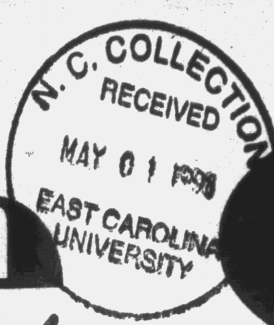


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Never put off till tomorrow what you can do the day after tomorrow just as well. —Mark Twain

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S MINORITY VOICE-SINCE 1981

ISSUE WEEK APRIL 21-27, 1998

Justice Department Says Black Farmers Filed Claims Too Late

WASHINGTON, D.C.—America's black farmers were dealt yet another blow recently when the U.S. Justice Department concluded that thousands of them are ineligible to receive cash payments for racial discrimination because they filed their claims too late.

settlement. The decision comes in the face of admitted widespread discrimination at the Agriculture Department (USDA) and 14 years of ignoring discrimination complaints between 1983 and 1997.

USDA and the Justice Department admit injustice but claim there is no legal remedy. Several black farmers have reached agreements with the USDA only to have the Justice Department hold up the cash payments.

Publicly, Clinton administration officials say they are negotiating with Congress on legislation that would waive the two-year statute of limitations for many of the farmers. But according to NBFA's John Boyd, this is not the case.

Another example of the Clinton administration not dealing in good faith, according to Boyd, is the Justice Department memo circulating on Capitol Hill dated Jan. 29 proving that the decision on the statute of limitations was reached more than 90 days before being released to the public.

President Clinton agreed to meet with black farmers last December. At the last minute, the meeting was billed as a meeting with small farmers. Later, NBFA officials learned that the meeting was not publicized by the White House nor listed on the president's calendar, according to Boyd.

Bishop Randy Royal; Drum Major For Positive Change

After being called to the ministry in 1970 through a direct vision from God to go into the world to preach the gospel, Bishop Randy Royal has been busy on that mission ever since.

from Shaw, Royal went on to get his master's degree in behavioral



BISHOP RANDY ROYAL

(See DRUM MAJOR, P. 2)



TALK WITH THE CANDIDATE—Left to Right: Evangelist Brenda Tyson of Philippi Church of Christ 1340 AM WOOW Joy Radio Evangelist, Judge Wynne, who is presently campaigning for the seat of N.C. Supreme Court Judge and the Dean of the Southern Assembly School of Eastern N.C. Disciples of Christ International America Inc., Elder Betty Jo Moore, who is also Associate Minister at Philippi Church of Christ. The church's pastor is Bishop Randy B. Royal. (Staff Photo)

Congresswoman Eva Clayton Speaks On Black Farmers Issue

Rep. Eva Clayton (D-N.C.) last week issued a statement in response to the Justice Department announcement that the statute of limitations had expired for thousands of black farmers seeking monetary compensation for government discrimination.

ernment to accommodate and assist the special needs of all farmers (See STATEMENT, P. 2)



FOCUS ON PEOPLE

By Kitty J. Pope

The recent death of Rob Platus of the Milli Vanilli duo has some speculating suicide. Platus crashed in disgrace and drug addiction after the group was found to have lip-synched its songs. Platus was found dead in a Frankfurt, Germany hotel room after taking alcohol and pills. He was 32.

ers in 1977. Biko was then the anti-apartheid leader and his violent death inspired a new generation of anti-apartheid activists in South Africa and around the world. The policemen testified before South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission for amnesty in the death of 30-year-old Biko. Despite being outnumbered and exhausted after weeks of incarceration, Biko tried to attack them, according to police. The five officers said they tackled Biko and accidentally slammed his head into a wall.

"The opinion by the Justice Department... that the Statute of Limitations is a bar to recovery for black farmers who have filed discrimination complaints with the Department of Agriculture was not unexpected. That, however, does not make it any less disappointing.

"The department's position is that complainants in discrimination cases that did not file a lawsuit within the statutory period of time cannot get money damages, even if they show discrimination! The department is taking that position because of its interpretation of the law regarding the statute of limitations. Complainants in many of the pending cases are at risk of getting nothing for a lifetime of suffering. Again, without relief, in cases where relief is merited, small farmers and ranchers who have been discriminated against will be driven out of business. We cannot tolerate that result.

"In 1920, there were over six million farms in the United States and close to a sixth—926,000—were operated by African-Americans. In 1992, the landscape was very, very different. Only one percent of the 1.9 million farms in the United States are operated by African-Americans. One percent—18,816, is a paltry sum when African-Americans comprise 13 percent of the total American population.

"In my home state of North Carolina, there has been a 64 percent decline in minority farmers, just over the last 15 years, from 6,996 farms in 1978 to 2,498 farms in 1992. There are several reasons why the number of minority and limited resource farmers are declining so rapidly, but the one that has been documented time and time again is the discrimination in the credit extended from the Department of Agriculture, the very agency established by the U.S. gov-

Charlie Darden, Jr. Celebrates 95th Birthday In Greenville

Charlie Darden, Jr. of Tar River Manor Nursing Home in Greenville celebrated his 95th birthday April 17 along with other residential honorees. This event is held by the nursing home staff each month.

home for nine years, and I've only missed two times from coming up



CHARLES DARDEN, JR. to see him each week. God always sends me somebody to take me to see Charlie," says his wife. (See BIRTHDAY, P. 2)

He is married to Marina Brooks-Darden of Ayden. They had no biological children but raised four foster sons: Gratz Norcott, Jr. and Boston Norcott of Ayden, Marion Mills of New Haven, Conn. and James Ray Thomas of Virginia. Attending the celebration were his faithful and ever-loving wife and her cousin Mattie de Jesus. "I've always tried to attend the party in the previous years, but I was always too late," says his wife. "Who brought you here?" Charlie asked her. "Mat," she replied. "Mattie Norcott?" "No. Mattie de Jesus." "Charlie has been in the nursing



SYCAMORE HILL CONGREGANTS CELEBRATE GLORIOUS EASTER—The congregants of Sycamore Hill had a glorious Easter Sunday when they held the ribbon cutting ceremony and the first worship service at their new facility on 1001 Hooker Road in Greenville. For more pictures see Page 3 Inside.

BLACK FARMERS
Continued from page 1

take direct action to resolve the farmers' problems with USDA. "President Clinton is quick to respond to victims of natural disasters such as tornadoes in Alabama or other tragedies such as the school shootings in Arkansas but in the case of black farmers he is silent and inactive," said Lucas.

"If President Clinton was serious about this issue it would have already been resolved," said Rep. McKinney. "It is time for President Clinton to show some moral fortitude and put some money where his mouth is. How are we to believe that he will deliver on assisting sub-Saharan Africa, when his administration will not do the right thing for African-American farmers right here at home."

Black farmers are planning another protest march on April 23 in Washington at USDA headquarters and the Justice Department. "We've taken our case to the U.S. government, to the United Nations and we'll take our case to people across this country until we receive justice—our symbolic 40 acres and a mule," said Boyd.

STATEMENT

Continued from page 1

and ranchers.

"The issue was first raised in 1965, when the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights established that USDA discriminated both in internal employee actions and external program delivery activities. In January 1997, the General Accounting Office published a report titled *Farm Programs: Efforts to Achieve Equitable Treatment of Minority Farmers*. GAO found instances of discrimination in fiscal years 1995 and 1996. GAO also found that the disapproval rate for loans was six percent higher for minority farmers than the 10 percent rate for nonminority farmers.

"The very next month, the Office of Inspector General Evaluation Report for the secretary on Civil Rights Issues was released. The Inspector General came to the identical conclusion as those who had looked at this issue 32 years previously. There are significant problems with discrimination within the Department of Agriculture. In response to this important concern, USDA Secretary Glickman demonstrated principled leadership by creating a Civil Rights Action Team to examine the issue.

"On Feb. 28, 1997, a report was issued by the Civil Rights Action Team titled, 'Civil Rights at the United States Department of Agriculture,' referred to as the 'CRAT Report.' It candidly documents decades of discrimination against minorities and women within the department.

"At the end of each day, those of us in government must be honest and answer the question, by our policies, who have we helped and who have we hurt? The priorities of the United States make a statement about who we are and where we stand. It signals to our citizens and to the world the principles by which our lives are governed.

"I intend to work with others in the Congress to see if we can fashion legislative relief to this situation. Farmers who have meritorious discrimination complaints should not be denied relief due to a technical legal argument, dusted off by lawyers who put winning above justice."

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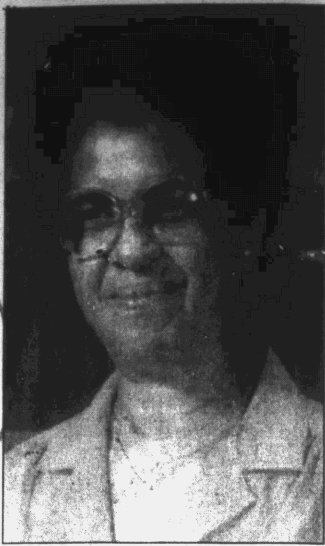
from the desk of **Mrs. Beatrice Maye**

WHAT IN THE WORLD DOES A MOM DO ALL DAY?

Being a mom is a job with a capital J. We work our fingers to the bone, push our nerves to the edge and use every skill we have to accomplish the day's demands. Just what does a mother do all day? Today's college student can't imagine. Numbers of women are baffled by what they'd do with "all that time" if they had to be home. Sometimes Mom herself can't remember.

Well, what am I? I'm the following:

- Baby feeder, changer, bathers, rocker, burper, hugger and listener to crying and fussing and thousands of questions
- Picker-upper of food and debris cast on the floor
- Comforter, encourager, counselor
- Linguistic expert for two-year-old dialects
- Listener—to the husband and the children-about their day, their needs, their concerns, their aspirations
- Teacher of everything from how to chew food to how to drive a car
- Assistant on school projects
- Censor of TV, movies and books
- Reader of thousands of children's books
- Planner and hostess of children's birthday parties
- Planner and hostess of dinner parties
- Central control for getting the appliance fixed or the carpet shampooed



Beatrice C. Maye

- Executioner of ants, roaches, wasps and other pests
- Resident historian in charge of photo albums, baby books and school record books (at my house, I'm on book 50)
- Resident encyclopedia source for all those hard questions
- Defroster of the freezer
- Keeper and locator of birth certificates and other valuable documents
- Ironer of wrinkles
- Appointment desk for the family's visits to the doctor, the dentist the orthodontist, the barber and the mechanic
- One who prays
- Cleaner of the oven, the drawers, the closets, the garage, the cur-

tains, the windows and even the walls

- Refinisher of furniture
- Emergency medical technician and "ambulance" driver
- Hubby's romantic, attentive spouse

AND WHAT ARE SOME THINGS I DO?

