

Special Hurricane Floyd Edition ! The Minority Voice

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September 16, - October 4, 1999

FREE!

Democracy is respect for persons; religion, trust in God; education, devotion to truth - Luther A. Weigle

The National Baptist Convention elects new Preisident

Members of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., moved into a new era as they elected a president who hopes to move them beyond the shadow of the scandal that surrounded their former and now-imprisoned leader.

The Rev. William J. Shaw of Philadelphia came out ahead of a field of 10 other candidates by about 200 votes to head one of the nation's largest predominantly African-American denominations. The convention's annual session, held Sept. 6-10 in Tampa, FL., was a study in contrasts. Arriving delegates and visitors -- estimated to be in the tens of thousands -- were greeted in the airport by campaign workers dolling out buttons and flyers for their favored candidates.

Some of those same campaigners worked through the night to place stick newsletters and prayer rally announcements for individual guests to read as they left their hotel rooms.

But by the last day, when Shaw's election was a done deal, the Baptists appeared united behind the man they had chosen.

Shaw, a 65-year-old man with distinctive white sideburns, preached his first presidential sermon, cheered on by supporters of different former candidates standing on their feet.

"There are no hostilities as this transition process begins," Shaw told the crowd gathered in the Ice Palace Arena. He had defeated two other front-runners - the Rev. W. Franklyn Richardson of Mount Vernon, NY, and the Rev. E.V. Hill of Los Angeles.

Shaw began a five-year term as president succeeding interim

dled millions from corporations seeking to market their products to denomination members.

"The only way we can move forward is to deal with our past," preached Shaw. "God's got to give us a new nature, not just a reformation...If God makes us a new people, then he'll give us a new day."

Before he was elected, Shaw had chosen five vice presidents for his administration -- leaders of state conventions of Baptists -- and had made plans for a financial audit to determine the status of the denomination's affairs. The long-time pastor of White Rock Baptist Church in Philadelphia, Shaw was welcomed by supporters and non-supporters alike.

"I think we got a good president," and the Rev. Charlie Clark, pastor of Compton, CA church. Clark, 69, voted for Hill, but said, "whoever gets the presidency you have to support."

Erma Moore, a Shaw supporter from Kansas City, Kan., said she thinks his election was the answer to many prayers.

"Even though some of us were for different candidates, we wanted God's will to be done," said the 52-year-old real estate agent. "The convention is going to be stronger now."

To many of his followers in the National Baptist Convention USA, the troubles of the Rev. Henry Lyons have come as a terrible shock. How could such a gifted man go so wrong? The answers lie in the shadows of his past.

The man Henry Lyons called Daddy was righteous and steady and God-fearing. Booker T. Lyons was his name, but most

people called him Deacon.

As part of it, anyway. The man Henry Lyons called Daddy was not his father but his grandfather. His father was something else entirely.

Lyons' real daddy, Gene Lyons, was only 16 when Henry was born. Genial and smooth-talking, he drifted in and out of Lyons' life, calling himself a father but never really doing the job. He shot dice, chased women and told extravagant lies.

He was as likable rogue but still a rogue. He had a good time and died young and probably wouldn't have seen a connection.

Lyons rarely mentions the prodigal Gene Lyons. Instead he talked endlessly about humble, upstanding Booker, whose name he list under "Father" on his marriage license applications. "I saw him stand up when something was not right, and I saw him compromise when he needed to, and I borrowed from that," he once said.

But he borrowed from someone else, too Lyons carries the genetic material of two markedly different men: his Daddy and his father. Gene Lyons couldn't interpret scripture and Booker wouldn't have dreamed of pulling a scam, but Henry, versatile Henry, could do both.

All his life he has straddled the line between con man and confessor, between scoundrel and saint.

Now Lyons has a long-term prison term for using the presidency of the National Baptist Convention USA to steal millions of dollars. From corporations. From banks. From charities. To the people who had heard his unforgettable sermons, Lyons' downfall seems unreal. How

could such a gifted man be so deceitful?

But few of the Christians he inspired really knew him. For the longest of times, most people saw only the Booker in Henry Lyons, but Gene was part of him all along.



Mayor Candidate visits WOOW after the devastation of Hurricane Floyd knocked WOOW off the air by flooding transmitter facility located on the Town Commons. Concerned, Kerna stopped by the studio because she knows WOOW is the voice of the community. Hats off to those concerned people like Kerna. Miss Hilts reminds us all to get out and Vote Nov. 2nd. Staff Photo

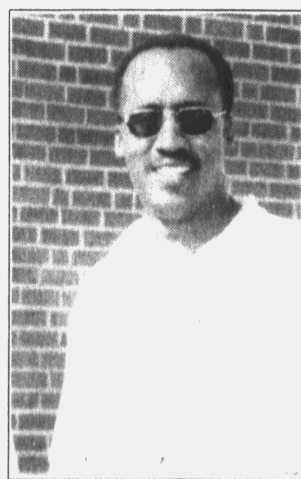
Kerna Hilts, one of the changing faces of politics. At the ripe old age of 29 this go getter has singled handedly decided to change the world or at least Greenville. Kearna intends to be the next mayor of Greenville. She believes the current mayor is lacking in her responsibilities to the residents of Greenville and even more importantly the African-American community. As a member of Phillipi Church she has gained a lot of wisdom and foresight from Bishop Randy B. Royal. Also, she has gained a lot of momentum and support from ECU students and the nontraditional voter. Kearna intends to be the type of mayor who doesn't make promises but changes. Furthermore, she intends to bring Greenville into the 21st Century by showcasing it as the metropolitan city we are.



A County devastated by flood waters, in a matter of hours flood waters brought by Hurricane Floyd brought Pitt County to a stand still. Hurricane Floyd can truly be called the flood of the century. The flood destroyed communities and set some Greenville residents back at least 100 years (pictured) an aerial view as residents were rescued from their homes.

Photo by Brenda Rouse

Commissioner Savage Arrested For Drunk Driving



By Stephen Johnson
"M" Voice Editor

County Commissioner Jeff Savage arrested and charged with drunk driving and resisting arrest. Yet he alleges police brutality and misconduct. While the Chief of Police says, "Officers acted properly in arresting the County Commissioner."

Police brutality is no stranger to the African-American community, even to men and women in high profile positions. A lot of questions have arose since Commissioner Savage's arrest. "Why was he drinking and driv-

ing in the first place?," says one Greenville resident. "And what did he do to provoke officers?"

Sad when you think about, Commissioner Savage who has dedicated a strong portion of his life to defending the rights of Greenville's African-American community, can not find the support he needs from that same community. America is supposed to be based on a democracy where a man is innocent until proven guilty. Only three men know what happened that night. The two white officers who felt the need to smash his window and pepper spray the Commissioner and Commissioner Savage, an advocate for Black America.

Savage said he drank two or three beers at the car wash, and received no warning when the officers stopped there. He left one hour after they talked to him. He also said no one told him he was under arrest before he asked for more witnesses and rolled up his window -- his response to Brewington's request for him to get out of the vehicle.

Savage said he did not fight back as officers smashed his window with a flashlight, doused him with pepper spray and pressed his face to the asphalt. Brewington transported Savage to Pitt County

Memorial Hospital because Savage positioned himself on the back seat of the police car and was unresponsive to officers, "as if he had passed out," Hinman said. The shattered glass from the window made small cuts in Savage's face, he said. At PCMH, Savage received stitches for his cuts and gave blood for the blood alcohol test. Police usually take DWI suspects directly to Pitt County Detention Center for a breathalyzer test, because Savage needed medical attention they gave him the analysis at the hospital. Hinman said if Savage's blood alcohol concentration comes back as less than the legal limit of 0.08%, the District Attorney will decide whether to drop the DWI charge.

Regardless of what decision is finally handed down there is another strong Black leader who is in trouble and needs the support of Black America.

If you would like to show your support, please send letters to: WOOW, 405 Evans St., Greenville, NC 27835; Attn.: Minority Voice Newspaper Editor

A Trip to the Holy Land

Trip to the Holy Land!

Dr. Kenneth Hammond, Pastor and The Union Baptist Church Family are sponsoring a (2) week Trip to the Holy Land in the new millennium -- Tuesday, December 26th, 2000. If you've always wanted to go the Garden of Gethsemane... To meditate as you watch the rich, warm sunset on the banks of the River Jordan... Walk where JESUS walked... Send your name, mail-to-address, and telephone number to: Union Baptist Church, 904 N. Roxboro St.; Durham, NC 27702; Attn.: Dr. Kenneth Hammond, Pastor. Celebrate Y2K Christmas Season... and Bring in the Year 2001 in the Holy Land!

Millennia Community Bank Recieves Charter to operate

Millennia Community Bank receives charter.(Greenville, NC) Millennia Community Bank announced this week that it has received its North Carolina Banking Commission charter to operate.

Receiving the commission's charter is a vital step in the establishment of a banking institution, granting a proposed bank permission to incorporate as a full-service bank. The banking commission voted and approved the charter during a hearing on September 22, 1999.

"We are pleased and proud to have been issued our charter from the commission," T.F. (Butch) Congleton, bank president, said. "This is their stamp of approval on the mission, structure, and operating procedures developed and presented to them by our board of directors. We now are North Carolina's newest bank and the first community bank to have been chartered in Greenville in at least ten years."

Still, before the bank may open

in January of next year, it must complete its capital requirements and comply with other pre-opening conditions. The bank must sell a minimum of 500 thousand shares of stock, equivalent to \$5.5 million in starting capital. Shares currently are selling at \$11 per share with a 100-share minimum.

According to Congleton, the bank to date has sold approximately 80% of its minimum share required. Congleton predicts that the balance of stock needed to be sold before opening will be met by the end of October 1999.

Millennia Community Bank's mission is to service the banking needs of the entire community, including small business, young professionals, Spanish-speaking residents and other minorities. The bank owns property and plans to build its headquarters on Arlington Boulevard at the intersection of Memorial Drive in Greenville. Persons interested in purchasing stock should call: 252-695-0077.

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KLEAVER'S KLIPPINS The Strange Adventures of Greasy Gracie

This is a rather unusual story. It deals with a

woman who had to make her own way in a hostile world in a time when women were expected to be barefoot in the winter and pregnant in the summer.

Gracie Smith was an unusual woman in that she was a black woman who lived in the hills of Kentucky. She went hunting or fishing almost every day. She knew all of the best fishing spots and could sit under a tree for three or four hours with a .410 over-and-under, waiting for a squirrel to peek over a branch.

If he showed his head, he was toast. Gracie never missed. For the uninformed, a .410 over-and-under was a .410 gauge shotgun with a .22 caliber rifle barrel underneath the shotgun barrel. It was almost two guns in one. It was a favorite among rabbit and squirrel hunters of that time.

People driving along highway 30 would sometimes have wrecks when they watched Gracie coming back from a fishing jaunt. It was not unusual for her to catch as many as 20 fish in one day. Twenty big fish.

En route home, she would stop at the homes of people she knew and give them three or four fish for their dinner. Then she would go home and you could smell fish frying for miles around.

Gracie was not an old woman.

Actually, she was very young, probably in her early to middle twenties. She lived in the hills because her parents had been killed in a fire that consumed their home back in the woods. Nobody knew about the fire for more than a year. Houses were sometimes miles apart.

By the time the fire became general knowledge, Gracie was in her early teens and had been taking care of herself since the death of her parents. Stories that whispered around said her father had treated her like a boy and when she was small, had her doing all the chores that boys would normally do in those times. So the die was cast and she followed the pattern in front of her.

Her formal academic skills were very limited. She understood the alphabet, little else, the Bible was her mainstay. By reading and struggling through the Bible, she was able to learn more than most people who had gone to school.

She came down from her place in the hills four or five times a week. She spoke to people she knew, but never lingered anywhere very long.

