

## The Life and Times of a Courageous Civil Rights Leader Golden Asro Frinks



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# U.S. to withdraw 70,000 troops from Europe, Asia



WASHINGTON, DC - The United States plans to withdraw about 70,000 troops from Europe and Asia in a major realignment of American military presence prompted by the end of the Cold War and the beginning of the "war on terrorism", US officials said on Saturday.

President George Bush will unveil the move to make the high-tech military much more mobile in a speech on Monday to the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Cincinnati, Ohio, said the officials.

"The president is going to make an announcement about a major initiative to reduce the burden on

They confirmed a report in the Financial Times of a total shift of at least 70,000 troops from overseas to home bases. The British newspaper, citing people briefed on the plan,

said two-thirds of the reductions would be made in Europe, mostly in Germany.

"Germany is definitely a place where there will be a major rearrangement," one US official said of plans to bring two big armoured units back to the United States from there.

The Washington Post reported on Saturday that as many as 100,000 US troops could eventually be returned to the United States as the realignment evolved in years ahead.

Pentagon officials have been carefully studying US commitments US forces adopted in the Cold War and make the American military more mobile in the new war on terrorism declared by Bush after the 2001 attacks on America.

There are currently more than 100,000 American troops in Europe, including about 70,000 in Germany, and another 100,000 in the Asia-Pacific region. About 150,000 additional troops are now in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"This will take years to complete," said one Pentagon official, who refused to discuss the number of troops involved. "It will not, it will not, result in any reduced commitment to our friends and allies. Wherever people go down, weapons and technology will more than make up the difference."

A senior administration official travelling with Bush in Portland, Oregon, said the president "will be discussing next week how the United States will structure its military capabilities to meet the threats of the 21st century with new technologies and new capabilities."

"It's important not that our military posture reflect the Cold War but the new threats of the 21st century," said the senior official.

Washington and Seoul announced earlier this year that the United States was removing about 12,500 of the 37,000 troops stationed in South Korea for decades and sending many of them to fight in Iraq or Afghanistan. One US official said on Saturday, however, some of those troops realignment includes plans to use bases in Eastern European countries of the former Soviet bloc as transit points to quickly send forces from the United States to

trouble spots such as the Middle East and northern Africa.

While many soldiers would be brought home from both Europe and Asia, sophisticated weaponry,

including fighter planes, would be sent overseas to some bases to make up for the smaller number of deployed ground troops.

The US Air Force, for example,

is currently discussing plans to send heavy bombers and new F/A-22 on the US island of Guam in mid-Pacific to address any threat from North Korea and China.

## Edwards Blasts Cheney's War Comments

By Kathy Barks Hoffman, AP  
FLINT, Mich. (Aug. 13) - A day after Vice President Dick Cheney criticized John Kerry, Democratic Sen. John Edwards defended his running mate on Friday, saying he spilled "his blood for the United States" and accusing the Republican of distorting Kerry's words.

Cheney told voters in Ohio Thursday that Kerry had called for a "more sensitive" war on terror and mocked that notion as something that won't impress the Sept. 11 terrorists of the Islamic militants who have beheaded U.S. citizens.

Edwards, returning to the campaign after a three-day break, took issue with Cheney's comments and his target - Democratic presidential nominee Kerry, a decorated Vietnam War veteran.

"He took that word and distorted and tried to use it to argue John Kerry will not keep the American people safe," Edwards said. "He's talking about a man who still carries shrapnel in his body. He's talking about a man who spilled his blood for the United States last week, Kerry said: 'I believe I can fight a more effective, more thoughtful, more strategic, more proactive, more sensitive war on terror that reaches out to other

nations and brings them to our side and lives up to American values in history."

Edwards' visit to Flint focused on issues polls show are even higher than security on Michigan voters' list of concerns: jobs and the economy.

"What it is is an effort to distract, not to talk about the problems here in Flint, Michigan," the North Carolina senator told the audience of about 1,500, who gathered in a drizzling rain outside Mott Community College.

Prior to the rally, Edwards held a front-porch meeting with some Flint voters.

One was Susan Duffny, who was laid off in 2002 from her factory job in Auburn Hills. The Flint woman was retrained as a computer network administrator but has yet to land a job in that field.

You asked: In presidential polling, what do they mean by "likely voters?"

"I'm sure there are a lot of people in trouble who don't have health care," Duffny told Edwards.

told her. "For us, jobs are a big issue."

Twenty-seven percent of likely Michigan voters surveyed recently by Lansing-based EPIC/MRA said



improving the economy and providing jobs was their biggest concern, nearly twice as many as those listing health care or terrorism, which tied for second.

national rate at 6.5 percent. Flint's unemployment rate was 14.5 percent in June, while the rate in surrounding Genesee County was 8.5 percent

## President Bush Extends Law Giving African Countries Access to U.S. Markets

By Njuguna Kabugi AllnewsNet Wire  
Saying that freer trade promotes economic growth and political stability, President George Bush today signed into law a bill that his administration hopes will improve African economies by giving countries duty-free access to U.S. markets.

The measure known as the AGOA Acceleration Act of 2004, a revision of the African Growth and Opportunity Act passed in 2000 and signed by President Clinton extends trade advantages for many sub-Saharan nations and was widely supported in

both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

"One way to spread peace is to encourage political and economic reform across Africa by opening markets here," Bush said in a signing ceremony at Eisenhower Executive

Office Building, adjacent to the White House. "It's important for our people to understand, by opening U.S. markets, we make it more likely there will be peace on the continent of Africa," he said.

For too long, Bush said, "too much

attention has been focused on donor aid for Africa." He added that there is nothing wrong with aid, reminding close to 30 African ambassadors at the ceremony that his administration has increased those funding to African nations.

"There is a growing consensus in both Africa and the United States that open trade and inter-national investment are the surest and fastest ways for Africa to make progress," stated President Bush.

"AGOA nations are strengthening the rule of law. They are lowering trade barriers. They are combating corruption and eliminating child labor. They are setting an important example for the entire continent, demonstrating that governments that respect individual rights and encourage the development of their markets are more likely to grow economically and achieve political stability," he said.

Thirty-seven sub-Saharan African nations have qualified for the AGOA program, which economists say has created more jobs in Africa while opening more markets for U.S. goods.

According to Florizelle Liser, assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Africa, AGOA has generated more than \$340 million worth of U.S. investments in Africa. "By extending the agreement, we hope to build on that success," she added. "In this closely divided and often fractious Senate, the bipartisan passage of trade legislation without amendment was an improbable outcome. The AGOA effort demonstrated that good ideas can succeed, even in the most difficult circumstances," said Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Indiana), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and a sponsor of AGOA.

AGOA III extends the third country fabric provision, originally set to expire in September, until 2008. It also extends overall AGOA benefits until 2015 while providing new benefits that include technical assistance, investment incentives, and links in the fields of transportation and infrastructure.

"See, when you sell goods in Africa, it means somebody is finding work here at

Continues Page (x)

## Powell won't attend Republican convention

By Barry Schweid  
WASHINGTON - Secretary of State Colin Powell, a Republican centrist who is popular with moderate voters, intends to skip the GOP convention in New York that will nominate President Bush for a second term.

"The secretary does not plan to attend," State Department deputy spokesman Adam Ereli said Tuesday. He drew attention to Powell's remarks last week at a convention of minority journalists that he was obliged as secretary not to take part in "parochial debate."

The Republicans gather for the four-day convention beginning Aug. 30.

With Bush in a close race against Democratic nominee John Kerry, Powell's stature with both Republicans and Democrats who favor a cautious approach to world problems could be an asset to the president.

In fact, Powell has defended Bush's foreign policy in interviews and speeches, dismissing Kerry's assertions that the president is inclined to go it alone in dangerous overseas ventures

and favors pre-emptive action.

Kerry has placed special emphasis on consulting with allies and other foreign governments. He has faulted Bush on the war with Iraq, saying the president's approach alienated Arab and European governments.

In response, Powell told Unity: Journalists of Color Convention last Thursday that Bush took his advice to "not act unilaterally" and made the case against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein at the United Nations in September 2002.

Yet Powell also acknowledged, "The intelligence community apparently got it wrong on stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction. I do not expect huge stockpiles to be found."

He said Bush officials knew that if "the United Nations ultimately did not act, and we didn't solve it diplomatically, we knew then that it might be necessary for us to solve it through the use of military force."

Powell's differences with Bush and his senior advisers who are more conservative occasionally is an issue. He favors abortion rights and affirmative action.

## Golden Asro Frinks... A Soldier Called Home



FROM THE M-VOICE PHOTO ARCHIVES: Pictured with Golden Frinks is Attorney Robert L. White, left, and on the right Attorneys Toby Fitch and G.K. Butterfield. This picture was taken during the Heritage Festival sponsored by the North Carolina Black Caucus during Family Day in Raleigh several years ago. All of the above men pictured above have been civil rights activists for many years. Photo: Jim Rouse

family exposed Golden to many things to which colored boys did not have privy, such as horseback riding, tennis, a wide variety of reading material, and motivational and inspirational talks, encouraging him to be the best that he could be and to help his people to make their lives better. While working as a helper in the store owned by a rich white family in Tabor City, Golden began to notice the subtle differences that racism made for Negroes living in the South.

In 1937 in route to Norfolk, VA to seek employment, he stopped in Edenton to visit the daughter of his former employer in Tabor City. The Dorsey Pruden family needed a companion/caretaker for their son George, to accompany them to Nags Head. They hired Golden. This was the planting of Golden's roots in Edenton, NC.

He met friends and became a friend. He met Mildred Ruth Holley and before he left to serve in World War II in 1942, she became his wife. They became the parents of a daughter, Goldie Ann Frinks. Their 62 plus year marriage withstood periods of separation by Army duty, job assignments, education pursuits, civil rights activities, and jail sentences for civil disobedience. The years in the Army, the years that followed in Washington, DC at the Schular School of Photography, Youngstown University, and life as a young Negro male in America gave birth to the "leader", "organizer" and "champion for justice".

Believing that God has a specific assignment for each of His creations - Golden's assignment was to "fight for the rights of his fellowman". In the 1960's, Golden Frinks was the most important civil rights organizer in Eastern NC. The "Edenton Movement" produced some of the first civil rights victories in North Carolina. As an NAACP

volunteer, Frinks was soon involved in similar protests in other small towns around the Albemarle Sound. One of his early campaigns involved regular protests of an Edenton theater where blacks were required to enter through a side door and sit in a balcony. Associates said Frinks led a group that protested outside the theater every Sunday for six years until the policy was changed to 1962.

"Golden Frinks wore shoes that were made for walking," said the Rev. Ernest Sutton of Pasquotank County, as he reflected on the "Movement". "He walked for justice."

His relationship with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) began during the Edenton Movement when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. sent funds to help bail him and other civil rights demonstrators out of the local jail. Frinks often protested by re-fusing to obtain a permit and leading marches with school children, a tactic that bedeviled authorities. His tactics often led to jail which he wore like a badge of honor, boasting that he had been arrested 87 times in the name of civil rights. Some whites labeled Frinks an "outside agitator." His supporters Saturday called him "the great agitator." Frinks also prided himself on the term. He told audiences in the past that he didn't mind the description, because an agitator was the part of a washing machine that gets the dirt out.

