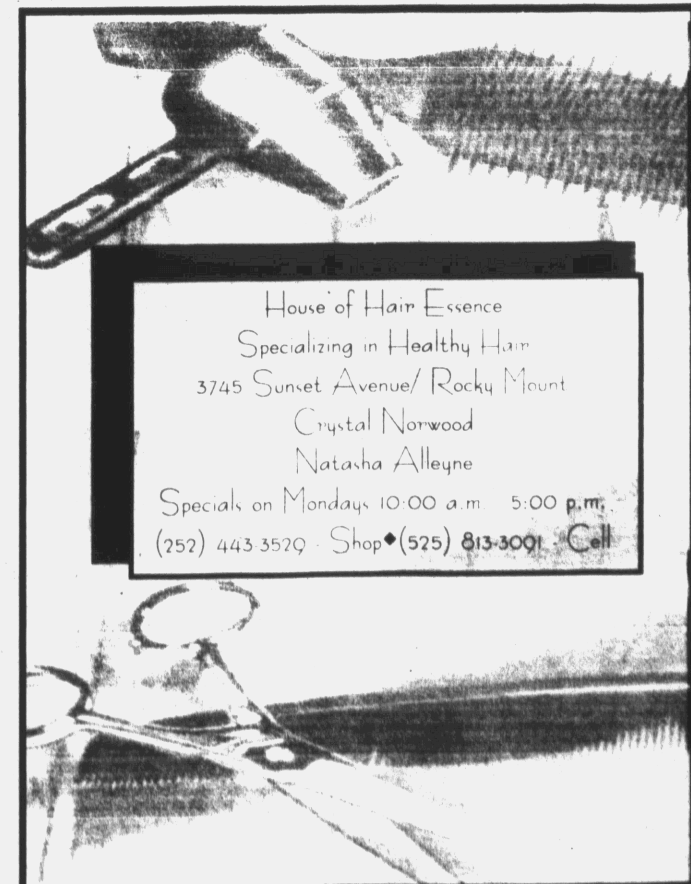
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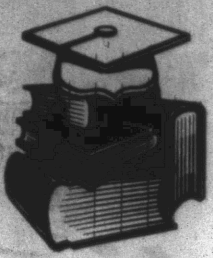


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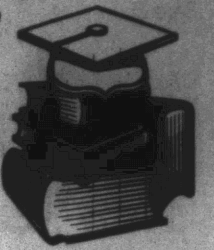
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# Around The Nation

## New Jersey mayor makes more than governor: Thompson agrees to settlement with wife



**U.S. REP. CHARLES RANGEL (D-N.Y.)** hosted a fundraiser that grossed millions.

By James E. Booker

IN THE SOME-states-have-strange-laws department, Sharpe JAMES, the Mayor of Newark, was legally sworn in on June 21 as a New Jersey State senator, filling the vacancy in the 29th District caused by the death of longtime Sen. Wyona LIPMAN. Mayor-Senator JAMES now becomes one of six New Jersey Mayors who also hold seats in the state legislature. James' salary as Mayor and Senator totals \$203,530 annually, making him the highest paid official in the state where the Governor, Christie WHITMAN, earns only \$85,000.

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY'S LEGENDARY JOHN THOMPSON, the first African-American Basketball Coach to win a national championship and one of 19 nominees for the 1999 Basketball Hall of Fame, has reportedly agreed to a "nice out-of-court settlement" in the divorce from his wife, Gwen, after 24 years, in an attempt to avoid a possible flagrant-foul like tussle over his millions earned through his Nike stock and multiple business and real estate holdings. The couple's sons are both basketball coaches: John 35 at Princeton and Ronnie, 30, at Georgetown.

**U.S. TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY RODNEY SLATER** will commission the Alex HALEY, formerly a 283-foot Navy ship which has received a \$20-million overhaul, on July 10 into the Coast Guard Armada. The late Haley, famed Pulitzer Prize-winning author of "Roots," spent 20 years in the Coast Guard, rising from ship's steward to be the first head of its public affairs office, and becomes the first journalist to be honored by having his name on a Coast Guard Vessel.

**AFRICAN - AMERICAN BUSINESS** and political leaders are letting Democratic Party Officials know that they must be considered as major players on party activities after the African-American party initiative led by Rep. Charles B. RANGEL, dean of the New York Congressional Delegation, grosses some \$1.3 million from its June 10 reception with President William CLINTON and Ambassador of Music Lionel HAMPTON.

Rep. RANGEL, Vice President Al GORE, Rev. Al SHARPTON, Statesman-Businessman Percy E. SUTTON and Manhattan Boro President C. Virginia FIELDS were among the speakers at the National Newspapers Publishers Association annual convention last week at the Sheraton New York Hotel. Religious leaders participating included the Rev. Simon BOUIE, President of the Ministerial Interfaith Association of New York; the Rev. Dr. Nathaniel GRADY SR., Public Affairs Officer of the United Methodist Church; and the Rev. James E. BOOKER JR., Manhattan Director of Christian Education of the A.M.E. Church.