- Clip 10 fingernails and 10 toenails for each young child
- Return library books
- Get film developed
- Choose gifts, purchase gifts, wrap gifts for birthdays, Christmas, Father's Day, Mother's Day, wedding showers, baby showers and anniversaries
- Mail packages, buy stamps
- Drop off the dry cleaning and pick up the dry cleaning
- Haul everything that needs repair
- Attend recitals
- Attend every school sporting event imaginable
- Chauffeur everyone everywhere
- Comb little girl's hair
- Help in the classroom
- Attend school PTA meetings and conferences
- Act as a room mother, making things and organizing parties
- Chaperone field trips and special events
- Coordinate car pools
- Make bank deposits and withdrawals
- Deliver forgotten lunches, forgotten homework and forgotten athletic gear
- Lead Scouts, Blue Birds and Sunday school classes

DRUM MAJOR

Continued from page 1

science from North Carolina Central University in Durham. His interest in theology continued to grow and he later went on to receive his doctorate in ministry from Morehouse in Atlanta.

Upon graduation, he took a job as a director of a Ph.D. program in the private sector and later as the director of transportation in Raleigh. He held these positions for a combination of 15 years. During that time, Royal had started preaching trial sermons at his hometown Church of Christ in New Bern before becoming pastor at Philippi.

A man of modest character, he never seems to tire. Bishop Dr. Royal has continued to serve his community and church nonstop since moving to Greenville from Raleigh.

Described as a hands-on minister, with much humility, Bishop Royal has relentlessly worked outside of the pulpit and has been at the forefront of many political, civic, church and social issues that affect society in general.

"I believe that pastors today must put some 'leg work' in what they preach about on Sundays," says Bishop Royal. "Being an effective man for God means more than delivering a sermon from the pulpit. We go to church to worship, pray, to study and hear the Word. But we must serve when we leave the church," explains Bishop Royal.

One of the programs sponsored by Bishop Royal and Philippi is the Sheppards Table which has provided food to 75 agencies from Wilmington to Virginia for the past four years. Through this program 3,000 people are served weekly. Philippi is the District Point for the State Food Bank where other agencies join them to distribute food to the needy.

The God Squad is another program which has been put in place under Bishop Royal's leadership. It is a street ministry that was set up to restore hope in neighborhoods that have been torn apart by social ills. Restoring the neighborhood and street back to God.

Under his pastorship, 45 ministers have served with him. "Each minister must have his own ministry of service; their Godliness and order and making them safe for its residents are goals of the God Squad.

Philippi sponsors many other programs to help people in need. The Philadelphia House which was started by Philippi six years ago is a program to help AIDS victims. This program provides room, board and health care for those suffering from this disease in a confidential setting. Other service programs sponsored by this church include a sister to sister program for helping teen girls, drug and alcohol recovery programs, mentoring for boys, and spiritual growth workshops.

Royal recently negotiated to get basketball legend Michael Jordan to including blacks and underprivileged children involved in the upcoming Golf Classic. He also helped to get Jordan to make pledges for the Ronald McDonald House for children with special needs.

Bishop Royal is the founder and president of the Pitt County Coalition Against Racism where he has helped local residents file complaints regarding unfair treatment relating to jobs and social injustices. As a board member of One Hundred Black Men of Pitt County he has cleaned yards, cut grass and planted trees for the Elderly. He is also a board member of North Carolina Organ Procurement Organization.

Bishop Royal firmly believes that the church must help in all aspects of life. "The goals of the church must include black empowerment," says Bishop Royal adding that he can show scripture supporting this belief.

"Church is more than a building. Many churches may not be ready to meet the needs of the people today. Past generations seemed to have dropped the ball leaving this generation unprepared in terms of knowing the full role of the church. We are beginning to get a generation of people who seemed to have been written off by society. These people are turning to the church for help. Churches must equip themselves to help people not only spiritually but churches are going to have to respond to social, political and economic issues," explains Bishop Royal.

"Ministry must go beyond preaching," explains Royal. "We have ministers in different areas—a homeless ministry, a jail ministry and others."

Bishop Royal has started to prepare Philippi to move into the 21st century in order to be of better service to the community. Church programs will be geared toward ministering to the entire person. Plans

are under way to move into a new state-of-the-art church facility.

"Economic, political, social as well as spiritual development should be a part of the progressive church," says Royal, who says that he has to atone every day to stay connected to God.

Having served on almost every board in Pitt County, Bishop Royal says that it will take a collective effort on the part of every church and civic organization to try to help turn things away from global destruction.

With past board memberships including Pitt County's Department of Social Services, United Way, NAACP, SCLC, Chamber of Commerce, Democratic Party, the West Greenville Development Corp. and others, Bishop Royal is planning a three-day forum at Philippi to discuss race relations and black empowerment the first week of May.

Bishop Royal and his wife Glen have three children: Onica, Brian and Stephanie. They have two grands, Jasmine and Ashley.

BIRTHDAY

Continued from page 1

It's very obvious that these two senior citizens still care and love each other. His wife constantly speaks fondly of her husband. She tells me about the good times they have shared.

She also said, "I tell Theresa [Brown] don't let people overwork your husband like they did mine."

When Channel 9 News asked her on her 90th birthday, "What contributes to your long life?" she told them that she had a good husband.

On different visits she tells me, "I wipe his nose, wipe his mouth, trim his eyebrows, trim his ear and nostril hair. Feed him his ice cream, cake and punch." She truly loves Charlie and Charlie loves her.

The nurses' aides would say, "Sang is here." Charlie would say, "My Sang? Marina Brooks-Darden? I love Sang." Once we were leaving and he told Sang, "By, babe."

This gentle and kindhearted senior citizen is loved by so many, who often visit him. One among many is his niece, Retha Mae Taylor of Winterville, who told me, "I love my Uncle Buddie [Charlie]."

Carol Williams said she asked Gratz Norcott, Jr., "Who is your favorite person?" and he answered without hesitation and smilingly, "Charlie Darden, Jr."

Sang told Charlie in March that she had a 90th birthday. "You sure are old," he said. "Well, how old are you, Charlie?" I asked. He laughed and said, "47; I'm a young man." I jokingly replied, "Somebody told me that you are an old man, Charlie. They told me that you are going to be 95 on April 15."

"Who told you that?" he asked. "Everybody."

"I wish I were 100," he said.

At his birthday party in April, I questioned him again about his age. Sang kept laughing because he stuck with his "47 years old" answer.

"What are you laughing at?" he asked her.

"Aren't you older than me, Charlie?" she asked.

"You must be talking about Charlie Darden. He's old," he quickly remarked.

I thought he was confused and was anxious to know who he thought he was. "Well, who are you?" I asked. Evidently, other listeners were as anxious as I and had anticipated his answer to be "Bob, Tom or John" because the staff burst into laughter with me when he quickly responded, "Charlie Darden, Jr."

Sang was so tickled that I thought she would cry.

Lordy, Lordy, Charlie Darden is 55 plus 40. Congratulations and happy birthday. I'm looking forward to joining Charlie and his wife who faithfully and forever loves him, on April 15, 2003 to joke with him to see if he'll be 100 or 52. To be 95 but feel like a young man is good.

PITT COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA MAY 5, 1998

SAMPLE BALLOT

SAMPLE BALLOT

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY		
FOR U.S. SENATE (You may vote for ONE)	FOR STATE SENATE 6TH DISTRICT (You may vote for ONE)	FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER 1ST DISTRICT (You may vote for ONE)
ROBERT JUNIOR (BOB) AYERS <input type="checkbox"/>	ED CARTER <input type="checkbox"/>	DAVID HAMMOND <input type="checkbox"/>
JAMES EVERETTE CARMACK <input type="checkbox"/>	R. L. (BOB) MARTIN <input type="checkbox"/>	BOBBY H. HARDY, II <input type="checkbox"/>
JOHN EDWARDS <input type="checkbox"/>	FOR STATE HOUSE 2ND DISTRICT (You may vote for ONE)	FARNEY M. MOORE, JR. <input type="checkbox"/>
GENE GAY <input type="checkbox"/>	ROBERT B. CAYTON <input type="checkbox"/>	FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER 3RD DISTRICT (You may vote for ONE)
D. G. MARTIN <input type="checkbox"/>	ZENO L. EDWARDS, JR. <input type="checkbox"/>	TOM JOHNSON <input type="checkbox"/>
MIKE ROBINSON <input type="checkbox"/>	DANIEL MALLISON, III <input type="checkbox"/>	DAN WYNNE <input type="checkbox"/>
ELLA SCARBOROUGH <input type="checkbox"/>	FOR STATE HOUSE 8TH DISTRICT (You may vote for ONE)	FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER 5TH DISTRICT (You may vote for ONE)
FOR MEMBER OF U.S. CONGRESS 1ST DISTRICT (You may vote for ONE)	RUFUS HUGGINS <input type="checkbox"/>	CALVIN HENDERSON <input type="checkbox"/>
EVA M. CLAYTON <input type="checkbox"/>	JEFF SAVAGE <input type="checkbox"/>	JAMES D. RICHARDSON, II <input type="checkbox"/>
LINWOOD E. MERCER <input type="checkbox"/>	EDITH D. WARREN <input type="checkbox"/>	TERRY SHANK <input type="checkbox"/>
FOR MEMBER OF U.S. CONGRESS 3RD DISTRICT (You may vote for ONE)	FOR STATE HOUSE 9TH DISTRICT (You may vote for ONE)	CHARLES S. WARD <input type="checkbox"/>
SHEPPARD NEAL MOORE <input type="checkbox"/>	EMMETT FLOYD <input type="checkbox"/>	FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER 6TH DISTRICT (You may vote for ONE)
JON WILLIAMS <input type="checkbox"/>	ROBERT D. WHEELER, JR. <input type="checkbox"/>	GLENN BOWEN <input type="checkbox"/>
FOR SUPREME COURT (You may vote for ONE)	ED BRIGHT <input type="checkbox"/>	FOR SHERIFF (You may vote for ONE)
JOSEPH R. (JOE) JOHN, SR. <input type="checkbox"/>	MAC MANNING <input type="checkbox"/>	BILLY L. VANDIFORD <input type="checkbox"/>
JIM MARTIN <input type="checkbox"/>		

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY
FOR U.S. SENATE (You may vote for ONE)
LAUCH FAIRCLOTH <input type="checkbox"/>
STEVE FRANKS <input type="checkbox"/>
LEONARD D. PLYLER <input type="checkbox"/>
FOR MEMBER OF U.S. CONGRESS 1ST DISTRICT (You may vote for ONE)
DUANE E. KRATZER, JR. <input type="checkbox"/>
JEROME POWER <input type="checkbox"/>
TED TYLER <input type="checkbox"/>

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING

- Press the gray square to the right of the candidate's name OR issue option of your choice; a green arrow will appear pointing to your selection. Leave the green arrow turned on.
- To change a selection, press the gray square again. The green arrow will disappear and you may make a new selection.
- After ALL selections are made (including any write-ins) press the Orange CAST VOTE button located in the lower right corner. This electronically records all of your votes.
- Part the curtains and exit the voting booth.

TO WRITE-IN

OFFICE APPLICABLE:
Board of Education

- First, select all the candidates of your choice whose names appear on the ballot.
- Press the gray square to the right of "WRITE-IN." A flashing green arrow will appear.
- Using the alphabetical keyboard below, type the name of the person of your choice. To make a space press the key with an arrow pointing to the right. To make a correction, press the key with an arrow pointing to the left. The name you type will appear in the display window on the keyboard.
- When you have finished typing the name, press the ENTER key on the keyboard. Your choice is recorded and removed from the display window.