Her nickname of "Greasy Gracie" came about one year when she helped some of the neighbors at hog-killing time. Because of her prowess with a butcher knife and a boning knife, she was in demand at hog-killing time. She would start the rendering of the fat to make lard

and quite often, the grease from the animal would cover her from head to toe. Hence, Greasy Gracie was neighborhood or local legend, since there were really no "neighborhoods" for black folk in that town.

With the exception of hog-killing time, she was always neat and clean. The exception was when she had been sitting on a river bank all day or all night, or had been stalking some game for a long period of time.

Although she was fairly attractive, (or would have been if she had been afforded an opportunity,) she was never seen with anyone of the opposite sex from a personal perspective. People just assumed she was asexual.

It was thought by some that she would be like Miss Lucy, another hill woman who never married nor had children. She died at about 80 years old, alone in her shack on the side of the hill.

One day, in the early spring, a new fella came to town. The war was over and he was looking for a quiet place to build a farm and family. He was about six feet-plus and weighed around 200 lbs. He could lift a railroad cross-tie with ease and walk a mile with it on his shoulder. He got a job working on the railroad nearby and started looking around for the land he wanted. He had saved all of his mustering out pay as well as most of the \$37 monthly he had been paid in the

army for three years.

He didn't drink nor hang around with the railroad workers. He got a room at Mr. O'Bannon's house and would sit on the steps every evening.

One day, Gracie came by with several squirrel over her shoulder. She stopped to give Mrs. O'Bannon a squirrel and she saw the new fella. More important, he saw her. They exchanged pleasantries and Gracie left. But she kept looking back and the fella kept looking at her.

Now, Gracie passed this way everyday and the fella was sitting on the steps, waiting for her. There was never much conversation between the two of them. Then one day, the fella stood up when Gracie arrived. He took off his cap, walked to within a foot of her and said, "Let's go get married."

Gracie didn't blink an eye. She just reached out took his hand and said, "Let's go."

Gracie died a while back. She was the mother of 11 children, grandmother of 22 and great-grandmother of six. When she died, her husband was standing at the foot of the bed. She was 89 and he was 92. He said, "I'll be seeing you."

Three days later, he sat down in a rocking chair and closed his eyes for the last time. The doctors said they could find nothing wrong with him other than his age. They didn't understand.



URBAN PERSPECTIVE

Teaching Policies Aggravate Racial Inequalities in Schools

A recent report by the Applied Research Center in Oakland examines various aspects of teaching policies and practices. The report is entitled "Creating Crisis: How California's Teaching Policies Aggravate Racial Inequalities in Public Schools." It supplies information little known to the general public and sheds light on the problems and complexities of urban education. As a matter of community education, excerpts from the report follow:

California has a teaching crisis. In the 1997-98 school year, the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing issued a record 33,994 emergency permits and credential waivers. This summer, school district recruiters scrambled to find 27,000 new teachers. Abundant evidence shows that well-trained, fully-credentialed teachers can help students reach their academic potential. That is not what is happening in California today. The teaching shortage is, in effect, also a crisis in teaching quality and thus, a crisis of the entire public school system.

Given the need, it would seem that state education officials and local districts would move decisively to sweep away barriers to recruitment. Instead, teacher training programs are full of roadblocks, including high costs, standardized tests which bear no measurable relationship to teaching success, and low pay and lack of respect for those who do jump the hurdles. Once hired, new teachers find few supports to help them become successful in their new profession.

Perhaps most alarming is the disproportionate impact of the teacher crisis. The highest-need schools, mostly in large urban areas, bear the brunt of the crisis. These schools have the highest concentrations of people of color, low-income students, and those whose primary language is not English. Yet, these schools also have the majority of the state's undercredentialed teachers. This situation aggravates existing racial, economic and academic inequities.

In the past 30 years, the racial and cultural

face of the student population has changed dramatically. California's public school students today are 60 percent of color, frequently born into homes where English is not their parents' language, and often foreign-born. Yet there has been little change in the racial composition of the teaching force—nearly 4 out of 5 of the state's teachers are white. Though being academically proficient in teaching does not depend on one's race, the ability to understand and relate to students often has everything to do with race.

There is a voluminous body of literature on every educational problem. There are also vast numbers of experiments, initiatives and innovative models in the field. Although this report makes extensive reference to the literature, its focus derives from interviews.

Over a period of three months, the Applied Research Center talked about the teaching crisis with scores of individuals associated with K-12 public education in seven key California school districts: Los Angeles, Long Beach, San Diego, Fresno City, San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose. Those interviewed included: teachers, paraprofessionals, school administrators, students, parents, present and past school board members and district recruitment offices. The Center also interviewed members of the education faculties at private institutions and at various schools in the California State University system, as well as administrators at the State Department of Education.

Based on this research the report outlines dimensions of the problem from training to recruitment to retention. It describes who currently teaches and examines teacher education. It includes descriptions of the form the teaching crisis takes in the state's seven largest districts. And, to give the full flavor of the problem as those at the ground level experience it, the report adds extended accounts from a teacher recruiter, a teaching candidate taking the C-BEST test and an experienced teacher of color watching newcomers being disempowered and unsupported by the system.

No short report on the teaching crisis can pretend to be exhaustive. Although many facets of the problem are dealt with in the report, other significant ones are not touched upon. In particular, this document leaves aside the thorny issues created by fragmented governance of education. Local school boards, the State Department of Education, teachers' unions, organized parents, right-wing ideologues and politicians at every level and of every stripe vie to preserve and extend their influence over the schools.

The chapter, "Who's Teaching California's School Children?" investigates the demographic profile of current teachers and explores the educational value of increasing the racial and cultural diversity of the profession. "Pathways to Teaching" explores the history and practice of teacher training. "Some Views from the Teaching Trenches" presents in-depth interviews. And, "A Look at Seven School Districts" details the racial dimensions of the crisis in teaching in those districts.

The report's main recommendations to expand the quality, quantity and racial diversity of California's teaching force areas follow: 1) Fully invest in the development of teaching talent and resources at high-need schools by creating "local education actions projects," one of whose features would be to recruit and train local residents to become high-quality, long-term teachers in their local schools. 2) Develop a fully-prepared, highly-skilled teaching force, better trained and supported in dealing with the diverse California school populations. 3) Eliminate barriers which prevent qualified people from becoming teachers, including the C-BEST. 4) Increase teacher compensation and provide incentives for teaching in high-need schools. 5) Aggressively institute programs to attract more teachers of color.

The Applied Research Center believes these measures would significantly improve teaching in California's racially and culturally diverse public schools.

BY A. ASADULLAH SAMAD



BETWEEN THE LINES

Curt Flood's Campaign: Hall of Fame Time for the 'Father of Free Agency'

I'm a lifelong baseball fan. It was my first love as a child. I still enjoy it today attending about a dozen games a season. During the recent Major League Baseball Hall of Fame inductions in Cooperstown, New York, you heard a lot of talk about delayed recognition for those who have contributed much to the game but were yet to be accepted in the Hall of Fame.

Orlando Cepeda got in after a 10-year campaign to overcome a drug possession conviction. The Veteran's Committee finally put him in saying his conviction had nothing to do with what he did on the field. The same argument is being used to campaign for "Shoeless" Joe Jackson and Pete Rose's induction into "the hall."

Both are ineligible from consideration because they are on lifetime suspensions. Jackson, a White Sox infielder with hall of fame credentials, for his role in throwing the 1919 World Series ("the Black Sox's Scandal"). Rose, baseball's all-time hit leader with the Reds and Phillies (winning championships with both teams), for gambling while manager of the Cincinnati Reds, where he bet on baseball games. Yet the campaign wages on for both that include some very high-

profile names, including baseball legend, Ted Williams. There are other campaigns to get more of the legendary Latin (or Dominican) players in "the hall," including former Cincinnati Red, Tony Perez (more home runs than any player not in the hall of fame), multiple batting champion, Tony Oliva (who led the American League in hits five times and batting three times), or flame-thrower Luis Tiant and several others who had so-called borderline "hall of fame" numbers but are not in the hall of fame.

However, there is one player who changed the game of baseball forever and has yet to get his due recognition. It is now time the public demands that Curt Flood, the man who first challenged baseball's "slave clause," be recognized for his contribution to the game—free agency. The public should start with us because history-makers are only recognized when contributions are aptly cited. Curt Flood is history. His ultimate "props" would be in baseball's Hall of Fame.

Curt Flood's credentials don't exactly make his claim to the "hall" some social "sympathy" cause. He was a star of his day, and his numbers are better than some already in the "Hall." Curt Flood had 1,861 hits, scored 851 runs, had 85 home runs, had 636 rbs batted in (RBIs),

with a career batting average of .293 over a 15-year career. A career cut short by a political decision on the owners' part and a moral decision on Flood's part. Flood's numbers exceed Luis Aparicio who had 83 homers, 791 RBIs, and a lifetime batting average of .263. His numbers exceed Nellie Fox who had 35 HRs, 790 RBIs, and a lifetime batting average of .273. His numbers exceed the recently deceased "Pee Wee" Reese who many thought didn't have "hall of fame" numbers with 126 HRs 885 RBIs and a lifetime batting average of .269. Reese's claim to fame was that he helped usher in "the other change" baseball experienced, the breaking of the "color line" when he befriended Jackie Robinson. His "quiet leadership on and off the field" got him his "Hall of Fame" pass.

Flood was a leader also. He played on two World Championship teams (1967, 1968) with the St. Louis Cardinals (more than two of the four named above). He was at the top of the class in fielding every year. Between 1961 (when baseball went from awarding one to three outfielders Golden Gloves for fielding excellence, which is the case to this day) and 1972 (the year after Flood left baseball), only two other outfielders won more Golden Gloves than Curt Flood. Roberto Clemente

won 12, Willie Mays won 11, and Curt Flood won seven (and he didn't even play in 1970 and most of 1971). Flood also batted over .300 six times during those years. The other two are in the Hall of Fame. But not Curt. Why not? Particularly, when it was he who broke "the money line" in professional sports. Before then, owners paid what they wanted, when they wanted. But not now. Isn't that worth the same (if not more than Reese's contribution), to not just black players, but to all players whose careers were lengthened, and values were increased because of his sacrifice? I would say so, and so should every ball player who left their original team to sign a million-dollar contract with another team, "of their choosing," by selling their skills.

For all to really understand Flood's contribution to America's game, baseball, you have to understand the politics of baseball and the status it holds in this nation. Baseball has only undergone two significant changes in the last 100 years. One was social, the other was economic.

Both changes were followed by the other sports (football and basketball) who waited to see what baseball was going to do.

Baseball was one of the few industries exempt from the nation's

anti-trust laws, which are policies designed to restrict monopolies and promote competition in free markets. The way one would promote competition was to allow players to sell their services to the highest bidders. Well, this was illegal in any industry except baseball whereby players were owned for life and could be traded, sold, or cut, or paid what owners thought they were worth.

Teams like the New York Yankees, the Brooklyn Dodgers and the St. Louis Cardinals literally held monopolies over other teams, and nothing competed with baseball. When owners thought you were "through," they could trade you, cut your salary, demote you (to the minors), or cut you period. There was no playing out your option. You had no options. You were the owner's property, a slave to your contract. When the St. Louis Cardinals tried to cut Flood's contract, he refused to take the cut. When they traded him, he refused to report saying, "he was not a piece of meat." Baseball punished Curt Flood for that move. He went to case and lost, but two years later, Andy Messersmith, using Flood's same argument, won, and baseball players started selling their services to the highest bidder, or the teams of their choice, when their contracts

expired.

