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Vol XXVIII
Jan. 2007 Issue

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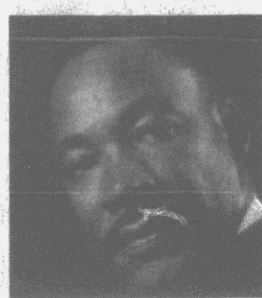
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THE MINORITY VOICE

MARTIN LUTHER KING TRIBUTE

HOW CITY IS POISONING KIDS



Chronology of The Life Of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

1929 January 15

Martin Luther King, Jr. is born to Rev. and Mrs. Martin Luther King, Sr. (former Alberta Christine Williams) in Atlanta, Georgia.

1935 - 1944

Dr. King attends David T. Howard Elementary School, Atlanta University Laboratory School, and Booker T. Washington High School. He passes the entrance examination to Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia without graduating from high school.

1947 Dr. King is licensed to preach.

1948 February 25

Dr. King is ordained to the Baptist ministry and appointed associate pastor at Ebenezer.

June 8 Dr. King graduates from Morehouse College with a BA degree in Sociology.

September Dr. King enters Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pennsylvania. After hearing Dr. A. J. Muste and Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson preach on the life and teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, he begins to study Gandhi seriously.

1951 May 6-8

Dr. King graduates from Crozer with a Bachelor of Divinity degree.

1953 June 18

Dr. King marries Coretta Scott in Marion, Alabama.

READ THE M'VOICE NEWSPAPER



Poisoned By The City

By: Tina Moore/Benjamin Lesser NY Daily News

The boy's mother had no idea the poison lurked within the cracks of the baseboard. She also had good reason to believe the apartment was safe. Documents show city officials found the home for her and even inspected it before she was allowed to move from a

homeless shelter. "I came out of the shelter to be secure and start my life," Jaylin's mom, Jasmine Taylor, 23, told the Daily News. "If there was problems, they should have fixed it." "My son got poisoned," Jaylin and his mom are among thousands of parents and children who were placed in apartments — often in lead-tainted buildings — by the city Department of Homeless

Services in a push to clear city shelters, The News has learned. An analysis of city data revealed the city cited about 900 apartment buildings for thousands of lead violations after placing families in the buildings through the Bloomberg administration's Housing Stability Plus program. About 700 buildings tested positive for lead paint. The status of other 200 buildings, which the city "presumed" contained lead paint after a physical inspection, was unclear in the data. The owners of those buildings received 3,200 violation notices, many detailing multiple violations in more than one apartment, the data show. The city Department of Homeless Services would only identify the buildings with lead paint violations, refusing to single out specific apartments occupied by

Housing Stability Plus participants.

There is also no way of knowing whether the 3,900 additional apartment buildings used by the Housing Stability Plus program contain lead paint. City officials told The News they only inspect for lead paint after residents call to complain about problems in their homes.

Lead Paint diet

A routine blood test found that Jaylin has eaten enough of the lead paint chips to delay his speech and cognitive development. The boy and his mom became one of the first families to move into an apartment through the Housing Stability Plus program when they were moved out of the shelter on Dec. 28, 2004, shortly after Jaylin's first birthday. "It was freshly painted," Taylor said. "It was decent." She didn't know that the new paint covered layers of lead paint brushed on the walls before 1978



M. Roberts for NEWS
Jasmine Taylor and 3-year old son Jaylin were among families city placed in a lead-tainted apartment

when the feds, concerned about the toxicity of lead paint, banned it from being used in residential buildings. Three weeks before Taylor and her son moved into the home, Housing Stability Plus inspectors visited the apartment on Ridgewood Ave. in Cypress Hills. Documents from the inspector's visit on Dec. 06, 2004, show the landlord never signed the specific area on a city form to certify that the home was free to lead.

(See Poison pg4)

Documentary Filmmaker Keith Beauchamp Visits ECU



Keith Beauchamp is a young filmmaker who has dedicated 10 years of his life to telling the story of Emmett Till. ... pictured above center is Keith Beauchamp, producer of documentary, left Bro Jim Rouse, producer of Greenville TV's Minority Voices, and Dr David Dennard of ECU who brought Keith to Greenville. Keith was also interviewed on Minority Voices and WOOW Radio Station.

photo by Michael Adams

Historians Shoot Down Tuskegee Legend

By: Wiley Henry
Tri-State Defender

For more than 60 years, the legacy of the famed Tuskegee Airmen loomed large throughout the annals of history: The squadron of African-American fighter pilots claimed they'd never lost a bomber to enemy fire during World War II. But that claim came under fire nearly two weeks ago by two historians. Both William F. Holton, historian of Tuskegee Airmen Inc., and Daniel Haulman of the Air Force Historical Research Agency at Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base in Montgomery, shot the airmen's perfect record down. After reviewing Air Force

records, Holton said enemy planes shot down a few bombers that were escorted by the red-tailed fighters of the Tuskegee Airmen. Haulman has backed Holton's findings. He said combat missions reports revealed a startling truth: US bombers were indeed shot down while being escorted by the Tuskegee Airmen in Europe. The Tuskegee Airmen's record has been uncontested and undisputed for decades, which prompted former Tuskegee Airman Carrol Woods of Montgomery to call the historians' findings "outrageous". Woods, 87, told

TELL THE LORD THANK YOU

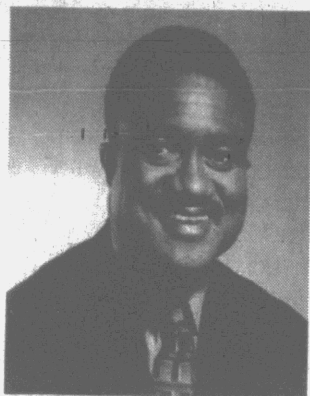


Tell The Lord Thank You... the new motto of the Philippi Church of Christ spoken by the Bishop Randy B. Royal after Life Threatening Heart Problems. Still The Bishop Fights On. Pictured above center with Bishop, Bishop Farris Slade, (left) and Elder Russell Early (right) while on the Annual Martin Luther King Day March in Greenville NC amidst the continuing indecisiveness of some area leaders who failed to attend the March and come together on what kind of memorial Greenville NC will have for Martin Luther King. Bottom photo... Bishop Royal is seated with his wife (Glenn) and son, (Bryan). Standing in the rear is Elder Carolyn James and Bro Reggie Price. Elder Carolyn James coordinated birthday celebration and Bro Price was instrumental in the entertainment portion of the program FIGHT ON BISHOP, FIGHT ON

photo Jim Rouse

OPINION

'IRAG FORCES DEMOCRATS TO SHAKE UP 'SAFE' AGENDA'



GEORGE E. CURRY

'IRAG FORCES DEMOCRATS TO SHAKE UP 'SAFE' AGENDA', by GEORGE CURRY
The Wilmington Journal

After outlining a safe agenda of its first 100 hours, Democrats in Congress are being forced to become more aggressive in challenging President Bush on the Iraq war and may have to address growing complaints that they are moving too slowly in developing an urban agenda.

