

The Minority Voice

Free!

September Issue

Free!

Lee Godley 3rd Honored At Elizabeth City State University



eral Studies Academic Achievement Award and Scholarship and the UNC Campus Scholar Award for the most outstanding freshman.

On Wednesday April 8th at Elizabeth City State University the Delta Chi chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., presented their 2nd annual Men of Distinction showcase. Its mission is to afford men on campus the opportunity to exhibit their talents, vision and leadership. Their theme was "The Year of the Gentleman."

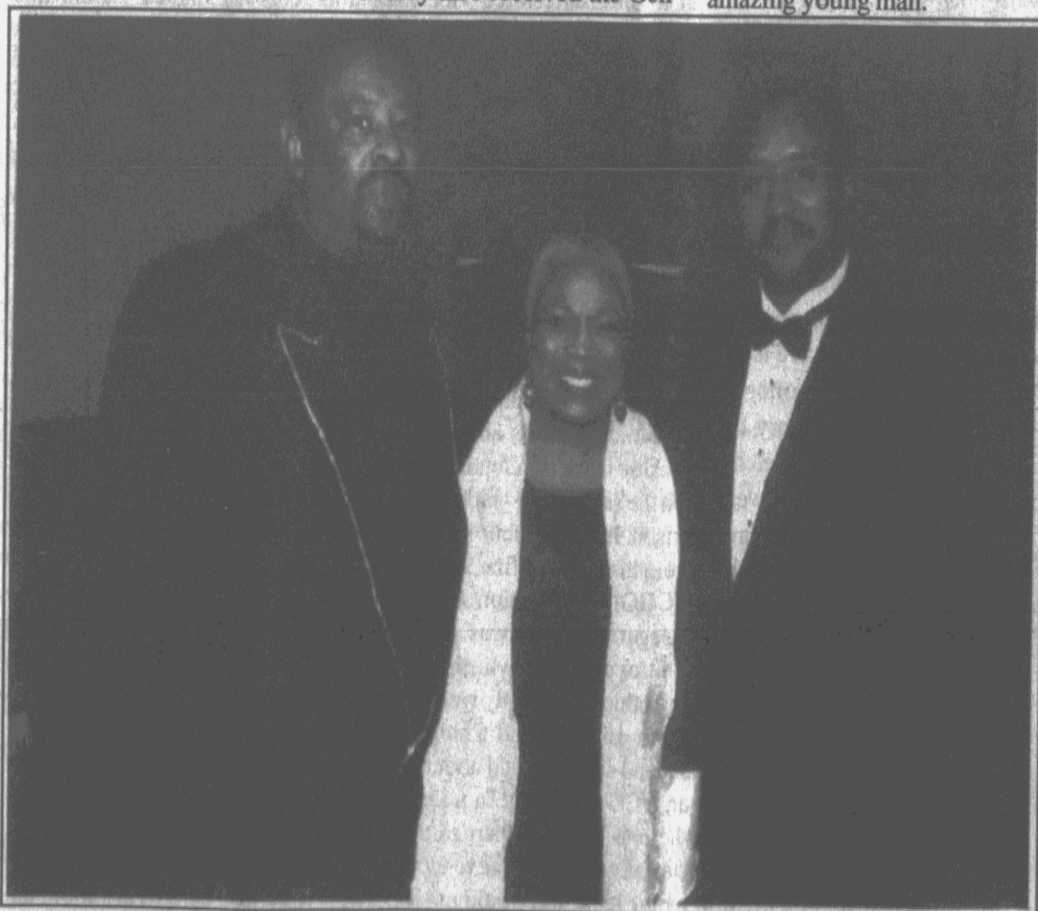
Lee Godley 3rd was one of six contestants. Before the show, they conducted an interview with a panel of esteemed judges. During the show, family, friends, staff and students watched as Lee was judged on modeling casual wear, business attire, evening wear and his response to an impromptu question. For his talent, Lee performed with his electric guitar.

At the end of this professional showcase, Lee was presented with a plaque for "Mr. Entrepreneur," a trophy for "Mr. Scholar" and for the grand finale, Lee was crowned winning the title "Mr. DevaStating", presented a large trophy and scholarship award. Lee is the son of Lee and Delores Godley and the brother of Stacy Godley. The Minority Voice Salutes this amazing young man.

On Thursday, April 2, 2009 Elizabeth City State University held its Honors convocation of Academic Excellence in the Mickey L. Burnim Fine Arts Center.

During this distinguishes program many students were honored for their accomplishments. Lee Godley 3rd of Washington, NC received a Certificate of Merit for an Exemplary year in

the Honors program (2008-2009) and the Chancellor's List. The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science awarded him the CERSER Research award for the most outstanding research. It was titled: "The Utilization of Polar Grid Resources to Analyze, Process and Data Display from the National Data Buoy Center. Godley also received the Gen-



A Day of Celebration(pictured above left to right) WOOW Joy 1340's DJ Reggie Price nationally syndicated radio personality Bev Smith and Jeff Savage at an affair held at the Hilton, the event was coordinated by Angel Savage Jeff's wife. photo by Jim Rouse

Far Right, and White

(September 17, 2009) - People from across the county flowed into the west end of the National Mall, in front of the Capital Building, on Sept. 12 in a march organized by Freedomworks, Tea Party Express and several other groups. The goal of the march seemed to be determined by who was speaking at the time. Brenden Steinhauer, grassroots director of Freedomworks, a group headed by former

Congressman Dick Armey, said the message of the march was, "Big government isn't popular, whether it's done by Republicans or Democrats." But comments from the crowd, and certainly their signs and T-shirts, indicated that it was more than big government being protested. There were many people displaying signs against health care reform, President Obama's right to take office and calling his ideology and religion into question. There has been a

dispute about the number of attendees, which has fluctuated from the 1.7 million Glenn Beck claims an unnamed university counted, to around 70,000, a number attributed to a District spokesperson who denied providing an estimate. Pete Piringer, spokesman for the Washington, D.C. Fire and EMS Department, shared his observations from the day. "It was a good sized crowd," he said. "It was pretty much between Third Street and the

Mississippi Making Civil Rights Part of K-12 Instruction

JACKSON, Miss (AP)- In Mississippi, where mention of the civil rights movement evokes images of bombings, Ku Klux Klan, public schools are preparing to test a program that will ultimately teach students about the subject in every grade from kindergarten through high school.

So far, four school systems have asked to be part of a pilot effort to test the curriculum in high schools. In September the Mississippi Department of Education will name the systems that have been approved for the pilot. By the 2010-11 school year, the program should be in place at all grade levels as part of social studies courses.