There would be no \$105 million dollar man in the Dodgers Kevin Brown, had there not been a Curt Flood. Nearly every professional sportsman has been able to prolong his career because of free agency. It used to be when management said your career was over, it is. Now players whose careers are on the down side still get top dollar as "role" players. Baseball's designated hitter rule in the American League is a direct advent of free agency, where players whose fielding skills had diminished but could still hit, were no longer benched but inserted in starting line-ups in limited roles. Curt Flood sacrificed his career but changed the game, and the way players did business.

Now it's time for us to be about the business of making sure Curt Flood gets his due honors. This is the start of a national campaign among journalists (black and white) to get Flood's application before the Hall of Fame Veterans Committee. Send letters to Mr. Edward W. Stack at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum at P.O. Box 590, Cooperstown, New York 13326, or fax them at (607) 547-2044. Let him know you support this campaign. A campaign to honor the man who "freed" professional athletes from slave contracts to million dollar contracts.

The Music Scene, Candidly

By FERDINAND PROTZMAN
Special to The Washington Post

Oggi Ogburn was working on a master's degree in urban studies at Howard University in 1971 and teaching himself photography when a friend asked if he could shoot some promotional pictures of musicians visiting a local radio station. Although he had no experience, Ogburn jumped at the chance and a remarkable career was born.

"I'm the kind of individual that when I get into something, I'm really into it," says Ogburn, whose candid, lyrical photographs can be seen in an exhibition titled "Backstage Pass" at the Auditorium Lobby Gallery at the University of the District of Columbia. "So when I started going into the darkroom at 5 in the afternoon and coming out at 3 a.m., I knew something was going on. Then I got involved with the music scene."

Involved is putting it mildly. Over the past 27 years, Ogburn has been commissioned by record companies, publications, radio stations and promoters to shoot a mind-boggling

collection of musicians, recording artists and celebrities who have passed through the mid-Atlantic region. "The only people I haven't shot are Aretha and the Artist formerly known as Prince," he says. "And that could still happen."

He has also served as campaign photographer for President Carter and former mayor Walter Washington, shot the Watergate hearings and documented his travels as a research assistant working for the late Chancellor Williams, a pioneering scholar of African American history and author of the book "The Destruction of Black Civilization." The exhibition includes a series of photographs of Williams that are being shown in public for the first time.

Ogburn's photographs are almost all candid, black-and-white shots taken while he was hanging out with stars such as Michael Jackson, Tina Turner, Whitney Houston, Dizzy Gillespie and Bob Marley, just to name a few. They have been shown in exhibitions in the United States and China and published in major magazines ranging from Billboard and Jet to U.S. News & World Report. He has worked for most of the major record companies, including Sony, Arista, MCA, Motown and Polygram.

"You can see where life has been a holiday for me," Ogburn says. "The past 27 years went by fast because I was doing something I loved. It's been great. Every assignment is different. I'm working for my friends, eating in the best restaurants, staying in the best hotels, traveling in limos, hanging out backstage. It really has been a holiday."

But even holidays can be dangerous. Growing up in Brooklyn and Queens, Ogburn saw some of his friends get into serious difficulties because of their use of drugs. Hanging around the intense partying on the music scene confronted Ogburn with similar temptations. But he says his work with Williams, who was blind, helped keep him grounded.

As a group, Ogburn's photos give an unvarnished account of life inside the music business. Behind the glitz is a world of egos, entourage, road gigs, promotional appearances, interviews and exhaustion. One of his most telling images shows the singer Sade and two members of her band,

packed into the back seat of a limo like sardines, dead to the world. "They were beat. Got into the limo after her show and passed straight out," Ogburn says.

Catching such scenes sounds easier than it is. Ogburn has a fine eye for composition and a rare knack for capturing stars in unguarded moments. That talent is particularly critical given the egos he has to deal with. Some stars are more cooperative than others.

"Michael Jackson can be tough to shoot because he wants to control everything," Ogburn says. "The way I like to work is just hang out and see what happens. So in that case, I've got to go with what he wants. I'm not there to get into people's faces about what I want for a picture. I'm there to catch them doing their thing."

A photograph of the Rev. Al Green taken at a 1996 concert date in Washington is a fine example of Ogburn's work, although in this instance he gives much of the credit to the singer. "Al Green is a pro's pro," Ogburn says. "He gives you so many different looks in the first 10 minutes of his set that you'd have to be blind not to get a good picture."

Ogburn's show is the second in a new series of art exhibitions at UDC featuring work by minority and female artists. Manon Cleary, the coordinator of the university's art program, says the focus was chosen because it reflects the student body.

"A lot of our students are working women who take classes at night. We want to be a venue for people who deserve attention but for whatever reason haven't gotten it," Cleary says. "So we've been really happy to show artists like Pat Goslee, who was our first show, and Oggi because their work is so strong and our students can relate to it."

For Ogburn, the exhibition also represents a chance to emphasize the non-music side of his photography, which he hopes will inspire students as well as other viewers.

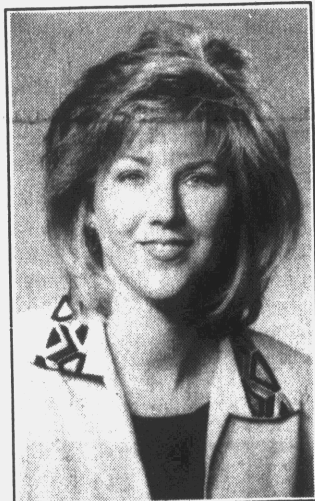
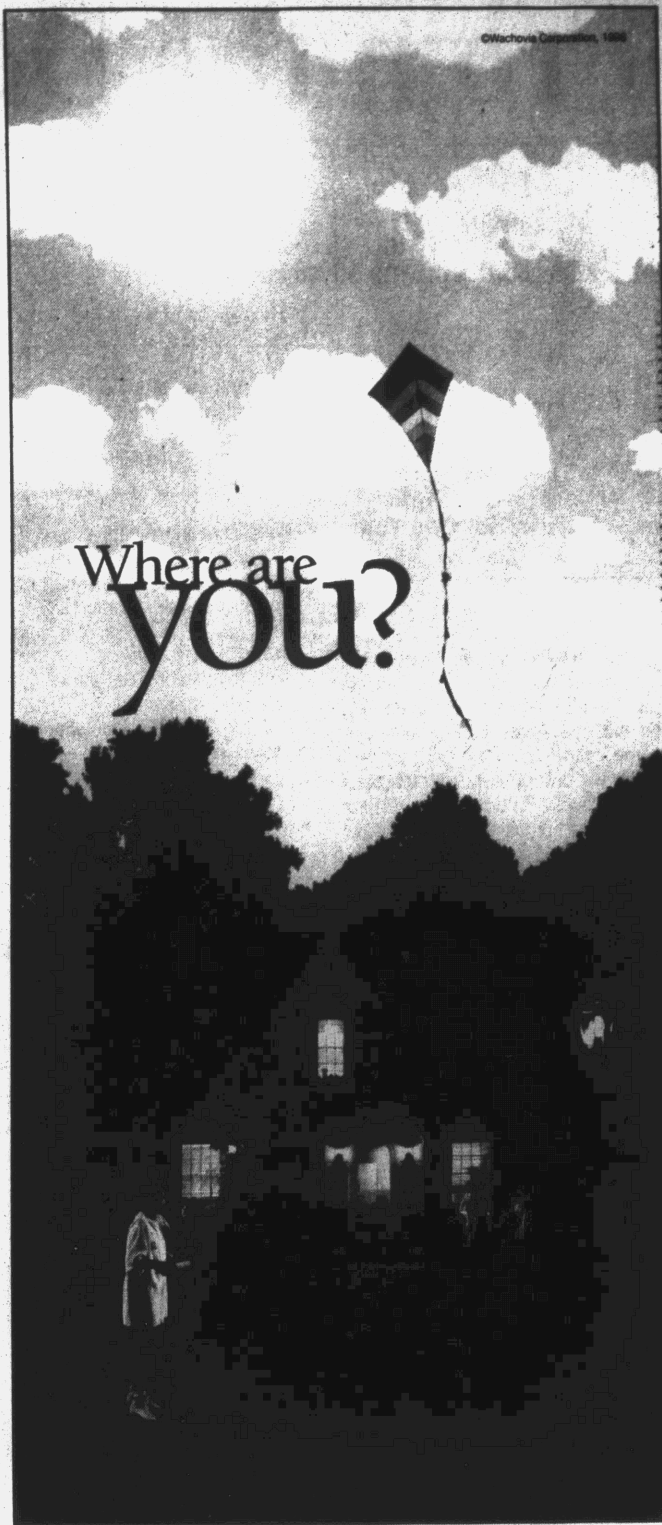
"I'm locked into the music thing. That's what people know me for," he says. "But a lot of the music business is here today, gone tomorrow. I've done a lot of other work, shooting people like Jimmy Carter, Desmond Tutu, Nelson Mandela, Chancellor Williams. I take a lot of pride in that because those people are in the history books."

Oggi Ogburn, at University of the District of Columbia Auditorium Lobby Gallery, 4200 Connecticut Ave. NW, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and during auditorium events, through April 21. Call 202-274-5119, Ext. 4.

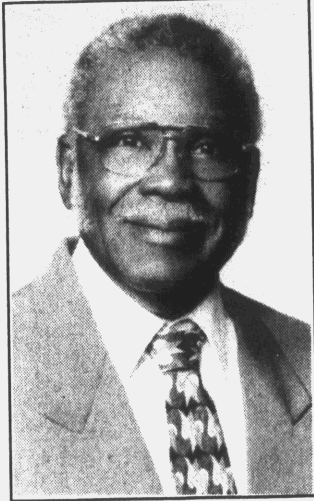


Dead The Minority Voice

Get out and Vote Nov. 2nd



Judy O. Washington



Brooks Announces Candidacy

Methodist Healthcare names pharmacy chief

Phyllis Weaver has been named director of pharmacy at Methodist healthcare — South Hospital. Previously she was manager of pharmacy services at Methodist Central.

She earned an executive MBA in strategic management from Christian Brothers University and a master of science degree in hospital pharmacy from the University of Wisconsin. She received a bachelor of science degree in pharmacy from Xavier University of New Orleans as well as a bachelor of science degree in biology from Memphis State University.

She is a member of the American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists.



Weaver

Clinton names two to Executive Office

President Clinton has named Mark F. Lindsay as assistant to the president for Management and Administration and Bradley J. Kiley as deputy assistant.

They will direct all management and administration functions of the entire Executive Office of the president.

Lindsay joined the Executive Office in 1997. He received his J.D. from Case Western Reserve University School of Law; his M.A.L.S. degree in International Affairs from Georgetown University; and his B.A. from Macalester College.

Kiley has held several key posts as the Democratic National Committee (DNC) most recently serving as Director of Operations. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas Christian University.



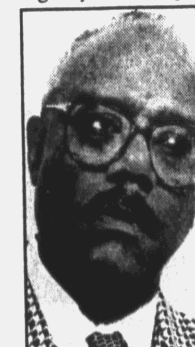
Lindsay

Literary agency picks editor-in-chief

Rob Morton's Literary Service Agency, the fast-growing online service, is announcing that veteran editor and author Fred Beauford has joined the company as Editor-in-Chief.

The Rob Morton Literary Service Agency presently supplies agents, editors, publishers, printers and publicity to writers worldwide.

It can be accessed at WWW.rob-morton.com, or by calling (973) 374-8327.



