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EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S MINORITY VOICE SINCE 1981 ISSUE WEEK AUGUST 19-AUGUST 25, 1998

National Urban League Push for Economic Empowerment

by Kitty J. Pope

The National Urban League's Annual Conference was held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia several weeks ago. The four-day conference featured such speakers as Rev. Jesse Jackson, US Vice-president, Al Gore, NAACP board chairman, Julian Bond, Chairman and CEO of Sears, Roebuck and Co., Arthur Martinez, pioneer astronaut, Dr. Mac Jamison, Chairman/CEO of Texaco, INC., Peter I. Bijur, and several other distinguished leaders. Entertainment was provided by Harold Melvin & Blue Notes, Roberta Flack and the Whispers.

National Urban League President Hugh Price and Peter Bijur of Texaco addressed the conference that Tuesday and Julian Bond and Rev. Jesse Jackson spoke on Wednesday. Each speaker's theme focused on the inclusion of African Americans in America's business structure. Each emphasized the Urban League's Mission to enforce and create fair employment and economic possibilities.

Because Texaco exploded into national attention when company executives were taped discussing blacks in derogative terms, the representative from Texaco had been anticipated intensely by the audience. Surveys of the company had also revealed difficulty for blacks attempting to buy Texaco

franchises. Because of these embarrassing revelations, Texaco has increased availability for minority business opportunities.

Bijur, in his speech entitled "What is the corporate Commitment to Real Diversity," said that Texaco is now an example that real diversity must be integrated into a company's business plan. "It must guide our strategies for hiring, developing, promoting and retaining a diverse workforce. And it must extend beyond our corporate boundaries - not only to our customers and suppliers, but also to the communities where we work and live," said Bijur.

Rev. Jesse Jackson spoke on establishing effective means of realizing economic power. With his usual fiery tone, he talked about "leveling the playing field" for economic power. Jackson said that resources within the African-American community must be identified and developed.

As head of Operation Push, Jackson has established a new unit within the organization called "The Wall Street Project and Rainbow Push Coalition" which will begin buying blocks of stock in companies that were found to be reluctant in fairly spending with minorities. The idea is to buy influence in the companies to force a change in direction.

Julian Bond talked about mining the ready talent and resources within the black community for long-lasting economic strength. Bond outlined strategies to broaden the perspectives of the professional organizations' influences and goals to attain social and economic equality.

Urban League President Hugh Price said, "Many of us have been laboring under the false comfort that the expansion of the black middle class and the creation of individual black millionaires have moved African Americans closer to economic parity in America. The reality is that no matter how great incomes become for individual Blacks, our wealth is not sustained because we have very few assets that can be passed on from generation to generation."

Price went on to say that individual self-sufficiency as important as that is, cannot be the ultimate goal. Black folks must push past that and go for economic power. Self-empowerment through combined wealth is the only avenue African-Americans can use to assure their future, said Price. "We risk missing out on prosperity in the next millennium if community leaders fail to set a new agenda based on amassing wealth and accumulating assets," he added.

The National Urban League

called on brother organizations such as the NAACP to join efforts for tougher economic accountability of civil and economic rights for all Americans. The League announced at the conference that black families need to spend less to save and invest more. The organization has called for the creation of government programs that would help more minorities buy homes and businesses and learn marketable job skills. The National Urban League urged American's universities, corporations, labor unions, and all organizations as well as the government to make a renewed commitment to affirmative action.

Vice-President Gore presence during the Business and Labor Luncheon underscores the Clinton Administration's endorsement of the National Urban League and its commitment to diversity in the workplace. Gore joined Sears Chair & CEO Arthur Martinez in presenting the National Urban League with a million dollar check from Sears. "Martinez said that the contribution demonstrates Sears' commitment to the National Urban League's mission and will help build and prepare leaders of tomorrow to lead into the millenium and beyond."

With a mission of helping African Americans obtain social

Soul Music under the Stars...



Above Ronnie Isley of the famed Isley Brothers performs "live" before capacity crowds during "Sweet Sound of Soul Tour" at the Walnut Creek Amphitheater in Raleigh. Also headlining the concert was Earth, Wind & Fire, and the Famous O'Jays. According to concert goers, the Isleys' stole the show. More than 20,000 people attended this fabulous event. Photo by Jim Rouse

and economic equality, the National Urban League Annual Conference has been a premier forum on race relations in America. It has served as a critical opportunity to assess the state of the African American community to network, and to advance the civil rights agenda. More than 4,000 people attended this year's conference.

PITT COUNTY SCLC PRESIDENT BENNIE ROUNTREE: COMMUNITY SERVANT...

BY KITTY J. POPE



Bennie Rountree
Bennie Rountree has been President of the Pitt County Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) for the past 26 years. He had served as Vice President for 10 years before becoming President. The SCLC was founded by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1957 to fight for civil rights.

County in helping to improve the social conditions for black people. With nearly 600 members, Rountree has the largest and one of the most effective chapters in the state of North Carolina.