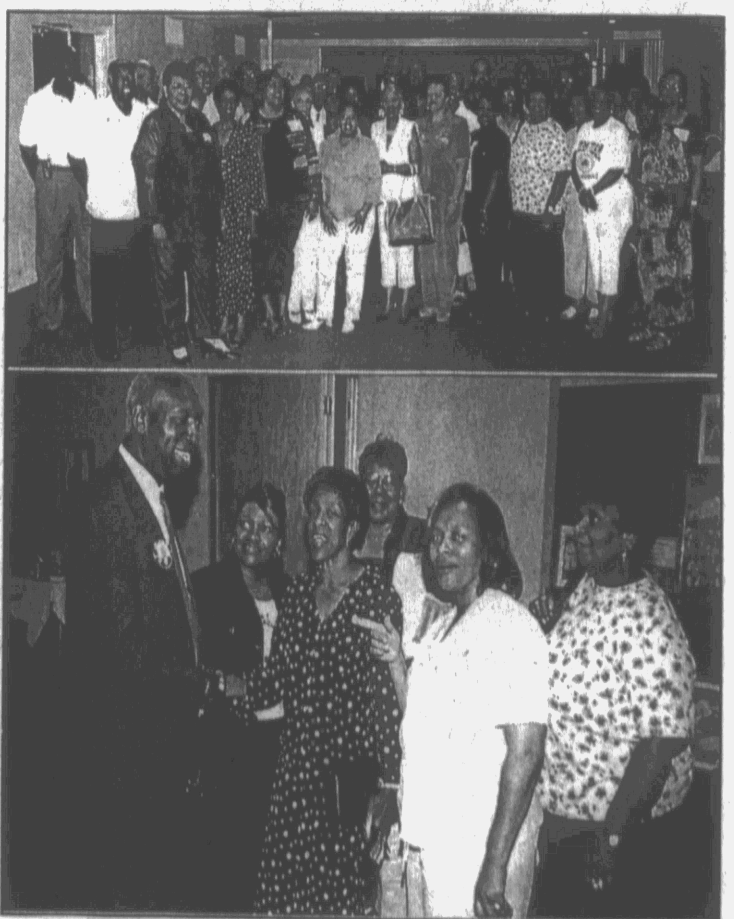
He was asked by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to join the staff of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1963. He became North Carolina Field Secretary and served the National SCLC in helping to organize marches in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and the 1963 March on Washington, DC. The Rev. James Orange, a former Frinks associate from Georgia, said Frinks had a way of getting people

committed and a way of getting them arrested. But he said the activities led to needed changes and helped gain approval of the federal civil rights and voting legislation.

Frinks proved to be an extraordinary civil rights leader. He possessed both extraordinary courage and a streak of wildness that repeatedly unnerved white leaders and won civil rights victories. Between 1963 and 1968, Frinks had been a lightning rod for civil rights

activism in Eastern NC. By 1968, he had played a leading role in civil rights movements in Halifax, Washington, Martin, Bertie, Chowan and Pasquotank counties. During the Edenton Movement in 1961-62, Frinks developed a pattern to wear down Jim Crow with civil disobedience, picket lines, slowdowns, strikes, and boycotts. As a result of

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Elizabeth State College Alumni. Shown above is the Elizabeth State College Alumni held in reunion in Greenville, NC special guest for the evening was Shelly Willingham, the candidate for NC Senate Willingham is a graduate of Elizabeth City State College. The Alumni gather at the Hamilton Hotel with the activity centered around the Inn's swimming pool and restaurant.

by Pamela Johnson  
GREENVILLE, NC - Golden Asro Frinks - a flamboyant civil rights activist who resided in Edenton NC, was called home to rest Monday July 19, 2004 at the age of 84. Golden built a reputation for walking and marching protests, leaving indelible footprints all over Eastern North Carolina and the South. Friends and followers celebrated his journey through life during a three hour funeral Saturday July 24, 2004 at John A. Holmes High School, as they reflected on Frinks' contributions to the "Movement".

Golden Frinks was the tenth child of the eleven children born to Mark and Kizzie Frinks in Horry County, SC on April 26, 1920. The family moved to Tabor City, NC when Golden was very young. He was always a bit different from his siblings, wanting to know a little more,

do a little more, and see a little more than the rest. He had ambition and exhibited an active and aggressive nature. Golden also had a "gift of gab". He was well rounded in school, academically, socially, and athletically. In fact, while singing in the school Glee Club was when he first answered the call to lead. Golden's choir was singing at a local high school for white students when he discovered that the stage had curtains - something that his school did not have. Knowing that his school deserved the same, he discussed the curtain issue with his mother. She immediately sent him to the hardware store for fabric and then proceeded to make a curtain for his school as well. That incident foreshadowed his life's work - the struggle for equality for all.

Kizzie Frinks worked for a wealthy family in Tabor City and the



# The Life & Times of... Golden Asra Frinks

Civil Rights Fighter Asa Frinks recalls efforts to win equality among races



BY HELEN K. OUTLAND  
Staff Writer - Chowan Herald

**EDENTON** - Golden Frinks has not spent his 80 plus years as a spectator. Events since childhood seemed to impress and groom him to face the struggle and join the battle against man's inhumanity to man. Those events would lead him to a man with the vision to lead the struggle. One who would launch a cause that would change the world.

Frinks grew up in Tabor City, North Carolina. He doesn't remember too much of his father who was a Millwright working in a town far from home. But he does remember the mother who cared for her home and in an effort to earn extra money; she cared for the home of Mrs. Fannie Lewis. "There were eleven children in the family and my mother pulled through with it," says Frinks. It was there with Mrs. Lewis that little Golden Frinks first learned of humanity.

"Mrs. Fannie Lewis was a white lady from Delaware who had married a Southerner.

"One day I went up there to work with my mom," Frinks says. "She, Mrs. Lewis, asked who I was and my mom said I was her son, I found out later that this woman had had a young son just about my age that had died."

Mrs. Fannie Lewis told Golden's mother to bring him up to her house every day.

Fannie Lewis didn't teach little Golden anger or hostility, but told him about Abraham Lincoln, the Republican Party, and how blacks and whites got along in Delaware. "She

said I needed to do something for my people when I got older," says Frinks. "She forgot about color just have a little boy around. I remember that very well."

As Frinks was growing up Mrs. Lewis and life provided more encounters that would cement his resolve to make a difference. "At an early age I went to the white Methodist Church," Frinks says. "The white children to play and they'd always get me. They took me as Mrs. Lewis' boy and everything they did I was in it." Frinks fondly recalls the Sunday school, games and church picnics. "Once in a while there would be a little trouble, but they'd carry me along," he says with a smile. "They forgot about color too and I was surrounded by friends. They took care of me."

For Golden Frinks the reminders of differences sometimes came in the subtlest ways. While singing in his school choir they were asked to perform at a nearby white school. "They had this nice curtain," he says referring to the stage curtain. "They could pull a string and it would open and close. That thing excited me." Golden became so engrossed by the curtain that he missed his cue for a solo part. I got to watching that curtain and forgot my time to sing," he adds with a laugh. "From then on I figured our school was different."

He went home and told his mother about the curtain. They sat down together and made a curtain for his school. "Those kinds of things made a difference in my life," he says softly.

As he got older he started seeing more and more of those differences.

Frinks was making his way to Norfolk to join the Navy when he ended up in Edenton. As he puts it, he got tangled up with William Dossey Pruden, an attorney. "The lady working for the newspaper introduced me to the Prudens," he says with a smile. "They were looking for someone to be with their little boy George and she thought I would be good for him."

Frinks settled in Edenton and the years to come married his wife Ruth. He became a businessman owning a local nightclub called the Mexicana.

"By 1946 I was serving as Secretary of the NAACP," he adds. It was during a NAACP meeting in Edenton that he graduated from

observer to doer. During the meeting about fifteen black youngsters came in. "They wanted to go to the local movie theatre, right through the front door," Frinks says. "The NAACP turned 'em down." Frinks told the youngsters to go to his home and wait for him. "When I got home, by golly there about seventy children waiting for me, he says laughing. According to Frinks their children had talked among themselves and decided they were through having to go down the alley in order to see the movie. "They had read about this young girl in Oklahoma City who had staged a sit-in and this inspired them," he says.

Frinks, encouraged by their youthful spirit, required each child to get a note from their parents giving permission for them to hold a peaceful demonstration in front of the local theater during the next Sunday's Matinee. "They all brought their notes," Frinks say, shaking his head. I was worried about getting them out of jail, but I was the first one to get in jail. From then on I started trying to integrate the library and drugstores."

From 1955 to 1962 the effort for desegregation continued in Edenton.

What Frinks didn't realize was his efforts had not gone unnoticed. Returning from a trip to Youngstown, Ohio, Frinks found many people at his home. "I thought, what in the world are they doing here?" he says. "Some lady told me Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. that Civil Rights man wanted to see me the next day." Frinks discovered his wife Ruth, a schoolteacher, had told all her friends and they were helping her celebrate. "Some how or other he had heard my name and what was going on here," Frinks adds.

Frinks contacted King's office and found out the noted leader wanted to meet with him in Norfolk, Virginia the next day. Frinks was asked to bring two character witnesses. "I carried Preacher LeGuard, my pastor, and Mr. Norman Brinkley, Sr. "Dr. King asked as if he could trust me," says Frinks. "I told him 'Yes, Sir.'"

King turned to his Administrative Assistant Wyatt T. Walker and said, "I want him on board. That thing made me feel mighty good," Frinks says with a smile.

From 1962 on Frinks says if Dr. King was seen marching Frinks had been there first. "I was appointed National Field Secretary," he goes on to say. "That put me out there in Louisville, Kentucky, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida." The responsibilities took him Washington DC where he stood by King's side as the classic "I Have A Dream" speech was delivered. "It was something to stand there, see his face, and watch his mouth as he spoke," Frinks says almost reverently.

It was in Canton, Mississippi where Frinks says he felt the closest to Martin Luther King, Jr. They were there to take up the march for the murdered James Meredith. "They got us with tear gas, it was a terrible time," Frinks says. "But, I remember as we struggled together through the gas Dr. King looking up and saying there were going to be more times just like this and we had to stick with it."

According to Frinks, King not only looked out for his staff, but he stressed filling the mind with the wisdom of the masters of humanity. "I had always read, but Dr. King made us read more. We read Gandhi and others," Frinks says. There were many ways that King encouraged and supported those closest to him, but one that Frinks recalls was the presentation to King of the Pulitzer Peace Prize. "He bought each staff member a new car and shared the cash left over," Frinks says, smiling. "I got \$96.40."

On April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King stepped out onto his motel balcony to speak to his chauffeur. As he leaned over the balcony, a single shot from a high-powered rifle rang out and King was gone.

Golden Frinks had not traveled to Memphis in advance of Dr. King for the rally. He has not been to Memphis since then. He remembers that day as the darkest in his life.

Frinks did remain with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference until 1977. Things were changing and I needed a rest," says Frinks of his retirement from the organization.

If you ask Frinks what got him through the brightest and the darkest of those days he has a ready answer. "My undying spirit. I did it in spite of all the fears, frights, and criticism." He says. "I just felt that to keep on going was best. My internal spirit

was kindled by my realistic experiences."

Frinks goes on to say he was non-violent to begin with, "but the more I worked under Dr. King I became even more non-violent," he adds.

Frinks realizes there are still lingering racial issues today. "The thing is we are just 150 years out of slavery. We are only 40 years out of the '60s," says Frinks. "That's nowhere in the time of history. And there are still folks, black and white, who remember and some who want things to be like they were back then."