Advocacy groups such as the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation and Washington based Teaching for Change are preparing to train Mississippi teachers to tell the "untold story" of the civil rights struggle to the nearly half million students in the state's public schools.

"Now more than ever we are engaged in national debates about race and so much of those debates are impoverished in their understanding of history," said Susan Glissen of the winter Institute "We want to emphasize the grass-roots nature of civil rights and the institution of racism." The program is the out growth of a law passed in 2006 by the Legislature. The state moves forward with statewide implementation in the 2010-11 school year, despite an unsuccessful legislative effort to eliminate the plan this year. Education officials looked to other states for a model, but couldn't find one that included as comprehensive as what Mississippi has in mind said Chauncey Spears, who works

Capital, a relatively small portion of the mall." He added that the march was just one of several events taking place in the District on Sept. 12. Others were the Black Family Reunion, a triathlon trial run, a 5K run, the Eucharistic Congress and, he added, normal tourist traffic for the season. The group protesting in Washington, distinguished not by its size but by its lack of racial diversity, marched down Pennsylvania Avenue to the mall and there heard several speakers and performers. David Meadows, director of communications for the District of Columbia Democratic Party, said the march reminded him of the previous tea parties and town meetings, characterizing those participating as "male or female, [ages] 55-60 and White." While the number of Blacks and other minorities in the crowd seemed nonexistent, that was not the case for featured guests and speakers. African-American headliners include Deneen Borelli, a Project 21 fellow; Charles Lollar, chair of the Charles County Republican

Continued Page 2

in the instruction office of Mississippi's education curriculum.

Some states, including Alabama, Georgia and Arkansas, have placed an emphasis on Civil Rights instruction. new

Jersey created an Amistad Commission to ensure to history of slavery is taught in schools. Pennsylvania's Philadelphia school district requires students to complete an African-American history course before graduation.

Founders Day Celebration



Bishop Best & Co Pastor Helen Williams from the Anointed Ones Church pose for our camera at the Founders Day Banquet Dr. Best new book is a Best Seller & David Payton has written a play based on his life story.

photo by Jim Rouse

BLACK NC GOP VICE CHAIR ALLEGES BIAS

The new chairman of the North Carolina Republican Party has been touring the state, railing against Gov. Perdue's "broken" promises of no new taxes, alleging that Pres. Obama address to students is actually a cover to save his falling poll numbers, and urging Republicans across the state that now is the time for unity in order to take back the state Legislature in the 2010 elections. Indeed NCGOP Chairman Tom Fetzter's battle cry is "One Team - One Goal - Victory". But if Fetzter's elected second-in-command is to be believed, the leadership of that NCGOP "team" is all white because Chairman Fetzter is deliberately freezing him out. That's the stunning charge NCGOP Vice Chairman Dr. Timothy Johnson, an African-American, made in published reports last weekend. By press time Wednesday, no one from state Republican Party headquarters in Raleigh was willing to return phone calls to clarify. In those reports, published initially by The News and Observer, Dr. Johnson, formerly the chair of the Buncombe County Republican Party before he was elected as the state party's first African-American vice chair in history last June, alleges that he "...has asked for an office at party headquarters in Raleigh and to be included in events and planning." "I'm the first black to serve at this role, as the state vice chair, and I'm not being included," Johnson is quoted as telling the N&O. "All the

people (Fetzter's) bringing on staff are continuing to perpetuate the traditional image of the party, which is just whites. That's all we have in our headquarters is whites." Later in the article, Johnson made it clear that under Chairman Fetzter, he is not a happy camper. "This issue is between him and I. It's about him and I." Fetzter, a conservative Republican who cut his political teeth working for arch-conservative Sen. Jesse Helms' National Congressional Club in the 1980s before serving three-terms as mayor of Raleigh from 1993-99, has always been an aggressive and controversial figure in North Carolina politics. In an effort to set up interviews with both Chairman Fetzter and Vice Chairman Johnson, and even get an official party statement on the controversy, The Carolinian/Wilmington Journal called NCGOP headquarters early Tuesday morning, and left a message for Communications Director Jordan Shaw. However Shaw did not return the call, Dr. Johnson did not respond to a detailed email request for an interview, and Chairman Fetzter could not be reached independently before press time. A follow-up email was sent to the party's Communications director early Wednesday hours before press time, and again there was no reply from anyone. There is no question that Dr. Johnson, a clean-cut military veteran, has taken great pride in winning the number-two spot in the state GOP. In a YouTube

Far Right & White

Continued page 1

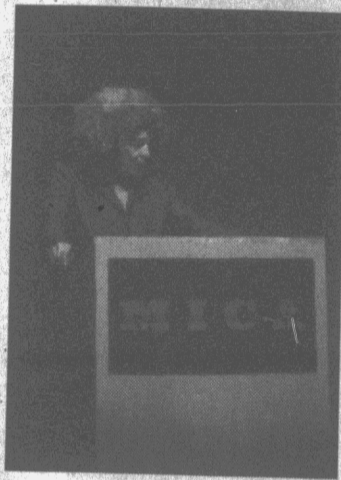
Democrats." Cummings said folks should take a look at the mindset driving this and used Sen. Jim DeMint (R-S.C.) and Rep. Joe Wilson (R-S.C.) as examples. He said South Carolina has the highest rate of uninsured residents in the country, 17 percent, and then repeated a quote from DeMint: "If we're able to stop Obama on this [health care reform] it will be his Waterloo. It will break him." "He would rather kill Obama's dream than give his constituents what they need," Cummings said. "I think this will strengthen the resolve of Democrats to take advantage of this once in a lifetime opportunity. This means we've got to move ahead without Republicans. We've got to get this through. We've got to make this happen."

Southern Baptist Minister Prays For Obama's Death

June 21, 2009) - A well-known minister of a denomination that once supported slavery and is firmly against a woman's right to an abortion said recently that he is praying for President Obama to die. The Rev. Wiley Drake, a former second vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, told Fox News Radio earlier this month that he was practicing "imprecatory prayer" or seeking a divine curse that would cause the president to die. "If he does not turn to God and does not turn his life around, I am asking God to enforce imprecatory prayers that are throughout the Scripture that would cause him death," Drake said in an interview with Fox's Alan Colmes, according to the Associated Press. The Southern Baptist Convention was formed in 1845 so slaveholders could continue to serve as missionaries. The church supported the South during the Civil War, supported segregation of the races before and during the Civil Rights Movement and has been known for its hostility toward affirmative action and busing to achieve racial balance in schools. The church has been a favorite of conservative Republican Party candidates. (In 1995, Southern Baptists formally sought forgiveness from African-Americans. (By 2007, the convention's minority membership, including African-Americans, Asians and Latinos, had grown to about 18 percent, said the Rev. Richard Land, head of the denomination's public policy arm. But like many other U.S. denominations, the 16.2 million-member Southern Baptist Convention remains overwhelmingly White. (Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton were raised Southern Baptists. Carter left the church in 2000 over its increasingly right-wing agenda and while Clinton acknowledges his roots in the denomination, he attends services with his wife, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who is a United Methodist. Roger Oldham, vice president for convention relations with the Southern Baptist's executive committee, said that Drake's comments were out of line with church teachings. Oldham told the Associated Baptist Press that Drake's comments do not reflect the actions, resolutions