THE REV. JESSE JACKSON is in Europe this week working to free 13 jailed Iranian Jews who face hanging if convicted of charges of spying for Israel. During his trip he will also receive Golden Dove of Peace in

Italy for his help in winning freedom for others in trouble.

WITH FORMER NEW YORK City Police Commissioner Lee P. BROWN as Mayor of Houston, the Lone Star State of Texas boasts of a colorful Lone Star State in law enforcement existing in no other state; the Chief of the Houston Police Department is C.O. BRADFORD; the FBI Special Agent in charge is don K. CLARK; Ernest HOWARD the special Agent in charge of the Drug Enforcement Agency; Bruce MARQUIS is Chief of the Houston Independent School District; and A.B. CHAMBERS and Reuben DAVIS are Constables in Harris and fort Bend Counties. . . . PWB (Policing While Black) should help to eliminate the fear of DWB (Driving While Black) deep in the heart of Texas.

WHEN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS released their 1998 financial disclosure statements, Florida's rep. Alcee L. HASTINGS reported that his debts exceeded his assets. Hastings, a former wrongly-impeached judge, said he owes legal fees of at least \$2.2 million.

ATTORNEY CHRISTOPHER EDLEY JR., a Harvard Law Professor and member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, is one of the chief drafters of a book President CLINTON hoped to issue as a follow to his initiatives on race.

### AROUND NEW YORK

THE COUNCILWOMAN FROM QUEENS, HELEN MARSHALL, chair of the City Council's Committee on Higher Education, and Harlem's Councilman Bill Perkins created a storm this week when Marshall accused CUNY task force Chief Benno SCHMIDT of "ethnic cleansing" and Perkins charged that Schmidt's report was full of outrageous "racial stereotypes and innuendoes."

**P R O M I N E N T BUSINESSMAN** and Civil Leader Al WILSHIRE has left Brooklyn Union Gas to become manager of government relations at Con Edison.

IT WAS A WHO'S WHO of the city's government, business and foundation leaders mingling with Harlem leaders at the Abyssinian Development Corporation's fifth Harlem Renaissance Day of Commitment Breakfast Under The Tent June 18 where ADC chair, Rev. Calvin O. BUTTS III, said over \$400,000 was raised from the affair. He also announced that within the year the old Casino building at 138th Street and Adam Powell Boulevard, would be under construction as a catering and banquet facility.

REV. DR. PRESTON WASHINGTON, head of the Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement, happy after the city's Housing & Preservation Development Department announced that HCCI was part of the winning team for the development in the \$35.4 million redevelopment of the lot at 145th Street and Bradhurst Avenue, leaving the selection of a supermarket operator to the four-group development team.

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK trustees gave approval for the opening of eight controversial charter schools this September, including the John A. REISENBACH Charter School and the Sinsulu Victory Academy in Harlem, strongly supported by Caana Baptist Church's Pastor Wyatt Tee WALKER and the Urban League's Chief Denise WALCOTT.

THOSE HEBREW ISRAELITES, who have gathered in Times Square for years preaching that Blacks are the lost tribes of Israel and that Whites are devils, have won a \$59,000 out-of-court settlement from GIULIANI administration

after the Police Department revoked their permit and began harassing the group.

**BROADWAY ACTRESS BRENDA BRAXTON** letting it be known that she has more talent than is displayed in her starting role in "Smokey Joe's Cafe," as she is working on a number of real estate deals in Harlem, including an artists colony residence and/or full service hotel in the community.

**HARLEM BUSINESS ALLIANCE** prexy Walter EDWARDS has his Full Spectrum Inc. Revising its plans for a major tourist attraction 17-story, 430-room hotel. With an array of entertainment options, including a boat docking facility at 131st Street and the Hudson River, with a major hotel operator involved. The project is still before Community Board 9 waiting approval.

WHEN THE BLACK PUBLISHERS met at the Sheraton New York last week, publisher of the year honors went to Dr. Wilbert A. TATUM, chairman of the board, CEO and popular Publisher Emeritus of the New York Amsterdam News.

RICHARD PARSONS, TIME WARNER PREXY, who is also chair of the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone is re-elected to a second term as chair of the New York City Partnership and Chamber of Commerce.

IT MAY BE A SELF-SERVING MOVE, but Saikou DIALLO, estranged father of slain Amadou Diallo, claims he has "put down" the Rev. Al SHARPTON as his political advisor and "replaced" attorneys Johnnie COCHRAN and the Dream Team with Islamic legal and Public Relations advisors. However, Saikou Diallo, who is divorced from Amadou Dkallo's mother Kadiaou never had Rev. Sharpton as his political advisor or Johnnie Cochran as his legal agent. Both were brought into the

case by Mrs. Diallo and the "Dream Team" was hired to represent the estate of Amadou Diallo.