Without the aid of a college degree or even a high school diploma, Rountree has established himself as a very strong and viable force in the area of civil rights and economic development. Aside from being at the forefront for black equality, he has continued to running a successful real estate business. A firm believer in black economic empowerment he has also continued to emphasize the importance of Blacks having their own businesses.

With little or no formal education, Rountree has used common sense and wisdom to become a well-respected leader in the Pitt County Community. Even though Rountree has been asked to dine with the governor and heads of states, Rountree affirmed that it is the joy in doing the little things toward helping his fellow man that are most rewarding.

Rountree grew up poor, having to work hard in cotton fields at a very early age. He became very interested in civil rights when he noticed how much better off white families were socially and economically when compared with blacks. As a youth, he couldn't understand

this, but he knew that things needed to change for black people. These memories prompted his desire to work to help black people to become more self-sufficient.

A man of selflessness and gratitude, Rountree has always served others, sometimes before thinking of himself. When he got old enough to work to save money, he used the money that he saved to buy homes for his three sisters before he bought one for himself. "My mother died when I was 18 months old and my oldest sister raised me. I bought her a house when I was 20 years old as a way of showing thanks," says Rountree. "I also bought my other sister a house and made a good down payment on one for my other sister," he adds.

A servant of the community, Rountree strongly believes in giving back to help others. "I believe that a person should be thankful for what he has. Even when I was very poor, I was always thankful for what I did have. I am thankful to God for what I have now. That is why I'm willing to serve the people and the community," he explains.

At his own expense, Rountree has hosted a radio program dedicated to the dream of his mentor, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for the past three years. He has used the program to talk to people about

social problems in an effort to call the community to action.

Rountree, who just attended the SCLC convention in Washington, DC, and gave a personal donation of \$1,000 to the organization, says that he will continue to fight racism as Pitt County SCLC President. In addition to fighting racism, a goal for this year includes trying to help young people. He is deeply concerned about unemployment, drug abuse, and the school dropout rate among youth.

"The youth are our future and we must all do our part in helping the next generation to be the best that they can be," explained Rountree.



Left Coach Al Powell, author of the 40oz Scandal is pictured with Congresswoman Eva Clayton, along with Rural and Economics Development Director Thadlock (back) and Rev. Williams of Washington, N.C., after a meeting on Water and Grant Availability.



Breakfast at St. Peter's Church. Shown here is the Pastor of St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church, Daniel House along with Congresswoman Eva Clayton who attended the opening of the church's new sanctuary. Also in attendance was Greenville Mayor Nancy Jenkins (right) along with Rev. C.R. Parker and his sister. You can visit St. Peter's for God's Blessing and Fellowship. It's always good to be a part of a church home. St. Peter's can be found on Munford Road. (Photos by Jim Rouse)

'WE MUST BE ROLE MODELS,' SAYS LEGAL LEGEND GARY



Attorney Willie E. Gary, known as a tenacious litigator whose commanding presence and impassioned oratory have moved juries to tears -- is a master in the courtroom. He's also a master behind a podium speaking to an audience--unusually detailing his rags-to-riches story.

Gary, one of the nation's most successful trial attorneys, was in Memphis attending the National Bar Association's 73rd annual convention. Gary and his law firm sponsored a reception and celebration honoring Attorney John L. Crump, NBA executive director, for 20 years of dedicated service to the NBA.

Gary, described as "The Giant Killer" because of the large number of suits he has won against large corporations, honored Crump with a seven-day cruise anywhere in the Caribbean with his wife and a \$1,000 check to spend however he

NATION'S BLACK YOUTH PLANS FOR FUTURE IN NEXT MILLENNIUM

By Alvin Peabody



Dennis B. Rogers, left, and Rev. Jamal-Harrison Bryant are crisscrossing the U.S. to promote the forthcoming Million Youth Movement rally in Atlanta. (Photo by Antwon Williams)

Rogers explained that "the nation's youth are being brought together as a positive group of people showing the world that we can make a difference. This is also a cry for help from the inside, whereby we are urging our young people to put their priorities in place."

Activities planned for the Million Youth Movement rally include

workshops on the development of youth in the areas of spiritual, social, economic, education and political spheres. In addition, a panel of experts who represent the youth and adult perspective will address issues from a solution-oriented perspective while also discussing a 10-point action plan, which calls for the overall improve-

ment in the condition of youth and the communities in which they live.

"In the 1960s, young people bravely and eloquently articulated a new vision for America. They led a movement of moral righteousness demanding racial justice and social equality," observed the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr., who was a student during the 1960s.

However, 34 years since he helped fight for the passage of the historic Civil Rights Act and 33 years after the passage of the Voting Rights Act, Jackson sees that the struggle still continues for America's youth.

"Today, the door of equal opportunity, opened only partially by affirmative action and other civil rights legislation, is being slammed shut with the passage of Proposition 209," added Jackson, whose Rainbow Coalition has endorsed the Million Youth Movement rally. "While our hearts are heavy as we witness the resurgence of regressive politics and social policies we had hoped were a curse of the past, we are heartened by the response of resistance from our youth."