or positions of the denomination. "I think it is a fair statement to say that the vast majority of Southern Baptists are committed to praying for the well-being of the president in accordance with the specific instruction given in 1 Timothy 2:1-3," Oldham said, quoting, "First of all, then I urge petitions, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all those who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good, and it pleases God our Savior." Drake recently said that he prayed for the death of famed abortion doctor George Tiller. Tiller was shot to death in his church on May 31 in Wichita, Kan. by an anti-abortion activist. In regards to Obama, Drake, who pastors a church in Buena Park, Calif., had not retracted his statement as of AFRO press time.

Angela Davis Discuss the State of Women's Rights



Activist Angela Davis shared her views on the state of women's rights in 2009 at the Maryland Institute College of Art in recognition of Constitution Day. (September 17, 2009) - Angela Davis accepted her applause in a way an internationally renowned activist normally would not.

The crowd's roar echoed the ferocity once demonstrated by the former Black Panther, who took her seat at MICA'S Constitution Day panel discussion silently, allowing a modest smile to compliment her demeanor. At 65, Davis' navy blue blazer spoke of her scholarship as a professor at the University of California Santa Cruz. But, the tattoo on the outside of her left ankle reflects her younger years. Displayed below her black capris was a hummingbird, considered a fragile, yet fearsome fighter, analogous to the prominent force Davis has been within the struggle for Black liberation and women's rights. Her expertise in feminist studies contributed to Maryland Institute College of Art's dialogue on the state of women's rights in 2009 last Saturday. Davis acknowledged President Obama's efforts to support women's rights by signing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act to end the wage disparity between men and women. She also supports Obama's universal health care plan, but criticizes his approach to selling the idea to conservatives. "I get very angry when Obama feels that it's necessary constantly to reply to the right wing by saying 'No, this health care reform is not supposed to benefit illegal immigrants,'" she said. "When I say the importance of health care for all women in this country, I mean all women in this country. I mean women in prison, I mean women who are immigrants without documents. Everybody in this

country is an immigrant with the exception of indigenous people." A key part of solving problems associated with feminism, Davis said, is examining the broad category of women as opposed to considering women to be a unitary group. She believes women suffering the most will not be empowered without eliminating racism, yet racism can not be eliminated without empowering women. "The women that are on the lowest rung of the ladder are African-American women, women of color, poor women and women in prison," Davis told the Afro. "Those are the women who we should all focus on because there will never be true victories for women unless the women who are the most subjugated are able to rise up." Angela Davis said progress has been made within women's rights, but there is still a long way to go. Speaking as a prison abolitionist, Davis pointed out that women are the fastest growing sector of the imprisoned population, with women of color disproportionately represented. Imprisonment, she said, does nothing more than perpetuate a destructive cycle among women who have committed crimes, and men who have committed crimes against women. Although she attributes increased awareness of violence toward women to the feminist movement, ending the epidemic has been a slow process. "I don't see us making much progress in stopping it," she said. "The assumption is that what we have to do is to punish those who commit these horrible acts as opposed to trying to figure out why is this going on and trying to figure out what we need to do to stop it." Progress within women's rights is evident, Davis said, but it must not be measured by counting the number of female CEOs or the number of women who have almost become president. Rather, success within women's rights must be viewed with respect to those who were worse off to begin with, and from there, she said, there is a long way to go. "One of the problems we have is that we assume often that once we win some kind of victory that it's going to be there, it's etched in stone and we don't have to constantly defend it," Davis said. "It's often the case that that which we thought we had already achieved stares us in the face as another struggle."

BLACK NC GOP VICE CHAIR ALLEGES BIAS, continued

last June, alleges that he "...has asked for an office at party headquarters in Raleigh and to be included in events and planning." "I'm the first black to serve at this role, as the state vice chair, and I'm not being included," Johnson is quoted as telling the N&O. "All the people (Fetzer's) bringing on staff are continuing to perpetuate the traditional image of the party, which is just whites. That's all we have in our headquarters is whites." Later in the article, Johnson made it clear that under Chairman Fetzer, he is not a happy camper. "This issue is between him and I. It's about him and I." Fetzer, a conservative Republican who cut his political teeth working for arch-conservative Sen. Jesse Helms' National Congressional Club in the 1980s before serving three-terms as mayor of Raleigh from 1993-99, has always been an aggressive and controversial figure in North Carolina politics. In an