Democrats regained control of Congress not because of a masterful political strategy, but largely because of the public's disenchantment with our military presence in Iraq. Until this week, Democrats had been reluctant to challenge Bush on the war for fear of being depicted as being unsupportive

of U.S. combat troops. Republican propagandists have repeatedly described Democrats as offering a "cut and run" strategy in Iraq and gun-shy, fragmented Democrats have been content letting Republicans mis-define them.

Even after voters repudiated George Bush's "stay the course" policies in the Persian Gulf, Democrats were still hesitant to act on the central issue that swept them into power in the first place — the war. But Bush's planned Wednesday night speech on the war in which he is expected to announce a plan to send more troops into Iraq, changed that. It forced Democrats to abandon their intention of focusing only on safe domestic issues, such as raising the minimum wage, expanding college aid, and funding stem cell research.

Voters have made it clear at the polls in November and in subsequent public opinion polls that they want the new Congress to deal with the war. A recent CBS News poll showed that 45 percent of the

public wants Democrats to focus on the war; a distant second at 7 percent was an emphasis on the economy and jobs.

With Bush going on the offensive with a nationally-televised speech to the nation, Democrats have shifted into second-gear by quickly arranging a series of public hearings. On Wednesday, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is expected to have Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice discuss Bush's strategy in Iraq. On Thursday, Rice is expected to testify before the House Foreign Affairs Committee. And on Friday, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates and Marine Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, are expected to appear before the House Armed Services Committee.

All of the jockeying by Democrats and Republicans is done with an eye cast toward the 2008 presidential election.

Democrats want to show before the next election that they can lead effectively. Republicans

want to portray them as being weak on terrorism, paving the way for them to return to power in 2008. Both sides are making their moves while claiming to be interested bi-partisan cooperation.

As Democrats step up their involvement in addressing the war and continue to champion their announced 100-hour agenda, they are facing criticism from Jesse Jackson and others who charge that Democrats have no urban agenda.

At his 10th annual Wall Street conference this week in New York, Jackson assembled Congressional leaders, mayors and civil rights leaders in an effort to pressure Congress to pay more attention to Urban America.

"We need an economic agenda that corresponds with our political victory in November," Jackson said. He noted that while it is important to raise the minimum wage, that action alone does not address the

needs of the unemployed or other serious problems facing cities.

Indeed, the new leaders in Congress could help revitalize urban America by simply restoring the cuts in domestic spending. There is no question that cities need more help. A survey released in December by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, for example, showed that overall requests for emergency food assistance increased in 2006 by an average of 7 percent over the previous year; 74 percent of the surveyed cities registering an increase.

"This survey represents real people with real needs in cities all across our nation," U.S. Conference of Mayors President Douglas H. Palmer, mayor of Trenton, N.J., said at the time. "As mayors of cities in the richest and most powerful nation in the world, we cannot simply stand by as our residents — families with children — continue to suffer. We have a responsibility to work together

with our federal partners, as well as the private sector to turn the tide of those most in need in America." Palmer also noted that cities are having difficulty providing shelter for the homeless.

President Bush has essentially slashed domestic spending to fund an unnecessary war and unnecessary tax cuts that largely benefit the wealthy.

If Democrats want to make their mark, they should start by repealing the tax cuts and quit funding the war. They can't credibly say they're against the war yet continue to provide the financing.

Bush has forced Democrats to finally deal with the war. Now, Democrats should force him to deal with a strong domestic agenda. *George E. Curry is editor-in-chief of the NNPA News Service and BlackPressUSA.com. To contact Curry or to book him for a speaking engagement, go to his Web site, www.georgecurry.com.*



TO BE EQUAL, "JAMES BROWN SHOWED BLACKS THEY DIDN'T HAVE TO HIDE THEIR HERITAGE", WEEK OF JANUARY 11-17, 2007 by MARC MORIAL
The Wilmington Journal
Originally posted 1/14/2007

On Christmas Day, the career and life of the "Hardest Working Man in Show Business" ended. But his spirit lives on in the legions of fans that weathered rain and cold to bid him farewell. James Brown electrified a generation, an entertainer with so prolific a body of work and so distinctive a genre of style that entertainers for more than four decades have either borrowed from or have been inspired by.

From the time he first took the stage in the 1950s, James Brown, who died of heart

failure at 73, proved to be a cultural tour de force — his own man with his own vision and immense pride in his heritage. In his art, he embraced the blues, gospel and R&B of his musical predecessors in forging a musical destiny that defied convention and was completely his own. He was the consummate showman until his last days: He had received clearance one day earlier to perform at a New Year's Eve gig in New York City. The tributes following his untimely death proved the perfect encore for a life that was at times difficult and painful but nevertheless important and exciting.

Only the Godfather of Soul himself could make such a dramatic and riveting exit in death.

Brown emerged the Every Man in the Black community, where he forged his strongest bonds. He set aside

convention and remained true to himself — warts and all. With hits like "Please, Please, Please," "Papa's Got a Brand New Bag, Pt. 1" and "I Got You (I Feel Good)," he made an indelible imprint on American culture.

During the civil rights movement of the 1960s, he emerged as an icon of Black culture — reminding us to rejoice in our heritage and shout out in pride for ourselves. He showed us that we didn't need to conform to the expectations of mainstream America to take their rightful place in society. He made us realize that we are as entitled to the rights and privileges of U.S. citizenship as anyone else.

In 1968, Brown's "Say It Loud: I'm Black and I'm Proud" unified and energized the African-American community in our period of mourning over the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who had been assassinated five months earlier. It became one of the most

popular Black power anthems of the 1960s and also struck a chord with mainstream America, getting to #10 on the charts. Through songs like "I Don't Want Nobody To Give Me Nothing (Open Up The Door, I'll Get It Myself)" that chronicled the challenges faced by Blacks in the United States at the time, Brown made his activism known in real and straight-forward ways.

In addition to being the godfather of various genres of music and dance moves, you could say he was the godfather of economic empowerment and equal opportunity.