HOWARD REID, THE HEMPSTEAD, Long Island taxi driver may be close to cashing in his \$7.4 million Lotto ticket prize, although he says he accidentally threw out the winning ticket. The state legislature has passed a bill which would give him the money, however, Gov. PATAKI has not indicated where he will sign it.

### LATE TICKER

CLAIMING THAT SINGER BOBBY BROWN, husband of superstar Whitney Houston, has violated his probation on his 1998 drunken-driver conviction, Florida officials in Broward County have issued a warrant for his arrest if he returns to the Sunshine State.

FUNERAL SERVICES HELD earlier this month for the glamorous movie star Francine Everett, a singer, dancer and actress in the all-Black films of the 30s and 40s who refused stereotype roles in "White" movies, was a wife of actor Rexd INGRAM, who didn't. Born in the early years of this century, she died in a Bronx nursing home.

NOTED RAP PERFORMER SNOOP DOGGY DOG, whose real name is Calvin Broadus, has announced plans to build a theme park in his hometown of Magnolia, Miss.

THE AMERICAN FILM INSTITUTE has created a list of the 50 greatest American screen legends, 25 men and 25 women, with Humphry BOGART and Katherine HEPBURN, stars of the 1951 movie, "The African Queen" topping the list. The only other time "African" is mentioned is in reference to Oscar winner Sidney Potier who ranks on the near bottom of his male list at number 22. That's show biz!!

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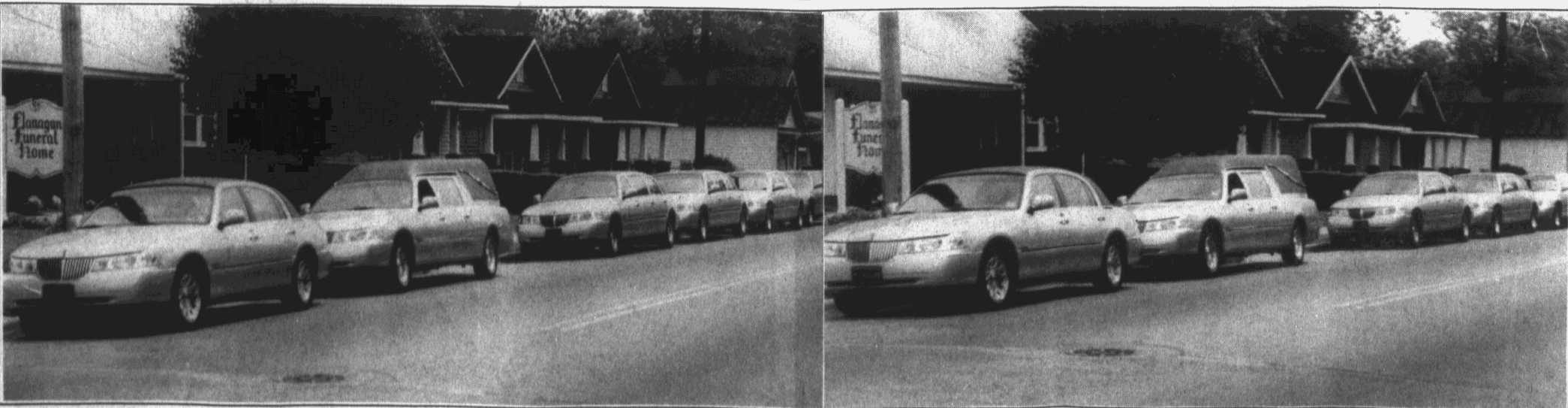
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(PHOTO BY Jim Rouse)



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# Around The Nation

## Making it against the odds Divine Destiny '99 "Show Love" Tour

By Myra Wooten

It is the first day of camp. A day filled with excitement for both the children and the adults. Bright faces of the children quickly fill the room as parents begin filling out forms and asking those important questions. A sign outside of the room welcomes the campers to "Summer Days. The bubble letters are colored in bright greens, pinks and yellows. A huge calendar hung on the door displays a list of 7-week activities, like swimming, bowling, skating, story and snack time. This is a day camp, a camp similar to many others across Pitt County with only one difference. Sure the children still bring their favorite pillow, and all the other goodies that get stuffed inside those Disney, Star Wars, and Michael Jordan back packs, but many of the children also bring things like: medication, walkers, wheel chairs and personal care providers. This is a camp for children, regular everyday children, with one exception; these children have developmental disabilities. Started by the Arc of Pitt County eight years ago, the camp is designed for children ages 5-21 with significant medical, physical, behavioral and cognitive impairments associated with their developmental disability. This year the camp, or "Summer Days" as it is called has 16 campers, a staff of three and many volunteers who lend a helping hand. On any given day it is not unusual to see campers engaged in gross motor play, or what camp counselor, Annie Suffon, calls our exercise, "It's basically vigorous activity, to stimulate their brains and bodies. We have fun doing things like relays, jumping and counting cadence, Annie says, "just like the military." This camp is not all work however; the campers and the staff alike get involved in all of the activities the