WARNING

DO NOT PRESS THE "CAST VOTE" BUTTON UNTIL YOU HAVE MADE ALL DESIRED SELECTIONS.

NONPARTISAN ELECTION	
FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 1, SEAT A (You may vote for ONE)	FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 4, SEAT A (You may vote for ONE)
MICHAEL DIXON <input type="checkbox"/>	MIKE BARNETTE <input type="checkbox"/>
WRITE-IN <input type="checkbox"/>	JOSEPHINE C. WILLIAMS <input type="checkbox"/>
FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 2, SEAT A (You may vote for ONE)	FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 5, SEAT A (You may vote for ONE)
DON CARSON <input type="checkbox"/>	RICHARD A. TOLMIE <input type="checkbox"/>
WRITE-IN <input type="checkbox"/>	MARC WHICHARD <input type="checkbox"/>
FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 3, SEAT A (You may vote for ONE)	FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 6, SEAT A (You may vote for ONE)
WALTER E. GASKINS <input type="checkbox"/>	JACK M. COLLINS, JR. <input type="checkbox"/>
WRITE-IN <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITE-IN <input type="checkbox"/>

GARDNERVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER

- To vote IN FAVOR of levying a tax, press the gray square to the right of the words "IN FAVOR."
- To vote AGAINST levying a tax, press the gray square to the right of the words "AGAINST."

(You may vote for ONE)

IN FAVOR

of tax for fire protection in GARDNERVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

AGAINST

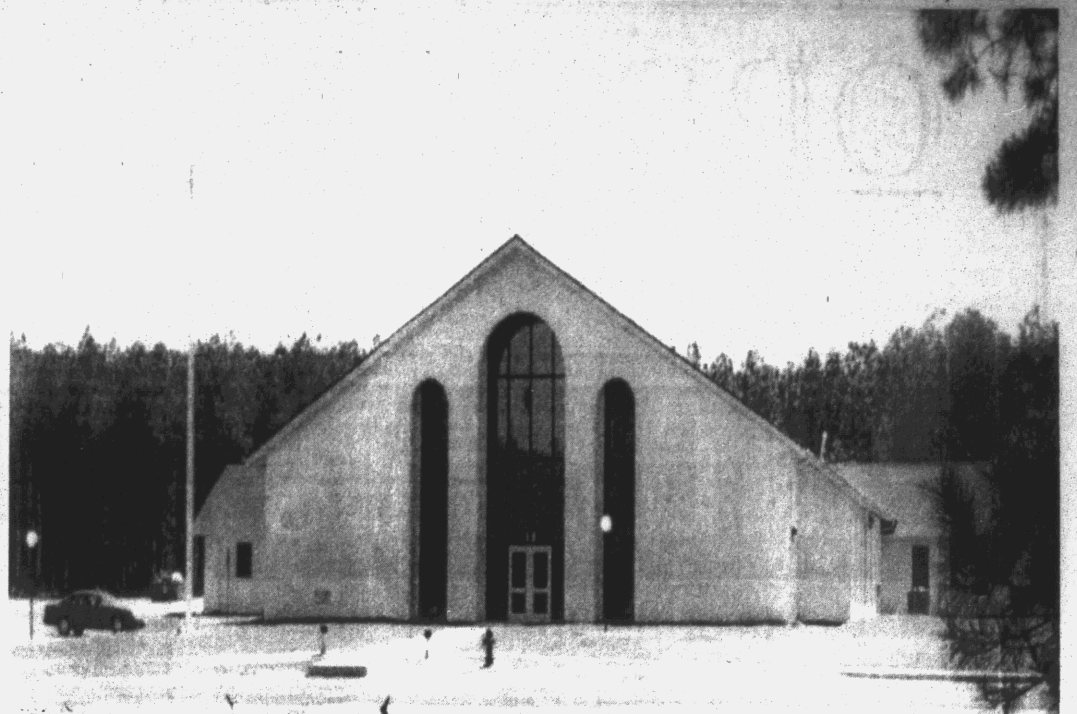
of tax for fire protection in GARDNERVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Primary
May 5, 1998
Patricia C. Dunn
Chairman
Pitt County Board of Election

The "M" Voice is the People's Choice



Sycamore Hill Church Before—Old 8th Street Location



Sycamore Hill Church Today—1001 Hooker Road

Africa Growth & Opportunity Act Blasted

By Malik Russell

Special to NNPA

WASHINGTON, D.C.- Randall Robinson, founder and president of TransAfrica Forum, recently

blasted United States policy toward Africa, particularly the recently passed Africa Growth and Opportunity Act, calling it a "Return to Colonialism."

Robinson also criticized President Clinton's support of the bill and questioned his commitment to racial dialogue, before a crowd of students and visitors at the University of Maryland, College Park.

"On the one hand he will go to Africa as he did on his recent history making [trip]... That's what's televised. That's what plays out around the world. But in the fine print you find the president supporting something called the growth and opportunity act.

Annual Minority Ball Set For May 1

The Allied Blacks for Leadership and Equality at East Carolina University in association with the National Panhellenic Council are sponsoring the second annual Minority Ball on Friday, May 1, at the Ramada Plaza in Greenville. The theme of this year's ball is "Reflections Through Triumph." A portion of the proceeds from the ball will go to benefit sickle cell anemia research.

The evening will start out with dinner at 8 p.m. and then follow with an address from Rep. Eva Clayton. Rep. Clayton will focus her comments on the current issues that are facing African-American families.

Mayor Nancy Jenkins is also planning to attend the dinner. The evening will then conclude with a dance that will last until well after midnight.

Ticket prices to the event are \$15

for ECU students, \$20 for non-students, and \$25 for couples. For more information about the second annual Minority Ball, please contact Chris Rey at (252) 328-4707.

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Hi, I'm Calvin Henderson

As a community leader and former elected official of Winterville and Pitt County I have had the opportunity to keep abreast and to address many of the issues that directly affect the living conditions of all of our citizens.

I feel that many of the ordinary everyday working men and women have lacked that strong voice who is willing to represent their concerns and needs on issues that are continuously brought before our elected officials.

For a strong voice on social reform, affordable health care, fair housing, crime better schools and elderly care, Vote for Me, Calvin Henderson for Pitt County Commissioner, District #5. This area includes Arthur, Ayden, Winterville Central and Winterville East, Chicod, Greenville 6, 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Thank you for your prayers and support in the upcoming Primary May 5, 1998!

PAID FOR BY CITIZENS FOR HENDERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONER



JOHN EDWARDS

THE PEOPLE'S SENATOR

My only test, now and in the Senate: Do what's right for all the people of North Carolina.



On Strengthening Education

- Lower class sizes
- Keep schools open in the afternoon to keep kids learning, off the streets, and out of trouble

On Saving Social Security and Medicare

- Stop raiding the Social Security trust fund
- Attack Medicare fraud and waste instead of cutting benefits or raising the age of eligibility

On Reforming Health Care

- Enact a Patients' Bill of Rights
- Give patients the right to choose their own doctor and make decisions about their own medical treatment



JOHN EDWARDS
 U.S. SENATE

Paid for by the John Edwards for Senate Committee

PLEASE VOTE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY ON MAY 5TH

OPINIONS

COMMENTS

Editorials

Credo of the Black Press

The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and natural antagonisms when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color or creed, full human rights. Hating no person, fearing no person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

A Question Of Competency

The subject of end-of-the-year testing has come up again this season.

In particular, the competency test administered to high school seniors this year has come under attack from the NAACP.

Actually, it isn't the test itself that bothers the group, it's the uneven results.

As you may remember, the Legislature set up the test three years ago. The idea is that there are certain basic things that a child should learn in school, and no child should be allowed to graduate without knowing them.

Therefore, the test. No high-school senior who fails the test will be allowed to graduate. Well, they can leave school, but they won't get a diploma.

Now for the results. The good news: 90 percent of the seniors passed the test. The bad news: Only 82 percent of black students did.

The NAACP points in particular not only to the disparity between black and white students, but to the wide divergence in results for individual counties.

A total of 30 counties had passing rates for black students of less than 80 percent. In fact, the rate in some systems dropped to as low as 30 percent. In others, it was 100 percent.

That kind of lets the air out of the argument that there is just something wrong with black kids—either they are too lazy or just genetically inferior. If they were, how did all of them in some systems pass the test?

Now, some would argue that the test is impartial, that it simply quantifies what the student has learned. We would agree.

We don't have any problem with the test, and neither, from what we have heard, does the NAACP.

We'll Miss Terry

For many of our readers, Terry Sanford was a legendary historical/political figure before his latest stint in the U.S. Congress.

Many of us remembered him only as president of Duke University. Or having gone to football or basketball games against Terry Sanford High School.

There was good reason for Terry Sanford's legend to loom large. He was one of a handful of fair, progressive and enlightened public servants in a state and region not particularly known for raising them.

He was in fact even more of a rarity. At a time when most of the fair, progressive and enlightened officeholders who were around recognized the value of discretion and tried to do what little good they could do "on the sly," Terry Sanford spoke out.

It was back in 1963 that he called for an end to job discrimination, when that was not exactly a popular—or even healthy—thing to do.

There are some who say it cost him any chance of a further career in politics.

There are also those who say that, in outrage over what his elected leader was doing, Jesse Helms began his long foray into politics.

It was that outrage, shared by an alarming and disillusioning number of North Carolina citizens, that propelled Helms into the U.S. Senate just a few years later, they say.

If Terry Sanford was about 20 years early—and a few hundred miles removed—from where his message might be received with the respect and admiration it deserved, it didn't seem to bother him, or

We don't claim the test itself is biased, or too hard, or that it demands knowledge that isn't representative of what a high school student should know.

In fact, what we hear from most dispassionate observers is that the test is preposterously easy; that just about any person who made it out of middle school should be able to pass it—much less high school.

But that's kind of the point, isn't it? How can you have a situation where you have as many as 70 percent, and an average of almost 18 percent statewide, of black teenagers who make it all the way through high school without gaining these basic skills?

These students, supposedly, took test after test, in grade after grade, and were continually passed. How did they make it this far without being flagged at some point in their school careers?

It all comes back to the old problem of social promotion. We have all heard teachers and principals say that to "hold back" a student would "damage his/her self-esteem."

How do you think those students feel about themselves now, after spending 12 years in school with nothing to show for it?

But let's not be coy. You know and we know that what we're dealing with is a system so frustrated that it would rather just send "problem" students on to be somebody else's problem.

Trouble is, in the long run, they're going to be *our* problem, if they can't get a job and turn to whatever method they can find to get money.

That's what the NAACP is saying. Yes, keep the test. But if it's that easy, there's no excuse for not seeing to it that *all* students can pass it.

Even the black ones.

slow him down.

He took his exile from active political office—self-imposed or otherwise—in stride and became one of the most effective and impressive presidents Duke University has had.

His commitment to education was a paramount thrust in his life, and he might well have been content to ride out the remainder of his days remembering the good he had been able to do and secure in the knowledge that history had eventually proven him right, and that most North Carolinians recognized that fact.