effort to set up interviews with both Chairman Fetzer and Vice Chairman Johnson, and even get an official party statement on the controversy, *The Carolinian/Wilmington Journal* called NCGOP headquarters early Tuesday morning, and left a message for Communications Director Jordan Shaw. However Shaw did not return the call, Dr. Johnson did not respond to a detailed email request for an interview, and Chairman Fetzer could not be reached independently before press time. A follow-up email was sent to the party's Communications director early Wednesday hours before press time, and again there was no reply from anyone. There is no question that Dr. Johnson, a clean-cut military veteran, has taken great pride in winning the number-two spot in the state GOP. In a *YouTube* feature videotaped during a local GOP meeting in July at a restaurant in Buncombe County, Johnson told an interviewer that he had three goals as vice chair - bringing more young people into the NC Republican Party from age 14 and up; improve party outreach to black, Hispanic, Native American and other communities of color. Johnson admits the party has historically ignored; and improving the use of technology to better position the party's broadbased outreach and messaging efforts. "Our opponents have done a great job of harnessing technology, and now we need to take it, and lead with it," Johnson is seen on the tape as saying. A check of his campaign website, which he still maintains, shows that Johnson certainly works hard for the Republican cause of lesser government, lower taxes and a strong military. As of October 10, Johnson was booked to attend at least six local GOP events across the state, five of which he's listed as speaking at. According to his website, Johnson is a native of Cleveland, Ohio. While attending Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, Johnson decided to leave early to serve in the United States Army, where he spent 21 years, attaining the rank of Major. Soon after moving to North Carolina, Johnson ran successfully for chairman of the Buncombe County Republican Party, where he served two terms before he was elected as state party vice chair during the NCGOP Convention on June 13. The married father of four and grandfather is an adjunct professor at Shaw University's College of Professional and Adult Education in Asheville, and a PhD. He is also the president/CEO of a state certified Historically Underutilized Business that works with nonprofits and small businesses in organizational development and leadership training. Politically, the first black vice chair of the NCGOP makes it clear he's no friend or supporter of the first black president of the United States. As *The Wilmington Journal* first reported last June, a 2008 *YouTube* video from that year's NCGOP convention has Johnson expressing serious doubts about Obama's ability to serve as Commander-in-chief of the nation's armed forces during a time of war. During that video interview with the right-wing website "ScrappleFace.com," Johnson, who had a son serving in Iraq at the time, said he disagreed with then candidate Obama's pledge that if elected, he would end the war. "We have a responsibility to finish what we started," Johnson said. Afterward, the future vice chair of the NCGOP expressed serious doubts about Obama's fitness to lead the troops, and chastised the black community for wanting to follow the Democratic candidate. "In the black community, they speak those words [about Christian faith and family values] but then they want to follow Barack Obama because of color," Johnson said. "It's not because of change. It's not because of hope, because those are rhetorical words that means absolutely nothing at the end of the day." Johnson further called Obama "a pawn of the Democratic system" and, using the term "hypocritically," went on to suggest that Obama was not being honest in presenting himself as a selfless public servant. So at first glance, Timothy Johnson stacks up to be someone NC Republicans would want to be their Number Two leader, if not Number One. But there have been problems for Johnson, problems that observers speculate Chairman Fetzer may be exploiting the negative perception of to ultimately force Vice Chair Johnson's resignation. Earlier this year, Dr. Johnson was accused of dishonesty by fellow North Carolina Republicans after it was reported that in 1996 he was convicted of aggravated assault on his first wife in Cuyahoga County, Ohio during a domestic squabble. He admittedly hid that fact from everyone, never revealing his criminal background to supporters in North Carolina when he first ran for Buncombe County GOP chair years ago. Just before June's NCGOP Convention, Dr. Johnson, who last year accused Barack Obama of not being totally transparent with the American people to protect his own interests, told a local Asheville television station that he did not feel he had to tell the leadership of the Buncombe County GOP about his criminal past before they first elected him chair. Johnson's belief that the people whose trust he was vying for had no right to know essential elements about his background was particularly damning because the person Johnson replaced as Buncombe GOP chair reportedly did the same thing - hide his criminal past, including a two-year stint in prison. It took a public plea from his current wife, a public endorsement from his battered first wife, and Dr. Johnson taking the podium on the NCGOP Convention floor to denounce his detractors and assure delegates that he was a changed man, to ultimately overcome the controversy, and win the VP chair. But since that historic triumph, something apparently went very wrong in the relationship between Vice Chair Johnson and Chairman Fetzer. Fetzer publicly chastised his second-in-command about an alleged incident involving Johnson and an NCGOP staffer. In a scathing Sept. 3 letter to Johnson released to the press, Fetzer charged that the party VP verbally abused a female staffer while refusing to let her go. "You approached her, grabbed her by the hand and would not let go of it while you berated her about the performance of the staff at the NCGOP headquarters for several minutes," Fetzer wrote. "During the entire conversation, she felt 'cornered' and unable to escape. She found your attitude to be condescending and the entire encounter to be very embarrassing." "At best, as reported to me, you exhibited extremely poor manners, and at worst, conduct unbecoming an officer of the North Carolina Republican Party," Fetzer continued. Johnson disagreed with Fetzer's account, saying that there was no anger, the holding of hands was mutual, and, "I wasn't trying to control her and not allow her to walk away." Still, Johnson admits to sending an email of apology to the staffer. Exactly why Fetzer felt compelled to discuss the incident and his internal letter to a top NCGOP officer publicly raises questions. Normally, in an effort to spare a high profile political organization controversy and intense media scrutiny, officials handle such serious charges of physical and emotional abuse internally, rendering only terse "No comments" if asked. And since his vice chair has a well-known criminal history of abuse towards his ex-wife, Fetzer's effort to publicize the alleged incident, instead of protecting a supposed member of his "One Team - One Goal..." political family, raises even further questions of whether Dr. Johnson will now be pressured to resign his post. No one from the NC Republican Party *The Wilmington Journal* contacted for comment for this story returned phone calls or email messages. Fetzer, per published reports, says the alleged incident between Johnson and the staffer, given Johnson's "apology," is considered "resolved." But Johnson replied, "It's not behind us. This issue is between him and I. It's about him and I. The vice chair and the chair of the state GOP don't have a working relationship."

Win 3 Free C/Ds !



Cornerstone Church is the home to some of the most praying women in Pitt County, name these 3 ladies and Win 3 C/D's compliments of the Minority Voice Newspaper Call 757.0365

Social Security Checks Will Be Decreased

WASHINGTON (AP) — Millions of older people face shrinking Social Security checks next year, the first time in a generation that payments would not rise. The trustees who oversee Social Security are projecting there won't be a cost of living adjustment (COLA) for the next two years. That hasn't happened since automatic increases were adopted in 1975. By law, Social Security benefits cannot go down. Nevertheless, monthly payments would drop for millions of people in the Medicare prescription drug program because the premiums, which often are deducted from Social Security payments, are scheduled to go up slightly. "I will promise you, they count on that COLA," said Barbara Kennelly, a former Democratic congresswoman from Connecticut who now heads the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare. "To some people, it might not be a big deal. But to seniors, especially with their health care costs, it is a big deal." Cost of living adjustments are pegged to inflation, which has been negative this year, largely because energy prices are below 2008 levels. Advocates say older people still face higher prices because they spend a disproportionate amount of their income on health care, where costs rise faster than inflation. Many also have suffered from declining home values and shrinking stock portfolios just as they are relying on those assets for

income. "For many elderly, they don't feel that inflation is low because their expenses are still going up," said David Certner, legislative policy director for AARP. "Anyone who has savings and investments has seen some serious losses." About 50 million retired and disabled Americans receive Social Security benefits. The average monthly benefit for retirees is \$1,153 this year. All beneficiaries received a 5.8 percent increase in January, the largest since 1982.

More than 32 million people are in the Medicare prescription drug program. Average monthly premiums are set to go from \$28 this year to \$30 next year, though they vary by plan. About 6 million people in the program have premiums deducted from their monthly Social Security payments, according to the Social Security Administration.