Frinks knows that people can be unkind to each other and offers some insight. "I always say, begin to deal with self first. Do you have that same unkind spirit in you?" he says. "Try to reconcile the differences by recognizing the fact that you are both human beings. You need to sit down and sup together. Parents need to teach their children to treat everyone right. We have got to live together because this is America. We have got to love this country, together. If we love this country, then we love each other."

Golden Frinks believes the world had the greatest chance for peace among people snatched from it when Martin Luther King, Jr. was murdered. He believes if Martin Luther King, Jr. had lived there would have been a much broader understanding between the races. "Martin Luther King, Jr. was a gift. He was sent here by God," says Frinks. "He was a visionary, opening up the way for all of us. Had he lived we would have been able to see even farther. We miss having that insight he would have brought us. He would have led us into an even brighter day."

Golden Frinks also knows that the job is never completely finished

as long as racism, in any form, exists anywhere in the world. He feels the struggle he and others endured is something that should never be forgotten. "Racism won't hit if children are taught to build. Don't go to anger with it," He says of racism.

"Pick out some person to emulate and follow their example," he stresses. "Learn and read. Get something in that head cause the rest of it is already made for you. We struggled for that."

"Coming up in the struggle they had a picture of me with George Pruden sitting on my shoulders and they called it the 'Black Man's Struggle,'" says Frinks. "The burden is off now unless a black man decides to sit on his own shoulders. He has to recognize that. It is left up to each individual, black or white, to make sure that humanity survives."

The following story first appeared in the Chowan Herald and is reprinted by permission. Other information appears by the courtesy of Pamela Johnson of the Edmudge Agency whose research, writings and compositions contribute to the balance of this article

## Golden Asro Frinks... A Soldier Called Home

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those movements, the schools were integrated, the movie theater seating was changed, and restaurants were

opened to blacks.

The Williamston Freedom Movement took place from 1963 to 1965. Many civil rights victories were won. Frinks led the fight to

free JoAnn Little and many others who were victims of racial injustice. He led one of the most sustained and successful protests of the civil rights movement - the 1968-69 School

Boycott in Hyde County, NC. For an entire year, the county's black citizens refused to send their children to school in protest of a desegregation plan that required the daily for five months, marched on the state capitol in Raleigh, and drove the Ku Klux Klan out of the county in a massive gunfight. This movement had the support of the SCLC at the national level.

Frinks often wore a jumpsuit with a big, swaying copper medallion held by a thick chain-link necklace, which he said was a constant reminder of the yoke of slavery. He counseled nonviolence but used creative tactics to gain attention. He once had protesters release chickens at a demonstration to create a disturbance. Milton P. "Toby" Fitch Jr. of Wilson, a state Superior Court judge, led the audience in a refrain Frinks used to rally followers. "I am," he said as the crowd roared its refrain, "somebody. I may be black, but I am somebody." Fitch said

Frinks used to rally followers. "I am," he said as the crowd roared its refrain, "somebody. I may be black, but I am somebody." Fitch said Frinks was not intimidated by threats, arrest or criticism. "Golden Frinks went to jail not for me, not for you, but for us," he said. Referring to the frequent marches on fulfilling his assignment to "fight for the rights of his fellowman". When the aging process accelerated, he became an unconventional, nontraditional resident of Brithaven of Edenton, NC (for three years, he would leave the nursing home at will to take care of things he deemed important - often matters related to SCLC and/or civil rights). People continued to seek him for advice pertinent to today's issues affecting them and for historical information on the "Movement".

Hundreds of mourners packed the auditorium of John A. Homes High School in Edenton for the service that rang with chants like those Frinks had shouted in churches, in schools and on street corners. Bennie Rountree of Greenville, a longtime friend and

those Frinks had shouted in churches, in schools and on street corners. Bennie Rountree of Greenville, a longtime friend and colleague of Frinks, stepped to the podium shouting "Soul power, black power, people power." The audience repeated each phrase. Rountree, State SCLC president, told the audience that in the memory of his loving and supportive wife, Ruth Holley Frinks of the home; his daughter, Dr. Goldie Ann Frinks-Wells of Greensboro, NC; one granddaughter, Evangelist Kelli Wells Johnson (District Superintendent Charles J. Johnson III) of Rochester Hills, MI; three great granddaughters, Falon Johnson, Kelci Johnson, and Bhali Johnson, all of Rochester Hills, MI; two sisters, Mrs. Flossie Wilson of Hampton, VA and Mrs. Cecelia Daniels of Brooklyn, NY; special son, Jarrett Slade (oh the home); godsons, Mr. Phillip Higgs of Greenville, NC and District Superintendent Jerald I. Perry, Sr. of Edenton, NC; and a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

"OUR STRUGGLE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS IS NOT OVER."  
---Golden Asro Frinks

### Bridge: Class and Classism

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a mystery whether Autumn Jackson is Cosby's child, but no mystery that he was sending her mother support money. And hey-be man-be, did-be you-be think-be we-be forgot-be-Fat-be Albert-be?

Sean "Puffy" Combs has been pushing abject materialism for years and Russell Simmons is famous for calling other Blacks "Nigga." And, oh yes, the gaudy wheels that spin around were made famous by Latrel Sprewell. Materialism works from the top down, not the bottom up.

Fifty years ago, the Supreme Court's ruling in Brown v. Board of

### M(y)-VOICE OP/EDS

Because whatever happens to America happens to Black America first...

Education stated that separating Blacks based on race brings on feelings of "inferiority as to their status in the community that may affect their hearts and minds in a way unlikely ever to be undone."

The oppression of a people leaves emotional scars, which run deep into the self-esteem of the oppressed, grows within the community and perpetuates itself as efficiently as folk tales, songs and disease. It can only get worse with other Blacks now dogging us out.

We don't need anyone to pontificate on how bad things are, because as bad as the situation is, the badness is overly apparent. What we

need now is action.

Unfortunately, many of the people weighing in are selfish, elitists who deep down inside must hate themselves and manifest that hatred in the hyper criticism of poor Blacks. They will criticize, but take little, if any action.

These people are classists. And they have no class.

DARRYL JAMES LAUNCHED THE ONLY BLACK OWNED RAP MUSIC PUBLICATION, RAP SHEET IN 1992. HE IS THE AUTHOR OF BRIDGING THE BLACK GENDER GAP, WHICH IS ALSO THE BASIS OF A NATIONAL SEMINAR SERIES. HE CAN BE REACHED AT DJAMES@THEBLACKGENDERGAP.COM.

## Democrat and Republicans ignoring the homeless

however, that will not be sharing the stage: the homeless.

Over the past year, the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty estimates that over three million people were homeless and the demand for care at homeless shelters increased by 13 percent. With the reality of homelessness being only a missed paycheck, health crisis or unpaid bill away, this crisis is one that demands national attention and a national platform.

The pundits on both sides should care about and address the homeless problem. Contrary to popular belief, homeless people are not aimless, lazy people. According to a survey of 27 major American cities such as Los Angeles, Chicago and Washington, DC, 44 percent of the homeless work. 67 percent are single parent families and 50 percent African American. When 44 percent of the homeless

population is made up of working people, the blame is attributable to the lack of a living wage, the increase in poverty, a lack of affordable housing and the inattention of the federal government to this growing problem.

The current proposals from both major political parties and their presidential candidates appear to fan short of meeting the needs of homeless Americans. President Bush has largely ignored the homeless problem, instead giving more attention to the needs of his wealthy, corporate patrons. The Bush economy has pushed people across several demographic groups into homelessness in numbers that have not been seen since the 1980s.

Democratic candidate John Kerry's plan would address the middle class squeeze by creating good-paying jobs, cutting middle

class taxes in order to raise middle class incomes, cut the deficit and investigate jobs in the new-tech, hi-tech areas. The Democrats' plan addresses some of the factors of homelessness, but still fails to directly address the problem.

By and large, the homeless lack the presence of other election year catered to groups. The widespread political belief is that the homeless do not vote. When survival is a daily concern that mindset may not be too far from the truth. Even in on election years, the centrist view is the centrist view is that homeless advocacy is too liberal and therefore too risky for re-election purposes. The point is, however, that someone needs to speak for the homeless. When at least 39 percent of the homeless population is made up of children, the urgency of the homeless problem cannot be ignored.

As our economy struggles to recover from nearly four years of business and job loss, national leaders must take notice and address the needs of the homeless Americans affected by the wrecked economy. With homelessness affecting men and women, African Americans, veterans and non-veterans, urban and rural, the problem is obviously more serious than can be solved during national party convention good timing.

The homeless problem can only be addressed by giving real time, effort and resources to establishing adequate income, affordable housing and viable social services. Until such time as Republicans and Democrats give real consideration to these economic employment and social concerns, too many Americans will live with the worry of being homeless.



Judge Greg Mathis is chairman of the RainFOW/PUSH Excel Board and an SCLC national board member.



By Judge Greg Mathis  
During the nightly parade of camera time at the national Democratic and Republican conventions this summer, there are many groups whose platforms have gotten or will get national exposure and party attention. There is one group,



# Bryant trial judge clashes with lawyers for accuser

By Howard Pankratz Denver Post  
DENVER, CO - Lawyers representing the alleged victim in the Kobe Bryant case have given repeated interviews criticizing presiding Judge Terry



Ruckriegle. John Clune and Lin Wood claim the judge has failed to protect their client, the woman who says she was raped by the basketball star last summer. Now their comments have brought a severe rebuke - by Ruckriegle and Tom Overton, a state hearing officer who is part of a three-member panel that determines if lawyers have violated Colorado's Rules of Professional Conduct. Legal analysts said Ruckriegle, in a tersely worded order Friday, told Clune

and Wood they had commented improperly on the merits of the case and on the character of Bryant and witnesses, and had directed inflammatory criticism at the judge. His statement was in an order declining the prosecution's motion to delay the start of the trial.

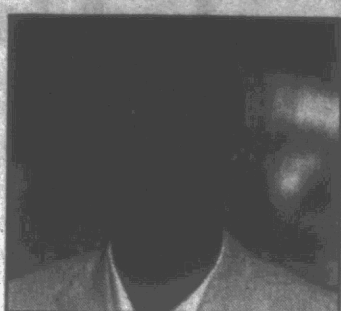
Overton, in an interview Thursday with The Denver Post, said that if media reports of the comments of Wood and Clune are correct, he believes "their actions have shown an utter contempt for the integrity of the state judicial system and the court."

Wood and Clune have spoken out after state court officials committed a series of errors: publication of the accuser's name on a state judicial website and distribution of transcripts from a sensitive closed rape-shield hearing to seven media organizations, which published the contents of the transcripts.

Wood and Clune said the publication of their client's name and the release of the transcripts - which they said are one-sided from a defense perspective - have made it impossible for their client to receive a fair hearing at Bryant's criminal trial scheduled to start Aug. 27.

Among their comments to the

media: "We have an order from our own judge, the chief judge of our district, sending a clear message to this victim that she will not be protected," Clune



said. "No apology (by Ruckriegle) was made to the victim or her family. His self-serving remarks attempting to rehabilitate the court's image were insulting. His refusal to apologize to this victim and her parents is very telling about the sincerity of his words," Clune said.

"The history of the criminal trial court committing inexcusable mistakes, which indisputably prejudice this young girl, cannot be ignored by her or her lawyers," Wood said.

Overton, who is not involved in

the Bryant case, said he is appalled by the comments.

"They question the qualifications of the judge, they've questioned the integrity of the judge, and it is designed to undermine the ability to get a fair trial," Overton said.