When it seemed that Republicans would get a lock on Senate seats in North Carolina, his party went to him again, and in 1986, he found himself back in politics again, winning a seat in the U.S. Senate.

He made a name for himself there, as well, but his health began to fail him when the next election rolled around. Campaigners for Lauch Faircloth were able to capitalize on it, suggesting that North Carolina needed someone who would be healthy and able to serve out his term.

Of course, there are those who say that Sanford would have been a better senator—even in the hospital or dead—than Faircloth turned out to be. But we won't get into that here.

Terry Sanford wasn't a saint. But he was a nice man in a field not noted for producing them; a fair man when most of his constituents didn't want fairness; a man who thought about the future when most people wanted him to think about the past.

We'll miss him.



VANTAGE POINT

Articles and Essays by Ron Daniels



JACKIE JOYNER-KERSEE: INDULGING THE "FREEDOM" TO BE FOOLISH

Experience has shown that it is risky to have artists, entertainers and athletes thrust into the position of spokespersons for the race. However, this seemed unavoidable when the subject was racism in sports and the forum was one of President Clinton's Town Hall Meetings on Race. Thank God Legendary Hall of Fame football star Jim Brown was on the panel at the Town Hall Meeting in Houston. He seemed to be the only person willing or able to consistently take an unapologetic stance on critical issues and challenges facing Black athletes and other professionals within the multi-billion dollar sports industry.

Among other things, the Town Hall Meeting, which was broadcast live on ESPN, featured comments by Georgetown basketball coach John Thompson coming to the "defense of my great company Nike," the giant trans-national athletic sports apparel company which exploits cheap labor in Third World companies while marketing its high dollar sneakers at a huge profit to black and Latino youth at the behest of millionaire pitchmen like Michael Jordan. Jim Brown was quick to point out that in effect Nike was pimping a few high paid athletes to make huge fortunes off the purchases of blacks and Latino youth, many of whom come from the impoverished ghettos and barrios of this country.

Jim Brown was also on point when he called for black athletes to use black attorneys and agents as a way of circulating black dollars and building economic power within the black community. New York Jets wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson responded that he had a black agent, but it was not because he was an African-American!

The most lively exchange of the evening came, however, when Jackie Joyner-Kersey, one of the greatest women track and field stars of all time, angrily took issue with Jim Brown's contention that Black athletes should pool their resources to purchase sports franchises and otherwise use their enormous wealth to promote black economic development. To her credit Ms. Joyner-Kersey described her various efforts to invest in the black community including hiring relatively inexperienced blacks to manager some of her enterprises to provide opportunities for them to gain valuable experiences in business.

For some inexplicable reason, however, Ms. Joyner-Kersey felt compelled to publicly disagree with Jim Brown about the responsibility of black athletes to function more collectively to advance the interests of the black community. She seemed visibly agitated by brown's insistence that black athletes had a duty to use their resources to build the black community and suggested instead that blacks should feel no special obligation to work together to purchase sports franchises or anything else. Almost shouting across the stage at Jim Brown, Jackie Joyner-Kersey proclaimed: "That's why we live in America, because we have choices."

What was/is troubling about our dear sister's attitude is that it is unfortunately representative of far too many black athletes, artists, entertainers and well off blacks among us. Far too many African-Americans achieve "success" forgetting the enormous sacrifices that past and present civil rights/human rights movements, leaders and ordinary black folks have made to open the doors of opportunity for them. The "choice" that these African-American heroes and heroines made and continue to make to be of the race and for the race in order to create "successful" blacks who will in turn not forget where they came from as a matter of principle.

It is obvious for any fool to see that in "Amerikkka" people are "free" to "choose" to do whatever they please—theoretically. In fact within this racist and highly competitive pluralistic society, group power counts. Most other ethnic groups do not have to be told that "charity begins at home and spreads—abroad," that one must "love thy neighbor as thyself." Most other ethnic groups have already used responsibility to self and kind and the advantages of affirmative action for Whites in America to become "successful."

Only the "Negro," past and former mental slaves in America, somehow feel compelled to spout the mythology of American democracy in the face of the constraints/chains of racism and white supremacy. Only the "Negro" mentality would feel compelled to note that one has a black agent, but not because he is African-American.

ONE MAN'S OPINION

BY OSCAR SMITH, JR.



FOLLOW THE MONEY

I couldn't let this one slip by without a comment. I don't know if you saw the report last week in the *News and Observer* that apparently serious conversation had taken place in one U.S. Senate candidate's camp regarding "greasing the palm of certain individuals" in the black community in order to deny votes to another candidate.

In case you don't know what "greasing the palm" means, that is a term used to put money in someone's hands, or pockets, or bank accounts.

Apparently according to that report, there was some talk about using funds to attempt to divert votes away from one candidate toward another who happens to be African-American. Not only are such actions unacceptable among many blacks who give a tinker's d__ about a right that older blacks and their ancestors have had to work and die for, but it is not fair to a qualified black candidate.

One longtime political activist in the black community readily admits that such activity is nothing new, as a matter of fact I have heard that in days gone by black votes came even cheaper than that in some instances.

Well, my friends, it is time that blacks or any other ethnic group make it clear that their vote is not for sale at any price—to anyone. Now for those of you who know that yours truly was once active in the political arena, I promise you that I was there working for the candidate of my choice, not because I was paid by anyone. Oh I have been offered cash, but I refused to accept it. After all, I had to face myself each morning when I looked in the mirror. Secondly, you tell me how I could teach one set of values to our children and they see me do another?

We tell our youth that it is important to get involved in the political process in hopes that they will excise their right as a citizen in this country, and they grow up to see this kind of alleged tampering in the American political process.

When will blacks realize that the way the political process works is—you put the money in the candidate's campaign that you believe will do the best job for you, not the other way around.

It is time to send a message to all of those who would tamper with the political process this way, as well as those who do or would accept such Moines to influence the outcome of elections. WAKE UP PEOPLE!

This Way for Black Empowerment

By Dr. Lenora Fulani



IF ROBERT REICH COULDN'T IMPACT, HOW CAN WE?

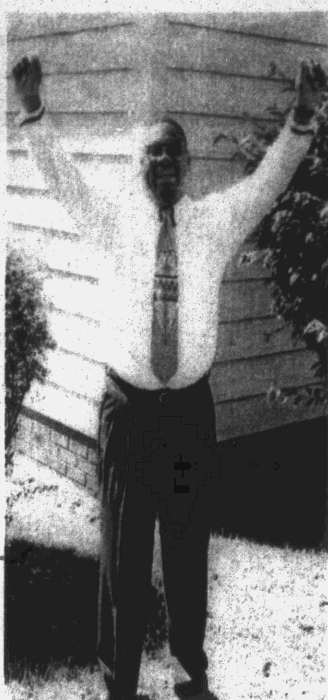
Each week I host a public affairs television show called "Fulani!" My co-host, Dr. Fred Newman, and I do a half-hour interview with newsmakers, authors, and political activists.

Two weeks ago we taped a show with Robert Reich. Robert Reich was the U.S. Secretary of Labor in the first Clinton administration. He is an economist and political scientist who first met the President when they both went to study at Oxford. Reich went on to become a well-known economic theorist and advocate for a public policy that would spur economic growth among all sectors of society. Bill Clinton tapped him to be his economic advisor during the 1992 campaign and then to become his labor secretary. Reich recently wrote a book called *Locked in the Cabinet* about his experiences as a cabinet member.

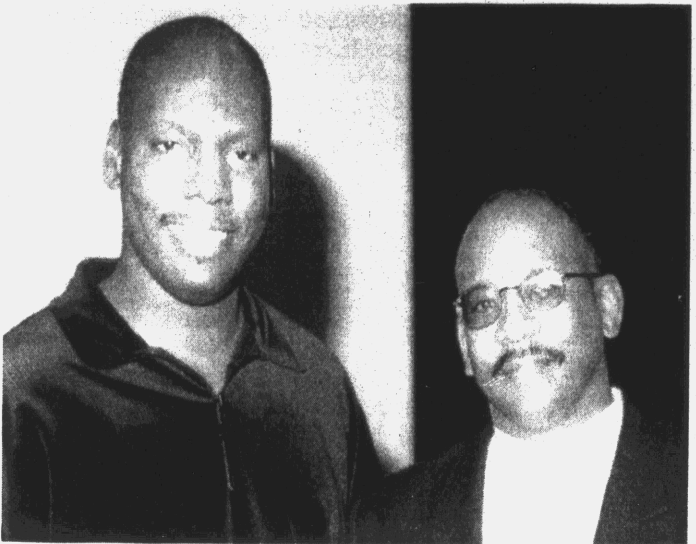
The interview we did on my show was very interesting. We discussed economic policy and the changes produced by globalization. He talked about his feeling that while economic indicators were good, a downturn might be just around the corner. But most interesting—to me—was the discussion we had about how little he was able to impact on economic policy on behalf of the average American. Reich is a progressive economist.



DELTA'S HOLD MONTHLY MEET—Greenville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. held its monthly meeting at the home of Soror Bettye James. At that meeting, Soror Lillie Powell, Social Action-Chair presented Gaston Monk to the membership. Mr. Monk is the President of the local chapter of NAACP. He spoke to the sorority on political, educational, social and economic equality issues of minority citizens. The Greenville Alumnae Chapter of Deltas was asked to form a partnership with the NAACP by Mr. Monk.



NEW PASTOR—Rev. Tim Ward expresses his excitement in pastoring Redeeming Love Evangelistic Center.



GOSPEL RECORDING ARTIST—Ben Tankard and Rev. Dixon enjoy a moment after Tankard's gospel concert at Victory Christian Church. (Staff Photo)

Volunteer To Teach An Adult To Read

Teach an adult to READ. Literacy Volunteers of America-Pitt County is holding a tutor training workshop beginning on May 7 at 7 p.m. The workshop consists of four training sessions. The sessions will be held on Monday and Thursday evenings. Volunteers will learn to teach functionally illiterate adults how to read. Call 353-6578 today for more information or to register for the tutor training workshop. Workshop dates are Thursday, May 7; Monday, May 11; Thursday, May 14; and Monday, May 18.

Good Work To Offer Business Seminar

Got questions about running a small business? Good Work, a Triangle-wide nonprofit helping small businesses, is offering its "Building Your Business" course. The seven-week, hands-on business course offers help with marketing, budgeting, recordkeeping, and more, and is designed for existing as well as startup businesses. In addition to the course, Good Work offers ongoing support and business loans from \$500 to \$10,000.

National Inter-faith Hospitality Network To City

The National Interfaith Hospitality Network, the largest volunteer organization helping homeless families in America today, is hosting its second national conference in Raleigh April 24-26 at the Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley Hotel. Families are the fastest-growing segment of the nation's estimated 1.8 million homeless population, accounting for 40 percent. One-fifth are children age five and under. NIHN, a national nonprofit organization headquartered in New Jersey, mobilizes communities across the country to provide shelter, meals, and housing and job placement support to homeless families through the Interfaith Hospitality Network program. The Raleigh/Durham area is home to three Interfaith Hospitality Networks: the Durham Interfaith Hospitality Network and Wake Interfaith Hospitality Network in Raleigh—which is composed of two networks. These three area networks involve approximately 3,000 local volunteers from more than 30 congregations who work together cooperatively in this interdenominational social outreach program.