While Brown had a different impact than Ray Charles or Sam Cooke on mainstream Americans, he surely struck a nerve among African-Americans. With 60 songs in the Billboard Top 10 R&B chart, he racked up more hits than any other artist. His

success on the Top 10 Pop chart was not as great — less than a dozen hits — not enough to put him in the top 25 artists, something that befuddles music critics given Brown's ability to get on the charts for more than four decades. Despite his penchant for colorful garb and larger-than-life persona, he was hardly a flash in the pan or a one-hit wonder. He continued to persevere in the music industry up until his last days. A day before his death, he had received clearance to play a New Year's Eve gig in New York City.

Where he had his greatest impact was with the countless artists, many African-Americans he inspired. Brown shines through in the work of his successors — from the guitar licks of Prince to the dance moves of Michael Jackson. He was not without his admirers among White artists. He mesmerized Rolling Stones' frontman Mick Jagger

in the 1960s concert film "The T.A.M.I. Show" who built much of his own stage persona around Brown's signature style. Rappers have borrowed his beats and funk. And his unforgettable stew of blues, gospel and R&B, unconventional rhythms and captivating life shows spawned a wide range of new musical genres. He was not only the "Godfather of Soul" — but the godfather of disco, funk, hip-hop — the list goes on.

At the various celebrations of his life — at the Apollo Theater, in his hometown in Georgia and elsewhere, James Brown left this world just the way he led his life — a consummate showman and courageous visionary. He leaves an enduring legacy that will remain forever etched in our memories. *Marc H. Morial is President and CEO, National Urban League*

BEYOND THE RHETORIC, 'IT'S TIME TO SHUT DOWN THE CIA'

by HARRY C. ALFORD
The Wilmington Journal

Sounds like a great idea. The late President John F. Kennedy stated that he was going to "break the CIA into a thousand pieces." Two years later, he was dead and the message went out to all — this "monster" is extremely powerful and dangerous. But in this new age of instant messaging and high technology maybe Good can triumph over Evil every once in a while. We, the entire world, have suffered too much because of the various activities of the Central Intelligence Agency.

The CIA was created after World War II in 1947 in response to the Soviet Union's land grab of Eastern Europe and covert activities around the world. Its chief adversaries were the spread of communism and the Soviet Union's KGB. They recruited more than a few ex-

Nazi officers and scientists.

The now declassified National Security Council Directive on Office of Special Projects gave the CIA its operating instructions: "Plan and conduct covert operations which are conducted or sponsored by this government against hostile foreign states or groups or in support of friendly foreign states or groups but which are so planned and conducted that any US Government responsibility for them is not evident to unauthorized persons and that if uncovered the US Government can plausibly disclaim any responsibility for them. Covert action shall include any covert activities related to: propaganda; economic warfare; preventive direct action, including sabotage, anti-sabotage, demolition, and evacuation measures; subversion against hostile states, including assistance to underground resistance

movements, guerrillas and refugee liberation groups, and support of indigenous anti-Communist elements in threatened countries of the free world."

With those marching orders the new agents of the CIA struck out across the world. By 1950, the CIA organized the Pacific Corporation, the first of many CIA private enterprises. These corporations would help fund their operations and also cause another routine occurrence. Chief operators of the CIA somehow would often become independently wealthy. The annual federal budget of the CIA is classified but leaks during 1998 showed \$26.7 billion. This coupled with revenue from front corporations and drug smuggling activities such as the Golden Triangle heroin trafficking during the Vietnam War times nearly sixty years of operation brings a total of at least \$2 trillion spent on the CIA.

In regards to drug smuggling, since 9/11, our military and CIA have covered Afghanistan like a carpet. But, since then, Afghanistan now provides the world with more than 80 percent of its illegal heroin supply. How can that be without cooperation? Many members of the Congressional Black Caucus, like Maxine Waters, suspect the CIA of helping to infiltrate our nation with crack cocaine via Los Angeles. I believe there is substance to this suspicion.

The CIA decided to back the mass murderer Pol Pot of Cambodia for the simple reason he was anti-Vietnam and anti-Soviet Union. In the end, over 2 million civilians lost their lives at the hands of this war criminal and the funding of the CIA.

Most confusing must be Afghanistan where we supported the Mujahedeen as

proxy soldiers against the Marxist regime and later the Soviet Army. In the end, these guys developed into the Taliban and al Qaeda — the backbone of Osama bin Laden who would manage the 9/11 attacks. Somehow, the CIA couldn't see them being created and couldn't predict the attacks in New York, Washington.

The audacity of the Cuba Bay of Pigs invasion that caused President Kennedy's threat to the CIA actually forced Fidel Castro to run to the Soviet Union for cover against a northern neighbor that was capable of anything — crazy or not. The CIA tried over and over to assassinate Fidel Castro but to no avail.

Guatemala, El Salvador, Indonesia, Chile, Panama, Angola, Iran, etc. are some of the examples that no freedom loving nation should have

sponsored. A lot has happened through our ignorance but now we know and the upcoming activities will be exposed almost as soon as they occur. We are much too advanced for this so why do we take it any longer?

The biggest activity and value of the CIA was to check the evil actions of the Soviet Union's KGB. The KGB is gone now as well as the Soviet Union. Funny, this wasn't seen or predicted by the CIA until after it happened. But, they are gone and perhaps the mission of the CIA should now be put to rest. Clearly, the FBI, Military Intelligence and other Homeland Security entities can handle any legitimate work that is needed. Let's improve our position in the world. Close the book on the CIA. *Harry C. Alford is the co-founder and President/CEO of the National Black Chamber of Commerce. Website: www.nationalbcc.org. Email: president@nationalbcc.org.*

COMMUNITY NEWS



Mrs Beatrice Maye

"The Nigger Spirit"

By: Jumanza Kunjuftu

The reverend Frank Reid preached a sermon at my church during Men's Week titled the "Nigger Spirit." It inspired me so much I wanted to write about how that spirit was created and why it must die. I know nigger is a very inflammatory word, and many conscious African Americans and others who are

puritanical about the language have a problem with the use of the word.

Let me first define the word from my perspective. Nigger: someone who is ignorant and who hates himself or herself. The person can be of any race. Historically only African people have been called nigger, but as you can see my definition encompasses anyone of race who is ignorant and hates himself.

The meaning of the word becomes even more confusing when we call each other by the name, saying "that's my nigger", and yet many become offended, hostile, or want to fight when people outside our race call us by the name.

If we are to develop strong African American families and communities, we must break the nigger spirit. The following is a list of some nigger traits I have observed:

Wake up late
Ask, "what's happening" because they don't know.
Doesn't like to work.
Arrives late for work.
Doesn't like working for Black people.
Doesn't save money.
Doesn't support black businesses.
More concerned about their hairstyles than their brains.
Spends more money for clothes and cars than the apartment of house.
Buys more lottery tickets than mutual funds.
Makes babies, but does not take care of them.
Calls women "B's"
Lives in a dirty house.
Writes on public walls.
Litters in the neighbor-hood.
Urines in the alley.
Throws bottles out of cars.