Clune said Friday that neither he nor Wood could comment because Ruckriegle has issued a gag order prohibiting them from saying anything.

But in their motion to lift what they claim is an unconstitutional gag order, the two lawyers said they're just trying to save the reputation of their client.

They say their client is suffering "enormous, outrageous prejudice" by reason of Ruckriegle's errors and by a "devastating, one-sided account" that has fed a media frenzy that is destroying her reputation.

Wood and Clune have a strong supporter in David Lane, a Denver civil rights attorney.

"They can do whatever they want. Ruckriegle has absolutely no jurisdiction to gag them. Ruckriegle has no authority to tell them not to comment," Lane said.

"They are not parties to the litigation. It is captioned 'The People of the State of Colorado v. Kobe Bryant,'"

Lane said. "Those are the people that Ruckriegle has jurisdiction over: the DAs and Kobe Bryant's defense lawyers. Period. The end."

Lane said that Overton's decision to speak out "is totally unheard of. I've never heard of any such thing in my life."

Dan Recht, a Denver defense attorney, said that Ruckriegle's comments Friday and Overton's decision to speak out "are extraordinary, and both of those statements you rarely see."

"Clearly the judge thinks they have violated the ethical rules, and it appears as though that they've at least come close to the line," Recht said. One of the primary Rules of Professional Conduct, part of Colorado law that regulates lawyers, states that it is inappropriate for a lawyer to seek to improperly influence a judge or potential juror.

Overton said Clune and Wood have violated that rule.

And he said that the two have violated Ruckriegle's sweeping gag order in the case.

Overton told The Post he won't sit on any grievance involving Wood or Clune.

But if a grievance is filed with the state against a lawyer, which can be done by any citizen, the case is reviewed to see if it has merit. The state could then file a complaint against a lawyer, triggering a hearing before the three-member panel. Punishment could include suspension or even disbarment.

Karen Steinhäuser, a former prosecutor and now a professor at the University of Denver School of Law, said that she believes Clune and Wood are wrong about Ruckriegle.

"I think that the criticism of the judge is totally off base and not valid whatsoever," Steinhäuser said. "And I think to blame him for some of the things that have happened is totally unfair."

Steinhäuser said, speaking in general about the court system, she believes that trials need to be tried in a courtroom, not on TV or in the newspapers.

Justice is not served when lawyers decide to try and make their case in the public forum, she said.

## For African American rape victims, a culture of silence

By Gayle Pollard-Terry  
Times Staff Writer

There's an old saying in the African American community: Black women raise their daughters and love their sons. A legacy of the atrocities of slavery, it signifies a communal protectiveness of black men, from the coddling of toddling boys to a reluctance to report rape and incest.

It's not like a get-out-of-jail-free card. It's born of a wariness of authority, especially white authority, learned from those stories about how your light-skinned sister got those gray eyes and your dark-skinned cousin got that keen nose, from those photographs of white lynch mobs and the beaten body of Emmett Till, a

black teenager killed because of a wolf whistle.

"Remember, in this country black women have had to come to the aid of black men who were falsely being accused of sexual assault. Remember the movie 'Rosewood'? That's what it was all about," says Sharon Shelton, the senior program manager of the YWCA Greater Los Angeles Sexual Assault Crisis Program in Compton. It wasn't just a movie, it was history: In 1923, in Florida, the black town of Rosewood was obliterated by a white mob after a white woman claimed she'd been attacked by a black man.

"... So it's very difficult now to

disclose that your perpetrator was indeed of your own same race," Shelton says. And part of the reluctance, she explains, is the difficulty some black women have in finding "people who look like you" when they seek help.

Rape is one of the most underreported violent crimes, according to the Department of Justice, regardless of the victim's sex, age, race, ethnicity, religion or class.

But as a group, African American women are the least likely to break the silence.

This phenomenon, first documented in 1981 by Gail Wyatt, a sexual behavior researcher at the UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute, is

now being addressed in self-help books and at rape crisis centers created specifically to serve minorities, such as the Rosa Parks Sexual Assault Crisis Center in South Los Angeles. It was also the focus of half a dozen workshops at the National Sexual Violence Prevention Conference held here in May.

At her workshop, CeCe Norwood, a counselor from Toledo, Ohio, gets right to the point. "With white audiences," she says, "there are usually very basic questions they want to know: How is it different — why are we black people less likely to report when these things happen?"

## Bush extends law

Continues from Page 1

incentives, and links in the fields of transportation and infrastructure.

"See, when you sell goods in Africa, it means somebody is finding work here at home," he said. "Trade must work both ways."

AGOA has been beneficial to the people of the continent of Africa and to the people of the United States of America.

President Bush also said he is deeply concerned about the

humanitarian and human rights crisis in Darfur, Sudan where thousands have been displaced by civil war. "For the sake of peace and basic humanity, I echo the sentiments of the Secretary of State. I call upon the government of Sudan to stop the Janjaweed violence. I call on all parties of the conflict to respect the cease-fire, to respect human rights, and to allow for the free movement of humanitarian workers and aid," he added.

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# For African American rape victims, a culture of silence

Continues from Page 4

Why don't more black people seek help? Why do we keep it to ourselves? "Black culture makes it different," she says. "Our culture makes us less likely to report." She bases this explanation on her own experiences as a sexual abuse survivor "three times over," years of counseling and surveying others, and federal statistics.

The black culture she refers to is a storytelling culture, rooted in the South before the decline of American apartheid. It comes with its own set of rules. "Blackisms," Norwood calls them during her presentation. She cites a few, as many black workshop participants chant along with her, such as: "What goes on in this house, stays in this house."

Protect, don't expose

"Historically, we have learned the system, which in our minds is white folks, is not to be trusted," she says. Historically, she adds, black people like herself are expected to protect, not expose, the black community.

Norwood says that when she finally told her family about being abused by her stepfather, they refused to believe her. Seeking information about incest and black women, she went to a public library.

"When I started in '89 with my own recovery, there was only one book I could find, 'Crossing the Boundary' by Melba Wilson. I found nothing else specifically about the African American experience," Norwood says. Charlotte Pierce-Baker's "Surviving the Silence: Black Women's Stories of Rape," the first book on that topic, came out in

1998.

At the conference, sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Norwood displays two current books: "No Secrets, No Lies: How Black Families Can Heal From Sexual Abuse" by Robin D. Stone, and "I Will Survive: The African-American Guide to Healing from Sexual Assault and Abuse" by Lori S. Robinson.

"It's really clear that African Americans are having a particular problem," says Robinson, here from upstate New York to lead a workshop on confronting sexual violence in black and Latino communities. She asks for "culturally specific" reasons that black women remain silent.

"The sisters don't want to report the brothers because we know what's going on in penal institutions," says Terry L. Stevens, who works with the Family Service League in Waterloo, Iowa.

Robinson herself grew up in a family protective of black men —

especially of her older brother, who while away at college was falsely accused of mugging a white woman. This protectiveness runs deep in many black families.

"My parents are older, and they were from the Deep South. My father's from Louisiana, and my mother's from Arkansas," Robinson says, recalling how they reacted to a news story about a black man who was accused of sexually abusing a white woman not far from their suburban Maryland home.

"I'm pretty sure my mom's response was, 'This is just racism.' And my response was, 'Are you

kidding? If a white woman is not safe from him sexually abusing someone, you think a black woman's safe? Part of it, depending on a person's age, comes out of history and feeling the need to protect black men because of lynching and whatever it is that you have seen in your history."

Another culturally specific reason revealed at Robinson's workshop: black ministers untrained in rape counseling.

Remember when then heavyweight champion Mike Tyson was convicted of raping a beauty

Continues on Page 9

## Cancer vaccine startles researchers

By Tom Noble

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

An experimental cancer vaccine being tested for its safety and toxicity has produced startling results, appearing to provide immunity from the disease and leaving most patients cancer-free after more than two years.

Patients at two Melbourne hospitals given a protein found in many cancers and a drug to boost immunity developed strong immune responses, producing antibodies to the protein as well as helper T-cells and killer T-cells. Patients given just the protein or a placebo had a weaker immune

response. Many have developed secondary cancers.

The results of the trial on post-operative cancer patients by doctors at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research at the Austin Hospital, and the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, are published today in the prestigious Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Lead investigator Jonathan Cebon said the results were a surprise because the trial was designed to test whether the drug produced adverse reactions in the first tests on humans. "We didn't know we were going to get these results," he said. "This was

never intended as an end point of the study."

Of 23 melanoma patients given a placebo or part-treatment, 14 have since developed cancer, compared with only two of 19 melanoma patients given the combination treatment. While the sample size was small, no other factors, such as the patient's age or the stage of their cancer, appeared to significantly influence the results.

Associate Professor Cebon said patients given the combination treatment developed a strong immunity to the protein. "We found if we increased the dose of the vaccine, the immune response got stronger," he said. "We don't know how long the immunity persists for."

Researchers have begun recruiting melanoma patients for further studies, one part-funded by a \$US600,000 (\$A820,000) grant from the Cancer Research Institute in the United States. If it can prevent cancer from coming back, can it get existing cancer to regress?

JONATHAN CEBON, researcherOne will be a randomised study, to see whether the trial results can be repeated. A second will test the vaccine on patients with an inoperable disease. "If it can prevent cancer from coming back, can it get existing cancer to regress?" Professor Cebon said. He said the protein NY-ESQ-1 was present in about 40 per cent of

Continues on Page 9

## Public Health Officials Confirm Measles Case in Martin County

RALIEGH, NC - State health officials have confirmed a case of measles in an 11-month-old Martin County child. The child was apparently exposed to the disease from an 11-year-old family friend who contracted measles after traveling to England, where immunization rates are lower than in the United States. No additional cases have been identified. As far as health officials

have been able to determine, the last case of measles in North Carolina occurred in a 3-year-old Durham child in 1996; that child also was infected by someone who had become infected in a foreign country.

Staff with the Division of Public Health's Immunization Section are working with local Martin County public health authorities to determine who might have been exposed to the disease. People who may have been exposed and who have not previously received two doses of measles vaccine are being contacted so that they should be immunized immediately. The public health investigation has confirmed that a contact of one of the infected children attended the Eastern 4H Center camp in Columbia, North Carolina (Tyrell County) during the week of July 2. Because the disease is highly contagious, State Health Director Lean Devlin stresses that children who attended the Eastern 4H Center camp July 2 must be vaccinated against the disease before entering school, if they have not already been immunized.

Local authorities are also checking vaccination records for all school-age children in Martin, Tyrell,

and Washington counties. Any child who has not been fully vaccinated against measles must be vaccinated before starting school, Martin and Washington county schools start Wednesday, Aug. 4, Tyrell schools start Monday, Aug. 9.

Measles is a serious viral disease that can cause ear infections, inflammation of the brain, pneumonia, and even death. Prior to vaccine licensure, the disease caused thousands of deaths worldwide; however, measles cases have dramatically declined since 1991 because of efforts to ensure children are age-appropriately vaccinated with the measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine," said Dr. Devlin. "If your child hasn't yet been fully vaccinated against measles, then parents would be aware of the symptoms of the disease, which include rash, high fever, cough and runny nose."

Vaccination is the key to disease prevention," she added. "Measles-containing vaccine is 95 percent effective in children after the first dose and 98 percent effective after the second dose. Without aggressive vaccination efforts, measles cases will rise. It is important to remember that if your child's

immunizations are not up-to-date, now is the time to get your child vaccinated."