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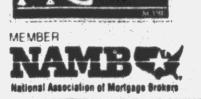
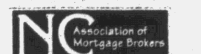
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Pictured: Frank Muir, Manager of Business Development, Strategic Resource Solutions and Dr. Isaac Horton, Founder, Remote Source Lighting International



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KWANZAA EXECUTIVES MEET—From left to right, the Kwanzaa Corporation executives are Clifton Hinds, Chief executive officer; Greg Phillips, president; and Ben Harrison Tyler, secretary treasurer. (See Story)

Kwanzaa Corporation Formed To Support Economic Redevelopment

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—While a growing number of African Americans celebrate Kwanzaa during the Christmas season, a group of Los Angeles businessmen plan to celebrate it all year long. They have formed a new entity, the Kwanzaa Corporation, to support economic redevelopment in the African-American community.

The businessmen are Clifton Hinds, president of United Funding group, a mortgage brokerage firm in Westchester, Calif.; Greg Phillips, president of Malitop Inc., a residential holding corporation in Malibu, Calif.; and Ben Harrison Tyler, owner of Western Security Group, a mortgage company in Culver City, Calif. Hinds serves as CEO of the Kwanzaa Corp., Phillips is president and Tyler is secretary treasurer. The corporation was founded in January.

"Our mission is to rebuild and redevelop opportunities at the grass roots level, giving people hope," said Hinds. "We each have owned companies with real estate assets since 1988. Now we have grouped all of our assets to form this new coalition." This "unity" reflects one of the seven principles of Kwanzaa. Hinds said that Kwanzaa was chosen as the company's name because it is easily recognizable as a community-based effort to empower.

The seven-day celebration of Kwanzaa was created by Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966. Throughout America, parts of the Caribbean, Africa and Europe, people of African ancestry recite the seven principles in their celebrations and activities each day from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1.

The seven principles are unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and

faith. The purpose of Kwanzaa is to focus on the development and strengthening of the family, community and culture.

Youth Leaders Gear For Million Youth March

Youth leaders throughout America, Africa, the Caribbean, Canada, and Europe are gearing up to convene in the Million Youth March, slated for Sept. 7 in Atlanta, Ga.

The march will be a four-day event consisting of a town hall meeting, panel discussions, entertainment, worship, and a major gathering which will begin on Sept. 4. Organizers, who are working with the City of Atlanta, plan to convene the major gathering on Monday, Labor Day, Sept. 7, on the Historic Sweet Auburn Avenue in Atlanta.

The theme is "Preparing Youth for the New Millennium." The purpose, say organizers, is to reinvigorate a God-centered youth movement for the 21st century.

Among the issues to be addressed are strengthening the family, economic development, increasing political involvement, youth activism, education and stopping genocidal and fratricidal violence and drugs in black communities.

The march is being organized by students, youth organizers, youth leaders and community activists with the guidance of elders, to promote leadership development among youth and build partnerships with elder leadership.

Organizers are also developing a Ten-Year Action Plan, based upon the objectives in the march's Mission Statement which deal with spirituality, social, political, economic and educational development.

The overall goal, say march organizers, is to improve the condition of youth and communities. Each year for the next 10 years, they hope to revisit the objectives and measure their progress in order to see what they must do to accomplish their goals.

For more information, contact the Million Youth Movement, P.O. Box 4284, Atlanta, GA 30302, (888) 696-5941, Fax (404) 222-0088 or visit the organization's website at www.millionyouthmovement.org.

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- * Aquatics program personnel (outdoor City pools and Aquatics and Fitness Center) Pool Manager, Assistant Pool Manager, Lifeguards, and Instructors.

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River Park North is open to the public Tuesday through Sunday during daylight hours. Attendants will work on a schedule of 20 - 40 hours per week, including weekend work. Salary is \$5.15 to \$5.50 per hour.

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This is laborer type work in maintaining city parks. The jobs begin the first of May and run through September. The jobs are 20-40 hours per week for this period with working hours varying according to the type of work to be done. Some weekend work is required.

Special jobs would be grass cutting, ballfields preparations, litter and trash pick up and landscaping maintenance. Safety boots are required and are to be furnished by the worker. The salary is \$5.15 to \$5.50 per hour.

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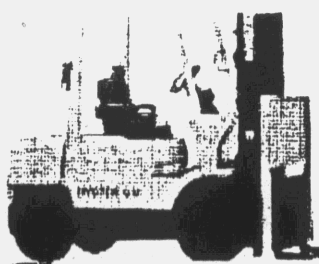
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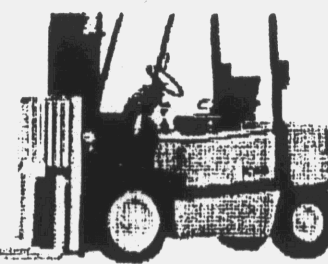
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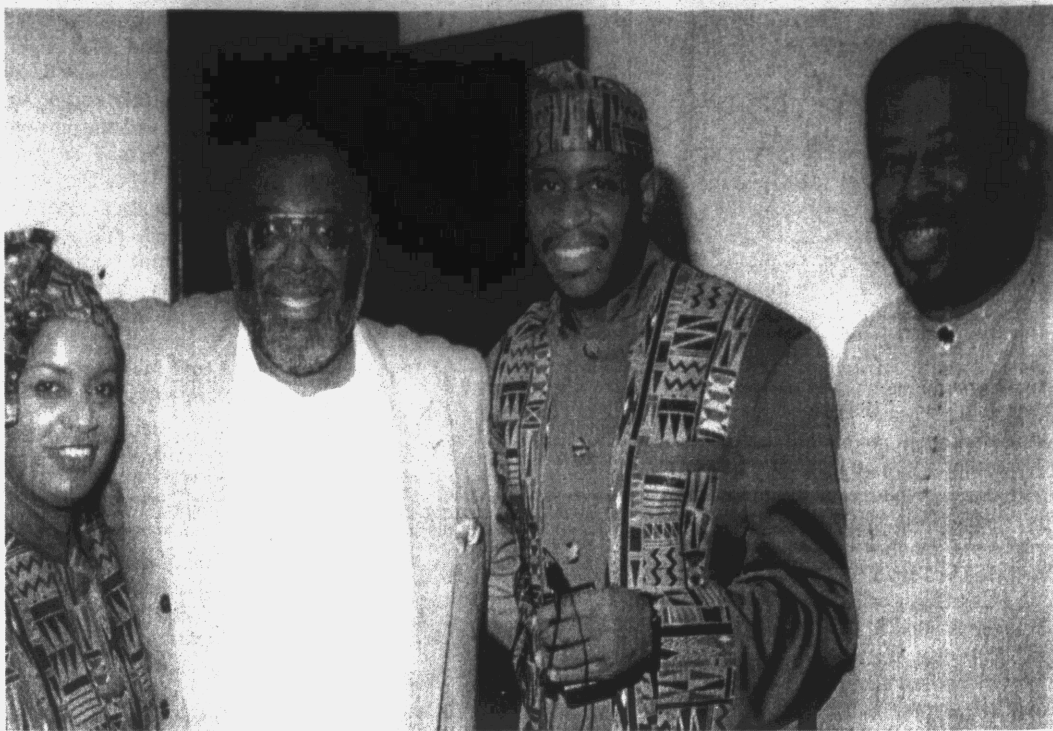
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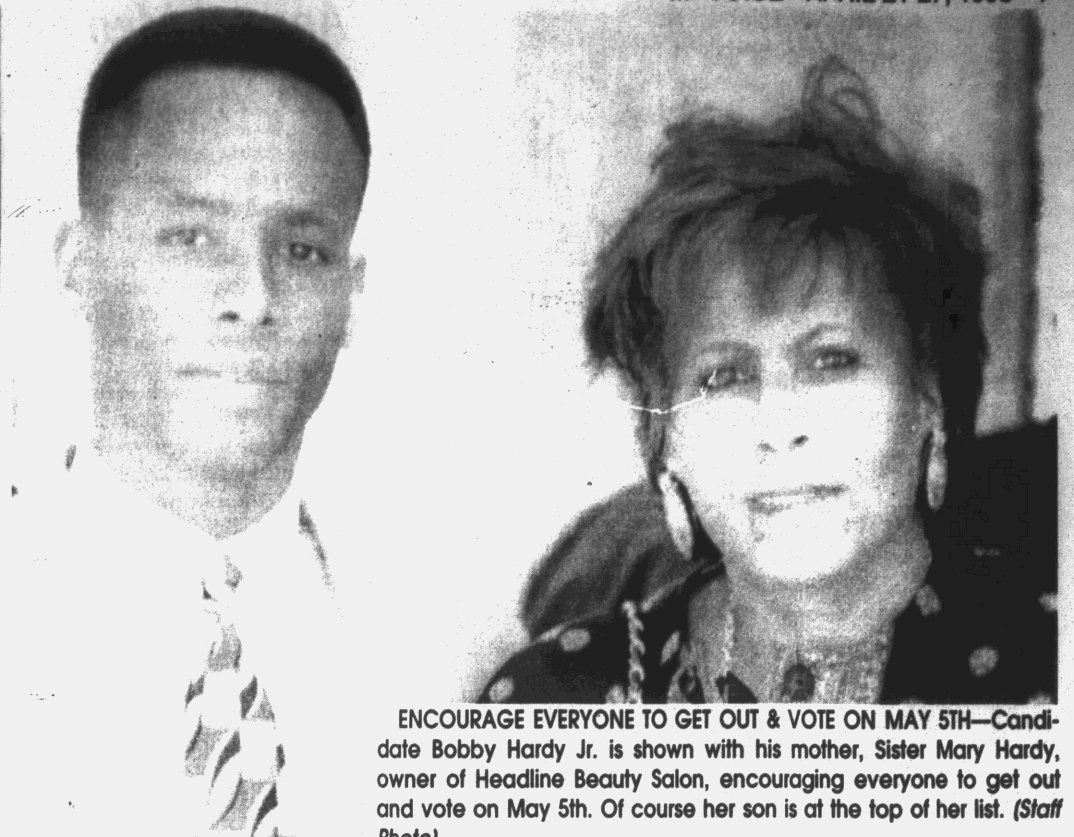
Representatives will be on hand to tell you more about these openings. BRING YOUR RESUME! If unable to attend, we'd still like to hear from you. Submit your resume, indicating your area of interest and salary history, to: Human Resources, Dept. #Job Fair, NACCO MATERIALS HANDLING GROUP, 5900 Greenville Blvd., N.E., Greenville, NC 27834. Fax: (919) 931-5355, E-Mail: aghrdpt@nmhg.com An Equal Opportunity Employer - Qualified minorities and females are encouraged to apply M/F/H/V.



NACCO MATERIALS HANDLING GROUP, INC.