Engages in destructive behavior
Loves watching television.
Hates reading, especially about African history or big books, prefers picture books.
Loves to get high.
Can't party without being high.
Arrives at programs late.
Doesn't ask for directions when lost.
Volunteers to take you somewhere, then runs out of gas.
Use the term "you know" through the sentence because they don't.
Gossips. Exaggerates.
Can't complete a sentence without cursing, especially the "MF" word.
Looks for differences.
Acts like crabs in a barrel.
Jealous.
Kill people who look like them.
Grab their crouch looking for power.

Why do men cheat?

By: Michael Eric Dyson

Why do some Black men cheat? Because they can. The usual reasons (or excuses): She doesn't understand me; she doesn't take care of her body; she's too busy with the kids; she loves her career more than me. Notice all of this deflects attention from us. The first sign of difficulty in a relationship, we're in the arms of another. There are different kinds of cheaters, but the most common are the accidental, occasional and habitual ones. Accidental two-times step out because of circumstances. Met her at the bar on the way

home from work and hit it quick. They're usually not repeaters and are very remorseful. Occasional cheaters take advantage of amorous relations at their convenience, wishing not to disrupt home. Habitual cheaters sleep around us often as they can. They're always working late, going on business trips, or conveniently turning off their cell phones. Dealing with infidelity isn't easy, and a woman should never blame herself for her man's affair. He's responsible for his behavior. She just has to decide what kind of cheater she has on her hands to determine what to do — keep him or kick him to the curb.

Reflections



Suejette Jones

THE LEGACY OF BENJAMIN S. RUFFIN

North Carolina lost one of its most respected leaders on Dec. 07, 2006.

Mr. Benjamin S. Ruffin, a Durham native who rose from humble beginnings on the West End to become the first and only black chairman of the UNC Board of Governors (which oversees the university's 16-campus system) died of an apparent heart attack at his home in Winston-Salem after a

morning jog. He was 64. An alumnus of NC Central University, Mr. Ruffin first gained notoriety leading demonstrations to integrate Durham businesses. He was a champion of education who spoke often about how earning his degree from NCCU opened doors for him and paved the way for later success. "He really did come from the rough side of the mountain, and I think because of that he learned to care for other people and to try to always make it better for them," said NCCU Chancellor James Ammons. Some of Mr. Ruffin's professional successes include becoming a special assistant to Gov. Jim Hunt in 1977, chairing the Durham Housing Authority, leading the NC Human Relations Council, and becoming a senior corporate official with NC Mutual Life Insurance Company and RJ Reynolds Tobacco

Company of Winston-Salem. Still, in spite of an impressive personal career, Ruffin will be remembered more for his devotion and service to others. He seldom met a ranger. Indeed, Mr. Ruffin rose above his childhood circumstances but never above the people for whom he spent his life trying to help move beyond despair so that they too might share in the American dream. His contributions to the state of North Carolina and its people have been invaluable.

Extracted from the Durham Editorial

Comments from other notables....

1. "Ben will always be remembered for his positive outlook on life, his great loyalty

and determination, and his bedrock belief in the power of education to make out state a better place."
2. "The place where he made the most difference was in fighting to ensure access to all of our universities for all of our potential students no matter what their background was."
3. "Ruffin received a bachelor's degree in education from NCCU and later became an advocate for the school. He also received a master's degree in social work from UNC-Chapel Hill."
4. "Ruffin would sometimes talk about growing up in poverty in Durham and how his mother encouraged him to excel in school. One of Ben's friends reminisced that the West End Community where they grew up was like a big family. They all helped to rear each other's children; some were so poor did not stop

Ben. He shined shoes and his brother sold newspapers to help their family. Ruffin established a scholarship in honor of his later mother, Catherine."

5. "Besides excelling in school, Ruffin also became heavily involved in the civil rights movement in Durham."

He and others helped organize sit-ins and other demonstrations aimed at integrating businesses in Durham. The activists' work served as a model for similar efforts across the state and the South."

6. "Ben was always out front with it. He had a sense of community and a sense of pride. He had a sense of knowing where he was going."

7. "Ruffin surprised many people when 1978; he went to work as a special assistant for Governor Hunt. He had been an outside activist, and I think

what happened when he decided to work for the governor is he realized it's a lot easier to change things from the inside.

8. "As he became a successful businessman and eventually an executive at RJ Reynolds, Ruffin never forgot his background. He knew everybody. From the people in the executive office in the boardroom down to the people in the streets. He was still the same Ben Ruffin that we all grew up with. He is survived by his wife, Avon, and two children.

Respectfully submitted,
Suejette A. Jones

Note:
I knew Ben Ruffin personally, having met him through mutual friends during the 1980s, at an affair in Durham. I was very impressed with his demeanor.

TO THE EDITOR

Scenes Of My Life

I brought the New Year right in prayer and looking at scenes of my life and I began to question the lord as the person did in my favorite poem "Footprints." I said "God when I needed you the most I only saw one set of footprints in the sand. I thought about what god said to the person that was talking to god and questioning him and god spoke to him and he said to the person that is when I carried you. I began to read my bible and just happened to turn to the book of Job, and on that book I wrote in the margin deliverance and patience many years ago. I said to myself all Job went through he stood steadfast and took whatever satan threw upon him. Job was faithful and never abandoned god. I can identify with Job because my faith was being tested. Plymouth NC is where I was born and raised and I received no love here from those who swore to protect and serve. I said to myself get up and put on my armour of faith and I said "if it's war you

want that is what you'll get and no weapons formed against me shall prosper bring it on. That mountain with my mustard seed of faith will move.

I was in the battle for my life but I still had his wall of protection around me with some of his earthly angels around me. I tell them all the time I appreciate and love them so to speak I give them flowers. I cannot name all of them but here are a few. My mother, Barbara H. Blount, Elder Michael Adams he was the first to believe me. Zebedee Taylor, Angela Norman, Ms. Betty, Mr. Ruffin Gill, Tim Davenport, Preston Ward, my best friend Sharon Chesson and her family and my cousin Roosevelt Harvey. I saved the best for last my adopted granny Nellie Downing 87 yrs young.

Some people admonish stars as role models mine were teachers. They shaped the early scenes of my life Stephen Hoggard, Emma D. Moore, Mr. Lewis Spencer, Ms Brenda White,

and Edison Towe to name a few. Plymouth is a small town and we need a voice that is not censored.