Millions of people with Medicare Part B coverage for doctors' visits also have their premiums deducted from Social Security payments. Part B premiums are expected to rise as well. But under the law, the increase cannot be larger than the increase in Social Security benefits for most recipients. There is no such hold-harmless provision for drug premiums. Kennelly's group wants Congress to increase Social Security benefits next year, even though the formula doesn't call for it. She would like to see a little less than \$8 billion, could be covered by increasing the amount of income subjected to Social Security taxes, Kennelly said. Workers only pay Social

Security taxes on the first \$106,800 of income, a limit that rises each year with the average national wage. But the limit only increases if monthly benefits increase. Critics argue that Social Security recipients shouldn't get an increase when inflation is negative. They note that recipients got a big increase in January — after energy prices had started to fall. They also note that Social Security recipients received one-time \$250 payments in the spring as part of the government's economic stimulus package.

Consumer prices are down from 2008 levels, giving Social Security recipients more purchasing power, even if their benefits stay the same, said Andrew G. Biggs, a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, a Washington think tank. "Seniors may perceive that they are being hurt because there is no COLA, but they are in fact not getting hurt," Biggs said. "Congress has to be able to tell people they are not getting everything they want." Social Security is also facing long-term financial problems. The retirement program is projected to start paying out more money than it receives in 2016. Without changes, the retirement fund will be depleted in 2037, according to the Social Security trustees' annual report this year. officially announces that there will not be an increase in benefits next year. "I think a lot of seniors do not know what's coming down the pike, and I believe that when they hear that, they're going to be upset," said Sen. Bernie Sanders,



taking some unbelievable shots." At Friday's weigh-in, Marquez (50-5-1) was four pounds lighter than Mayweather, who paid a \$600,000 penalty for missing the bout weight of 144 pounds. Simple physics took over from there. Though Marquez stayed on his feet for 12 one-sided rounds, Money Mayweather's win was never in doubt. Mayweather had an astonishing edge in punch stats, landing 290 of his 493 blows (59 percent) while allowing just 12 percent of Marquez's 583 punches to land. Mayweather landed more jabs in each round than Marquez landed total punches, and just 16 percent of Marquez's power shots even got to Mayweather. Mayweather often appeared to be toying with Marquez, who's generally considered among the world's top handful of fighters. e. "I've been off for two years, so I felt like it took me a couple of rounds to really know I was back in the ring again," Mayweather said.

MO'S BARBER SHOP

PICK UP YOUR COPY OF THE MINORITY VOICE NEWSPAPER AT MO'S

Mo's Barber Shop Staff:
 Bryan, Rodney, Gerris, Johnny, Tradin', Terrence, Melinda, Gedric, Chester, Kalvin

Services & Pricing:
 MEN'S HAIRCUT: \$10.00 TO \$12.00
 SHAVE: \$5.00
 EYE BROW ARCH: \$5.00
 NECKLINE TAPER & EDGE: \$5.00
 BOY'S HAIRCUT: \$8.00
 BEAUTICIAN'S PRICING VARIES ACCORDING TO HAIRSTYLE
 TWO LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU:
 UNIVERSITY SQUARE EAST
 10TH ST. GREENVILLE
 BARBERSHOP: (252) 754-2800
 BEAUTY SHOP: (252) 754-2806
 CAROLINA EAST CENTER SUITE #5
 (252) 353-1617

Continue To Stimulate Your Mind READ !

Tired Of Paying Rent?



We Never Stop Moving

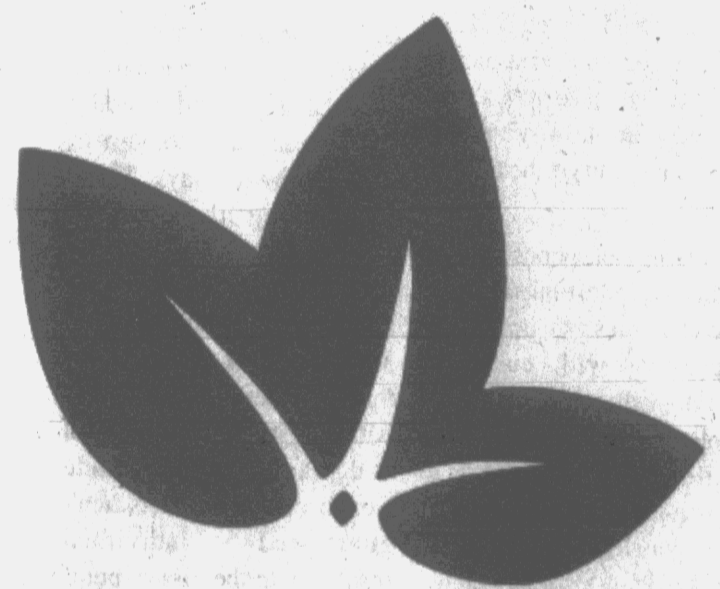
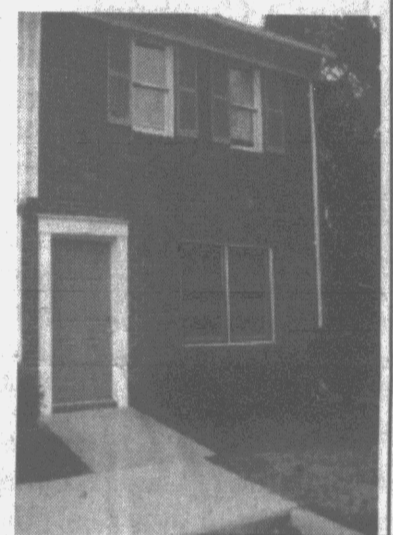


Call Nora Nomaz 252 341 3552

Check out this 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhome on Shiloh Drive

Great Condition—all appliances come with purchase

Asking \$28,900.00—Payments of 173.00/month + Insurance and Taxes



Ask Congress to vote for energy solutions we can afford.

Congress is getting ready to vote on energy legislation that will increase energy costs for families and businesses. Many Americans will be unable to afford their electric bills. Please tell Congress to vote for solutions that balance the needs of the environment with the financial concerns of the American people.

TELL CONGRESS YOUR STORY.

Let them know that we need energy legislation that protects our wallets and our world.

North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives
Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Find A Balanced Solution

877-40-BALANCE

FindABalancedSolution.com

Community Christian Church

Ministries to Serve You

Nursery
Every Sunday

Men Fellowship
Every 3rd Saturday @ 9 a.m.

Children Ministry
Every Sunday & Wednesday

Women Fellowship
Every 3rd Friday @ 7 p.m.

Youth Bible Study
Every Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.

Older Active Saints In Service
Saints 55 years old and older
Meeting every quarter on Saturday at noon

Worship Services
 Sunday 10 a.m. 7 p.m.
 Wednesday 10 a.m. 7:30 p.m.