We're working around the clock to protect the people of Martin, Tyrell and Washington counties," said Keith Patton, director of the Martin, Tyrell, Washington District Health Department. "Our staff is busy combing immunization records, shuffling schedules to make room for people needing measles vaccines, and contacting people who may have been exposed. The local public health team is absolutely committed to containing this situation."

The 11-year-old had not been vaccinated. The 11-month-old was not old enough to receive the MMR vaccine, which is given when children are at least 12 months of age. The vaccine currently used is a live-virus, weakened combination vaccine that protects against the measles, mumps, and rubella viruses. It was first licensed in the combined form in 1971 and contains the safest and most effective forms of each vaccine.

According to the national Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), children should get two doses of MMR vaccine with the first at 12-15 months of age and a second dose at 4-6 years of age. Additionally, the ACIP recommends the following people should be vaccinated with measles-containing vaccine:

- anyone 18 years of age or older, who was born after 1956, should get at least one dose of MMR vaccine, unless they can show that they have had either the vaccines or the diseases;
- college student, trade school student, or other student beyond high school;
- persons who work in a hospital or other medical facility;
- persons who travel internationally, or are a passenger on a cruise ship; and
- women of childbearing age.

Measles is transmitted from person to person through coughing and sneezing. It is most characterized by a rash; however, prior to rash onset, symptoms include fever above 103 °F, cough, runny nose, and eye irritation and redness. Rash lesions begin at the hairline and moves down from the face and neck to the hands and feet. It usually lasts five to six days, and the rash typically fades in the same manner in which appeared.

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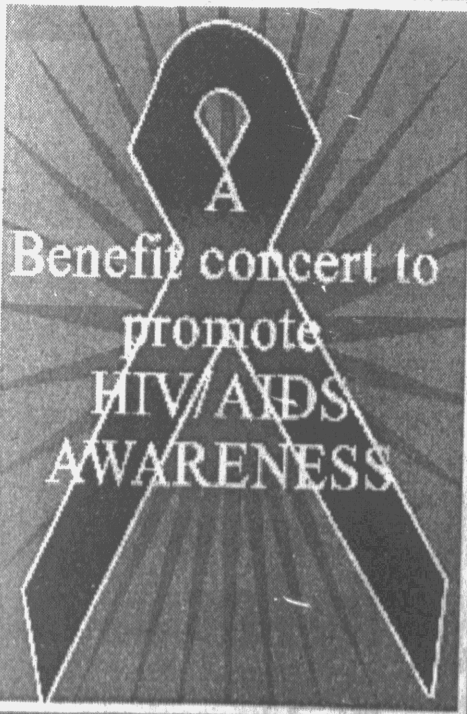
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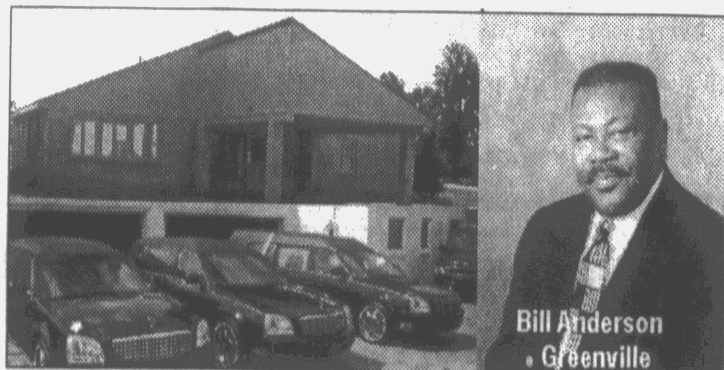
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# Community Voices

From the Desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



## Twelve Earmarks of a Lady

1. Is polite when entering or leaving a room. Acknowledge your fellow man's presence on the planet with a smile and a hello, in general, but especially in close quarters.
2. Graciously answers, "Yes, Miss A," when called or "No, Mrs. B" should the reply require such. Neither your mother nor your friends nor your boss is interested in being addressed with "Yo," "What," or "Huh."
3. Uses "Please," "Thank you," "Excuse me," "Good morning," and "Good-bye" as part of her daily speech.
4. Does not chew gum in public. Chews gum with mouth closed. Knows to ditch gum when involved in

a conversation, interview, or when accepting an award.

5. Awaits her turn; never brusquely pushes ahead. Er, today this one is a matter of survival, to avoid a beatdown.

6. Plays fair and works fair.

7. Does not take things that belong to another. You'd be surprised at the lack of comprehension of this concept.

8. Avoids loud and boisterous laughter and conversation. The folks on the bus or in the supermarket line are not interested in recap of your madcap antics with Latrell or your drunken take on world events. Keep it down, Toots.

9. Does not laugh at the mistakes or misfortunes of others. Try! Try! Try!

10. Develops a clear, resonant voice and is able to speak well, enunciate clearly, pronounce words correctly, and talk interestingly of the subjects of the day. Let's cut the politically correct nonsense. With the sorry exception of rappers and ballplayers, you will never go far on Ebonics, for shizzell!

11. Does not talk constantly about herself. A boor is a bore.

12. Isn't a killjoy. Uses tact. Refrain from making mean-spirited or hurtful comments under the guise of telling

the truth. Understand that nine out of ten times it is your truth, based on your experiences, perspective, and reality, and it probably won't serve the person it was meant to "help."

Think before you speak. From: Beautylicious by Jenyne M. Rainers

According to a study released Tuesday, May 11, 2004, based on a mail survey of 725 public middle and high school teachers and a telephone survey of 600 parents of public school students in grades five through twelve, the way teachers see it, today's classroom environment often deserves a D-as in disrespect, distracting and disheartening enough to drive many of them away.

Most teachers in middle and high schools say misbehavior by a handful of children is such a disruptive, pervasive force that a majority of students suffer from it, according to this study which was financed by Common Good, a bipartisan legal reform coalition. "If you start totaling up the hours that teachers could be teaching and students could be learning, it's just staggering," said Public Agenda President Ruth Wooden.

More than three in four teachers said they could do their job more effectively if not for discipline problems. More than eight in ten said

most students suffer because of a few troublemakers.

The challenge, the study found, is complicated. Education colleges don't prepare teachers to deal with

rowdy students. Schools back down from discipline when parents threaten lawsuits and children in special education are treated too lightly even when their misbehavior has nothing

to do with their disabilities.

The biggest causes of student behavior problems, according to teachers and parents fail to teach their kids discipline.

Beatrice Maye

## Edification of a New Generation



By Faith May

### THE DISAPPOINTMENTS OF LIFE

It's no secret that our lives often fall short of our expectations. Some of us have lost so much. Early relationships weren't what we wanted, and our present relationships aren't much better. Yet most of us would rather keep busy and pretend these disappointments don't exist. Some try to escape the pain through a variety of

Honestly struggling with disappointment, however, is a better way. God can use these

disappointments to help us discover how much we want Him—the One for whom our hopes and desires were made.

We won't realize how much we want God unless we are honest about our disappointments. Only by facing them can we cooperate with God's Spirit. Only by facing life we will discover that God occasionally leads His children into the wilderness of loss. There He lovingly lets us become so hungry and aware of our emptiness that we

Start to want Him more than anyone or anything.

If we stay in our disappointment long enough, we can eventually make another discovery—that God cares for us far more than we ever realized. We may not sense His involvement as much as we would like. There will still be times when we won't feel His loving arms around us. But His seeming lack of care actually makes us want Him more. And as we slowly realize that our desire for Him is our deepest longing, we put ourselves in a better place to recognize Him when He makes His presence known.

Disappointment doesn't go

away until we go to heaven. But struggling with the inconsolable ache of life can reveal, little by little, a desire for God that will begin to fill our hearts. That's what Asaph discovered while struggling with disappointment. He wrote, "Whom have I in heaven but You? And earth has nothing I desire besides You" (Ps. 73:25).

Surrendering to our desire for God frees us to resist the urge to control or escape pain.

Struggling with the disappointment of our sin doesn't mean that we just stop making wrong choices. Struggling with our faults means that we acknowledge our helpless condition.

Only by throwing ourselves on the mercy of God can we be in a position to accept His forgiveness. Only by the immeasurable price Christ paid can we know that this is not a cheap forgiveness. The agony experienced by our Savior on the cross shows how much God hates the sin that has brought such pain and darkness into His world. Yes, He hates our sin. But His desire to forgive us is even stronger.

Resource: Discovery Series/When We Love Too Much RBC Ministries

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## JoJo Time with Brenda Tyson

On Thursday, August 5th was Phillippi Child Care Center Fun Day and we had FUN, FUN, FUN!!!!!! My what a day!

The best of today was the youth's Talent Show. Oh yeah, the STAR SEARCH was in the Center!

The visitors of the day were from the Bethel, N.C. area. The Promise Learning Center is located at 1717 South Main Street, Bethel, N.C. and the phone number is 252- 825-0711. The Director is Mrs. Betty Hillard, a member of Phillippi Church Of Christ Disciples Of Christ at 1610 Farmville Blvd., Greenville, N.C. The Pastor is the very fine Bishop Randy B. Royal, D. Minis. Mrs. Hillard also has a second child Care Center located at 2504

Dickerson Ave., Greenville, N.C. Both of the Child Care Centers are open at 6:30 A.M. until 12:00 midnight. Today there were 27 students present.

Now, allow me to introduce the Creme de la Cream, the Director of Phillippi Child Care Center is Mrs. Sandra Jones, also a member of the PI [abbreviation for the Phillippi Church nickname]. The Center's Assistant Director is Mrs. Jacqueline Mitchell, a PI also.

The teachers present were as follows:

Mrs. Carolyn Maye teaches 5 yrs. old age group and mentors an After-School Program, THE LIGHTHOUSE YOUTHS.

Mrs. Maye is a member of The PI as well as the Vice Presidents of the Ministerial Associations, and our very own community local residential artist.

Mrs. Jewell Williams teaches group 2 yrs. olds age.

Ms. Sintwan teaches Pre-Kindergarten.

Mrs. Nashana Haddock teaches. olds group age 5 years and up and mentors an After-School Program, THE LIGHTHOUSE YOUTHS.

The Infant Teachers are Mrs. Jeanette Drake and Mrs. Mable Tripp who are responsible for the 0 - 12 month old age group.

Ms. Trinia is a Volunteer teacher and Director of Sister To Sister In Actions, a mentoring program, as well as teaches the 4yrs. old age group.

Evang. Brenda Tyson-Durumba is a Volunteer teacher in storytelling JOJOTIME IN BIBLELAND with MEMORIES of Ora Okera Frizzelle-Flynn, the original storyteller WOOW JOY 1340 AM on your radio dial.

The Summer Intern Volunteer Aids were Ms. Jasmine Royal, a 13-years old, Ms. Laronica Maye, a 13-years old, and Mr. Zachariah Hopkins, a 16-year old. They were also the judges for the talent show.

Ms. Lauren Bordeaux, age 5 years old, the fairy dancer "Thank You Lord"



►The Break-Down Cheeta Girls/Steppers, Ms. Naisa Howard, age 5 years old, and Ms. Jaida Haddock, age 4 years old.

►Jamar Tolliver, age 4 years old, Nursery Rhyme

"Can You Bake A Cake"

►Duet of "Jesus Loves Me" by Ms. Seanice Short, 7 years old, and Ms. Mercedes Ebron, 8 years old.

►A Promise Learning Center chorus of Ms. April Lynn, Tiana Griffin, Tracy Hilliard, Donita Wiggins, and Leeza Wiggins singing "Sanctuary".

►Kevin Johnson, 10 years old, a Gospel Rapper.