children participate in. "From skating to bowling," Annie says, "we do it all. That way a child who uses a wheel chair still gets to do the same things as any other child would do. It's not important how they do it just so long as they do it." And these campers are doing it all. Tonia Drake, mother of 6-year-old Eunike Drake who has attended the camp for the past two years, loves the atmosphere and the staff. "It lets Eunike interact with kids who are just like she is, handicapped, and not only that she gets to do things that I may not be able to do with her all the time." A good atmosphere for children to learn and play is what Sybil Keesbury, also a camp counselor calls the camp. "You've never seen children more excited than these kids, couldn't imagine doing anything else with my time. Sybil, who works at Ayden Elementary in the preschool disability program, is very familiar with special needs children but admits that there is a stigma to "special education." "There's a lot of fear, and fear breeds ignorance. People just aren't educated on dealing with these children," Sybil says. Which explains why a camp like this type is necessary, and answers the question of why these kids aren't in other camps across Pitt County. Brook Owens, an ECU student majoring in Occupational Therapy and a counselor assistant at the camp believes that working with children is just basically, "common sense." "It's not something you can learn from a book, but by interacting with kids. You can't study a kid from a book." Regardless of the individual need of the child or the extent of the disability, all of the kids like the sign out front of South Greenville Elementary School says, are great kids.

Debut of Local Recording Company Hits New York.

By: Michael Adams

Many thanks to Divine Destiny Recording Company who gave me the opportunity to join them in the debut of their up and coming CD releases. This company encompasses three youthful groups, (ALFREDA HYMAN AND RENEWED PRAISE; CP/TYME; TAFFYE BENSON CLAYTON WITH THE D&D DANCE TEAM).

**Reuben Clayton/ President** brings eight years of management production and publishing experience to this new found company. "I found new opportunities in the Gospel industry." His personal commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ then gave way to an inspiration of developing a recording company.

**Thomas Payton/ Vice-President** comes with ten years of experience in the secular music field. "I managed and promoted several secular groups over the years and now I am very excited being called to Gospel Music."

**Taffye Benson Clayton**, who is also the wife of Reuben Clayton/ President, is a founding partner of Divine Destiny. She was at one time an R&B urban ballad writer, with a working experience of over ten years, traveling from Florida.

**Alfreda Hyman/ Founding Partner and Director** of Divine Destiny. Alfreda has been in this business for a while and she's been in several groups and she has finally found her niche. Her personality and drive make her special! When asked her purpose in starting a recording company, she said, "I wanted a non-traditional company that would keep the artist's endeavors in mind." This comes from her personal experiences, after seeing former artists confused and crushed by the demanding workings of the music industry.

**Sandra Barrett/ Vocalist Extraordinaire.** Sandra's first professional experience was at twelve years old, singing at a graduation ceremony, during the time when the only participants in such a ceremony were adults and professionals, of said age group. During her pre-teen years, she performed with her high school choir. Her part experiences includes, (3) Previous live recordings, a Touring of Europe (twice), her vocal talents were featured in a number of plays, she is an actress, cosmologist and salon owner. She had the opportunity of being featured on a national syndicated Gospel program, "Inspiration Across America." It is now a privilege to hear the freedom in her singing.

This now brings me to the event itself. Divine Destiny "Show Love" CD Debut Tour. On Saturday, June

19th, the first of two parts of the tour took place at Holy Unity Cathedral, Jamaica, Queens. This fine cathedral, is pastored by, Bishop Richard D. Moore.

Accompanying me was Ms. Brenda Rouse, representing WTOW Joy 1320AM of Washington, NC. When we entered the church, we then walked into the sanctuary, took our seats and waited, along with others, for the beginning of the show. The M.C. (Rev. Milton Sutton) took his place. Two of the industries more experienced personnel in bringing new artists and bringing product to the gospel music circuit attended. They were Mr. Gentry McCary of Las Vegas, Nevada, a nationally known gospel industry consultant and Mr. Skip Barrett, Jr., Director of A&R at Myrrh Records, who was instrumental in signing the likes of, The Thompson Community Singers, Marvin Sapp, Greg O'Quin, and Shirley Caesar. Antoine and Dion, The D&D Dance Team, performed to the Hip Hop, Urban Music of "CP/Tyme". "CP/Tyme" consists of Cheryl, Bridgette, Tresbien and Antonio. "Renewed Praise" consists of Alfreda, Taffye, Sandra, Donte, Mark, Jerry and Tanya. In my estimation, the talent of each individual group could have been easily showcased on the likes of a Stella Awards or Bobby Jones Show and then a show stopper.