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If you have an opinion you would like to share or comments. Please contact the Minority Voice Newspaper at (252) 757-0365 or write to 405 Evans St. Greenville, NC 27834

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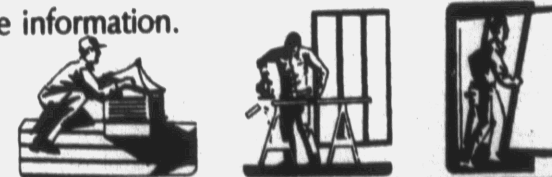
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Contact:
Suzanne B. McGuinn



Faith & Inspiration

From the Desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



To the editor -

Though Floyd was somewhat sudden, devastating and cruel, causing lives, homes, communities, businesses, farms and farmers income destroyed, some schools and churches destruction, with millions or perhaps billions of dollars needed to reconstruct or retrieve them, teachers and students becoming antsy, yet kindness and acts of generosity have blossomed and patience, one of the virtues, has been tested. It has been an humbling experience to see, read and hear of people far and near who have reached out to touch during this catastrophic crisis. There are no barriers. All the barriers are down. It's just love. God has shown us that He is the "great Equalizer". Many have remarked, "God's giving us a wake-up call". Are we listening?

Beatrice Maye
Greenville, NC

CONDUCTING A MEETING

There are 8 steps the chair can take to move the meeting from

beginning to end'.

1. The chair presides
2. Call the meeting to order
3. Hear the minutes of the previous meeting
4. Hear reports of officers, boards, standing committees
5. Hear report of special committees
6. Hear announcements
7. Go on with the unfinished business of the last meeting
8. Take up new business and end the meeting (adjourn)

There are 7 things that should be included in the minutes:

1. The name of the group
2. The kind of meeting (annual, regular, etc.)
3. The place, date, and time of the meeting
4. The name of the presiding officer
5. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting
6. A list of the motions introduced, their proposer, and what finally happened - whether the proposals passed or failed
7. The time of adjournment of the meeting

From :
HOW TO RUN A MEETING,
by David Guy Powers

STOP BACTERIA: WASH YOUR HANDS

From: Cooperative Extension Service. Handwashing is the number one way to prevent the spread of harmful bacteria. Bacteria is present everywhere and we can not get rid of it but we can minimize its harmful effect. Proper hand washing is the first step. Proper hand washing should follow a few guidelines:

1. Always wash your hands after using the restrooms, changing diapers, after handling dirty liners, before handling food, after sneezing and after dressing a wound. Never handle food with hands that have cuts, bruises or sores on them.

2. Use hot water and plenty of soap. Hands should be washed at least 20 seconds. You may need to check your watch to see just how long 20 seconds will be.

3. Rinse with warm water and dry them with a disposal towel. Use the towel to turn off the faucet. Remember, you used dirty hands to turn it on.

Children need to be taught how to properly wash their hands and may need some supervision to make sure they do it correctly. The importance of hand washing can not be over emphasized as a means to cut down on the spread of microorganisms which may be harmful.

10 LESSON FOR LIVING

1. It is not easy for us to change. But it is possible. And this capacity is our glory as human beings.
2. The only way to assure being loved is to be a person worthy of love.
3. If you desire greater wisdom, you can find it inside of you.
4. Integrity is never painless.
5. We are incapable of loving another unless we love ourselves.
6. True listening is love in action.
7. It is through love that we elevate ourselves. And it is through our love for others that we assist others to elevate themselves.
8. It is our sense of commitment after the wedding that makes possible the transition from falling in love to genuine love. And it is our commitment after conception that transforms us from biological into psychological parents.
9. Learning from our children is the best opportunity we have to assure ourselves of a meaningful old age.
10. The farther one travels along the journey of life, the more joy and the more pain one experiences. However, for all that is given up, even more is gained.
11. Set deadlines and stick to them.
12. As soon as you think of something you need to do, do it.

13. Come up with a way to reward yourself for completing something you have put off.

14. Do a startup task, sometimes a little action is all you need to get started.

15. Team approach. If you can't bring yourself to do something alone, such as studying or exercising, find a friend to do it with you.

16. Give it five (or 10). Force yourself to devote at least five minutes to a task you've been putting off. Set a timer if you must.

17. Inch by inch. Instead of taking an "all or nothing" attitude, try to break up a major project into smaller tasks that are easier to manage. (Remember: How do you eat an elephant?) One bite at a time).

18. Make a list comparing the rewards you'll get from completing a task with the benefits you get from putting it off.

From: Kathy Sprau, a professional speaker and trainer who leads seminars in procrastination and time management

GOOD THOUGHTS

1. It's the rubbing that brings out the shine.
2. When you think you've done your best, dig a little deeper.
3. Christians proclaim brotherly love - love for your neighbor, peace on earth and other notions, but they often do not practice them.

4. Children need strength to lean on, a shoulder to cry on, and an example to learn from.

5. Every child has a right to be both well-fed and well-led.

6. A pint of example is worth a gallon of advice.

7. A good example is the best sermon you can preach.

8. Satan hinders prayer, but prayer hinders Satan.

9. "Kneology" will do more for the world than "theology".

10. God never tires of hearing us in prayer.

11. If the church is ever to get on its feet, it must get on its knees.

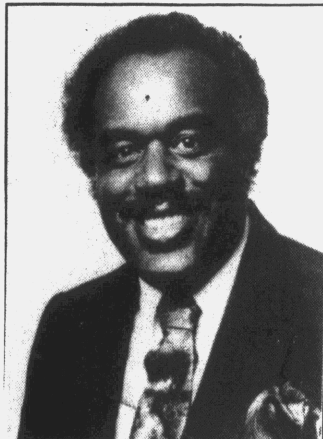
12. Courtesy is the quality that keeps a woman smiling when a departing guest stands at the open door and lets the flies in.

13. Why are husbands and wives more courteous to strangers than to each other?

14. Be courteous to everybody. You never know who might show up on the jury.

**Vote !
Nov. 2nd**

SPIRITUAL THOUGHTS



Dr. George Hawkins

Divine Healing

Note

A few Sundays ago, my scriptural text to the congregation was, "The Five Miracle of the Cross"; namely, salvation, forgiveness, grace, prosperity and healing. This writing will deal expressly with one of these miracles--divine healing, as ordained by our Lord Jesus Christ and purposed in the Work of God as direct proof that divine healing is a reality and that miracles can happen. Several members in this church, through faith and divine intervention, have been healed of various infirmities that medical science had diagnosed "terminal". This evidence is an actuality that Tabernacle is a supernatural ministry of healing and deliverance in mind, body, and soul.

There is a belief that since Jesus performed miraculous cures, and

the Apostles in the Early Church healed the sick by miracles - working power. Christians today should be able to do the same. The basis for this belief is found in JOHN 14:12 to the effect that his disciples would be able to accomplish the same mighty works, and even "Greater works". Those who have no faith in a higher power are not tempted to believe along this line, but those who do believe in God and have faith that He is able to do all things. Are easily Convinced that they should expect Him to heal them.

We cannot deny the fact that the Bible has much to say about divine healing. God is represented as a Great Physician who heals all the diseases of His people (Psalm 103:3). The prophet Isaiah fore-

told at time when "the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick" (Isaiah 33:24). He also prophesied that all the blind eyes would be opened. And All the deaf ears unstopped. He also promised that the lame would leap and the dumb sing (Isaiah 35:5).

The Apostle John, describing the meaning of the vision given to him by Christ on the Isle of Patmos, said that a time was coming when there would be no more pain nor death, and sorrow and sighing would and (Revelation 21:4). Because of this established purpose of God, through Christ, as we find it in the Bible, no true believer in the Scriptures will deny that divine healing is a part of the Christian program for the sin-cured and dying race. The Apostles Peter,

who practiced divine healing came across a lame man who sat "at the Beautiful gate of the temple" Asking for alms (Acts 3:1-16). This man had been lame from the time of his birth; but when Peter gave the work of Authority, he was restored to soundness of limb. When the people asked by what authority and power this man had been healed, Peter explained that it was through Jesus of Nazareth, when they had crucified. But Peter did not stop with this answer to their question. Instead, he explained that after Jesus Christ returned, there would be "times of restoration of all things". He also explained that it had been foretold by the mouth of all God's holy prophets since the world began (Acts 3:19-23)

If Christians today are to practiced divine healing because Jesus and the Apostles did, then it should be possible by faith to call forth divine healing. If the Leader of the church is to be a covering for his people and an example to the Believer, he should be able to put into practices anything that the Bible teaches; however, the Holy Spirit is the only enabling power by which it can be done. It is the avenue by which all spiritual enlightenment Comes. Zechariah 4:6 reads, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts".

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October 4, 1999

Dear Parents of Pitt County Schools:

As we reopen our schools, we understand that many things have changed since our last day of school on September 15. The devastation experienced by Pitt County and our neighboring counties is unprecedented and something that will take a great deal of time from which to recover.

Many students, teachers, and staff members are without homes, food, and clothing. We want to keep this uppermost in our minds as we attempt to bring some degree of normalcy back to our school operation. Having missed thirteen student days, we are all anxious to return to the regular academic schedule, but we want to make sure that we do this in a way that reflects a sensitivity to the personal losses of those around us and an understanding that patience and flexibility will be required. Counseling teams will be made available at each school for those who are in need of these services.

A revised school calendar will be considered the Board of Education on October 4. We are pleased that we have been able to protect the Winter and Spring breaks thus far and build a calendar that still provides 180 student days. To accomplish this, most of the previously scheduled teacher workdays and staff development days are being converted to student days. Unfortunately, if we lose additional days due to inclement weather, our make-up opportunities will be very limited. Once approved the calendar will be printed and copies made available through your child's school.

Although some of the school structures did experience leaks and minor roof damage and a few others had standing water for a brief time, we are fortunate that the schools are generally in good shape for the reopening. We expect few facility problems.

Bus routes will be altered based upon the conditions of the roads and the ability to provide safe travel. Some roads and bridges have been washed out or may have been identified as unsafe by the Department of Transportation. New stops and new routes will be developed accordingly.

Students who have had to relocate as a result of the flooding are being asked to return to their home school, if possible. If this is not possible, these students should attend the school in the attendance district where they are now living. We will work cooperatively with those who have lost textbooks and school supplies.

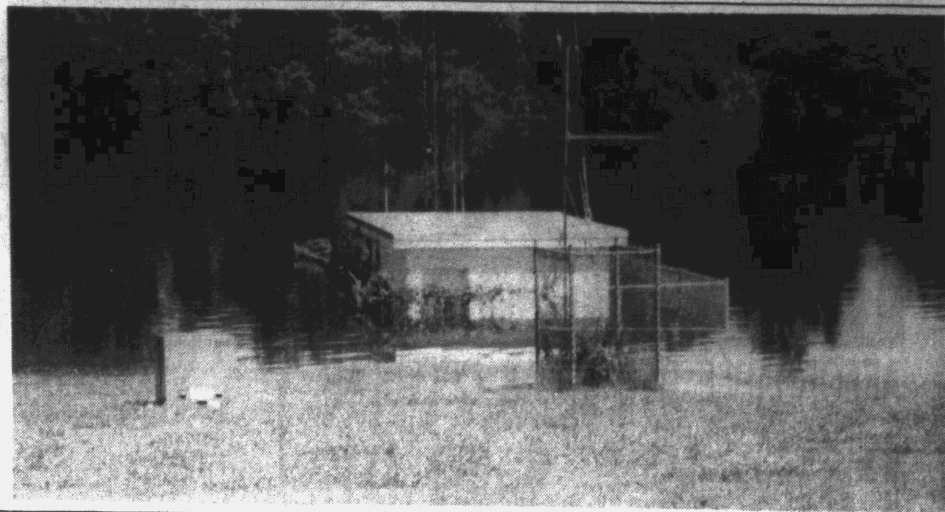
We do anticipate a dramatic shift in student populations because so many families who have lost their homes have either found temporary housing in other parts of the county, have moved out of the county, or are now living with relatives. Likewise, students displaced from other counties may now be in Pitt County. We will work with these students and their families as best we can. This may mean that classrooms are extremely large in some schools and small in others. It may mean that we have to temporarily create classrooms in media centers, gymnasiums, or in computer labs. We will do the very best that we can to meet the needs of all our students recognizing it may take several months for enrollments to settle. We ask for your patience and understanding as we work through this unusual time together.