►Zachariah Hopkins, a tribute dance.

The Guest Entertainer was 'Checker The Clown', who delighted the children with hilarious antics involving the audience, and the event closed out with Cotton Candy for everyone: We give special thanks to the Guest teachers Ms. Sandra Ebron, Asst. Director of Promise Learning Center, Ms. Aprilynn Jenkins, age group 5 - 10 years old, and Ms. Keisha Statin, age group 4 years old and all participating parents and guardians. Thank You All!!!

P. S. Miss Chynna Lucas, age 14 years old thank you for your volunteering on service summer internship at the PI Center.



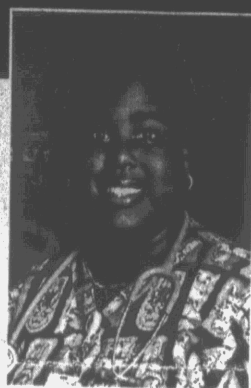
## Great nurses. Great hospital. Outstanding care.

### Magnet Recognizes Outstanding Nursing

Pitt County Memorial Hospital has been designated as a Magnet nursing environment by the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Less than two percent of hospitals in the United States receive this prestigious recognition, which confirms what many of us knew all along — nursing care at PCMH ranks among the best in the country.

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Patrice Thompson, RN  
Medical Intensive Care Unit

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## For African American rape victims, a culture of silence

Continues from Page 5

pageant contestant, Desiree Washington? The nation's largest black religious denomination supported him with a rally and petition drive to keep him out of jail. "Our brother needs us," the Rev. T.J. Jemison, then president of the 8.5-million-member National Baptist Convention, said at the event, which was also sponsored by the Nation of Islam, whose leader, Louis Farrakhan, had plenty to say:

"You bring a hawk into the chicken yard and wonder why the chicken got eaten up. You bring Mike to a beauty contest and all these fine

foxes just parading in front of Mike. Mike's eyes begin to dance like a hungry man looking at a Wendy's beef burger or something. She said, 'No, Mike, no.' I mean how many times, sisters, have you said 'No' and you mean 'Yes'?"

Little help at church

"Sometimes going to your pastor can be the worst thing you can do," Robinson says, quoting a minister she interviewed for her book. In "I Will Survive," the Rev. Linda H. Hollies, a United Methodist clergywoman who lives in Grand Rapids, Mich., makes this comment: "Can I say something that will be extremely controversial? Pastors and

church folk are often the worst folk in the world to go to for confession and absolution. The average pastor does not have a clue about counseling. And what pastors need to do when they find somebody in a situation like ours is to refer them to a counselor, refer them to a spiritual director, refer them to a chaplain, refer them to somebody who knows what they're doing with somebody's emotions."

Hollies, like Robinson, is also a rape survivor.

During her workshop, the author remembers: "May 15th, 1995, was a Monday.... I drove home around 10 or 11 that night.... I was a little startled because I noticed two men

on the sidewalk.... But I said, 'Why am I going to be scared of two brothers minding their own business?' "She called the police the night she was raped. Within 24 hours she was on her way to counseling, accompanied by her mother, her sister and the new boyfriend who is now her husband.

"I didn't get the victim-blaming comments that many people get, I think because what happened to me is people's stereotypical idea of rape: strangers with a weapon. But only 7% of rapes involve a weapon. And the majority of people who are raped are raped by someone they know."

Robinson's co-presenter, Marta Sanchez, was at her grandmother's house. Her attacker was a family member. Like CeCe Norwood's, and Robin Stone's.

Stone is not at the conference, but many participants carry copies of her book, "No Secrets, No Lies."

"I don't know if it is harder for children to tell," Stone says by phone from New York, "but there are some factors that keep children from

telling. We talk a lot about fear and shame."

Black children have another burden: "Culturally, there's this fear of betraying the family by turning someone in to the system," Stone says. Families try to cope, "and meanwhile the offender is left to continue to offend. They really do operate in silence. It's the silence and secrecy that enables them to thrive."

An uncle molested her when she was a child, she says. Two decades later, she told her parents. "I had the opportunity presented to me to tell what happened. It was at my going-away party. The party was to be at this uncle's house. I said, 'I don't want to go,' and my parents asked why."

Stone's parents believed her. Aishah Shadidah Simmons, a Philadelphia filmmaker, says her parents did not.

Simmons' documentary-in-progress, "NO!" is premised on African American women breaking silences. In the film, many women — including her mother — reveal how they were

discouraged from reporting a rape or an attempted sexual assault because the attacker was the highest-ranking black faculty member at the university, or a hero in the civil rights movement, or a black student on a campus where police officers were harassing black men.

Using the film to educate, Simmons wants black women who have the courage to tell to be trusted, not labeled as traitors. At screenings, she talks freely about being raped while a college student studying Spanish in the Yucatán. ("He didn't take my 'no' for an answer.") She is also out as a child incest survivor — though she identifies her assailant only as a male relative and has never reported him.

"Why am I protecting a family member? Because I haven't confronted him, that's why. I feel like if I had confronted him, then I would feel OK," Simmons says during a recent trip to Los Angeles. "To put it out there without even talking with him...."

Why coddle a black man who hurt her?

That's a question for many African American women.

## Cancer vaccine startles researchers

Continues from Page 5

melanoma, and was also found in lung, bladder, breast, head and neck cancers. "It has the potential to be applied broadly to a range of cancers, but not to all cancers," he said.

The protein was discovered about a decade ago by researchers at the Ludwig Institute in New York. The immunity drug was developed by the Melbourne-based company CSL.

"This vaccine is unique in two respects. Most vaccines have not

taken a full-length protein and put it into a vaccine and, second, few studies have been able to get this broad immune response," Professor Cebon said.

Patients were given three injections at four-week intervals and tested for their level of antibodies and T-cells. Adverse reactions included muscle pain, fever, fatigue and headaches, although researchers said the vaccine was well tolerated.

Stuart Wilson, 44, who joined the

trial in December 2000 after having a cancerous growth removed, had a sore arm and flu-like symptoms after his first injection. "I had one of the strongest reactions," he said.

Mr Wilson suspected he was on the combination therapy, although he did not find out this was correct until after the trial. His cancer has not returned.

"I am quite optimistic about my future," he said. The Melbourne project manager, married with two children, said he did not see the vaccine as a cure but a way to control the disease.

## New generation of black Americans returns to South

By Martin Savidge

ATLANTA - A lot of attention has been given to the migration of Hispanics and Asians in America, but a just-released report finds another population on the move. Their

journey represents a historic change for one part of the country.

This started happening in the 1970s," said demographer William Frey, "but then it was only kind of a trickle, but during the 1990s it really

started taking off."

With his charts and graphs, he tracks people on the move. He is watching a people resettle, returning to their American roots.

"There is a full circle reversal of the old black migration out of the South back into the South in very large numbers," he said.

To understand what's happening, you need to know what happened. The peak of a black exodus happened about 60 years ago, as more than 1.5 million African Americans moved out of the South and headed North, looking for work and to escape an oppressive racial climate.

Now many are backtracking.

Between 1995 and 2000, the U.S. Census Bureau says 680,000 African Americans returned. The South is now home to 55 percent of the nation's black population.

Ironically, many are coming back for the same reasons they left — jobs and a sense of racial equality.

Tarji Carter recently moved to Atlanta from Boston and found both.

"I've always been the minority, and it really feels good to walk into any given room and be a part of the majority," said Carter.

Returning African Americans are finding a new South transformed racially and economically.

"It's a better place," said Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga. "It is a different place. The only place you would see the old South today is in a museum, on a video, in a book."

Large cities like Atlanta and Orlando have become black migration magnets — each seeing African-American populations growing by more than 60 percent in 10 years, according to the Brookings Institution.

Smaller towns like Orangeburg, S.C., are also sharing in the boom. Charles and Barbara Owens were both born in the South, left in the 1950s. Now they've come back to retire.

"The dollar goes so much farther here," he said.

His wife said, "I like the quietness, the friendliness."

Experts say, with no sign of ending, the population shift is a stunning reversal of history, transforming the South and redrawing the map of black America.

Having children is like having a bowling alley installed in your brain.  
—Martin Mull

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# COMMENTARY: U.S. should intervene in Sudan's Black genocide

by Judge Greg Mathis  
Since they have failed to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, the Bush administration says their invasion of Iraq was a legitimate move to free Iraqi citizens from tyranny and inhumane treatment. Currently in southern Sudan, tens of thousands of Black Sudanese are being killed in what human rights groups describe as "ethnic cleansing" slaughter by Arab militias who are armed and supported by the Sudanese government. Yet, neither the United

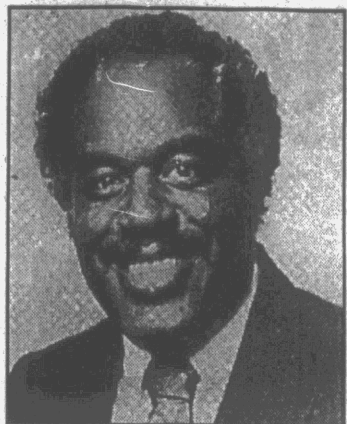
States nor the United Nations has chosen to provide military intervention. For the last 17 months, Arab Sudanese gunmen have killed nearly 30,000 African Sudanese villagers and driven more than 1 million from

their homes. The U.S. Agency for International Development estimates that nearly 350,000 could die by the end of the year if nothing is done. This scenario sounds very similar to the Rwanda genocide a decade ago—where the United States and

the United Nations sat on their hands while 500,000 members of the Tutsi ethnic group were slaughtered over a 90-day period by members and supporters of the Hutu-dominated government in Rwanda. Why is it that when Black Africans are being victimized by the tens of thousands, no one intervenes to free them from tyranny and genocide? We are quick, however, to intervene

in Iraq, Kosovo and elsewhere, whenever there is a threat of mass killings and human rights violations. Once again the world is showing its lack of respect for Black human lives. If hundreds of thousands of non-Black citizens of a country were on the verge of genocide based on an agenda of ethnic cleansing, the United States, NATO, and the United Nations would have intervened a long time ago. We must pressure our government and the United Nations to step in immediately to end the slaughter of Black Sudanese by their Arab countrymen. To sit on our hands again and watch another African slaughter would be a travesty. (Judge Greg Mathis is chairman of the Rainbow PUSH-Excel board and a national board member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.)

## Spiritual Reflections with Pastor Geo. Hawkins



days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark. And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. We are living in a time that we can't distinguish the church members from the world. Nevertheless, I want to REMIND you of what God said in 1 Peter 4:17-18 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God; and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? We are treading on dangerously thin ice, the return of Jesus could be any minute now and we the church people are acting like the world. I just want to tell you that IT'S HOLINESS OR HELL.