After my many years of presenting

gospel music, in the form of radio and concert, this new team of vibrant, energetic, well rehearsed artists, even left me speechless. On a personal note, if the show wasn't up to par, it's doubtful that I would have ventured to the following evening's showing at Holy Unity Fountain of Praise, where the Sheperd is, Pastor Dorothy Hyman (Alfreda's mother), a woman with a very warm spirit. The greeting we received at the 11 am service made me comfortable enough to return at 5 pm to view the evening show. This group of artists possess vocal talents that would make each individual a solo artist in their own right. In my estimation, Divine Destiny is well on its way to becoming one of the Top Gospel Headliners in the Nation!

Brandon Lovett/ Road Manager and William Chadwick, his assistant, engineered the movement of the entourage of Divine Destiny, as if they were long-term professionals.

Again I want to take this opportunity to say, "Many Thanks to Divine Destiny Recording Company", for giving Brenda Rouse and myself (Representatives of Minority Voice, Inc.) the opportunity to share in "History Being Made".

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North Carolina Advisory Committee on Cancer Coordination and Control



# Faces & Places



The Joy Soup Kitchen has been operated from the fellowship hall of York Memorial AME Zion church since its inception in 1995. Their Expanding ministries need the space. Joy, Inc. is in the planning fundraising phase of construction of a building to house the Joy Soup kitchen and Day Shelter- a center of hope. In Addition to the services currently offered through the Joy Soup Kitchen, the Day Shelter will allow individuals to attend to personal hygiene needs, launder their clothing, receive communications from perceptive employers, train for existing jobs and receive referral to other community resources that meet their needs.

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### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals for Single Prime Bids will be received until 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 7, 1999, at the office of John Chaffee, Director, Pitt County Development Commission, 111 South Washington Street, Greenville, NC 27858, for the interior upfit of the Tenant Area A space in the Eastern Carolina Technology Incubator (Greene Street, Greenville, NC), at which time and place bids will be opened and read. A Pre-bid conference will be held at the site 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 30, 1999.

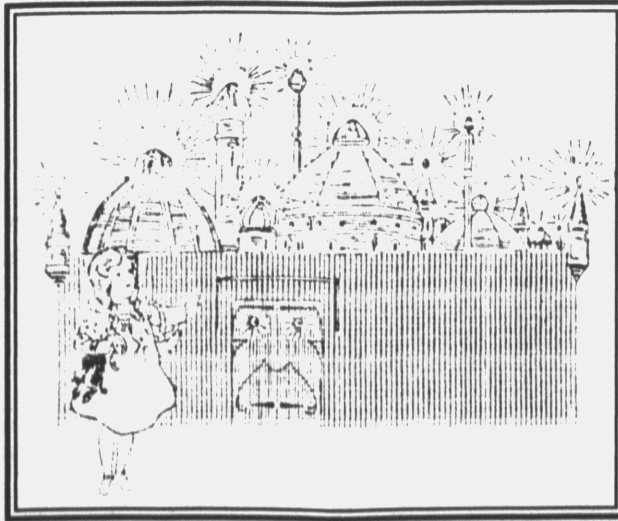
Complete plans and specifications for this project can be obtained from EDA-Greenville, 201 West 1st Street, Suite 202, Greenville, North Carolina 27858, (252) 758-3138, 758-0553 Fax, during normal office hours after June 22, 1999, or are available for examination at Construction Market Data Plan Room, 2300 Rexwood Drive, Suite 130, Raleigh, North Carolina 27607, Associated General Contractors Plan Room, satellite office, c/o McGee Reprographics, 801 Dickinson Avenue, Greenville, North Carolina 27834, or the ECCC Plan Room, 415 North Queen Street, Kinston, NC

Plan Deposit: Seventy-five dollars (\$75.00).

The Owner reserves the unqualified right to reject any and all proposals.