1100 N. Memorial Drive
Greenville, NC 27834
Phone: (252) 754-1500
www.communitychristian.org

Come Experience the Difference

Oprah Winfrey Sued For 1 Trillion Dollars



Local TV news Web site Abc2.com reports: "The TV titan, one of America's highest earning celebrities, is being sued by author Damon Lloyd Goffe who accuses the media mogul and her production company Harpo Inc. of plagiarizing his book 'A Tome of Poetry' in her Internet published work 'Pieces of My Soul.'" While Oprah's camp has yet to respond, the media fallout for the queen of talk has already been ugly. Leave your comments on this story and more below in BV's Black Business Blast. Every week, BV on Money brings you the latest in personal finance, investing, small business advice and more. Click the images to read more, and then respond

How To Complain About A Company



By Mary Pilon

As we all know, sometimes companies don't get it right—you order a DVD and receive a t-shirt with three wolves instead, your luggage winds up in Bangkok while you're in Birmingham, or you find two charges on your Visa bill for the same item. Here's a brief primer on how you, the consumer, can get the remedy you need.

1. Exhaust all options with the company. Most mistakes are honest ones, so hopefully speaking with customer service will set things right. Be polite but firm when dealing with customer service representatives. Anyone who has worked in customer service knows that screaming, swearing and name-calling aren't appreciated, and are occasionally tracked and noted on your customer profile.

Ask to speak with a manager, and if discussions there have reached a standstill, consider filing a written complaint. Many companies have ways to file complaints online, and ask a customer service representative for the proper email and mailing address, as well as what kind of response you can expect to receive. Most companies have contact information on their Web sites, but keep a copy of whatever you send with dates so you can follow up.

Written letters are a great medium because it helps you create a paper trail of the interaction you've had with a company. When writing a complaint letter, be detailed

and accurate. Don't forget to include contact information so the company can reach out to you. (The government puts out a Consumer Action Handbook, a handy index of resources for consumers and also offers tips on how to write complaint letters.)

2. File a complaint with the Better Business Bureau. Although the BBB is not an official regulating body, it's a powerful channel between consumers and companies. Consumers can file complaints on the BBB's Web site, and the Bureau then sends the complaint to the company. If the company is among the BBB's 400,000 participating businesses, they must respond, says Alison Southwick, a BBB spokesperson. Member companies adhere to the BBB Code of Business Practices, which means they must maintain a BBB rating of B or higher, keep up with local licenses and clearly disclose policies to companies, among other things. Other non-participating businesses regularly respond to complaints, too. Consumer complaints are also filed into the BBB's database of publicly-available reliability reports.

When writing a complaint to file with the BBB, be as detailed as possible. List the names, places, dates, times and numbers of people you spoke with. If the complaint is about a smaller company or possible scam, these clues can help the BBB track down fraud. A rule of thumb: "People should just pour themselves a glass of wine and start typing," Ms. Southwick says.

The BBB doesn't handle complaints against employers or licensed professionals such as doctors or lawyers. But they will direct those complaints to the relevant ethics boards or industry regulators.

3. Tell the government. This option is best when you have an issue that you think could impact many other consumers, Ms. Southwick says. Think more along the lines of telemarketing fraud or loan-modification scams rather than a late pizza delivery person. Ms. Southwick also suggests that consumers file a complaint with their state attorney general and the Federal Trade Commission. Consumers aren't guaranteed individual resolution to their issue, but if these offices get lots of similar complaints, it could launch an investigation. Ohio state attorney general Richard Cordray recently filed a lawsuit against a debt collector after receiving a wave of customer complaints. These complaints can be filed either through the Federal Trade Commission's website or by finding contact information for your state attorney general. (Google your state and "attorney general".) In general, they're looking for the same details and information that the BBB is, as they, too, may need clues to investigate.

4. Go public. Once you've exhausted all other options, you may have some luck going to the Web. Blogs and Twitter have made it almost too easy to (loudly) voice your complaints to a sympathetic audience. Layer on top of that sites like Consumerist and other publications (including this one)

and a public relations nightmare can explode at lightning speed for a company. Some companies like JetBlue have made a point of introducing internet-focused consumer relations representatives, but not all companies have in-house resources dedicated to online complaints.

Nine different employees handle JetBlue's million-follower-strong Twitter stream, says Morgan Johnston, JetBlue's manager of corporate communications. He's one of them, and the airline has with two or three staffers manning Twitter at any given time.

The @JetBlue feed is used to notify consumers about possible weather delays, airline policies and where to get a good espresso. Mr. Morgan also says that the company responds to individual customer complaints, directing those consumers to customer service representatives who can pull up booking information, reschedule flights or issue refunds.

"There's 1,000 customer service reps on the phone," he says, "and two of us."

Mr. Morgan and his crew will also look for critical mass in tweets and let airports know if more staff is needed at certain check-in points. Recently, one customer tweeted about having to pay a \$50 fee for a folding bike, even though the bike fit into a carry-on. Within 24 hours, Mr. Morgan had the policy changed to create an exception for the \$50 bike fee and the airline refunded the consumer's money.

When it comes to customers, Mr. Morgan says he sees the gamut of frustrated flyers. "People swear," he says, "but we won't swear back."

There are other miscellaneous tactics, like executive email bombs that aim to shove your complaint directly under the noses of a company's executives. Another successful strategem: Put your complaint in song.

NFL Player Fined For Shoes



Robinson was fined \$25,000 yesterday for wearing customized Nike cleats with the words "Pay Me Rick" written on the heel during the team's season opener Sunday. The message was intended for Texans GM Rick Smith, who had placed the franchise tag on Robinson after failing to sign him to a long-term contract over the offseason. After sitting out all of training camp because of the dispute, Robinson finally signed the one-year tender a week before the season began. It will pay him \$9.957 million in 2009, or \$9.932 million after he pays that fine. But don't let the shoes fool you into thinking that Robinson is a guy concerned only about making money and not the betterment of the team. As he told The Houston Chronicle about the shoes:



Pretty As A Picture! (picture above) Nell Lewis little baby girl is all grown up and looking good as she pose for the camera at an affair in Greenville, NC

Photo by Jim Rouse

FAITH

PRESSURE-WASHING

"Miraculous Cleaning Ability"

Save Money • Get Results • Raise Value

Churches • Schools • Restaurants • Decks • Machines • Roof's • Driveways
Sidewalks • Fences • Graffiti • Court-Houses • Vehicles • Pallets • Gas Stations
Mobile Homes • Vinyl-Side • Bricks

Residential • Commercial • From \$45 and up

AFFORDABLE PRICES — QUALITY WORK

HOURS: 8am-9pm 7 Days a Week
Ask for Jeff Thomas or Leave a Message! May God Bless!

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!
Working for you—Rain or Shine!