SHARE A MOMENT—Henry Davis and members of Joy Production Gospel group share moments with WOOV announcer Reggie Price after a gospel performance at Arts & Recreation Center in Ayden. (Staff Photo)



ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO GET OUT & VOTE ON MAY 5TH—Candidate Bobby Hardy Jr. is shown with his mother, Sister Mary Hardy, owner of Headline Beauty Salon, encouraging everyone to get out and vote on May 5th. Of course her son is at the top of her list. (Staff Photo)

Thousands To Join In Spring Litter Sweep

No strangers to picking up litter, thousands of state prison inmates will be joining Spring Litter Sweep, a two-week partnership project endorsed by Gov. Jim Hunt and sponsored by the Department of Transportation.

Minimum and medium custody road squads, prison community work crews and other inmates will combine their efforts with volunteers and organizations such as Keep America Beautiful to pick up trash along North Carolina highways.

Motorists have noticed and complained about the increase in roadside trash, so the Partners for a Litter-Free North Carolina is devoting the weeks of April 20 and April 27 to an intensive clean-up effort.

Following a kick-off campaign at the state capitol, Correction Secretary Mack Jarvis said, "State inmates have picked up several tons of trash along North Carolina roadsides during the past few years, and we at the Department of Correction are happy to be a part of this statewide clean-up effort."

One correctional officer will supervise inmate crews of up to 10 inmates. Minimum custody inmates must be within five years of their release date and have proven themselves to be trustworthy.

VOTE David S. Hammond Pitt County Commissioner District One

PASTOR
BUSINESSMAN
COMMUNITY LEADER



- More than 30 years Public Service
- Served two terms Pitt County Development Commission
- Served on Human Relations Commission—Greenville
- Active in Pitt County Democratic Party as a Coordinator and Get-Out-The-Vote Specialist for Twenty Years
- Served on the Political Action Committee of the General Baptist State Conventions of N.C. for 12 years
- Publicity Coordinator for Black Pastors' Conference of Pitt County for 12 years (one of the founders of the conference)
- President of Flanagan Funeral Home, Inc. since 1996. Employed by Flanagan Funeral Home for more than 30 years serving Pitt, Craven, Martin, Greene, Beaufort, and Edgecombe Counties with professional and Dignified Funeral Service.

CAPABLE CONCERNED COMMITTED

Involved and In Touch with Citizens on a Daily Basis—whose Encouragement & Support have made me a Candidate.

Your Vote On MAY 5 WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect David Hammond

S.A.F.E. WALK '98

"Stop Abuse For Everyone"

Sponsored by: **TEDI BEAR Children's Advocacy Center**

WHEN: Saturday, May 2, 1998

8:45 - 9:45 a.m.Registration
9:45 - 10:00 a.m.Opening Ceremony
10:00 a.m.Walk Begins
12:00 NoonEnd of Walk Celebration

WHERE: The walk begins at the Willis Building (Corner of 1st and Reade Streets) and ends at the Town Commons

PRIZES & ENTERTAINMENT:

★GRAND PRIZE given to the person raising the most money.

★Free Food & Drinks.

★Free Balloons.

★Lots of Fun!

★Greenville International Festival, 11 am-6 pm, Town Commons

The TEDI BEAR Children's Advocacy Center serves children who are victims of neglect, sexual and/or physical abuse and their non-offending family members.

TEDI BEAR: C.A.C.

504 B Dexter Street
Greenville, North Carolina 27834

For more information contact: (252) 355-1060



Victory Christian Assembly presents an April Extravaganza with a pig picking concert with the SENSATIONAL NIGHTINGALES

of Durham, North Carolina on Saturday, April 25, 1998



The pig picking will begin at 2:00 p.m. and the concert will commence at 6:00 p.m. The doors will open at 5:00 p.m. for the concert. The cost for the pig picking and the concert is only \$10.00. Fish plates will be available too.

for more info call (919) 830-1442

COME OUT AND ENJOY GOOD FOOD AND MUSIC
Victory Christian Assembly
Corner of Moxingo and Stantonsburg Roads
Greenville, NC

CONTINUING THE MISSION 1998 is an election year Pitt County voters will elect a Sheriff

Incumbent Billy Vandiford is not worried about the competition. His concerns are focused on providing the citizens of Pitt County with quality law enforcement. Something he has focused on for the past 7 years.

There are several items that top his agenda. One of those is asking the county commissioners for additional deputies. "We are woefully short of street deputies. Calls for service have increased, but we have not had a deputy sheriff in the last five years." There have been deputies added to the department, but those deputies were assigned to grant-specified positions.

The shortage of deputies is a problem, but not a problem that can't be solved. Sheriff Vandiford is a problem solver. He tries to solve problems before they become burdens. He has implemented several programs that have generated a great deal of revenue for Pitt County. His implementation of getting inmates to pay for medical care was the first of its kind in North Carolina. This program has become the model for several other states.

The Domestic Violence Unit of the Sheriff's Department is another grant-funded program set up by Sheriff Vandiford. This program has focused on all aspects of domestic violence; from the initial distress call to follow-up visits providing avenues of help for the victim and the defendant. This unit is the first to have a team of officers that handle all aspects of domestic violence all the time.

Another issue close to Sheriff Vandiford's heart is the juve-



nile crime rates. "We need to be spending more money on at-risk youth before they enter the judicial system." Vandiford stresses that building more prisons is not the solution to the problem; keeping at-risk youth out on the system is the solution. Sheriff Vandiford strongly believes that money presently being spent to educate inmates could be better used to educate our young people before they end up in the system. He is not against inmates trying to better themselves; just that an inmate seems to have more access to education than the average citizen.

Sheriff Vandiford confronts issues that may not seem to be a Sheriff's duty to do. But, he believes that if a person has the capacity and

the power to make positive change, then they should try their best to do so.

The Sheriff's Department went through a phase of change last year. Some officers changed positions, others moved on. Sheriff Vandiford believes in a strong work ethic. You are asked to perform your job and the requirements that go with it, to the best of your ability. And if you cannot fulfill that job position, you should move on or be re-assigned to another position better suited for you.

Sheriff Vandiford is preparing for the years ahead. His department has a mission to accomplish, and he is determined to see that the mission continues against any obstacle that appears to stand in the way.

PUBLIC NOTICE ! THE COMMUNITY SERVICE LOAN PROGRAM

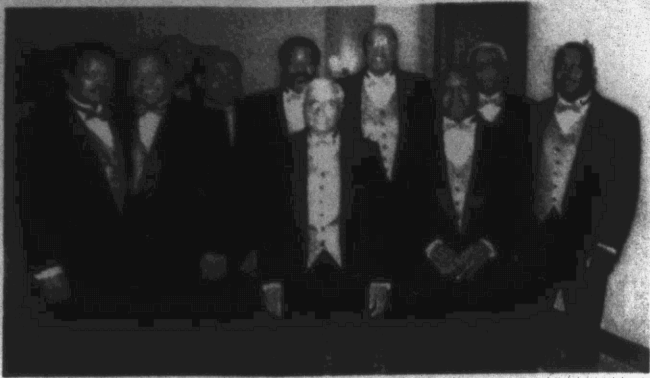
IS NOW AVAILABLE AND IS ADMINISTERED EXCLUSIVELY BY

FAMILY FUNDING INSURANCE & INVESTMENT CORPORATION

FOR COMPLETE DETAILS OR A CONFIDENTIAL INTERVIEW PLEASE CALL KEITH PERSON AT 1-252-757-1743 EXT 313 YOUR COMMUNITY SERVICE LOAN AGENT, WILL PROCESS YOUR REQUEST.

VOTE ON MAY 5, 1998 TO RE-ELECT BILLY VADIFORD SHERIFF

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT VANDIFORD SHERIFF



THE TWENTIETH CENTURY SOCIAL CLUB

20th Century Social Club Celebrates 51st Anniversary

The Twentieth Century Social Club celebrated their 51st anniversary during the Easter weekend.

Their weekend started with their annual food raffle that is held each year at the Dickenson Avenue Piggly Wiggly.

Winners this year were as follows: \$100 shopping spree—Mary Cates; \$50 shopping spree—Stephen Carr; \$25 shopping spree—Peggy Cox; \$15 gift certificate—Faye Leftwick; \$10 gift certificate—Rodger Joyner.

The President's Ball was held last Saturday night at the Hotel Hilton. Special guests for the evening were the Hon. Judge James Wynne and his lovely bride. The club honored Milliard Filmore Bell for being its sole surviving charter member. Charles Prayer was presented a plaque for past services as president of the club. All members were introduced and presented plaques of appreciation and recognition for a job well done.

Jessandra Stanley served as mistress of ceremonies, assisted by Carla Lee.

Judge Wynne spoke eloquently on the importance of the vote and the value of blacks stepping forward and being held accountable for their well-being and reaping all the benefits of being a member of this great society that we played a vital role in its progress and existence.

A moment of silence was observed in honor of the following deceased members: Barnhill, Douglas; Barrett, William "Bruce;" Colburn, Jesse; Daniels, Charlie James; Davis, Ernest "Little Boot;" Ebron, William "Jiggs;" Joyner, Howard Lee "Joy;" Payton, Ralph; Porter, Claude; Sherrrod, William "Bill;" Simpson, William; Wilson, Hildred "Skinny."

The decor was dynamic in black, white and gold. Food was superb and they all dined to the utmost. The club invites you to join them next year.

Drive Safely



GOING WHERE NEEDED—As part of a trucking and transportation unit deployed to Hungary, Army Spec. CarlOSE O. LACEWELL is responsible for ensuring convoys full of supplies and equipment make to troops deployed in war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina. (Photo by Michael Tolzmann) (See Story)

Fayetteville Man Modern Day "Road Warrior"

By Ray Gomez

Army/Air Force Hometown News Service

TAZAR, Hungary—They are known as "road warriors," and they most definitely live up to their name. These truckers, on the surface, look no different than any other red-blooded young men and women who drive their 18-wheelers along the highways and byways of America.

But the son of a Fayetteville man is a road warrior of the truest sense, making sure their trucks, loaded with critical supplies, get through to their destination in Bosnia amid such uncommon distractions as land mines, shelled roads, confrontational border guards and, at times, armed factions dotting the hills along the way.

Army Spec. CarlOSE O. LACEWELL, son of James M. LACEWELL of Fayetteville, is a member of a transportation unit based out of Kaposjolak, Hungary, which serves as a Bosnian staging base for the movement of supplies into the unstable Balkans.

With just over 100 soldiers supporting the mission out of Kaposjolak, LACEWELL's work tempo is always high. If the unit isn't transporting supplies into Bosnia, which is commonly referred to as the "box," then it's traveling to Austria to pick up supplies brought in from Germany.

LACEWELL and his unit play more than one role within the organization. They are all trained in various areas of the mission and need to be ready to move out at a moment's notice.

"As a line haul truck driver, I pretty much do all the maintenance on the vehicle in addition to driving it on convoys. We drive very long hours almost every day," LACEWELL said.

LACEWELL and the other "road warriors" have traveled into the "box," and have seen firsthand the destruction that has devastated

the nation and witnessed the first steps Bosnian people are taking to rebuild their shattered lives.