Last year I went into the local Andy's restaurant and I was called black sambo by the manager, Brian is his name. I called the home office in Mt. Olive nothing was done about it. I guess he never heard of the dreamer Doctor King and his speech. As we honor the dreamer this month and his speech is recited pick up a copy and get acquainted. Since I am Christian I forgive you I will let no one block my blessing.

All those in favor of the M'Voice here write me
Kim Whitehead
P.O. Box 183
Plymouth NC 37962.

To my M'voice family Thanks. Thanks to Mrs. Paisy Cox and Johnny Roulhac for fixing up my apt nice. I leave with this Psalm 133 verse 1 behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.

Homegoing Services

for
Kenneth Gray Suggs, Jr.
"Duce"

Sunrise
June 19, 1980

Sunset
January 31, 2004



Saturday, February 7, 2004—1:00 pm

Flanagan Funeral Home Chapel
1026 Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd
Greenville, North Carolina

Rev. Willie Moya, Officiating
Danbury, Connecticut

Though You're Gone, Your Memory Lives On
Missing You, The Family

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We reserve the right to edit any
news or information received
according to our editorial needs.
We will not edit anything in
such a way as to be misleading
or that would fundamentally
alter the accuracy or intent of
the original information.

Seven months later, in June 2005 Jaylin tested positive for lead-paint poisoning during a regular blood workup.

Children under the age of 6 are extremely vulnerable to lead poisoning because their brains and central nervous systems are still being formed, according to the National Safety Council.

Jaylin, now 3, is communicating less than most children his age. He is receiving speech therapy and attending special education preschool. "He's not on the level he should be," said Taylor, who has filed a lawsuit against her landlord. "I'm just trying to do the best I can for him."

Valle-Batista, a spokeswoman for the department. "If these conditions are found, we require the building owner to repair and repaint those surfaces before move-in." But the city

Chandler said lead paint inspections fall under the responsibility of the Department of Housing Preservation and Development. HPD Associate Commissioner Vito Mustaciulo told The News that the majority of the violations found by the city had been remedied.

"City agencies should be protecting children from exposure to lead poisoning, not dumping homeless children and families into hazardous apartments subsidized with taxpayer dollars," Markee said.


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(Manager)

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

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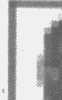
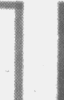



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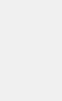


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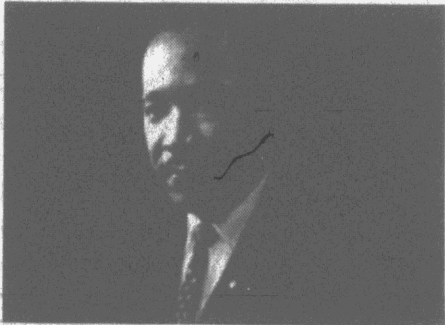
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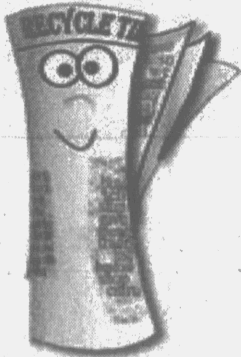
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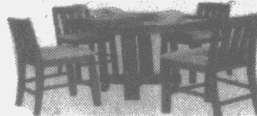
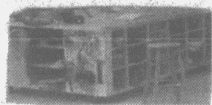


There is nothing more dangerous than to build a society, with a large segment of people in that society, who feel that they have no stake in it; who feel that they have nothing to lose. People who have a stake in their society, protect that society, but when they don't have it, they unconsciously want to destroy it.

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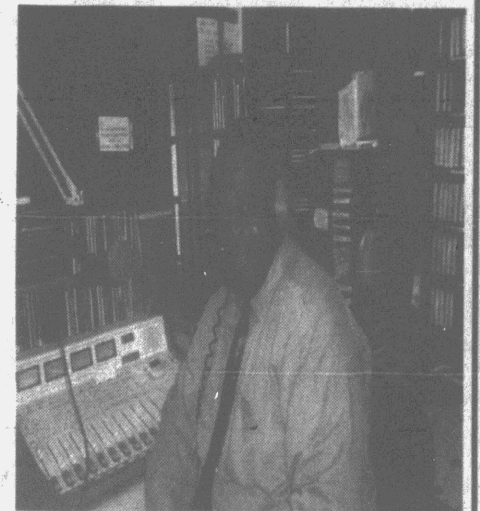


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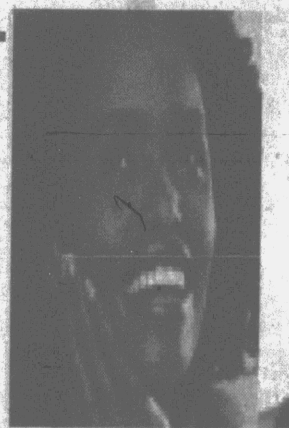
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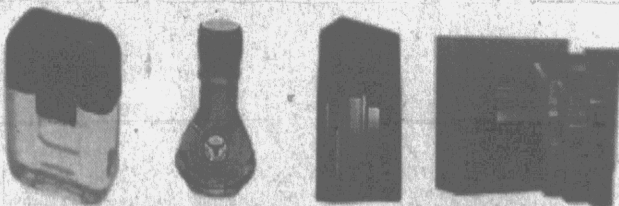
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Tuskegee (continued from pg 1)

the Montgomery Advertiser that the historians are trying to destroy their record. Others are just as censored but believe the airmen should be remembered most of all for their valor, patriotism and military prowess.

Holton apparently has felt the sting of criticism from Tuskegee sympathizers who believe he has tampered with sacred history. In response to their criticism, he said he just wanted to make sure the history of the Tuskegee Airmen is as accurate as possible. Retired Air Force Lt. Russell Davis, president of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., said he will no longer mention in speeches that the airmen never lost a bomber under their protective wings. Old Tappan, NJ. resident Warren Ludlum, a bomber pilot in

World War II, concurs with the historians' findings. He said in an Associated Press story that he was shot down while being escorted by the Tuskegee Airmen.

He offered as proof the name Starling B. Penn, an African-American fighter pilot who was shot down with him and ended up in the same German prison camp as Ludlum. Despite all the fanfare, the 83-year old Ludlum made it clear that he has the greatest respect for the legendary fighter pilots. Although the historical accuracy of the Tuskegee Airmen is being challenged, respect, and honor for America's first military airmen most likely will never wane anytime soon, history buffs contend. According to the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., website, the Tuskegee Airmen earned their wings because they were

accomplished, skillful aviators who soared to great heights — even though most of them were never celebrated individually. However, as a unit, the Tuskegee Airmen were determined to prove their worth and their intellectual superiority as aircraft and engine mechanics, radio repairmen, control tower operators, administrative clerks, armament specialist, and parachute riggers. The airmen faced great hostility and were unfairly treated during World War II. But they persevered nevertheless, proving they could fly with the best of them. The Tuskegee Airmen had to fight on two fronts: against an enemy abroad and against racism, bigotry, and the ever-looming threat of death back home in the United States.