For Estimate CALL: 268-1762

Specials =
1 Story House \$80.00 2 Story House \$125.00

Aplistic Design : Dot Thomas

Vote!

Elect Minnie Anderson Mayor of Greenville



P.O. Box 441
Greenville, NC 27834
252.347.3234

One city, one people!

Paid For by the Committee to elect
Minnie Anderson for Mayor
www.mjohansonanderson4mayor.com

Don't Be One of the Crowd!



If you had your natural gas cut off for the spring and summer, apply **NOW** to get it turned on for the heating season. Don't wait until the first sign of winter. If you do, you'll just be one of the crowd, and may have to wait longer for service.

You must be home when your natural gas is turned on, so when you apply, we'll schedule a time for you to meet one of our Service Workers. Call now, and we'll be able to schedule one day in advance.

There is a \$50 service charge to turn on your natural gas April through October. The charge is \$70 November through March.

Please call a Customer Service Representative at 752-7166 for assistance.

Greenville Utilities

www.guc.com • 752-7166 • 401 South Greene Street, Greenville NC 27834

The African American Depression



Obama spoke to Wall Street today about the need to carefully guard the apparent economic recovery, ordering financial titans to act with integrity as the recession slowly dwindles away. But The New York Times is painting a much different economic picture for African Americans. For blacks in large numbers, we are not coming out of a recession — we are experiencing a depression that germinated nine years ago. In addition to that, we are being blamed by disgruntled whites for their increasing economic misery. From The Times: When you're going down, as the white middle class has been doing for several years now, it's all too easy to imagine that it's because someone else is climbing up over your back.

Despite the sense of white grievance, though, blacks are the ones who are taking the brunt of the recession, with disproportionately high levels of foreclosures and unemployment. And they weren't doing so well to begin with. At the start of the recession, 33 percent of the black middle class was already in danger of falling to a lower economic level, according to a study by the Institute on Assets and Social Policy at Brandeis University and Demos, a nonpartisan public policy research organization. In fact, you could say that for African-Americans the recession is over. It occurred from 2000 to 2007, as black employment decreased by 2.4 percent and incomes declined by 2.9 percent. During those seven years, one-third of black children lived in poverty, and black unemployment — even among college graduates — consistently ran at about twice the level of white unemployment. That was the black recession. What's happening now is more like a depression.

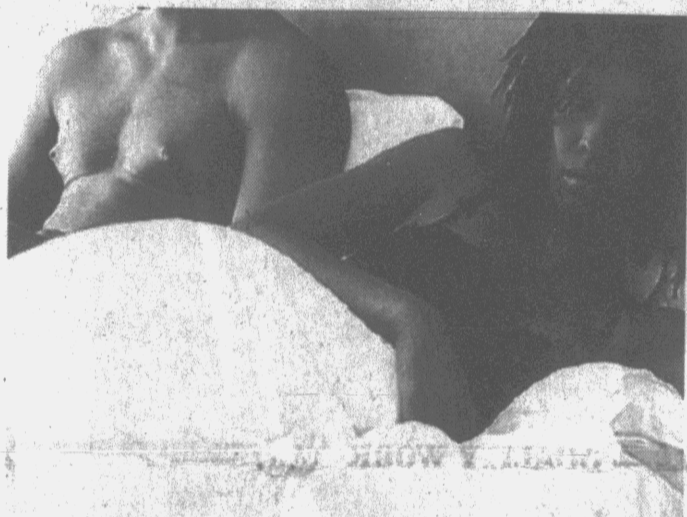
Salon.com has published a heart-wrenching article about a terrible side effect of the economic downturn. Apparently, more women are turning to sex work to make ends meet, because jobs that pay decent wages are so scarce. And the Internet makes it easier than ever for women with no experience in this secretive industry to get started. Your image of who turns to prostitution may be shattered by this piece, in which you will meet characters who could be your sister, cousin, neighbor... Or even your wife: "Take 55-year-old Jennifer of the Bronx, N.Y., who was laid off from her financial bookkeeping job... Her husband, a subcontractor, also got the boot five months ago. He managed to find a part-time gig but, despite three decades of work experience in her field, Jennifer hasn't been able to land anything. Meanwhile, bills have piled up and they're six months behind on their mortgage; that's why Jennifer started turning tricks on Craigslist." The collapse of the economy is making these types of choices inevitable for many women despite years of education and professional expertise. I have seen talk of this phenomenon on message boards as well: Women turning to strip clubs and other venues that they would normally never consider because things are that bad out there. Recently, Vice President Joe Biden admitted that he and President Obama have greatly underestimated the depth of the hole the U.S. economy is in. If middle class women are turning to prostitution in droves to stay above water, his recent realization is still only a dim awareness. Right now, President Obama is working to speed up the rate of stimulus spending.

Reaffirmation of Love



A Reaffirmation Of Love Ricky Tyrone Demery and Bernita Whitaker Demery celebrate their reaffirmation ceremony "Forever In Love" married September 1, 1984.

Women and The Sex Industry Due To The Recession



Faith's Creations

Refinishing and Upholstery Shop
252.3271694 252. 753. 5812

Can't afford new furniture let me redo the furniture you already own!

Certified Carpenter

Also paint repair and refinish all wooden furniture.

Can Replace old material with new

Owner Faith May

2959 NC HWY 121 Farmville, NC 27828

furniture

Free Check Engine Light

Checked by a Master Mechanic 96 models and up

Mark's Quick Lube & Automotive Center 252.551.6909

3550 NE Greenville Blvd Greenville, NC

One Block From North Campus

Exp 12-31-09

Full Service Oil Change

Up To 5 qts of Motor Oil 14 Point Check with Interior Vacuum \$ 24.99

Mark's Quick Lube & Automotive Center 252.551.6909

3550 NE Greenville Blvd Greenville, NC

One Block From North Campus

Reg Price \$28.99

Exp 12-31-09

NC Emission Inspections \$ 24.00

Mark's Quick Lube & Automotive Center

252.551.6909

3550 NE Greenville Blvd Greenville, NC

One Block From North Campus

Reg. Price \$30.00

stay connected with

PittCounty
North Carolina

August

Pitt County 100 Best Communities 2008

www.pittcountync.gov

Boards & Commissions Appointments

The Pitt County Board of Commissioners is responsible for appointing and reappointing members to various county boards and commissions. The Clerk to the Board is responsible for advertising these boards and commissions in an effort to recruit a qualified and diverse group of applicants.

All individuals interested in serving must submit a written application provided by the clerk including name address and the name of the board(s) or commission(s) to which appointment is desired and the applicant's qualifications. Applications may be filed for several boards if desired. Applicants must be a Pitt County resident to serve. Applications will remain on file 15 days before consideration.