We look forward to reopening school and working with you to ensure a successful academic school year for students.

Thank you for your continued support.

Howard L. Sosne

Howard Sosne
Superintendent
Pitt County Public Schools



WOOW temporarily off the air, yet another casualty of Hurricane Floyd. WOOW Joy 1340 AM was taken off the air when flood waters located near the Town Commons had risen to the point that they nearly submerged the transmitter facility. (Pictured) the transmitter facility located on the Town Commons

Photo By Jim Rouse

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Cops miffed after changes resulting from Louima police torture case; lawsuit filed

NEW YORK - Officer Inger Barron said she's still coming to grips with being transferred to the 70th Precinct in Brooklyn solely on the basis of her skin color.

"When I entered the police department I thought the color barrier had been torn down," she said. "But in reality it's only become worse."

Barron is one of 22 minority officers — 16 Blacks and six Latinos — who have filed a federal lawsuit questioning the police department's right to transfer officers solely on the basis of race. Following the police torture of Haitian immigrant Abner Louima in August 1997, Police Commissioner Howard Safir did just that. Safir transferred 28 Black and Latino officers to the 70th Precinct, which at that time was 74 percent White in a mostly minority community.

"I believe it's very important that all of our precincts reflect the communities they serve," Safir said at that time.

Some of the officers who were transferred decided to sue the city. This week, U.S. District Court Judge Shira Scheindlin said in a pre-trial ruling that a jury can decide whether the police department acted properly when it resorted to the race-based transfers.

The judge also said the city bears the burden of proving at trial that the operational needs of law enforcement can constitute a compelling enough state interest to permit such transfers. No trial date has been set.

Linda Cronin, a lawyer for the police union, the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, said the plaintiffs in the case believe the transfers have stalled their police careers. The inroads and con-

tacts they made at their former precincts were lost in the transfers. Gone were the chances for promotion or being assigned to a prestigious detail, Cronin said.

"They had to start all over again, they were in the bottom of the barrel," she said. The transfers have been hard for the plaintiffs, some said at a news conference.

Officer Marva Gardner said the community looks upon the precinct officers with disdain because of the Louima incident.

"We didn't do anything wrong, and we're taking the blame for it," Gardner said. "The department should have asked for volunteers to come here."

Officer Gary Johnson lives near the precinct's boundaries. While off-duty, sometimes he would see perpetrators he had arrested. "This puts myself and my family at great risk," Johnson said. Of the 28 officers transferred to the 70th Precinct, two were promoted to the rank of sergeant and transferred, said attorney Joan Cresap. Three others were granted transfers, she said.

American Legacy Foundation Awards Agencies Huge Anti-Smoking Advertising Account

BOSTON (AP)—A group of advertising agencies led by a Boston firm has been picked to craft a four-year antismoking campaign worth up to \$900 million, the largest advertising project ever aimed at snuffing out smoking.

Melissa Lea, a senior vice president at Arnold Communications, voiced confidence that the campaign can turn many people away from smoking.

"In the past, we've used humor. We've also used health consequences. We've also used facts," she said.

The contract will be worth between \$150 million and \$225 million annually for the advertising group led by Arnold, according to Eileen Marcus, a spokeswoman for the American Legacy Foundation.

The foundation, which awarded the contract Wednesday, oversees money won by 46 states in a settlement with the tobacco industry in 1998. The advertising money comes from the \$206-billion settlement.

The foundation wants to create advertising campaigns and educational programs to discourage Americans from smoking.

Arnold is known for its state-sponsored antismoking campaign in Massachusetts. A recent black-and-white ad features the tag line: "It's just business—minus a con-

science."

Arnold has also created anti-smoking ads that went up on thousands of billboards in Massachusetts and 17 other states as part of the tobacco settlement. Under that agreement, states took over billboard leases that had been held by tobacco companies.

Arnold has set up a Web site, www.getoutraged.com, where people can vent frustrations and share personal stories about the harm caused by smoking.

Arnold is also known for its "Drivers Wanted" campaign for Volkswagen, which in 1995 was valued at \$110 million.

The advertising company now leads a group of eight other major partners in the national antismoking campaign. They are Porter Novelli, of Washington, D.C.; Crispin Porter & Bogusky, of Miami; Burrell Communications Group, of Chicago; Bromley Aguilar & Associates, of San Antonio, Texas; Imada Wong Communications Group, of Los Angeles; The Nixon Group, of Miami; Teenage Research Unlimited, of Northbrook, Ill.; and Circle.com, of Boston.

The advertising campaign will use television, print, direct marketing and the Internet, company officials said.

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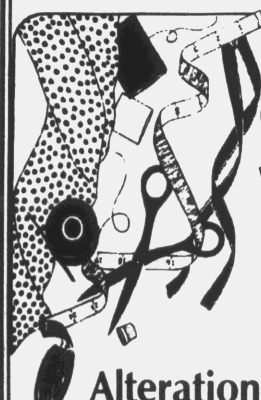


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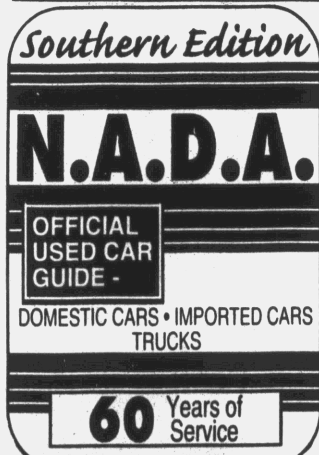
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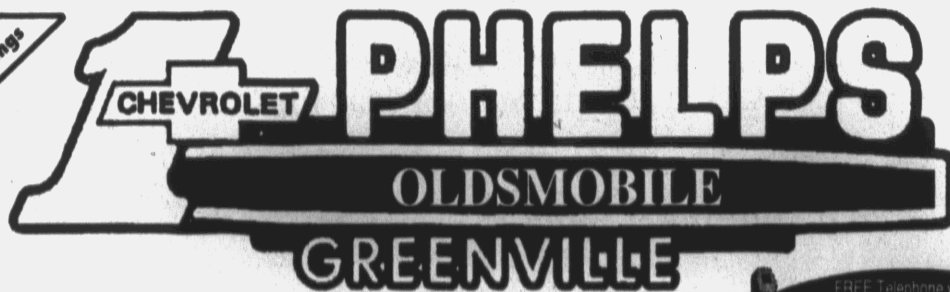


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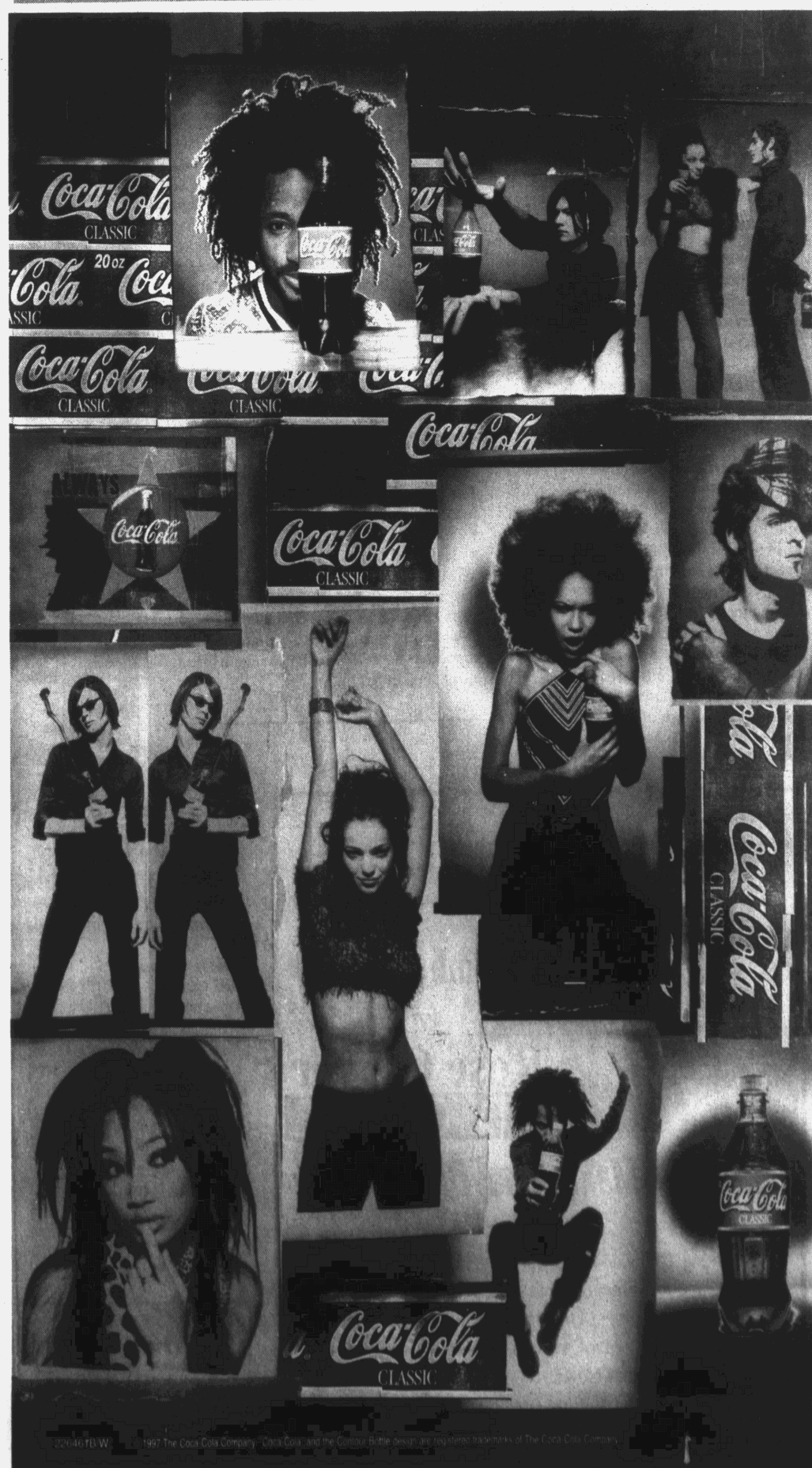
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African Family: Foundation of Our Struggle

By CONRAD WORRILL

The crisis of the African American family continues to be a major issue that we must address.

Several years ago *Newsweek Magazine* featured a comprehensive examination of African family life in America focusing in on "A World Without Fathers—The Struggle To Save The Black Family."

This beautifully packaged series of articles on the African family in America contained important data and trends we should all be aware of. These articles fell into the category of people outside of our community addressing an issue we should be addressing ourselves.

Since the early 1900s, Black and white scholars have written much on the African family. When one examines the card catalogue of any library in America they will find volumes of books, articles and newspaper clippings discussing some aspect of African family life. So we can add *Newsweek's* feature to the list. Most of this research, over the years, has been aimed at the African family in America. What we need in the African community in America is a framework to examine and solve the problems of Black family life on our own terms.

The capturing of African people, who were placed in chattel slavery in North America, has left some devastating scars on the most basic unit or any group—the family.

There is no question that the family has been that unit that provides the basic foundation for any group of people to survive

and develop.

Families constitute grandmothers, grandfathers, mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts and in-laws. Sometimes families extend beyond blood relatives to those persons we bring into our families for whatever reason.

Families function in the context of their racial and ethnic identity. This identity is shaped by the historical and external forces of a given society.

Although the problems of the African family in America appear to be very complex on the one hand, on the other, the problem is very simple.

First of all, African people who were captured and introduced into the western hemisphere as property and commodities were removed from their land and institutional arrangements of African life.

Second, this process of white takeover of African life, through the most brutal form of oppression—the slave trade and the eventual enslavement of African people on the plantations of North America, has been a back breaking experience for our people.