Signed: Phil Dickerson, PE  
Director of Facilities and Development  
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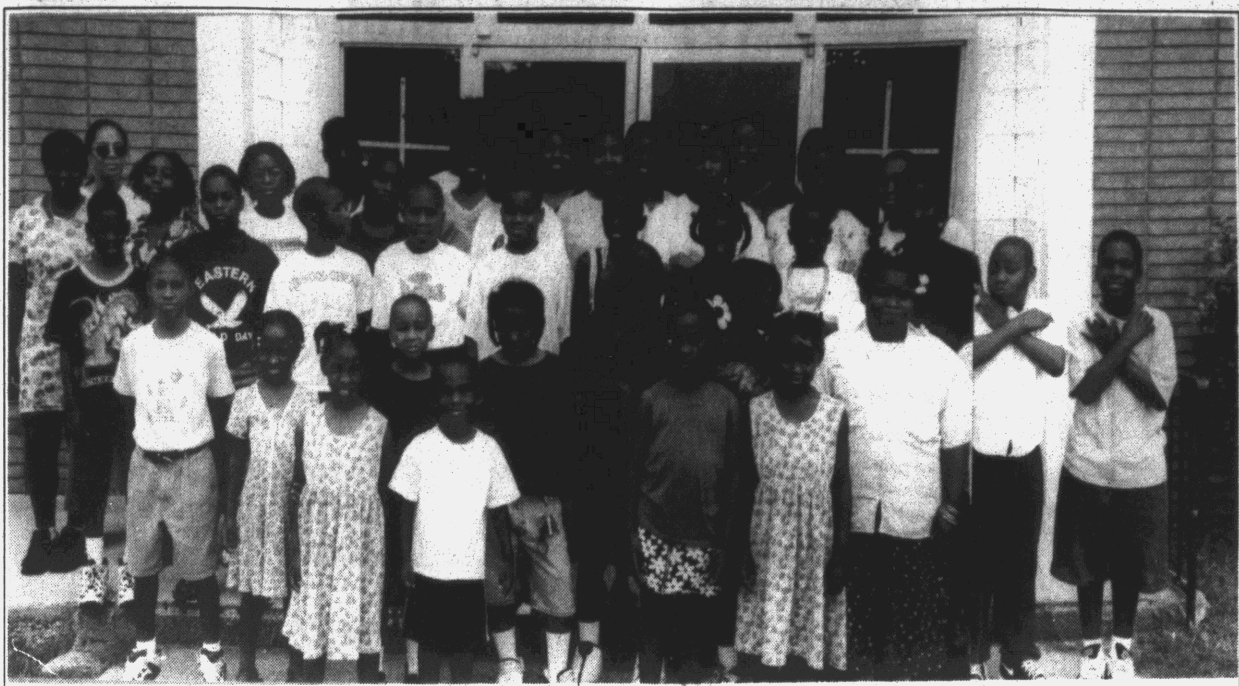
Closing Date: July 19, 1999.

Must submit NC State application (PD 107) or Pitt County Government application with copies of college transcripts and a list of five references to:

Pitt County Human Resources Department  
Attn: Florida Hardy, Assistant to Search Committee  
1717 West 5th Street  
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(252) 830-6317



# Faces & Places

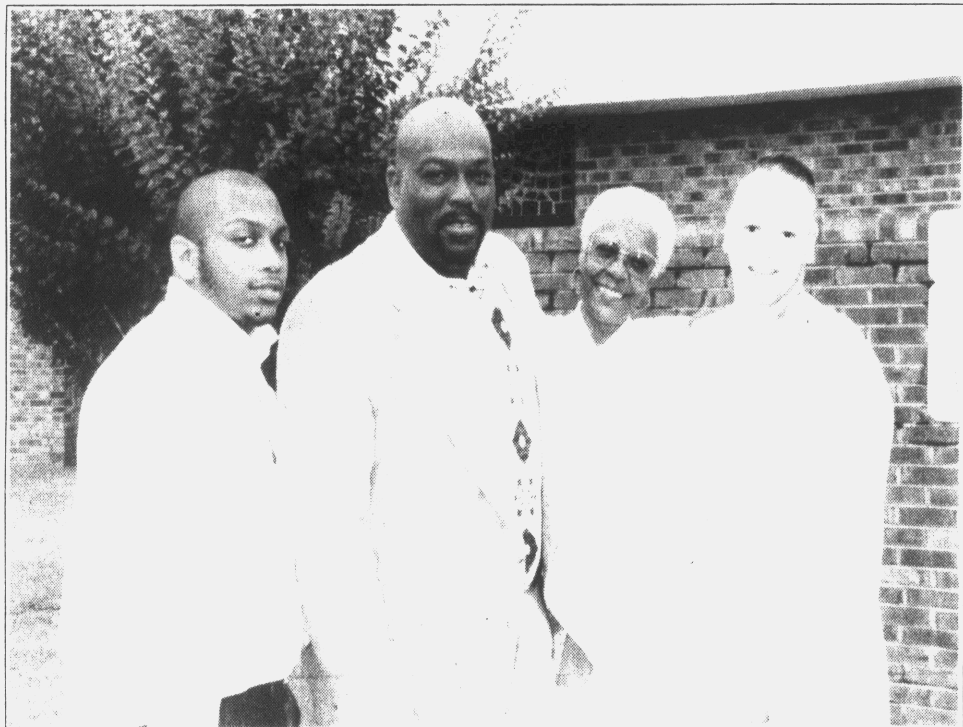


The Well Chapel GOGIC is currently having its annual summer tutorial program which is called S.W.A.V. (pronounced suave) Students with a vision. It is a free program for children of all ages. The program is for all who want to attend, for example, if there is someone in the Hispanic community who wants to come, they can because we have an on sight bilingual coordinator who has experience working with the Spanish speaking community. We are concentrating in 3 areas: Math, Reading, and Language. The workers are volunteer university students and others who have taken out time during their vacation to help our youth. If anyone has any questions, comments, or concerns then please contact Shontel Parker at the Wells Chapel Church number: 752-7155. The program runs Mon. - Thurs. from 12noon until 3:00pm. The tentative ending date is the 3rd week in July.