The Scottsboro Nine Then: The Long Beach Ten Now

The Scottsboro Nine Then:
The Long Beach Ten Now
By: Dr. Firpo Carr
LA Sentinel

A fight broke out between Black and White youths, White females were at the center of the ruckus. On the strength of their accusations, nine Black youths, from early to late teens — were arrested and tried in a racially charged atmosphere. The trial gained national notoriety. If you think I'm talking about the trial in Long Beach you're wrong. What I'm talking about happened decades ago in Scottsboro, Alabama. But it demonstrates that not much has changed in American culture with respect to Black-White relations, especially when it comes to Whites accusing Blacks. In short, the case of the Long Beach Ten is nothing short of the 21st century incarnation of the Scottsboro Nine.

It was March 25, 1931, some 75 years ago. Interestingly, it marked nearly the halfway point between the present day and the formal end of slavery. One encyclopedia relates what happened on that eventful day. "The case of the Scottsboro Boys arose in Scottsboro, Alabama during the 1930s, when nine black youths ranging in age from thirteen to nineteen, were accused of raping two white women, one of whom would later recant. The trials (around the Great Depression time), in which the boys were convicted and sentenced to death by all-white juries despite the weak and contradictory testimonies of the witnesses, are regarded as one of the many

travesties of the United States justice system. The case quickly became an international cause célèbre." Although there are measurable differences, the parallels between the Scottsboro and Long Beach cases are eerie.

Here are what the cases have in common: (1) a small group of Black teens with someone as young as 12 in their midst; (2) White females leveling charges against the Black youngsters; (3) siblings among those charged; (4) national media exposure; (5) assault charges filed against each in the group of young Blacks; (6) after receiving a description in the Scottsboro case a posse was formed to intercept two cars with Black youths in them, and proceeded to arrest them; (7) each case had an additional arrest or detainment of at least one Black youth; (8) at least one accuser gives questionable testimony and/or testimony contradicted by the facts; (9) the motivation of questionable testimony was to divert attention from accusers who engaged in shady behavior or an illegal act; (10) eyewitnesses give weak and contradictory testimonies; (11) both incidents occurred toward the end of the month; (12) the Scottsboro case happened in the southern United States; the Long Beach case happened in southern California; (13) a lynch mob formed against the Black youths in the Scottsboro case; a conservative media, particularly White talk radio, coalesced against the Long Beach Ten. Just as the Scottsboro Nine were completely innocent of the charges, it is my firm belief,

based on the overwhelming preponderance of evidence, that the Long Beach Ten are innocent of the charges. So what can we expect from the case of Long Beach Ten? If the Scottsboro Nine case is any indicator, sadly, a measure of irreparable damage has already been done. Despite the contradictory testimony in the Scottsboro case, as well as the fact that one of the so-called victims, a prostitute, recanted and said that she lied about being assaulted and raped, all of the Scottsboro Nine served years in prison before their eventual, staggered release. The message is a clear one; in the American juvenile injustice system, if a White person merely accuses a Black person of a crime, guilty or not, he (or she) is gonna serve some time. For the exemplary members of the Long Beach Ten this will be hard time. Regrettably, they're already traumatized. Even when cleared of the crimes and completely exonerated, some of the Scottsboro Nine were diagnosed with "prison neurosis." In both cases the hearts and souls of family members were or are locked up with their young ones. As a one-time resident of Long Beach I can only hope that Superior Court Judge Gibson W. Lee doesn't repeat an unsavory history. I can only hope that what happened at the midway point since the official end to slavery will not be repeated in the ultra-modern 21st century. I've got to believe that this is not only a new day, but a new century. Amen.



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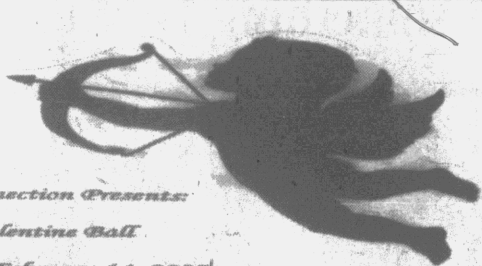


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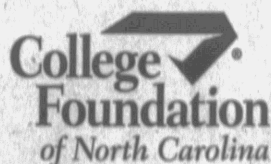
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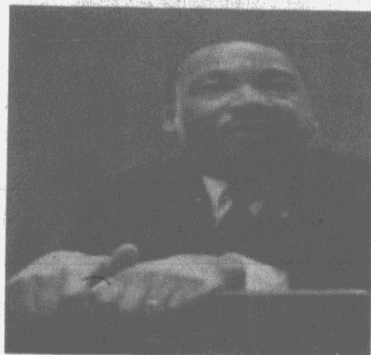
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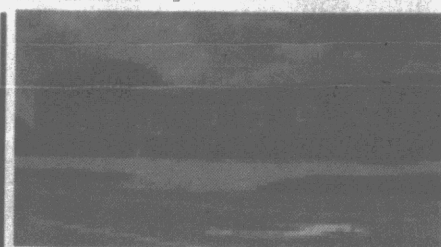
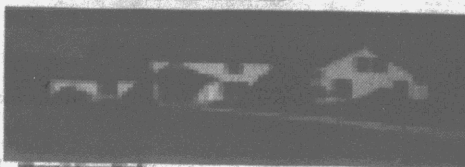
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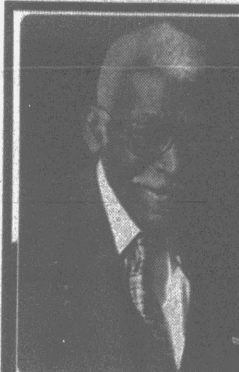
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
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Chronology of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

1954 May 17

The Supreme Court of the United States rules unanimously in *Brown vs. Board of Education* that racial segregation in public schools is unconstitutional. October 31 Rev. Martin Luther King, Sr. appoints Dr. King as the twentieth pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama.

1955 June 5 Dr. King receives a Ph.D. degree in Systematic Theology from Boston University.

November 17 The Kings' first child, Yolanda Denise, is born in Montgomery, Alabama.