Even though our survival techniques have been superior, in the face of brutal psychological and physical violence against us, we are now at the crossroads.

We face the challenge of preserving some of the traditions of the Black family, developed by our ancestors, who fought so hard against racism and white supremacy in this country.

This must be done, in part, through the rising and growing African Centered Education Movement. As renown thinker Dr.

Jacob Carruthers explains, African Centered Education should focus on the following:

1. Advocates that restoring the historical truth about Africa is the priority for African thinkers (including Africans in the diaspora).

2. Holds that there is a distinct universal African World View which should be the foundation for all African intellectual development.

3. Involves the massive education or rather re-education of the African people of the world from an African perspective in the interest of African people and directed by African thinkers. It is a necessary pre-condition for the freedom of the African mind and subsequently African liberation.

We must not abandon family life. It is the basis for our survival and development. It is the strategy of our white oppressors to place so much pressure on us that we give up our fight for independence and freedom.

When the family unit begins to wither away, we must rise to the occasion and fight to keep its basic elements alive in our communities.

It is the duty of all African people to understand that we are faced with a genocidal set of circumstances in America. Look around our communities and what do we/you see?

We witness the absence of that fighting family spirit among us that has been so much a part of African family life.

The family is the support mechanism for all that we do and it is a sacred institution that we must preserve and protect on our own terms.

This should not occur on the terms of major features in the mainstream like *Newsweek* and other publications who seek to interpret and define who we are.

How do we stop police brutality?

Rodney King, Terrence Johnson and thousands of others. These names are familiar to those who shudder each time another Black person falls victim to police brutality. But the scandal being unveiled this week in Los Angeles—called the worst in 60 years—has even the hard core citizens reeling in disbelief.

According to the Associated Press a cop who pleaded guilty Sept. 8 to stealing \$1 million worth of cocaine, has been cooperating with investigators under terms of a plea bargain.

So far, investigators say, the former undercover narcotics officer has told of handcuffing and shooting a man, planting evidence, lying in court, and witnessing still other police abuses during a raid in which one person was shot to death and another paralyzed for life.

But what is so scary about the L.A. scandal is that everyone knows that police brutality is rampant throughout the United States and nothing is really being done about it.

The Human Rights Watch says that:

Police brutality is one of the most serious, enduring, and divisive human rights violations in the United States. The problem is nationwide, and its nature is institutionalized.

"Police officers engage in unjustified shootings, severe beatings, fatal chokings, and unnecessarily rough physical treatment in cities throughout the United States, while their police superiors, city officials, and the Justice Department fail to act decisively to restrain or penalize such acts or even to record the full magnitude of the problem."

They also say that "Habitually brutal officers — usually a small percentage of officers on a force — may be the subject of repeated complaints but are usually protected by their fellow officers and by the shoddiness of internal police investigations."

In Los Angeles, the details now being revealed happened in an 8-square-mile neighborhood containing one of the city's largest immigrant communities. It has been called the worst scandal since the 1930s, a time when the LAPD was notorious for corruption and renegade officers were known to sometimes bomb the homes of people who stood up to them, AP reported.

We believe that the first step to take in stopping police brutality is to make all decent officers aware that they are just as guilty when they allow their fellow officer to commit these kinds of crimes. Every single officer in this L.A. police district where the brutality took place should be disciplined for not revealing what was happening. Every commander, captain, lieutenant should be demoted. Only when each and every police officer becomes his brother's keeper can we stop the police brutality in this country.

Crucial Hour in the Battle for the Life of Mumia Abu-Jamal

By CARL DIX

Imagine a case in which a person isn't allowed to represent himself ... witnesses are threatened or even arrested on the stand ... a man charged with killing a cop is tried by a judge who is a lifetime member of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) ... [the] appeal is heard and denied by a court where five out of [the] seven judges have either received campaign contributions or campaign endorsements from the FOP ... [and] a "confession" was manufactured. I don't have to imagine such a case. It's mine.

Mumia Abu-Jamal in *Source* magazine, February 1999.

Nineteen Ninety-nine is a crucial year of decision in the fight to stop the execution of Mumia Abu-Jamal. And Mumia Awareness Week, Sept. 19-25, is a pivotal hour of outreach and activity, to culminate in marches and rallies in dozens of cities on Sept. 25.

Last year, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court unanimously rejected Mumia's appeal of an unjust conviction. Before the end of October, his lawyers will file his appeal in federal courts. This filing will initiate the crucial and "final" rounds of the legal battle.

To be blunt, unless there is tremendous political pressure brought on the power structure, Mumia will be killed within the next few years. It is urgent that we send up a roar that will rattle the cowardly hearts of the powers-that-be with our message: We will not let you kill Mumia. We weren't able to stop the assassination of Malcolm X or Fred Hampton. But we can and must do everything to stop the government from its legal assassination of Mumia.

Mumia is the only political prisoner on death row. He's been there since 1982. His railroading typifies how the U.S. government deals with political opponents — especially revolutionaries who connect with those on the bottom of society.

On Dec. 9, 1981, Mumia was driving his cab on a downtown Philadelphia street. He

saw a cop beating his brother, and he rushed to the scene. When the smoke cleared, Mumia was shot in the chest. Nearby, Philadelphia cop Daniel Faulkner lay dying from bullet wounds. Mumia was charged with Faulkner's death. The prosecution suppressed evidence, removed 11 qualified African Americans from the jury, threatened and bribed witnesses, and used Mumia's history in the Black Panthers to argue for the death sentence.

As a teenager in Philadelphia, Mumia was the Minister of Information of the Black Panther Party. Later, as a radio journalist he was known as the "voice of the voiceless." He supported the MOVE organization and exposed the racism and police brutality against these black revolutionaries and others. At age 26, he was elected chair of the Philadelphia chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists.

But for the past 18 years Mumia has been on death row—locked in a cell 23 hours a day. His mail, including confidential correspondence with his lawyer, has been opened and copied by prison authorities. He was put into punitive detention for writing his book, *Live From Death Row*. His commentaries have been censored on the radio. As Mumia put it, "They don't just want my death, they want my silence."

In 1995, a worldwide campaign stopped Mumia's execution just 10 days before the government tried to put this brother to death. But the authorities have continued to escalate threats on Mumia's life, intensifying in recent months. To stop his execution now will take a diverse and determined struggle many times more powerful.

The battle for Mumia's life has grown by leaps and bounds, which is very positive and heartening. Our struggle has held up the executioner's hand, but it's not yet strong enough to stop it from coming back down. Recent attacks on Mumia and his supporters make it clear that the death threat still hangs over him.

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ECU

Slave Narrative Free to the Public The Life of Friday Jones A former North Carolina Slave

Friday, October 15 4:00 p.m. North Carolina Collection, Third Floor, J.Y. Joyner Library Exhibition Opening and Remarks by Staff

5:30 p.m. Francis Speight Auditorium, Jenkins Fine Arts Center

Saturday, October 16 9:00 a.m. Mendenhall Student Center Room #244 "Friday Jones: A Biographical Sketch" Staff, North Carolina Collection

Come out and Learn about Your Heritage

To all residents of Eastern North Carolina



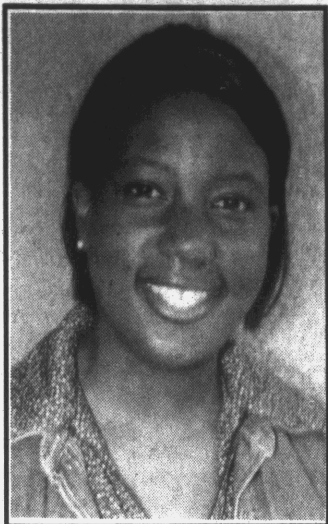
This is a community service intended for those residents affected by the hurricane and flood.

Heilig Meyers wants to help you during this time - we have mattresses, beds, appliances, electronics and all home furnishings. We want to offer you a special discount of 25% off home furnishings and 15% off appliances/electronics. This offer is intended for those who have been severely affected by the floods. We will strive to deliver these items as quick as possible. We have trucks of stock coming soon. We will do everything possible to assist you during this time.

- **QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR ACCOUNT?** Please call 756-4145 with any questions concerning your account.
- **INSURANCE.** Most accounts have property insurance. If you have questions concerning your account, please call 756-4145 to see if you are eligible for benefits.
- **RED CROSS AND FEMA VOUCHERS.** We will gladly accept your vouchers from these two entities.
- **INHOUSE CREDIT.** We can approve you on the spot for a new account as well as raising your available credit or existing accounts.
- **WE WELCOME MOST MAJOR CREDIT CARDS.** In addition to the Heilig Meyers card, we also accept American Express, VISA, MasterCard and Discover.

Our family at Heilig Meyers would like to help in any way to make things a little easier for your family. We hope these offers will help you and your family.

518 E. Greenville Blvd. Greenville, NC 756-4145



Mrya Wooten

A Matter of Choice

By Mrya Wooten

Often when one is in search of peace or hope they find comfort in church. Just entering the building with its high-vaulted ceilings and its brass and wood fixtures creates a clam over the troubled soul. It draws one into a state of worship and sanctity. In the large chapel of the Caswell Mental Retardation Center in Kinston more than 300 people gathered not in worship, but in protest. In protest to a statement issued by the largest national advocacy organization on mental retardation, The Arc. Their statement called, *Where People live* states "...large congregate facilities (institutions) are no longer necessary or appropriate for anyone, regardless of the type or severity of their disabilities". The statement calls for the closing of one of 5 centers in North Carolina by January 2000. The reasoning behind this statement according to Ellen Russell, Advocacy Coordinator for the Arc of North Carolina is, "that at some point we need to start putting people into the community. All positions (Arc) have emphasis on community involvement." The statement adopted in 1995 by the national Arc is one of 40 position statement resolutions adopted at their yearly convention. The Arc's president was quoted as saying, "If there's one thing I support it's the closing of large institutions." It is believed by the Arc that the closing of these institutions, and the creation of community services will allow individuals with mental retardation and their families to have the opportunity to

choose where they live while allowing them to have the same quality of service. But for parents of individuals in these facilities they recognize a different opinion, a different view. Several parents stood up and shared horror stories of events that took place when their son or daughter was placed in the community. With tear filled eyes, one mother thanked Caswell Center and its staff because "without them", She said, "my son would be dead." A sister stood to tell the story of the caring staff who brought her brother, a resident at Caswell to be with his father at the hospital before he died. Elected officials stood and called the Arc's position rhetoric, designed to gain attention, but lacking any real action. Parents and employees alike were angry. Angry at the Arc's "high-handed" manner that assumed that the idea of institutional closings would be accepted and embraced by a community that believes they are a family. "How dare you Arc, say that you know what's best for my child," one parent said. Economic repercussions were cited by several in attendance as a reason for the Arc to repeal its statement. Caswell employs about 1800 people who if the center closed would lose their jobs. But the biggest loser of all according to the Kinston community would be the residents. "We don't wanna go no group home," one Caswell resident said, gaining a standing ovation from the entire body. Perhaps his one sentence summed it up best for all present. For many of us the topic of mental retardation does not affect us. If we are not the parents of a child, a



GREENVILLE UTILITIES

NOTICE

Due to the recent flooding, the Human Resources Office of Greenville Utilities was not able to salvage employment applications which were on file. Employment applications can be obtained at our temporary location on third the floor of the Main Utilities Building at 200 Martin Luther King Drive or call 252/551-1513. We apologize for this inconvenience and appreciate your patience.