**Joy Soup Kitchen & Day Shelter..the Ground Breaking Ceremonies** took place at the old location of York Memorial AME Church on Albermarle Ave. Shown above is the Coordinator of the Soup Kitchen Sister Barbra Taft & Greenville City Mayor Nancy Jenkins. Sister Taft & Her sister Dawson establish the soup Kitchen Years Ago at York Memorial to feed the hungry. (PHOTO: Jim Rouse)

Happy 4th of July



"**King For A Day**"...that's the way Brother Raleigh Fuller, Sr., felt when his family honored him on Father's Day. He is shown attending morning worship services at Cornerstone Baptist Church. Joining him are: (L-R) his son, Ryan, Rev. Dorothy Josey-Associate Minister at Cornerstone, and his beloved wife, Rhumel. It's really true, you know, the family that prays together, stays together.

(PHOTO: Jim Rouse)



**(This Too Will Pass)** The "M" Voice newspaper camera caught up with cast members of this too will pass, the off Broadway play on tour throughout Eastern North Carolina. pictured are cast members & producer Samantha Mc Swain, Tameka Green, Mary Patterson, Dennis White. Be sure not to miss it !!!

(PHOTO: Jim Rouse)



**Happy Father Day.** Brother Bobby Thompson is shown with his oldest son Bershawn Thompson who came home from Charlotte NC to his Father an Heat Special Day the "M" Voice camera caught the Father Son Team on there way home to check out the Basketball Game & Eat some of Mother Thompson down home cooking.

(PHOTO: Jim Rouse)



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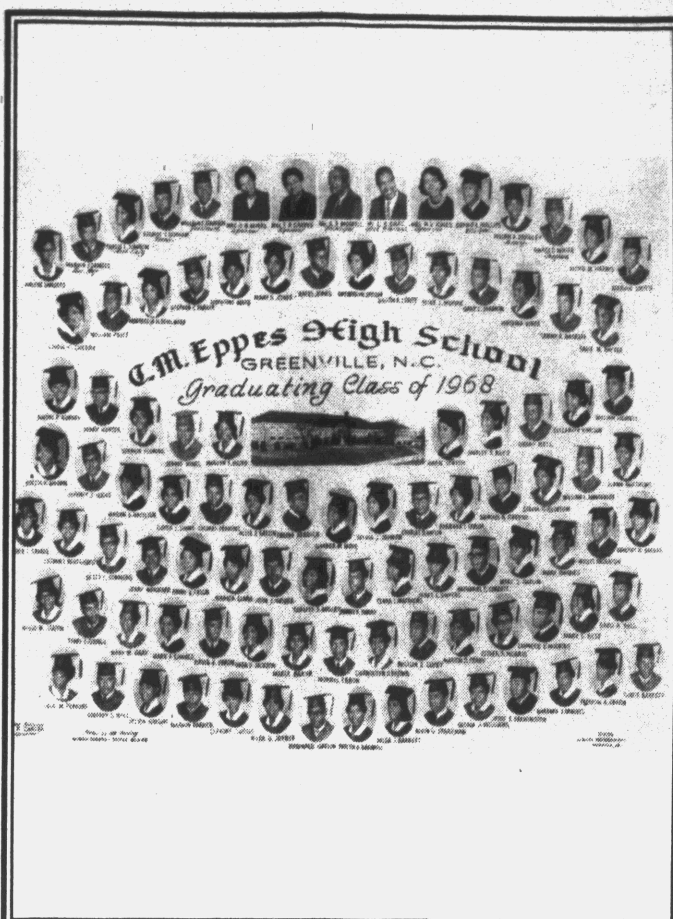
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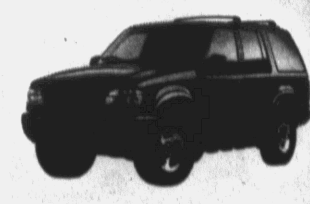
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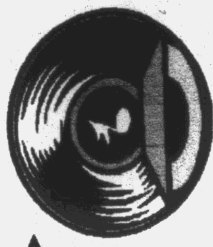