December 1 Mrs. Rosa Parks, a forty-two year old Montgomery seamstress, refuses to relinquish her bus seat to a white man and is arrested. December 5 The first day of the Montgomery bus boycott and the trial date of Mrs. Parks. A meeting of movement leaders is held. Dr. King is unanimously elected president of the Montgomery Improvement Association. December 10 The Montgomery Bus Company suspends service in black neighborhoods.

1956 January 26 Dr. King is arrested on a charge of traveling thirty miles per hour in a twenty-five miles per hour zone in Montgomery. He is released on his own recognizance.

January 30 A bomb is thrown onto the porch of Dr. King's Montgomery home. Mrs. King and Mrs. Roscoe Williams, wife of a church member, are in the house with baby Yolanda Denise. No one is injured.

February 2 A suit is filed in Federal District Court asking that Montgomery's travel segregation laws be declared unconstitutional. February 21 Dr. King is indicted with other figures in the Montgomery bus boycott on the charge of being party to a conspiracy to hinder and prevent the operation of business without "just or legal cause." June 4 A United States District Court rules that racial segregation on city bus lines is unconstitutional. August 10 Dr. King is a speaker before the platform committee of the Democratic Party in Chicago, Illinois. October 30 Mayor Gayle of Montgomery, Alabama instructs the city's legal department "to file such proceedings as it may deem proper to stop the operation of car pools and transportation systems growing out of the boycott." November 13 The United States Supreme Court affirms the decision of the three-judge district court in declaring Alabama's state and local laws requiring segregation on buses unconstitutional.

December 20 Federal injunctions prohibiting segregation on buses are served on city and bus company officials in Montgomery, Alabama. Injunctions are also served on state officials. Montgomery buses are integrated.



THE HEART

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By: Henry Manley
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THE MINORITY VOICE Jan. 26 - Feb. 02, 2007 Pg 11

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Organ Donors Save Lives in Eastern NC



Rosa and Jesse Hinton
Ayden, NC

Rosa's Story

As a science teacher, Rosa knew the advantages of organ donation, but personally never gave donation much thought until she was told she needed a kidney transplant to live. Dialysis three hours a day for three years kept her alive... It was a difficult time. Eventually, Rosa did receive a transplant. Forever grateful for this generous gift of life, Rosa is now able to continue building memories with her husband and family... they have even made organ donation a permanent agenda item at the annual family reunion.



Fargo's mom, Joyce
Greenville, NC

Fargo's Story

Fargo was a happy-go-lucky kid until a stray bullet cut her life short. Although her family was devastated by her death, the decision to donate was an easy one... It was what Fargo wanted. Upon hearing a speech on organ donation at school, Fargo informed her family that she would like to be an organ donor. "I would strongly encourage all citizens to share the gift of life," said her mother, Joyce. Fargo's lungs went to a 32-year-old woman, and her heart saved a young pregnant woman. Through death, Fargo gave life.



Sybil Burke
Duke University Medical Center

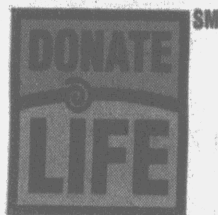
Donation and African Americans

More than 93,000 Americans are waiting for organ transplants. The need for organs grows each day, especially among minority communities. While 12% of the U.S. population is African American, 35% of those awaiting transplants are African American. Sybil Burke, of Duke University's Transplant and Dialysis Services said, "As I watch the number of African Americans waiting for organs increase, just knowing that one donor can save up to eight lives gives me the energy to tell the good news. Organ donation saves lives."

To learn more or to become an organ donor, please visit

www.carolinadonorservices.org

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If King were here



The Wilmington Journal

Once again it is time for the nation, and the world to honor the life, legacy and sacrifice of "The Dreamer," Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Let's say it upfront — Dr. King wasn't a perfect man. Stories have it enjoyed a bawdy joke or two, was a notorious chain smoker, and loved to eat his collards straight out of the pot. But Almighty God chose this preacher of the Word to lead his people, and this nation, to "the Promised Land." That's why, with all that is going on around us, and the boundless meanness that seems to permeate this

divided nation, we find it refreshing to go to the words of Dr. King — words inspired by God — for direction and purpose as we confront the many challenges ahead. *The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.* Life is tough for Black people all over, but especially here in Wilmington. Our Black businesses are suffering; our population countywide is dwindling; and our power, politically and economically, is dwindling. And yet, we have no choice but to stand, stand strong, and fight for what is rightfully

ours. Dr. King would have us do no less. We must be willing to sacrifice more to gain the justice we seek, and we must stick together as best as we can so that our sacrifices are not in vain.

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

The 1898 Report by the Wilmington Race Riot Commission, the final draft of which was released last year, though woefully incomplete, certainly did remind us that what happened here over 108 years was a crime against humanity, and our community so egregious, that the reverberations are being felt even today. What possibly could be done to right this tremendous wrong that literally destroyed one of the most prosperous Black business communities in the South: allowed family property to be stolen and used to build wealth for the murdering thieves even today; and has rendered our community virtually shattered?

The General Assembly has had this report since last spring, and, if we're to believe what we hear, state lawmakers are supposed to consider substantive remedies to the

century-old disparities that resulted from this brutal, disgraceful act of terrorism on our community.

Will our lawmakers be able to own up to the complete truth of how our state and the federal government allowed 1898 to happen. If Dr. King were here today, he would stand strong for true justice, and true reparations, to be rendered.

When you are right you cannot be too radical; when you are wrong, you cannot be too conservative.

We are amazed by the lack of guts, courage and fortitude on the part of those who run their mouths the most when they feel it's safe to do so. These people never really stand when it's unpopular. They put their fingers in the air, see which way the winds are blowing, then drift off in that direction.

They are nobody's leaders. Dr. King's legacy is about standing strong for what you know is right, even if you are an army of one. Dr. King didn't worry about the naysayer's; he worried about his committed followers, and made sure that he led them properly.

I submit to you that if a man hasn't discovered something he will die for, he isn't fit to live.

If Dr. King were here, he would exalt us to fight on. Here we have the shame and disgrace of a planned massacre, plotted by avowed white racists to destroy Wilmington's black community, an event that gave the oppressive Jim Crow laws the green light all across the South. Decades later, the federal Voting Rights Act is enacted to protect counties that have a history of voter racial discrimination, and yet New Hanover County, where the very event that defined political racism occurred, is not included, and the rights of Black voters remain unprotected.

This injustice cries out for committed men and women to stand up and demand that African Americans here are able to elect district representation to the county commission board, the school board, and the state Senate. (And our state House seat needs to be protected). We cannot allow the evil racist plotters of the 1898 massacre to win over a century after they've been dead and buried. *Our lives begin to end the day*

we become silent about things that matter.

Too many of us are frightened to speak out, even when injustice stares us right in the face. We publicly hide behind knowing lies because we can't face a truth that brings the light of day.