### Where Will Judgment Begin?

Greetings: Just look around you not at the world but at the churches, are you alarmed at what you see? The Bible declares in Matthew 24:37-39 But as the

You had better grab a hold of the horns of the altar and stay there until Jesus change your heart toward that which is righteous. If I could allow myself to reminisce, back to when I was a child those church mothers would work with those young girls and those deacons would talk to those young men as the bible tells us to. CHRISTIANS, you are a Christian because you chose to be no one made you become a Christian. Yes, I know that no one can come to the Father except the Spirit draws you, but a choice still have to be made on your part. You see if you are not striving to be like Christ then you must take down the sign. After all, why are you going to HELL cramped up when you can go in style? Let's take closer look holiness. The first thing I would like to share with you about holiness is this: HOLINESS IS NOT AN OPTION IT'S A REQUIREMENT. According to Hebrews 12:14 we are to "Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord" So the writer of Hebrews is telling us to take seriously the necessity of personal, practical holiness. When the Holy Spirit comes into our lives at our salvation, he comes to make us holy in practice. If there is not, then,

at least a yearning in our hearts to live a holy life pleasing to God, we need to seriously question whether our faith in Christ is genuine. It is true that this desire for holiness may be only a spark at the beginning. But that spark should grow till it becomes a flame - a desire to live a life wholly pleasing to God. True salvation brings with it a desire to be made holy. When God saves us through Christ, He not only saves us from the penalty of sin, but also from its dominion. The whole purpose of our salvation is that we be "holy and blameless in His sight", Ephesians 1:4. To continue to live in sin as a Christian is to go contrary to God's very purpose for our salvation. One of the writers of three centuries ago put it like this: "What a strange kind of salvation do they desire that care not for holiness. . . . They would be saved by Christ and yet be out of Christ in a fleshly state. . . . They would have their sins forgiven, not that they may walk with God in love, in time to come, but that they may practice their enmity against Him without any fear of punishment." Holiness, then, is not necessary as a condition of salvation - that would be salvation by works - but as a part of salvation that is received by faith in Christ. The angel said to Joseph,

"You are to give Him the name Jesus [which means Jehovah is salvation], because He will save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21).

Therefore, we may say that no one can trust in Christ for true salvation unless he trusts in Him for holiness. This does not mean the desire for holiness must be a conscious desire at the time a person comes to Christ, but rather that the Holy Spirit who creates within us saving faith also creates within us the desire for holiness. He simply does not create one without the other. Paul said, "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say No! to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age" (Titus 2:11-12). The same grace that brings salvation teaches us to renounce ungodly living. We cannot receive half of God's grace. If we have experienced it at all, we will experience not only forgiveness of our sins but also freedom from sin's dominion. So again I say to you it's holiness or hell. God command is, "BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY." But as victims of sin's warfare, Christians are often prone to give up the fight, or at least to compromise with sin in its more difficult forms. Chose Christ and live. Pastor George Hawkins

## Spotlight On

## Bouvier's Consulting & Tutorial Services, Inc.



**Jacqueline Harper**  
Jacqueline Harper is the owner and director of Bouvier's Consulting and Tutorial Services, Inc. A veteran Pitt County educator with over 23 years of experience, she has also served as a Parent Involvement Coordinator for "Parents for Public Schools", Charter School director. After-school Coordinator, and was the 2003 recipient of the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty (ABCD) Award. Bouvier's Consulting and Tutorial Services Inc. provides a Summer Enrichment program during the summer months and After-school tutorial during the school year for students in 1st - 6th grades. The curriculum consists of test-taking strategies, homework assistance, cultural arts, educational field trips, and scheduled enrichment activities such as Spanish, tennis, Science, piano lessons, and golf. Enrichment activities also include 4-H, Odyssey of the Minds, and Home-Schooling. Previous educational outings have included The Imagination Station in Wilson, NC, an Amtrak passenger train ride, tours of the Greenville Water Treatment Plant, Greenville Fire Department, Lowes Foods, and the voting polls. The After School Program hours will be Monday through Friday 2pm - 6pm. Student pick ups will be made from the following schools: Sadie Sautter, South Greenville, Wahl-Coates, Wintergreen, St. Peters, W.H. Robinson, and A.G. Cox Middle School. For information on enrollment and a tour of the facility, please visit at 210 W. 10th St. or call (252) 754-0774

## 4-H Mini Society youths complete seminar Success Is Taking One Small Step At A Time



GREENVILLE, NC - Recently the 4-H Mini-Society® Program, an outreach program implemented by NC Cooperative Extension Program at North Carolina A&T State University held a business training seminar for which took place daily from June, 28th

- at the Youth Today Center on 400 Mumford Road here in Greenville. As a result of the week long program which lasted six hours daily these young these young 4-H Allstars Members received their Certificates of Recognition at CiCi's Pizza for

participating in the 4-H Mini-Society® Program. "How to Start A Business." This program was developed and implemented in 1996 program by Marilyn L. Kourilsky. After spending a week in classes the above 17 youths were familiarized with the business disciplines: Starting a Business, Record Keeping, Ethics and Decision Making, Ideas and Principles, Economics (money,

income and inflation), Citizenship (harmonious community living), Government Law (democracy, republic, dictatorship) and Cooperation (working together and earnings). Mrs. Shelly Moore was Facilitator, Ann C. Speight, and Mildred A. Council were Volunteer Assistants. Valencia Speight, Jonathan Fields were Teen Leaders. Guest Speakers during the week included Lawrence Turner, Champion For Kids, Angel Savage, Youth Today Director, Guy Sims, Minority Voice, Mildred Council, Greenville City Council, the Assistant Manager of Cici Pizza's, Anne Suggs, Retired. 4-H Associate and Business Owner, and Marion Booth, Pitt County 4-H Program Associate.

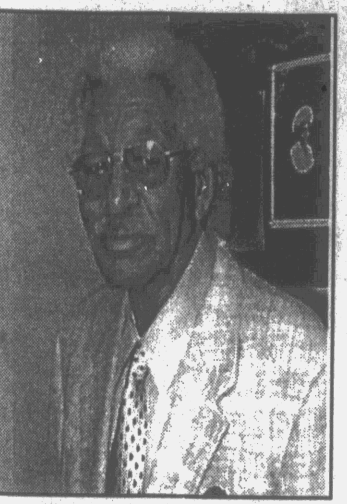
### Top Photo

In the top part of the photo we find Marion Booth; (Pitt 4-H Program Associate), Douglass Fields; (4-H Volunteer Leader /Parent), Gloria Fields;(4-H Volunteer Leader and Parent), Shelly Moore;(4-H Mini Society Facilitator), Ann Speight;(4-H Volunteer Leader and Grandparent), Luella Wills; (Parent and Volunteer), and Mildred A. Council, (Founder/Volunteer Leader 4-H AllStars Club and Parent)

### Bottom Photo

Found in the photo on the bottom are the course graduates. In the back row from left to right are Catherine Wills, De'vonte Blount, Jonathan Fields, Zackia Parker, Dreginal Daniels, Kevin Burns, Valencia Speight, and Marion Booth.

In the front row are graduates Ella Roberson, Mules Evans, Jamaquia Maye, Megan Fields, Martina Evans, Melanie Fields, Melinda Fields, Justin Steeler, and Mrs. Shelly Moore. Not shown in the photo is Garratte Jones who also completed the course.



God Bless Our Fathers... A proud Black Veterans of World War II, and a father who has experienced Black Folks having their own credit unions. Father Pete Hagin poses for our cameras at Mt. Calvary FWB during a concert by Ernest Silver. Father Hagin can recall segregation in North Carolina and the good old days.



The man is a teacher. Posing for our camera outside of Roundtree Rest with his grandson. Father Herbert, who is 84 years old of age, has been painting for over 50 years and he is not your ordinary painter. He teaches young people the art of painting houses. Inside hats off to Mr. Herbert Rouse.

## Northwest Elementary Receives Grant

Northwest Elementary has recently been named the recipient of a 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant. The \$149,000 grant is the first to be awarded in Pitt County Schools. In honor of the grant, there will be a luncheon held on September 2, 2004 at 12:00 noon in the Northwest Elementary Media Center.

According to Roscoe Locke, Principal at Northwest Elementary School, "this grant is intended to build a quality after school program that offers academic and cultural

rich programs for the children." The program will be offered to students who score a Level I or II on the end-of-grade testing. It will be available to students five days a week, totaling 15 hours, and will provide free transportation. The main focus of the program will be on homework and one-on-one tutoring based on the individual needs of the students. In addition, the program will include one full time director, two teachers, six teaching fellows and numerous volunteers from the community.

## JOB DRIVE

August 26, 2004 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Pre-Qualification Required - Applicants must apply in person prior to August 26th

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87 Ford F150 - 48k miles, extra clean, bedliner, nice racing strips - Low Payments	91 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo - AT, PS, PB, AD, PW, PDL, CC, TW, AM/FM st. eq., CD - \$12,995	88 Honda Accord EX - 100k miles, V6, sunroof, AT, PS, PB, AC, PW, PDL, CC, TW - \$9995
80 Dodge Grand Cherokee Sport - 83k miles, AT, PS, PB, AC, PW, PDL, CC, TW, AM/FM st. eq., CD, child seats, rear AC, briefly owned - \$10,995	91 Ford Ranger Extra Cab XLT - 97k miles, AT, PS, PB, AC, PW, PDL, CC, TW, AM/FM st. eq., CD - \$10,995	91 Honda Accord EX - 48k miles, V6, PS, PB, AC, PW, PDL, CC, TW, AM/FM st. eq., power windows - \$14,995
91 Chevy Blazer - 48k miles, V6, AT, PS, PB, AC, PW, PDL, CC, TW, AM/FM st. eq., alloy wheels	88 Honda Civic - 48k miles, V6, AT, PS, PB, AC, PW, PDL, CC, TW, AM/FM st. eq., alloy wheels	91 Honda Accord EX - 48k miles, V6, PS, PB, AC, PW, PDL, CC, TW, AM/FM st. eq., power windows - \$14,995

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When Identity Theft Happens to You...

# The Ways and Means: Restoring Your Good Name

By Carolyn M. Brown

Anyone who has been the victim

trying to clear her name and undo the lingering damage caused by the

years to recover your good credit and name.

If you've been victimized unknowingly by criminals, you'll need a plan of action to repair your credit report and recover your good name.

Many victims report spending months hassling with credit agencies, financial institutions and police departments. Some even have had to take time off from work to write letters, make calls, collect evidence and demand action. The typical identity theft victim will spend 600 hours of private time trying to sort out affairs and potentially thousands of dollars in legal and accounting

service expenses to correct credit bureau records and to be re-instated for credit at banks, brokerage firms, credit card companies and so on.

There is a section of identity theft law that limits the victim's liability to the first \$50; the balance is met by businesses (credit insurers and merchants) through their indemnity insurance. In 2003, commercial businesses suffered \$47 billion in losses. Since credit report repair is time and money to credit insurers, they are slow in response in hopes that identity theft victims will back down.

Outside of the financial burden on the victim, there's also the cost of anxiety and mental suffering. Victims of identity theft report that policy agencies are sometimes dismissive or even abusive, credit reporting agencies unresponsive, credit collection agencies hostile, and credit grantors disbelieving. When victims are actually accused of committing crimes, they are sometimes repeatedly detained by police and have trouble trying to convince law enforcement officials that the person they're holding is not the person they want. All of which stresses why it is so important you safeguard your personal information as outlined in Ways and Means: Identity Theft.

As part of its Citi Identity Theft Solutions (800-950-5114), Citibank has a team of specialists to help credit cardholders who are the victims of ID theft through each step of resolving fraudulent activity and restoring credit standing, which includes placing a "Fraud Alert" on credit reports, contacting other creditors to close unauthorized accounts, and filing a police report.

You can check with the bank that issued your credit card to see if they have a similar program. But for the most part, you're on your own. In the event that identity theft and fraud occurs and you've been victimized unknowingly by criminals, you'll need a plan of action to repair your credit report

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and recover your good name.

File your complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

You need backup. Contacting the FTC will help you with law enforcement agencies and creditors. The agency has developed the ID Theft Affidavit to help victims restore their good names. For a copy, visit [www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft) or call 877-IDTHEFT.