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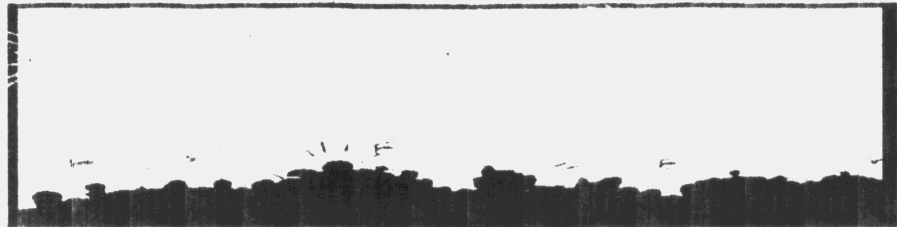
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In the 1950's segregation was going strong in the United States. A man named Oliver Brown went to the court because his daughter was not allowed to attend a white school. He won his case and in 1954 the court found that indeed segregation was unconstitutional. On the evening of December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks got on a bus in Montgomery Alabama. She paid her fair and got a seat in the middle of the bus. A little bit later a group of white men got on the bus the driver told all the blacks to go to the back of the bus Rosa did not leave. The bus driver came back and said move.

Rosa simply said no. She was arrested right then and there. Some of her friends came to get her out of jail they got her out. That was the beginning of the bus boycott. It was successful and the court decided that segregation was bad.



**MOLLY'S**



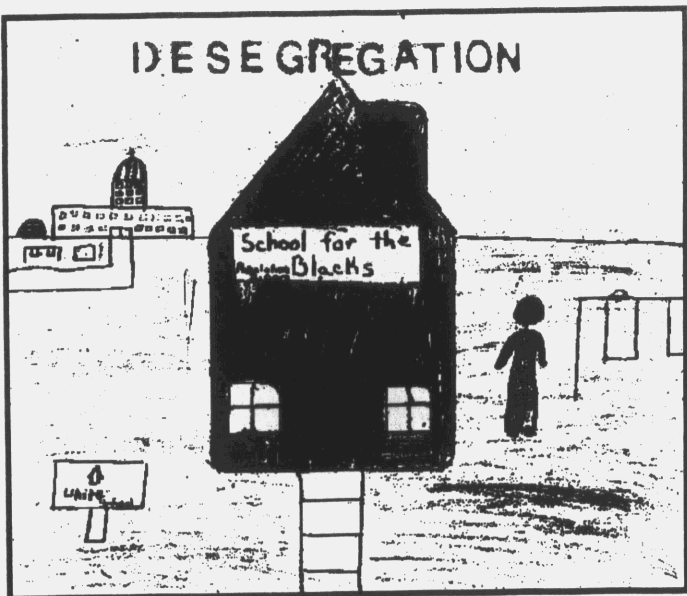
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For  
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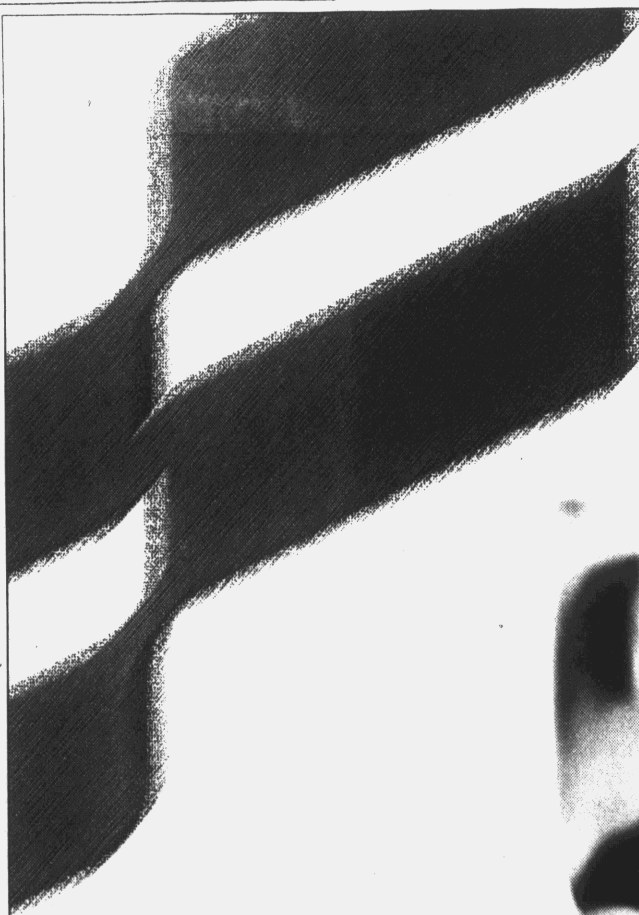
"Commit thy work unto the Lord and thy thoughts shall be established"  
Proverbs 16:3

**Sunday, July 4, 1999**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Rock Spring F.W.B. Church**

Hwy 43 N. Greenville, N.C.

**Bishop W. L. Phillips**  
Pastor



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