American Heart Association
Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke



There's New Hope About Stroke.

Today the outlook for stroke survivors is better than ever. New drugs are reducing the injury from stroke. And new rehabilitation procedures are helping people regain lost skills. But the key is still to get help fast. And to do that, you must

Know the Warning Signs

- Sudden weakness or numbness of the face, arm or leg on one side of the body.
- Sudden dimness or loss of vision, particularly in only one eye.
- Loss of speech, or trouble talking or understanding speech.
- Sudden severe headaches with no apparent cause.
- Unexplained dizziness, unsteadiness or sudden falls, especially along with any of the previous symptoms.

If you have any of the warning signs, don't wait! See a doctor right away!

©1992, American Heart Association

Contact the AHA's Stroke Connection at 1-800-553-6321.

Annual Memorial Service By COPA Set For Sunday April 26

Five years ago Terrence Moore was waiting for a kidney transplant to change his life. This month the 15-year veteran teacher will be at the speaker's podium along with Jeff Charles (the "Voice of the Pirates") to express appreciation to families whose loved ones were organ and tissue donors.

The annual memorial service, sponsored by the Carolina Organ Procurement Agency (COPA), is scheduled for Sunday, April 26 at 3 p.m. at the Pitt County Memorial Hospital Brody Auditorium in Greenville. Donor families from North Carolina and other states have been invited to this service where they will be honored for making the gift of life possible for people like Terrence Moore.

Other speakers include Pitt County Memorial Hospital trauma surgeon Timothy Patselas, M.D., and Darien and Tracey Ogbum whose son was an organ donor. A special video tribute comprised of pictures of donors will be shown during the service. Lloyd Jordan, Jr., executive director of the Carolina Organ Procurement Agency,

Mental Health Bell To Be Built In Pitt County

Cast from iron chains and shackles that once were used to restrain those with mental disorders, the Mental Health Bell is a powerful and humbling reminder of the harrowing treatment these individuals have endured.

Join the Mental Health Association in Pitt County as they build a bell collected with Mile of Quarters on May 3 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Plaza Mall.

Help mental health advocates and the ECU Pirates build the bell that symbolically tolls to end discrimination and rings out hope in the fight for victory over mental illness in Pitt County.

Save Our Sisters & Sons Program Set For May 2

The Save Our Sisters & Sons (SOS) program will sponsor its 1997-98 Spring Youth Conference on Saturday, May 2, at Pitt Community College located in the Humber Building.

This year's conference is on violence and is titled, "The Smoking Gun: Alternatives to Violence." The conference is open to youth ages 9 and above and to their parents.

Sessions will be held on violence, mediation and conflict resolution. There is no cost. Please contact V.C. Gaynor or M. Hardy for additional information at 752-4156.

will conclude the service by presenting donor families with special recognition pins representing their ultimate civic contribution.

The memorial service is part of the Carolina Organ Procurement Agency's After Care Program that provides ongoing support to donor families. The service is also part of an entire month of activities for Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Month. Events are being held throughout the state and the nation during April to promote awareness about donation and recognize the families of donors who made the gift of life possible.

April is Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Month. Approximately 60,000 people are on the waiting list for a life-saving organ. Share your decision to be a donor with your family today so they can carry out your wishes later. You have the power to save lives. Share your life and share your decision.

How do you become a donor? You can become a donor three ways: indicate "yes" on your driver's license, sign and carry a donor card, and express your wishes to your family. The most important thing to do is to discuss organ donation with your family today so they can carry out your wishes later.

You have the power to save lives. Share your life and share your decision.

For more information about organ and tissue donation call 1-800-200-2672 or visit the web site at www.copanc.org.



ULYSSES GRANT BELL

Ulysses Grant Bell, Jr. Dies In Greenville

Ulysses Grant Bell, Jr. was the first child born to Grant Bell, Sr. and Rosa E. Bell, June 10, 1916. He died March 27 at the Pitt County Memorial Hospital.

Bell was a native of Pitt County, Greenville.

He attended the public schools and graduated from the Greenville Industrial High School in June 1937. Before graduating from high school he worked with his father and brothers at Bell's Cafe on Albermarle Avenue.

In the year of 1941 he attended the formerly named Agricultural and Technical College of Greensboro. He served in the Army

for 3 1/2 years. He was discharged with honors in the year 1945. When he returned to Greenville he worked with his father and brothers at Bell's Cafe and taught auto mechanics for six years.

In the year of 1950, the Bells' business grew and they opened a grocery store which Filmore and Grant, Jr. ran. Grant continued to work in the grocery store and cafe until the year of 1955, when he opened Bell's Service Station on Third Street and Memorial Drive. He worked there until he retired in the year of 1991.

He was baptized as a child and embraced Christian practices which instilled in him a people-appreciative virtue. Grant held fast to his values and all who came to know him remarked about his character, and the warm and endearing personality which was exhibited in how he regarded his fellow man.

He was married to Jessie Jones in the year of 1947, and to this union three sons were born.

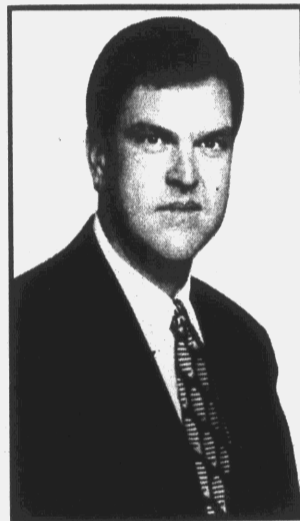
He was a faithful member of the Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church from 1935 to 1975. White there he worked in many capacities, especially as treasurer.

In the year of 1975 he joined Mt. Calvary Freewill Baptist Church and served well as superintendent of Sunday School and on the Deacon and Trustee Boards.

His hobbies were collecting antiques of any sort and reading, especially the Bible.

In the year of 1982 he was married to A.D. Daniels and they remained married until his death.

Subscribe!



While crime has declined across the state in recent years... in Pitt County it's on the rise. As a matter of fact, crime is rising at an alarming rate. Here are some of the statistics.

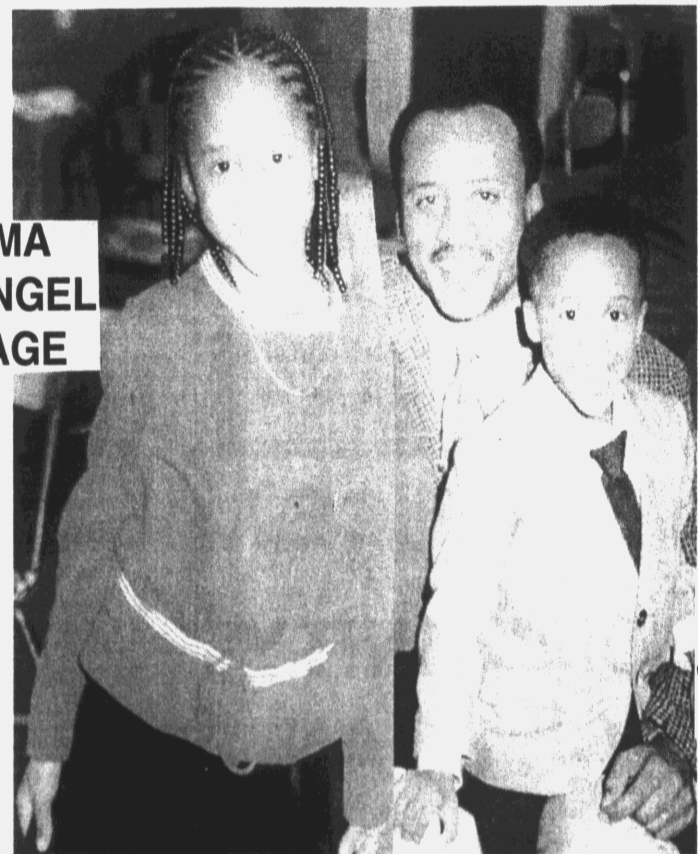
Last year robbery was up by 35%. Burglary up 12%. Larceny up 14%. **It's time to get tough on crime!** On May fifth vote Mac Manning for Sheriff of Pitt County.

Mac Manning

for Sheriff of PITT COUNTY
Vote Democratic - May 5, 1998

Paid for by: The committee to elect Mac Manning Sheriff of Pitt County • Elaine G. Denton, Treasurer

ELECT DADDY JEFF SAVAGE



NAIMA EVEANGEL SAVAGE

AKEEM JEFFREY SAVAGE

TO
N.C. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
DISTRICT 8
VOTE ON MAY 5, 1998

PAID FOR BY COMMITTEE TO ELECT MAY DADDY TO N.C. HOUSE

Anderson Chapel AME Church Opens In City

A new congregation has been born; a new church in Greenville has become a reality. From vision to dreams, prayer, plans, commitment, challenge and much encouragement the vision is now a reality. The Anderson Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church was officially organized on March 31.

The new church name, "Anderson Chapel" honors their bishop, the Rt. Rev. Vinton Randolph Anderson, presiding prelate of the Second Episcopal District. Bishop Anderson is the General Board President of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and the current president of the World Council of Churches, the first AME Bishop to hold this position.

Under the direction of Rev. Dr. L.O. Saunders, presiding elder of the Northern District of the North Carolina Conference, Rev. Faircloth and a faithful group of people were able to bring this vision to fruition. Presiding Elder Saunders and the senior pastors of the district met with Rev. Faircloth and the 10 charter members of the new congregation in her home to organize the church per The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, 1996.

These pastors and the charter members live in various towns in Eastern North Carolina. Some came from Wilmington, New Bern, Richland, Kinston, Rocky Mount, Winterville and Greenville for the organizational meeting. It was at this organizational meeting that the charter members met the criteria for forming a new church. This birthing process started more than five years ago when Rev. Faircloth realized each time she visited North Carolina from New Jersey, there was no presence of an AME Church in Greenville. York Memorial was and is the only AME Zion Church in Greenville.

In December 1996, Rev. Faircloth and her husband Vernon relocated to Winterville. They were both born in North Carolina and this was a long-awaited dream come true. Last year Rev. Faircloth transferred from the New Jersey Conference of the 1st Episcopal District to the N.C. Conference of the 2nd Episcopal District. At the North Carolina Annual Conference in May, 1997, Bishop Anderson gave his approval to start a new work for the AME Church in Greenville. After research, evangelistic work, prayer and weekly Bible study sessions in her home with a faithful group of believers, the vision of an AME church in the Greenville area became a reality. At this historic meeting the Rev.



REV. DR. L. O. SAUNDERS
Presiding Elder-Northern District
N.C. Conference



REV. MARY W. FAIRCLOTH
New Pastor
Anderson Chapel A.M.E Church

Mary Williams Faircloth of Winterville was appointed to her first pastorate as the "Pastor" of Anderson Chapel AME Church. Officers of the new church were also appointed and elected at the same organizational meeting.

In celebrating the birth of this new church a dinner was hosted at the Dixie Queen restaurant in Winterville, by Presiding Elder L.O. Saunders with several pastors of the Northern District, including Pastor Mary Faircloth, her hus-

band and the charter members of Anderson Chapel. Among some of the well wishers for this glorious event were the manager of the Dixie Queen, well known realtor/broker Dede Carney of First Choice Properties, of Greenville, who was the relocation specialist for the Faircloths, Greenville's First District Councilwoman, Mildred Council, her family and a host of others.