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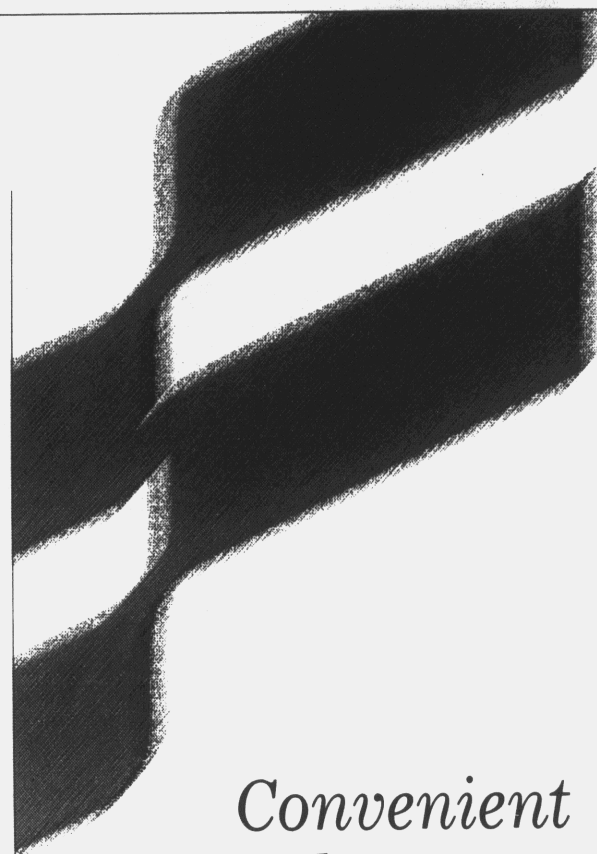
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Black churches join efforts to fight HIV/AIDS

With more Black churches across the country joining the movement to stop AIDS, the Balm in Gilead is providing a first-of-its-kind opportunity for members of Black churches to gain skills to start or strengthen AIDS efforts.

The Black Church HIV/AIDS Training Institute will take place Oct. 7-9 at the Sheraton Buckhead Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. Registration is encouraged early for those interested in attending and is available toll-free at (888) 225-6243.

AIDS is the leading cause of death for African Americans between the ages of 25-44. One in every 50 Black American men has HIV, the virus that causes AIDS; one in 160 Black women has the virus. In 1998, the Congressional Black Caucus requested that the federal government declare a national state of health emergency because of HIV/AIDS in Black communities.

"Perhaps one of the many reasons for the alarming AIDS profile of Black Americans is that Black churches have been slow to take leadership in attempting to curtail the epidemic," says Pernessa C. Seele, founder/CEO of the Balm in Gilead.

BET partners with Internet giants

In a deal believed to represent the largest investment in an African American Internet venture, BET Holdings Chairman and CEO Robert Johnson says his cable and publishing empire will partner with four of the nation's largest media and technology conglomerates to create BET.com, a new Internet portal that will become the leading on-line destination for African Americans. The emergence of BET.com marks the most significant economic foothold in the Internet space by an African American-owned company.

BET Holdings, along with Microsoft Corporation, Liberty Digital, LLC, News Corporation, Inc., and USA Networks, Inc., will fund the joint venture with an initial cash investment of \$35 million. In addition, the partners will provide millions of dollars of in-kind contributions for marketing and promotion. BET will have majority ownership and control of the venture.

BET.com will be designed to appeal to African Americans of all ages and walks of life. The site will offer a broad array of content, covering topics relevant to African Americans in channels such as news, entertainment, sports, education, health, family, history, finance, careers, technology and travel.

Coast Guard Academy nationwide competition

The United States Coast Guard Academy is now accepting and processing applications to the Class of 2004. Appointments are tendered on the basis of an annual nationwide competition with no congressional nominations or geographical quotas. Applications must be submitted to the director of admissions prior to Dec. 15. Candidates must arrange to participate in either the SATI or ACT prior to or including the December 1999 admission.

Appointments are based on the candidate's high school record, performance on either the SATI or ACT, and leadership potential as demonstrated by participation in high school activities, community service and part-time employment. Most successful candidates rank in the top quarter of their high school class and have demonstrated proficiency in both mathematical and applied science.

Candidates must be unmarried at the time of the appointment, have no legal obligations, and must have reached the age of 17 but not 23 by July 1, 2000. Candidates must be assured of high school graduation by June 30, 2000.

For more information, call (800) 883-8724.

Thompson releases report on TVA dispute

U.S. Sen. Fred Thompson (R-TN) has released the results of a General Accounting Office (GAO) investigation he requested into the dispute between the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Board of Directors and the TVA Inspector General (IG).

In its report to Thompson, the GAO concluded that "The (TVA) chairman's actions could be viewed as an attempt to undermine the independence of the IG." We found no evidence of TVA credit card misuse by the IG for the period we analyzed in depth... On the issue of whether the expenditures were in accord with applicable TVA policy, we determined that all of the questioned charges — including charges for hotels, restaurants, golf, and liquor — had been incurred as a result of activities undertaken at (TVA) Director Hayes' direction and conformed to TVA policies."

Firm closes housing deal on Mud Island

Echelon Residential incorporated, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Echelon International Corporation (NYSE:EIN) is announcing it has closed on a 21.5 acre site on Mud Island. This project will be Echelon's third multi-family community in Memphis — Echelon's River Park Estates. This site is one of the last large undeveloped tracks of land in the CBID and is at the gateway to Harbor Town and the Mud Island River Park. This site is located just north of the Mud Island River Park and across the harbor from the Pyramid arena.

King gives \$50 grand to hurricane victims

Boxing Promoter Don King, has donated \$50,000 to Shaw University, Raleigh, N.C., to assist with relief from damages wrought by Hurricane Floyd, a weather catastrophe that left over 40 people dead, thousands of homes and businesses damaged, and more than a million people without electricity.

King is one of the first entertainment personalities, and the first from the world of sports, to contribute a large sum to the relief effort.

BellSouth adds online auction

BellSouth and uBid.com, a leading online auction and e-commerce site, recently announced an agreement making uBid.com the premiere provider of online auctions on BellSouth's Internet Portal, BellSouth@BuzzSM (www.bellsouthbuzz.com).

In association with the agreement, BellSouth Buzz has launched a new auction channel for its users, who now have access to live-action, on-line bidding, where they can compete to win brand name merchandise.

Ford announces anti-crime grant

Congressman Harold Ford, Jr. (D-TN) announced Monday that the U.S. Department of Justice has awarded a \$125,000 "Weed and Seed" grant to the City of Memphis for prevention and law enforcement programs.

The grants is funded through the U.S. Justice Department "Weed and Seed" initiative which provides resources to local law enforcement to establish community-based programs to combat violent crime, drug use and gang activity in high crime areas.

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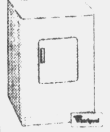
Whirlpool LSR6132
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- 6 Automatic Cycles Including SUPER WASH and HAND WASHABLE
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- 3 Wash/Rinse Water Temp. Combinations
- 3 Water Level Selection
- White-on-white or Almond-on-Almond Styling

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EXTRA CAPACITY DRYER



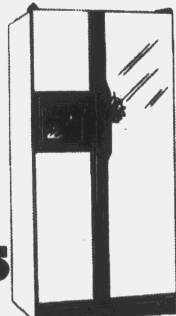
- 3 Drying Cycles Including Automatic Dry
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- Side-Swing Door
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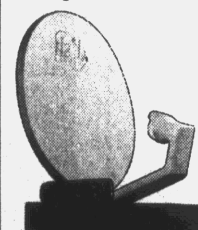
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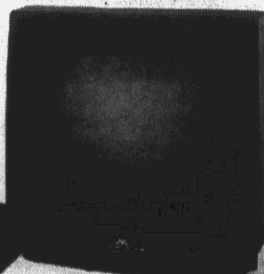
dish NETWORK

More Channels...More Choices.

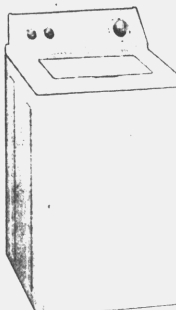
JVC AV36020
36" TELEVISION

- Stereo
- Comb Filter
- Timer
- A/V Inputs
- Universal Remote

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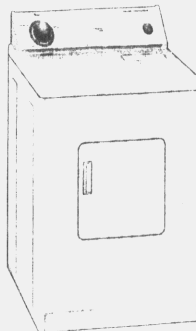
MAYTAG
"HURRICANE FLOYD" DISASTER RELIEF PROGRAM



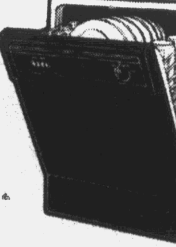
WASHER MAV5000
\$599⁹⁵
- \$50 MANF. REBATE
- \$30 RELIEF REBATE
\$519⁹⁵



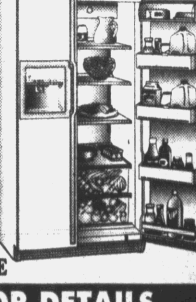
DRYER MDE6000
\$499⁹⁵
- \$30 RELIEF REBATE
\$469⁹⁵



DISHWASHER MDB4100
\$399⁹⁵
- \$30 RELIEF REBATE
\$369⁹⁵



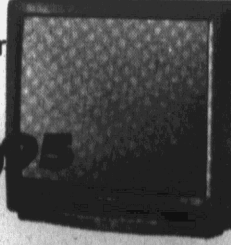
REFRIGERATOR MTB2156
\$50 MANF. REBATE
\$60 RELIEF REBATE
\$110 TOTAL REBATE
SEE STORE FOR DETAILS



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- Digital Comb Filter
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- Universal Remote
- Component Video Inputs
- TV Guide Plus

\$1999⁹⁵



BostonAcoustics CR4

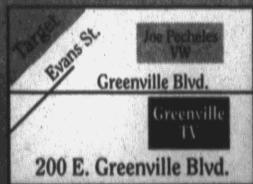
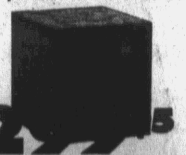


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Ty Down

A Brothers gonna work (it) out!

By Ty Down

It's 8:45 in the morning and I'm looking in the mirror. I've taken my shower and I look good and healthy. I am feeling good today. I am putting on my lucky tie, that in the past has brought me good luck and that's what I need, that and a job. Today is the day (unlike the past few days) in which I will find a job. I sit down to look at the morning paper that has already been read by my roommate who is now gone to work. As I've done everyday this week. I look for the help wanted ads in the classified section. While doing so I see a very big full page advertisement for a fitness club looking for new members to join. This would be a great club to join it seems, but I can barely pay my rent, let alone membership dues for a Fitness Center. The pictures of very healthy looking women in workout clothing (meaning ; not hardly any clothing) keep my attention focused to the page that reads, "let us help you maintain these everyday fitness goals" I take my eyes away from the photos and read on for "Free hints to a healthier lifestyle." Maybe, since this is my lucky day I'll find a job soon, and will be able to join this club. Lets see what it says and what I'll say to this after I get my job today, on my lucky day.

The ad reads as follows: **9 Steps**

1. For 3-5 days a week, for at least 20-30 minutes a day, do an aerobic activity such as walking. I've been walking for at least 3 hours everyday up and down this

town trying to find a job, and while I haven't specifically checked my heat rate I know it has been beating faster than it does when I'm just sitting on my couch without a job doing nothing.

2. Flex and Stretch everyday! After walking all day I like to come home stretch my legs and my tired back and neck and be as flexible as I can.

3. Use resistance training 2-3 days a week. Well, with all the companies and employers resisting to hire me for a job I think I can Safely say I've been getting my resistance training in everyday.

4. Eat foods cooked as close to their natural state as possible. Everyday, after my resistance training and walking the last thing I want to do is fry some food while I'm starving and waiting to eat. It's straight out of the car for me, guys, and who can afford

some gourmet dinner with no job anyway?