For those who live this way about the issues that are vital to our community, you are living a lie, and you want the rest of us to live it with you. Speaking truth to power, as Dr. King would have us do, is your only salvation, for one day your duplicity will catch up with you. One day, when the time comes for you to choose the side you must identify with, you will be forced to demonstrate where your loyalties lie. And all will see, and know.

If, by chance, you are forced to stand against the needs of your community, or to be quiet during times of challenge, then there is no question that your lack of courage and resolve, is also a lack of living.

Nothing in the entire world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.

No doubt if Dr. King were here, he would assign this one to George Bush.

Words From Our Pastor.....

Giving special reverence and honor to God, His Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, we thank Him for all the wonderful blessings He has bestowed upon the Sweet Hope Free Will Baptist Church family. God is good! He has allowed our dream to become a reality and that's a great thing! It's because of Jesus we are here today! The process of building a new church has been an experience that has certainly allowed our faith to increase beyond measures. We pause to give applaud and recognition to our Project Administrator, Brother Tony Daniels, our Vision Project Committee, our Board of Trustees, our entire Sweet Hope Church family, our Dedicational Committee, Mr. Leon Hardee, and Mr. Robert Coggins, Contrator. Special thanks goes to my wife, Eldress Linda Murphy and children, Chris, Melvin Jr., and Keyvette for always supporting me in whatever endeavor God puts before me.

At this time I would like to take a moment to remember our members that have gone to be with our Lord & Savior but know about our vision: Mother Virginia Sherman, Sister Lizzie Carter, Brother Velton White, Brother Willie Small, Sister Bernice Green, Sister Celia Jones, Sister Gertrude McCoy, Sister Rosa Norfleet, Rev. FC Mitchell, Mother Rosa Parker, Brother Veldon White, Brother Joseph Randolph, Sister Elizabeth Roberson, and Sister Annie Roberson. Continue to be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord!

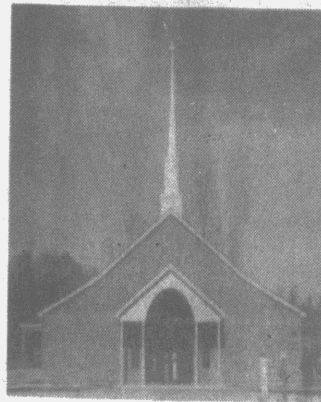
CHURCH HISTORY

Around 1897, a group of men and women from the Simpson, Galloway Cross Roads and Black Jack communities gathered together under a bush shelter to "have church." The location was where the plank church was later built. This first congregation organized under the leadership of "Prince Mewborn." There was no available information on Rev. Mewborn except his name. In 1908, a plank building was constructed under the leadership of Rev. KW

Artis, who became the first formal Pastor and Founder of Sweet Hope Free Will Baptist Church. According to an account given by Mrs. Bernice White Green (as told her by older church members). "Different neighboring white landowners gave a tree each to build the plank church." Pastor Artis was said to have taken sick while working on the roof of the church, and later passed away.

The next leader was Pastor E. H. Cox from 1926 until 1945, followed by Pastor Z. D. Harris (1945-1958). In 1958, Sweet Hope elected Rev. W. L. Phillips to become its fourth Pastor, followed in 1959 by Rev. J. N. Gilbert. During these and the earlier years of the church's founding, worship services were held only on third Sundays.

Pastor Gilbert was followed by Rev. W. H. Mitchell (son) in 1963 and M. H. Mitchell (father) in 1964. It was under their leadership that the plank church was bricked. In 1965, Rev. Stephen Jones was elected the eighth Pastor, followed in 1967 by Rev. W. J. Best. W.J. Best was followed in 1983 by Rev. Elmer Jackson, Jr. Under Rev. Jackson administration the church added a vestibule, which was dedicated on April 21, 1985. In 1990, Rev. Eugene Joyner was elected Pastor and served faithfully until 1991. In 1991, Sweet Hope elected its twelfth Pastor, Melvin R. Murphy. Pastor Murphy presently resides in Winterville, North Carolina.



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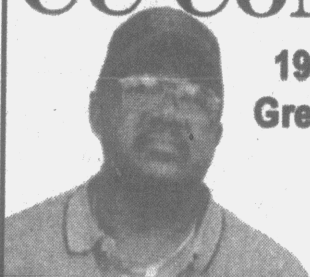
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**A SALUTE TO
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**



Chronology of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

1957 January 27 An unexploded bomb is discovered on the front porch of the King's house. February 14 The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is founded. February 18 Dr. King is featured on the cover of Time magazine. May 17 Dr. King delivers a speech for the Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom celebrating the third anniversary of the Supreme Court's desegregation decision. The speech, titled, "Give Us The Ballot," is given at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. June 13 Dr. King meets with the Vice President of the United States, Richard M. Nixon. September President Dwight D. Eisenhower federalizes the Arkansas National Guard to escort nine Negro students to an all-white high school in Little Rock, Arkansas. September 9 The first Civil Rights Act since Reconstruction is passed by Congress, creating the Civil Rights Commission and the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice. October 23 A second child, Martin Luther III, is born to Dr. and Mrs. King. **1958** June 23 Dr. King, along with Roy Wilkins of the NAACP, A. Philip Randolph, and Lester Granger meet with President Dwight D. Eisenhower. September 3 Dr. King is arrested on a charge of loitering (later changed to "failure to obey an officer") in the vicinity of the Montgomery Recorder's Court. He is released on \$100.00 bond. September 4 Dr. King is convicted after pleading "Not Guilty" on the charge of failure to obey an officer. The fine is paid almost immediately, over Dr. King's objection, by Montgomery Police Commissioner Clyde C. Sellers. September 17 Dr. King's book, *Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story*, is published by Harper & Row. September 20 Dr. King is stabbed in the chest by Mrs. Izola Curry, who is subsequently alleged to be mentally deranged. The stabbing occurs in Harlem, New York while Dr. King is autographing his recently published book. His condition was said to be serious but not critical. **1959** January 30 Dr. King meets with Walter Reuther, President of the United Auto Workers Union, in Detroit, Michigan. February 2-10 Dr. and Mrs. King spend a month in India studying Gandhi's March techniques of nonviolence as guests of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. **1960** January 24 The King family moves to Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. King becomes co-pastor, with his father, of the Ebenezer Baptist Church. February 1 The first lunch counter sit-in to desegregate eating facilities is held by students in Greensboro, North Carolina. February 17 A warrant is issued for Dr. King's arrest on charges that he had falsified his 1956 and 1958 Alabama state income tax returns. April 15 The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) is founded

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