On April 5, Palm Sunday the first worship service was conducted by the new pastor and Holy Communion was celebrated. Anderson Chapel as was the original African Methodist Episcopal Church, Mother Bethel in Philadelphia was born out of faith, prayer and labors of love.

Pastor Faircloth, the officers and congregation of Anderson Chapel AME Church will hold Sunday worship services, beginning May 31st and subsequent Sunday services on the first and third Sunday of each month, at The Boys and Girls Club of Pitt County located on Firetower Road, Greenville.

Roger Wilkins To Head "Crisis"

Roger Wilkins, a scholar, activist and former Pulitzer Prize Board chairman, has been named chairman of the board of the NAACP's journal *Crisis*.

"We are overjoyed to have Roger Wilkins," Julian Bond, NAACP Board chairman, said. "He combines the activist's passionate commitment to racial justice with the rigorous intellectualism of the scholar."

Wilkins succeeds Bond as *Crisis* chair.

Roger Wilkins comes from a family with generations of commitment to advancing civil rights and improving the quality of life for African-Americans and for all Americans.

Wilkins' uncle, Roy Wilkins, was assistant editor of the *Crisis* from 1934 to 1949, and served as editor of *Crisis* before becoming NAACP executive secretary, a position he held until 1977.


Wilkins' aunt, Marvel Cooke, was an assistant to W.E.B. DuBois at *Crisis* from 1928 to 1930 and later became a pioneering woman journalist.

"Roger Wilkins' appointment as chair of *Crisis* is a proud day for civil rights that links the past with the present and signals an exciting future for the *Crisis* journal," said Kweisi Mfume, NAACP president and CEO.

Roger Wilkins has had a distinguished career as a lawyer, journalist and educator. He was an assistant attorney general of the United States in the 1960s.

"*Crisis* is in my blood," Wilkins said. "I share Chairman Bond's and President Mfume's aspirations for the *Crisis* to be both indispensable reading for all those who are struggling for racial and economic justice and for it to be a vital weapon in that struggle."

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Real Estate
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GARRETT
AGENCY
"SINCE 1946"**



**Call Us If You Need Someone To
Collect Your Rent and Manage Your Property**

- 40,000, 201 Nash St., 2 B/R, 1 Bath, B/V, Corner Lot, Fenced
- 60,000, 205 Edge Rd., Ayden, 6 rms, 1 Bath, B/V, Lot 85 X 133, Fenced
- 40,000, 201 Nash Street, 2 B/R, 1 Bath, B/V, Corner Lot, Fenced
- 40,000 - 602 E. Gum Rd., 2 Bed Rms. Dwelling, 1 Bath, Central Heat, Garage, Fenced, Rent 250.00.
- 42,500 - 105 S. Melvin St., BR., 1 Bath, Cement Blk. Freshly Painted, Kinston, N.C.
- 47,500 - 550 County Ac, 5 Rms, 3 BR., 2 Bath, Cement Blk, Grifton, N.C.
- 47,800 - 1231 Davenport St., 5 rms, 3 BR., 1 bath, Brick., Rented 325.00.
- 41,500 - 304 Rountree Dr., 2 BR., 1 Bath, Brick, Cent. Heat Carport Lot 93 x 130, Greenville.

**606 Albemarle Ave.
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Nice
Building
Lots. We
handle
Conv.,
HUD, VA
& FMA
Financing**





INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL GREENVILLE NORTH CAROLINA

**Saturday, May 2, 1998
11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Greenville Town Common
First Street
Greenville, N.C.**




GREAT Bus Free Ride Day!

This project is supported in part by a grant from the Grassroots Arts Program of the North Carolina Arts Council, a state agency, and the Pitt County Arts Council



Dan Wynne

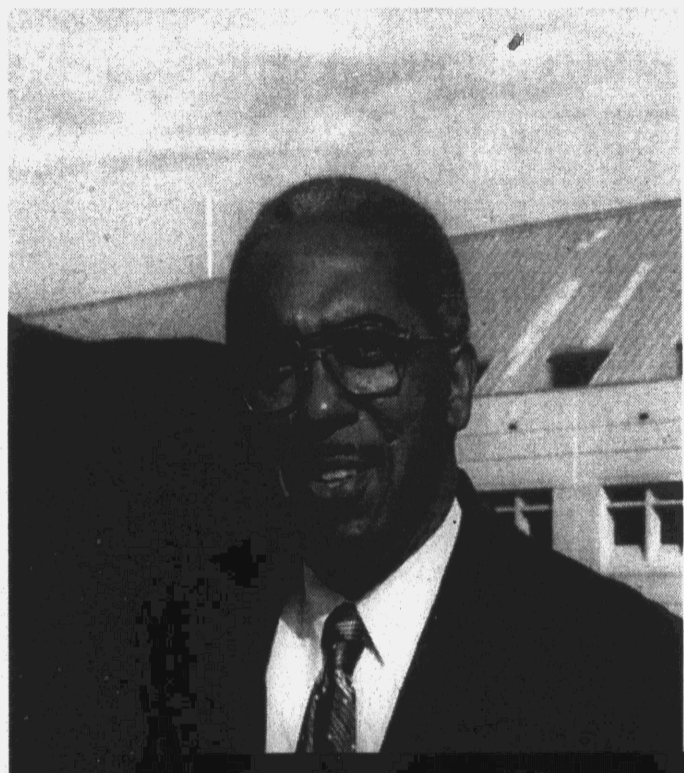
Candidate
**Pitt County
Commissioner
District 3
Vote May 5, 1998**

If elected County Commissioner for District 3, I will support these issues:

- 1. Education -** The people will have to have an education to meet their future needs and goals. I support classroom technology.
- 2. Environment -** It is important to maintain a safe water supply and clean rivers. The county needs to have a start-up program for a county-wide sewage system.
- 3. Law & Order -** I support maintaining and improving the present programs now in use by the Sheriff's Department.
- 4. Employment -** We need to work in securing industry that employs people with different educational backgrounds.
- 5. Zoning -** I would support a simple zoning plan if the county would show good intentions to provide sewer and water for the citizens.
- 6. Open Meetings -** I believe in open meetings since it's the peoples' agenda. Any other way of conducting business has not worked well in the past.
- 7. Personal Information -** I am married to Erlene Copeland Wynne and we have three adult children. I am a retired farmer, a veteran of the Korean Conflict, having served in the U.S. Coast Guard. I reside in the Pactolus Township and am a retired member of the Pactolus Volunteer Fire Department. I am currently president of the Pitt County Farm Bureau and a member of the Tar-Pamlico River Council.

Paid For By Committee to Elect DAN WYNNE to PITT COUNTY COMMISSIONER

B U S I N E S S B A N K I N G



*Ralph K. Shelton, President
Southeast Fuels
Greensboro, NC*

Ralph Shelton knows the coal business. As president of Southeast Fuels, he has built its reputation as a reliable source of coal to such major consumers as Duke University and CP&L.

Ralph Shelton also knows what he wants from a bank.


"First Citizens is a mid-sized bank with a personality geared to respond to businesses quickly and simply."

Southeast Fuels provides excellent service to its customers. First Citizens supplies the banking services to maintain that excellence.

"With our line of credit it just takes a phone call to expand our cash flow."

"First Citizens' line of credit is a great product. And with their system of electronic payments, we can transfer money fast. They're really a great bank to work with."

Business Banking Services from First Citizens. Quick, simple, responsive. The way business wants to bank.



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FIRST CITIZENS BANK

*Established 1898
Member FDIC*

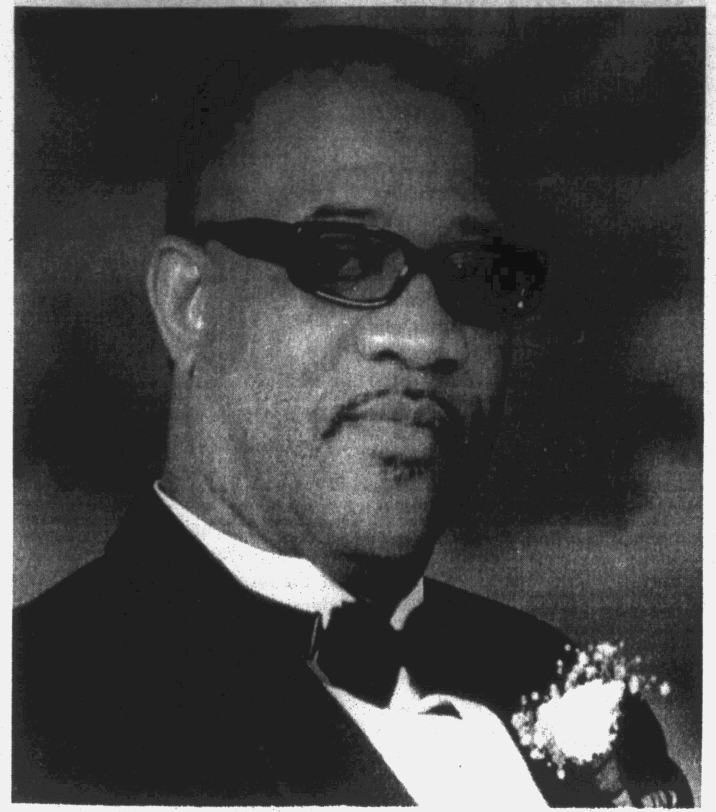
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ROUNTREE AND ASSOCIATES FUNERAL HOME



Terence E. Rountree
Owner & Funeral Director

*Blessed Are They
That Mourn
For They Shall
Be Comforted
St. Matthew
5:4*



Rev. Vernor Blake Phillips
Owner & Public Relations

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT... PRESELECTING-A-FUNERAL HOME

Preselecting a funeral home is a very important decision. There are a number of advantages to choosing a funeral home in advance of death. To begin with, it will enable you to find the one that best suits your needs. As with most other professions, there is a whole range to choose from.

At the Rountree and Associates Funeral Home, our staff has over 40 years of funeral service experience. We are recognized and respected for our specialized services and technical skills in caring for your loved one. Equally important, our aim is to do all in our power to lighten the burden which is yours by offering the finest service at an affordable price.

Because we care, we offer our families the option of Advance Funeral Planning. It just makes sense because...

1. It relieves your family from making difficult decisions at a very emotional time.
2. You can express your own wishes--Often families may agonize over what you have wanted. By selecting your options in advance, there is no doubt.
3. You can relieve the financial burden from those you love--Save your family the burden of paying higher prices later, we have plans that will assure that your survivors will never have to pay any additional funds for the services and merchandise you select.

Remember friends, call a dependable Funeral Home. You may be amazed at how good it makes you feel to get your wishes on file with us. Contact us for a consultation, and there is, of course, no cost, or obligation for these services.

Rountree and Associates Funeral Home
712 Dickinson Avenue
Greenville, N.C. 27834

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DAY or NIGHT

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OUR FLEET