For more information on open boards and commissions, an application, or the application process, contact the Pitt County Clerk to the Board, Patricia Staton, at 252.902.2950 or 1717 W. 5th St. Greenville. You may also visit www.pittcountync.gov for the Board Policy on Appointments, Members of Boards and Chairman's Appointments.

In addition to the advertisement in this newspaper, an updated list of open boards and commissions is also posted in the Stay Connected with Pitt County ad in each Saturdays edition of the Daily Reflector.

Simpson Planning Board is in need of interested applicants that reside in the Simpson ETJ. they meet the 1st Monday of each month, excluding July, August at 7:00 pm at Simpson Town Hall

Greenville Board of Adjustment is in need of applicants that reside outside the cooperate limits of the city but with the ETJ. They hear and decide appeals concerning zoning issues application for special use permits and request for variances.

Region Q Workforce Development Board is in need of interested applicants. They administer and provide oversight of resources under the workforce investment act, coordinate the job link career center system and serve as a facilitator of workforce dev programs in the 5 county areas of Pitt, Beaufort, Martin, Bertie, & Hertford. They meet the 2nd Wed. of every other month at 3:00 pm

Greenville Planning & Zoning Commission is in of applicants who reside outside the cooperate limits of the city but with the ETJ they regulate land development in the city of Greenville and in Greenville extra territorial jurisdiction.

Committee for Employment of People with Disabilities is in need of interested applicants. They meet the first Thursday of each month at 3:30pm. They promote the employment of all persons with disabilities on all aspects of society, emphasizing employment, but also including areas such as transportation, housing recreation and education.



which left Houston "very hurt, very angry." Houston also said Brown would smash and break things at their home. The 46-year-old singer described her drug use, saying it became "heavy" after her 1992 movie "The Bodyguard." She said she would take marijuana combined with rock cocaine. "You put your marijuana, you lace it, you roll it up and you smoke it," Houston explained to Winfrey. During a 2002 ABC interview with Diane Sawyer, Houston admitted dabbling in drugs but denied using crack, then uttered the now-famous phrase: "Crack is wack." "He was my drug," Houston told Winfrey of Brown. "I didn't do anything without him. I wasn't getting high by myself. It was me and him together. We were partners." Houston said she stuck with Brown because she took her marriage vows seriously. She said she told her daughter about her drug use and took her with her to an Atlanta drug rehab for mothers and children. "I didn't lie to her," Houston said. Her mother also tried to intervene, the singer said, and at one point came to Houston's home with police. The singer prayed for help, asking God to give her strength.

In an interview with Oprah Winfrey, Whitney Houston discussed her marriage to singer Bobby Brown. The couple married in 1992 and were divorced in 2007. During their marriage, Brown was arrested on drug and alcohol charges, and Houston twice entered drug rehabilitation programs. She has custody of their teenage daughter. Houston told Winfrey that Brown wasn't physically abusive but "he slapped me once but he got hit on the head three times by me." A phone message left Monday with Brown's attorney in Atlanta seeking comment was not

immediately returned. Houston said she was attracted to Brown because he took control of their relationship and had "a sweet, gentle tenderness." "At home, he was very much the father, he was very much the man," Houston said. "He was very much in control. I liked that. When he said something, I listened. I was very interested in having someone have that kind of control over me. It was refreshing." She described an episode after a birthday party for Brown that left her "horrified. He spit on me, in my face." She said their daughter, Bobbi Kristina, witnessed the incident,

Mrs. O's Kitchen
411 Deek St.
Greenville, NC

BAKED TURKEY WINGS,
FRESH FIRED FISH,
BAKED CHICKEN &
PORK CHOP
DINNERS....

With Your Choice Of Collard Greens, Cabbage, Rutabaga
Macaroni Cheese, Black Eye Peas, Butter Beans, Ice Tea
Sweet Breads and Cakes....

OPEN: 11:30A-M to 4:00P-M Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
Tuesday until 4:00P-M AND Saturday 2:00 to 8:00P-M

FOR ORDERS TO GO CALL 252-756-9558

Harris Barber Shop

THE PROFESSIONALS
featuring
A FULL LINE OF
HAIR CARE PRODUCTS
Carl Harris, Owner
"We specialize in all kinds of Hair, Haircuts
and Styles..."

Afro Cuts - Shags - Brush Cuts - Box Cuts
Fade Aways - Relaxers

OPEN: Mon-Thurs 8:30AM to 6:00PM
Fri. & Sat. 8:00AM - 6:00PM

ADDRESS
14TH & Myrtle Ave., Greenville, NC
Phone: (919) 757-3412

GREENVILLE TOYOTA
Why would you ever think of going anywhere else?

SCION SUBARU

Bad credit? Slow credit?
NO credit?
Greenville
Toyota~Scion~Subaru
can help!

At Greenville Toyota, you'll find a great selection of used Toyotas as well as other previously owned vehicles, plus Greenville Toyota has money to lend.

Stop by our showroom at
3615 South Memorial Drive ~ Greenville
or call 252.321.3000.

We're GreenvilleToyota.com
Highway 11 across from Lowe's...

Why would you ever thing of going anywhere else?

Indoor Discount Mall Greene St. Flea Market Now Open !

(Located 900 N. Greene St.)

Open Mon-Fri 10:00 - 7:00 Sat/Sun 8:00 - 5:00
Closed Tues. (252) 413.7353



Coupon Corner

Booth 6.....Do It Again
Buy 1 Get 2nd 1/2 off of equal Value or less
Pre-Owned Professional No Outfit Over \$25.00

Booth7
\$2.00 off with \$10.00 Purchase
Hair Extensions, Wigs and Much Much More

Booth3
Martha McDonald Family Reunion
Photo Screen Printings
Sorority / Fraternity Greek Lettering
25% Discount

Booth.....4
Flowers Gifts Cards and Pictures
10% Discount

Coming Real Soon
Discount Dollar Store
Nothing Over \$1.00

For The Best Deals In Town
Don't Sleep On
Discount Mall
One Stop Shopping !
Computers /and Computer Supplies
Hair Extensions / Wigs
Greek Lettering / Screen Printing
Hot Food !
Clothes, Gifts, Flowers
Car Decals / Car Accessories
\$1.00 Store
Kids Entertainment Area
Uniforms / Professional Attire
And Much Much More !
Coming Soon.....

The Meat Market



Dellinger's Pawnbrokers

184 West Main Street • Washington, NC 27889
Tel: 252-946-4420

NOT JUST YOUR ORDINARY PAWN SHOP.

WE HAVE NEW & USED
MERCHANDISE FOR ALL YOUR
SHOPPING NEEDS.
COME CHECK US OUT.