Garther as much documentation as you can to prove your case.

Since many creditors require a police report to resolve your dispute, you will have to be persistent when dealing with local authorities. As proof, provide your notarized FTC affidavit, credit reports, and other evidence of fraudulent activity to file a complete police report. If your local police tell you they can't take a police report, try the county or state police. You also can ask to file a "Miscellaneous Incident Report," if local authorities don't view identity theft as a crime.

Follow up with credit agencies.

Victims of identity theft are entitled to free copies of their credit reports. Obtain copies of your report from the three major credit bureaus and put circles around items that you dispute. Request the information be deleted or corrected but be sure to give facts and explain why. Again, send a copy of your notarized FTC affidavit. For the letters you'll need to write to repair your credit, you may have to write to over 100 agencies. Get the Identity Theft Survival Kit at [www.identitytheft.org](http://www.identitytheft.org).

Contact individual creditors.

Most victims can get accounts closed and debts dismissed by completing the creditor's fraud paperwork. Include copies of your police report and ID Theft Affidavit. Insist on a letter from the creditor stating it has closed all disputed accounts and have discharged you of your fraudulent debts. You'll also need to have these letters for backup when dealing with the credit bureaus and debt collectors. A creditor must respond to your complaint within 30 days and resolve the dispute

within two billing cycles (or no more than 90 days). Also, refer to "How to Dispute Credit Report Errors and Fair Credit Reporting" at [www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft).

Keep records. Use certified mail and return receipt request, so you can document what the credit bureaus and creditors received and when. Keep photocopies of all letters and documents. Also, take notes on the date, time, and names of anyone you talk to regarding your dispute. You will also want to notify other federal and state agencies. For instance, you will want to contact the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC: 800-934-3342), for bank fraud.

Consider creating another identity.

Meaning, you can set up a company identity such as a family limited partnership, sole proprietorship, or limited liability company. Although this is an alternative, it's not a simple process or a quick fix.

Bear in mind that the credit bureau's investigation must be completed within 30 days (45 if you provide additional information). If the agency considers you dispute frivolous it must do so within five business days. Otherwise, it must forward all relevant documents to an information provider for investigation. The credit bureau must give you written results upon completion of the investigation. Note that any disputed information that cannot be verified must be deleted from your file. Also, if your report does contain erroneous information, the credit bureau must correct it and send notices to anyone who received your report in the past six months.

Always remember the onus is on you to reclaim your identity. It may seem unfair that as the victim you will be given the hard time, but the bottom line is that you will have to be steadfast, disciplined and aggressive in your efforts to repair your credit.

First published: July 13, 2004

About the Author

Carolyn M. Brown is a business finance writer and editor living in New Jersey. She authored The Millionaires' Club and Nobody's Business But Your Own.

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## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### Emergency Drive to close August 15

The traffic route to the PCMH Emergency Department will change effective August 15, 2004. As of that date, Emergency Drive off NC Route 43 (West Fifth Street) will be closed permanently due to a construction project at the Brody School of Medicine.

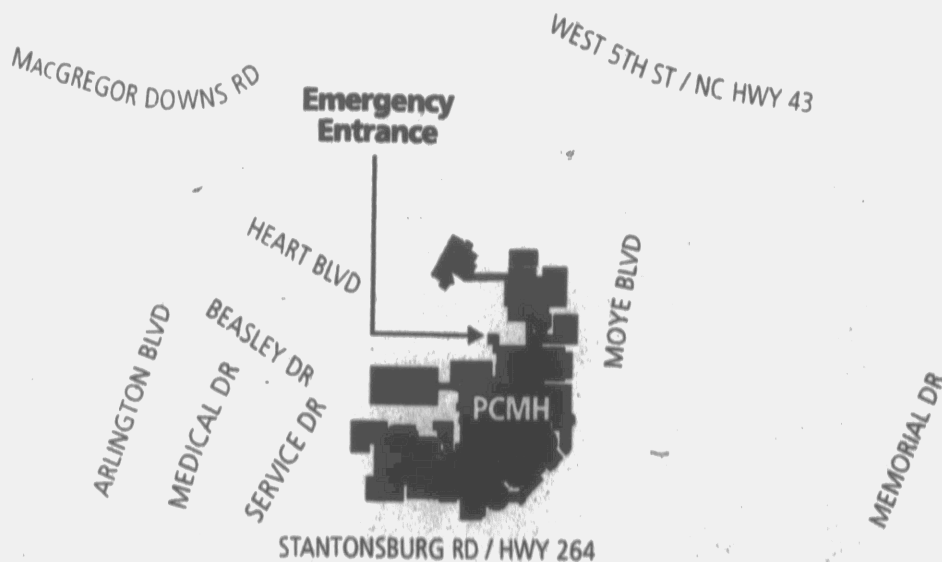
Beginning Monday, August 16, all traffic coming from Route 43 to the Emergency Department at Pitt County Memorial Hospital will be redirected as follows

MacGregor Downs Road to Arlington Boulevard  
Arlington Boulevard to Heart Boulevard  
Heart Boulevard to the Emergency Department

Signs placed on Route 43 will direct drivers to the Emergency Department via the new route.

Traffic bound for the Emergency Department from US Route 264 (Stantonsburg Road) will not be affected.

PITT COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL  
University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina



## Ex-Motown president says technology lets bad singers succeed

BRYANT, Ark. — Listen Britney and Beyonce. Al Bell, former Stax record owner and Motown president, thinks fancy digital recording equipment is a crutch for today's pop singers. "What I've seen it do is allow a person with mediocre talent excel because of the technology and maintain that mediocrity," Bell said recently. "So they get on stage with the headsets and they're lip-synching because they can't really sing as well as they sound on the record."

The man who wrote the lyrics to the Staples Singers' I'll Take You There and brought the world the funk of Isaac Hayes and the catchy Whoomp! There It Is used analog 24-track reel-to-reel machines in the

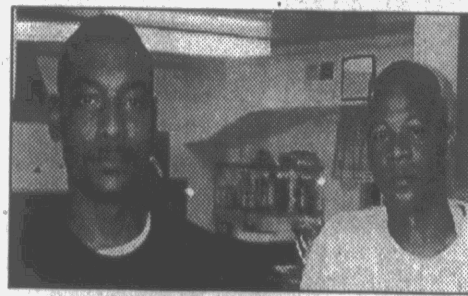
1960s:

But the studio he works in now has computers, boards with hundreds of dials and a half-dozen TV screens to view musicians.

"It's not as it was in the past," he said. "When we were doing it with Otis Redding or Isaac Hayes, they were in the studio for two days doing 40 or 50 takes before they captured the magic."

Bell, 64, now works as a consultant for independent Alpine Records in Bryant, a suburb of Little Rock. The company has studios filled with the latest gadgets that can record today's sound but that can also, with Bell's ear, catch yesterday's soul

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# Fahrenheit "9-11" resonates with many Blacks

by Titus Ledbetter III  
**HAMPTON, Va.** - A day before filmmaker Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11" opened nationwide, he stood in Washington with several members of the Congressional Black Caucus, on the steps of a legislative office building, as they praised the film.

After President George Bush turned down an invitation to speak in Philadelphia at the annual NAACP convention, the civil rights organization sponsored a free screening of the anti-Bush film, drawing at least 2,000 people on July 13, according to the New York Times. NAACP Chairman Julian Bond, in introducing the movie, likened it in importance to Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel "Uncle Tom's Cabin," the book that boosted the abolitionist cause before the Civil War and became the first social protest novel published in the United States.

The movie makes the argument that the United States never should have invaded Iraq, and he maintains that Blacks are being used.

A poll conducted by the D.C. Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research surveyed 1,000 likely voters after the movie's first week. It did not break down those it surveyed by race, but the survey showed that the largest percentage of voters that had seen it were in the 18-29 age bracket and that 86 percent of those who had seen the movie planned to vote for John Kerry.

Despite the lack of racial statistics, there is much to suggest that "Fahrenheit 9/11" is resonating with many Blacks. Mr. Moore has plugged the film on radio's syndicated "Tom Joyner Morning Show" and on "The Tavis Smiley Show" on PBS.

Kimberly Thompson, executive vice president of the Johnson Development Corp., which runs the Magic Johnson Theaters in six Black communities around the country, said that the movie is doing "very well" there.

The movie makes the argument that the United States never should have invaded Iraq and he maintains that Blacks are being used.

Some Black moviegoers agreed. Jennifer Mowbrey, 21, a recent graduate of Hampton University, says Mr. Moore's point about the recruitment of poor Blacks to serve in Iraq hit home.

"African Americans should pay attention to the fact that, according to the movie, most of the (American military) recruitment takes place in poor neighborhoods," said Ms. Mowbrey. "The poor people are going to fight and the rich people are making all the decisions. They are selling them the promise of a college education."

She saw "Fahrenheit 9/11" within the first two weeks of its June 25 release, and said she was one of the few Blacks in the movie theater.

"I felt Black people should watch the film but, unfortunately, they will be the least likely to see the film," she added. "Black people seem to be the least interested in politics or anything that affects them in the future."

Mr. Moore follows two Marine recruiters who seek candidates at a working-class mall outside Flint, Mich. Many of their contacts are with Black men in their teens and early 20s. The recruiters talk about the success of David Robinson of the National

Basketball Association and rapper Shaggy, and imply that the armed forces could be the road to success for a would-be pro basketball player or musician.

"You know, they try to play on the ignorance of Black people or poor people," said Joseph Tobe, of Hyattsville, Md., an energy technician who said he, too, was struck by the segment. "They try to sell them all this hoopla about what they can have" if they enlist.

Glen Lomax, 52, a training

consultant from Germantown, Md., said he appreciated the film because it was courageous of Moore to bring to light secrets that need exposure. He called the movie excellent and well-documented.

"If nothing more, it raises awareness of the issues that go on in the country," he said. "Hopefully, it will cause people to raise questions when we start talking about who we really want as the president of the United States."

Deirda Squire, a junior at

Hampton University, said she was struck by the interview with a Black soldier who had served in the war, but said he'd rather go to jail than return to fight again. The fact that he'd accept imprisonment spoke to "how serious this thing is," she said.

Mr. Moore interviews a group of young Black students, most of whom say they have a friend or family member who has served in the war.

"They don't have any other way to escape impoverishment," said Ms. Squire, speaking of the Black

students. "If they don't join the armed forces, they don't have any other option."

She said she knows that the film might stir up fears and memories that many people would like to forget. She thinks that watching the movie will better inform those voting in the upcoming 2004 election.

"I understand trying to protect your emotions," said Ms. Squire. "But sometimes you have to face it. If you try to ignore problems, they are not going to be solved. It's better to relive

it on screen than later on in real life." Not all Black people are eager to see the movie. Some say they do not want to relive that September day in 2001.

Susan Simpson, 34, who has lived in New York, said she considered herself "very neutral when it comes to politics," and said she did not want to see the movie after she heard the words "Fahrenheit" and "9/11."

"I wouldn't see 'Fahrenheit 9/11' because I think it was a very sad day," she said. "No one should have to relive

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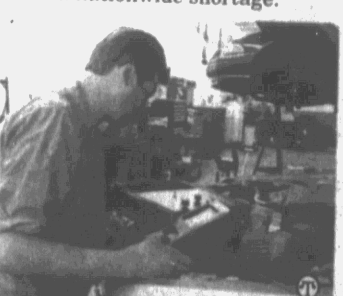
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