5. Take the Stairs and park your car far away in the Parking lot at work so you can incorporate workouts in your everyday life. Well, there are no elevators or cars in my everyday life , so until I can incorporate a corporation or company hire me for a job, I'll be exercising my walking legs all day.

6. Get a regular sleep pattern of 6-7 hours a night. By the time I get home from job searching all day and I eat something, I'm so tired that sleep is never a problem. Some mornings, in fact I think I may even be sleep walking, still tired from the day before but I now I have got to get up, and like a zombie, I do.

7. Allow time for fun activities. As I stated before in Step 2, I go hiking daily, and I get a massage everyday too. Hiking the streets for employment isn't as much fun as hiking on a trip to the mountains, but I've got a mountain of bills piling up on me , so it's what I must do. I'm sure getting a massage from someone else would be more fun than doing it myself, too, but I can't afford it, and neither can my tired neck and back!

8. Drink more water and less caffeine. As hot as it gets waiting for the bus and walking, excuse me "hiking" around the streets all day, you can believe I'm stopping at every water fountain and every convenience store I see to fill up on some water. My body would love to drink coffee or soda and

get some more caffeine for energy, but my wallet always says "no". I do believe about 2 quarts of water a day, sometimes taking the place of complete meals I'm missing, is more than enough liquid.

9. Plan ahead. Put exercise on your calendar and make it a part of your daily lifestyle. This is how the advertisement ends and this is where my new outlook on life begins.

I had no idea I was so healthy already. I didn't know I was following the 9 steps to a healthier lifestyle with no job and no money. I knew I worked healthy today. I also know my lucky tie would work for me. Now lets just hope I can use my totally healthy hiking workout experience to work and find some real work while doing my future resistance training. Once again this morning, upon leaving I think I'll take the stairs on the way out.

Lengthy Terms Handed Down in 7-Year-Old Boy's Death

Three gang members who accidentally killed a seven-year-old boy and wounded his 10-month-old brother during an assault rifle attack in an Inglewood park were sentenced last week to long prison terms.

Superior Court Judge James Brandlin sentenced Charles Baker to 26 years to life for the Dec. 8, 1997, murder of Eván Foster.

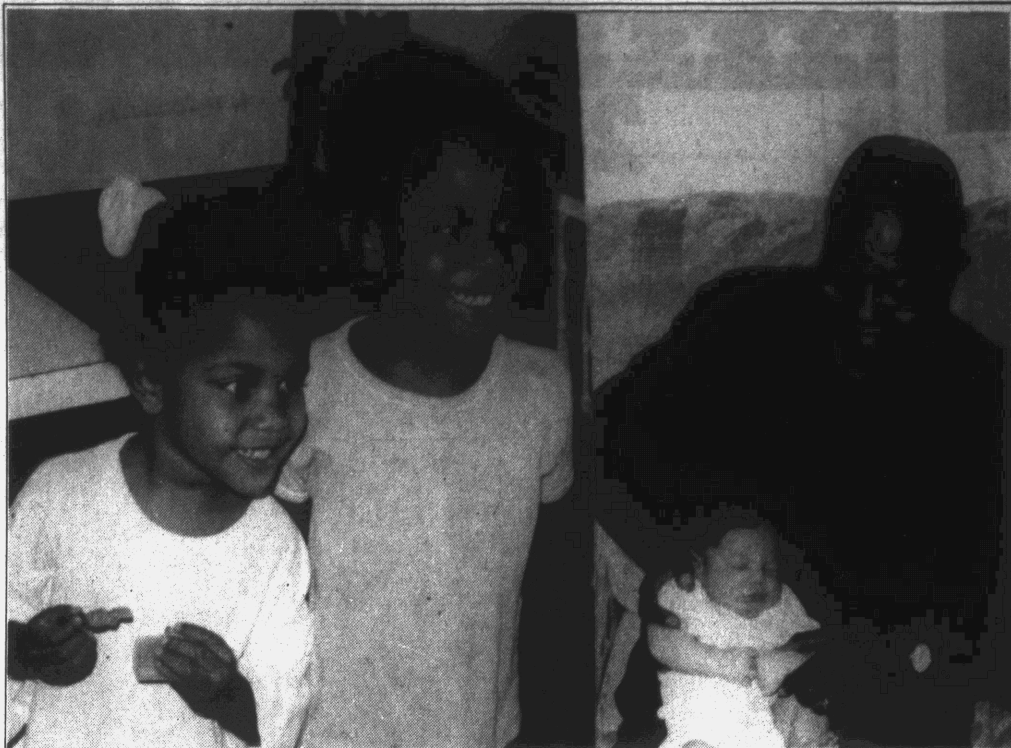
The judge gave Kevin Bookman and Ollie Wilkins 21 years to life apiece after an emotional two-hour hearing, in which members of the dead child's family addressed the defendants.

Deputy District Attorney Valerie Rose-Cole contended that Wilkins, 20, armed like Baker, 23, but that the gun jammed when he tried to fire it after jumping out of a car driven by Bookman, 22.

All three pleaded guilty in July to one count of second-degree murder and three counts of attempted murder.

Baker also admitted using a firearm to commit the crime. The other two defendants admitted to allegations that they participated in a crime that involved the use of a firearm.

Evan's mother was signing him up for basketball at Darby Park, near the Great Western Forum, when he was struck by a bullet meant for an Inglewood man in a red car, Rose-Cole said. The man was not a gang member, she said.



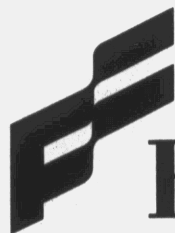
Proud Grandfather, pictured Publisher Jim Rouse holding his daughter Modupe newborn son. Looking on brother Rouse other Grandchildren, it is obvious grandpa is happy since this his 1st grandson out of seven grand daughters the Rouse tradition continues.



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In the wake of Floyd's destruction, First Citizens is here to help, moneywise or otherwise.



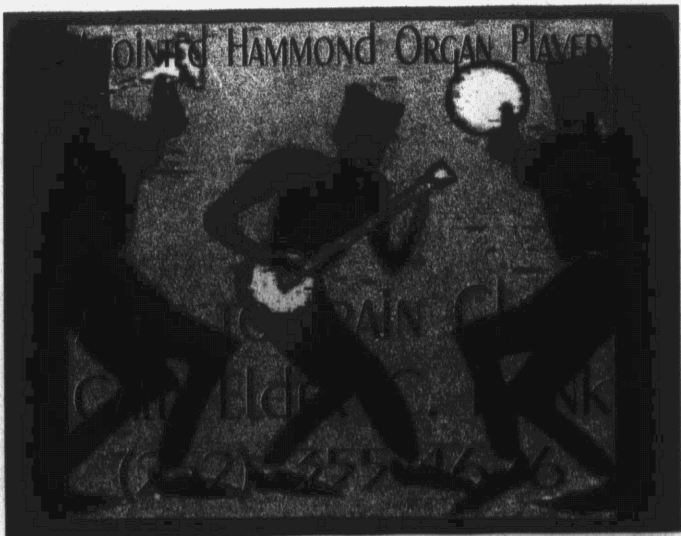
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Hurricane Floyd



Project R.A.F.T. United Way of Pitt County

**Relief
After
Floyd
Team**

Project RAFT is looking for individuals, apartment owners, and organizations who are in need of their homes and facilities cleaned out

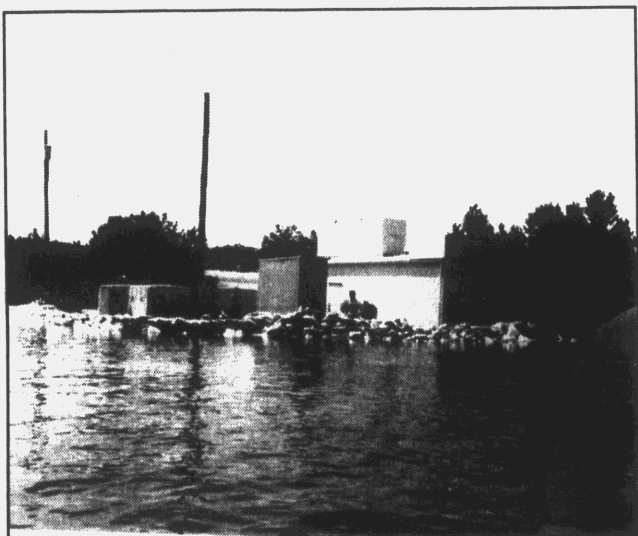
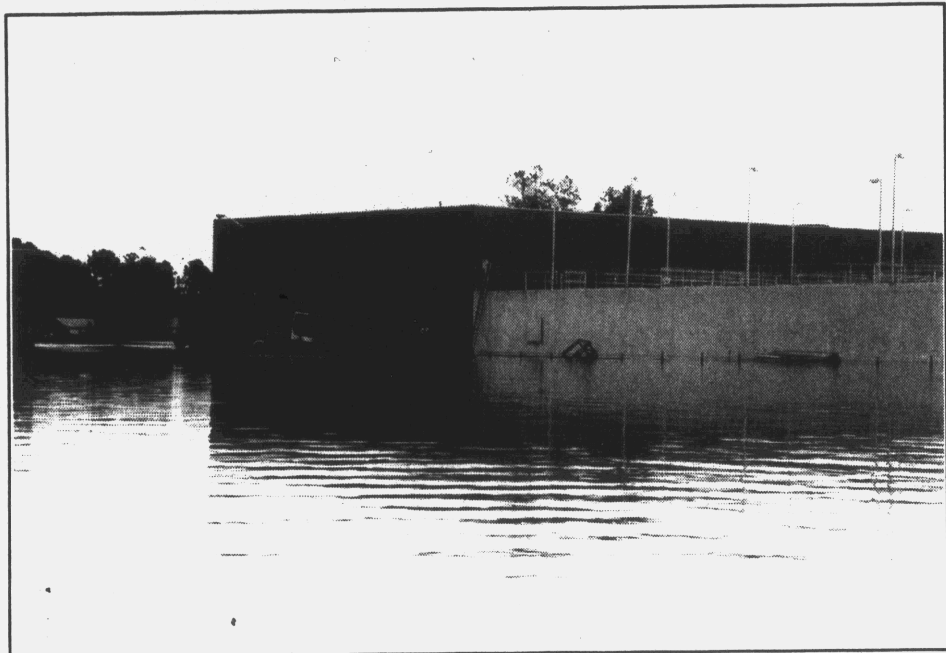
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With many of our facilities flooded, the only way to access them is by helicopter or boat. Top photo, left, Water Resources Engineering Coordinator Howard Corey is shown directing an airlift of critical supplies and equipment to our flooded sites. Middle photo, left, is the Water Treatment Plant, which is located on Old River Road just west of the Pitt Greenville-Airport. Our employees have worked around the clock, sandbagging critical equipment at various sites. The photo at bottom left shows sandbags around the generator at the Water Treatment Plant. Top right, GUC's 230 kV substation where our entire power supply is delivered. The substation is now under approximately 9 feet of water, but continues to provide power to our customers. Lower right, our Operations Center on Mumford Road. The Operations Center was home to Engineering, the Control Center, Warehouse, Garage, Metering Resources, and the Transformer Shop.

YOUR SUPPORT KEEPS US GOING!

We can't thank you enough for your words of encouragement during this crisis. It has made all the difference as we fight the battle to keep electric, water/sewer and natural gas service going. It has been — and continues to be — a challenge that has tested us to the limits.

We hope these photographs give you some idea of what we are contending with. It's not easy. Our employees are working long and hard, in difficult conditions.

Sometimes against all odds. But through ingenuity, faith and a heroic team effort, we have made it work, so far.

The support from the community has been overwhelming. We can't tell you how much it means to us.

We pledge to do everything humanly possible to continue to provide you with electric, water/sewer and natural gas services. Again, we are grateful to you for your understanding and support.

 **Greenville
Utilities**