In the Washington, D.C. area, the planned rally is garnering

much support. At the University of Maryland's African American Leadership Program, Director Ron Walters noted the "importance of recognizing our nation's young people and the role that they must play in securing social justice. They will be required to continue the legacy of their predecessors and they must continue to challenge injustice nationally and around the world. Surely, this event will help them to explore and solidify their commitment to leading our communities into the next millennium."

The planned rally has also received support from Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, NAACP President Kweisi Mfume, the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, National Coalition of African Student Action, Constituency for Africa as well as the United Church of Christ. "We're really hoping to spark a movement after this event," vowed Rogers, who also serves as a national coordinator for the National Coalition on Black Voter Participation.

We are going into the inner cities, on basketball courts and into the malls of America to help dispel the many myths of the Black male

Continues on page 2

We Must Be Role Models
(Continues from Page 1)

chooses. Also, Gary's law firm—Gary, Williams, Parenti, Finney, Lewis, McManus, Watson & Sperando, presented Crump with a \$100,000 check to support the NBA.

During the standing-room-only reception with about 1,500 in attendance, he introduced his law partners and staff, his wife Gloria Royal who he began "chasing" in the second grade, four sons, and three grandchildren. He spoke about his success, hard work, faith, and the need to give back. Gary covers these topics in many of his speeches.

Sounding like a southern Baptist minister, Gary usually informs crowds that he was one of 11 children and that they were poor. "I was born in a little wooden shack in the middle of a cotton field. We slept in tents with no wooden floors. I could only go to school one-half day. I went to school many days without shoes on my feet and wore two pairs of pants to cover up the holes. The deck was stacked against me. But it didn't stop me because I wanted to be somebody. There were times when I felt like giving up, but something deep down inside said, 'run on... see what the end is going to be.'"

After high school, Gary was denied a football scholarship at Bethune-Cookman College so he headed to Shaw University in Raleigh, NC on a bus. Determined to obtain a college education, he literally showed up unannounced on the doorstep of the university in the fall of 1967 with \$13 in his pocket. Unfortunately the football team roster had already been filled and Gary was turned away. Undeterred, he stayed on campus and slept in dormitory

lounges (where football players smuggled him food from the cafeteria) and ingratiated himself to the Shaw football coach by cleaning up the locker room while the team practiced.

Impressed by his determination, the coach called Gary in to substitute for a defensive lineman who was injured during drills. Gary miraculously made the team and won a scholarship.

"Shaw took me in when I was but a poor migrant farm boy and offered me opportunity and hope when other avenues to higher education and upward mobility seemed closed," Gary stated.

He said when he got out of law school, he decided that he was going to become one of the best lawyers in this nation. "And through hard work—more hard work, dedication, determination and faith in God, I'm working on it!"

"I say 'working on it' because the road to success is always under construction and you have to work on it every day. You can never let

up, you have to go out and earn your wings every day because no one is going to get you anything," exclaimed Gary.

A major asset of Gary's is his strong desire to win. He said when he walks into a court room, he feels he is supposed to win. "I can't stand to lose anything. You show me a good loser and I'll show you a loser."

In 1975, at age 27, Gary opened the first Black law firm in Stuart, Fla. It has grown to 17 attorneys and a professional staff of 41, including investigators, paralegals, secretaries and administrative personnel. His law firm brings in \$40 million to \$50 million in settlements every year.

A malpractice and personal injury specialist who is revered nationally for his skill at winning multimillion dollar awards for his clients, Gary is well-known in the legal industry for winning a \$500 million civil trial in Jackson, Miss.

Success is reachable and goals are attainable, according to the 50-year-old multimillionaire, but

you have to want it real bad. "You have to want it so bad that you can taste it. The sky is the limit. You have to set your goals high, reach for the stars and refuse to be denied."

"There are no free rides and carrying rabbit feet in your pocket won't help you. Somebody once asked me why I was so lucky and I told them that the harder I work,

the luckier I get. Nobody ever said it was going to be easy. All you have to do is be willing to work hard, trust in God and believe that you can. Think you can... think you can't... either way—you are right," espouses Gary.

His ~~own~~ power of positive thinking and hard work, I know about racism, oppression, and discrimination," he said. "

know they exist. But you've got to want to be somebody to make it in this world. You've got to be willing to pay a price. I feel I've paid a price and beat the odds."

Gary, a philanthropist who knows better than many about financial need, encourages others—particularly high profile African Americans—to follow his lead to

Continues on Page 3

State Briefs

compiled by Cash Michaels
Wilmington Journal

Judge Earl Britt To Call It A Career

RALEIGH After eighteen years of presiding over some of North Carolina's most famous cases, U.S. District Judge W. Earl Britt will retire from the bench January 2nd. Well known as a no-nonsense jurist who wouldn't waste a moment putting even the most powerful defense attorneys in their place, Judge Britt earned the reputation of being one of the most feared, but certainly one of the respected federal judges in the country. President Clinton has not yet announced who he will nominate to replace Britt

S.C. Blacks More Likely to get Pregnant, Report Says

COLUMBIA In South Carolina, Black teenage girls are more likely to become pregnant, be in poorer health and have babies who are malnourished, according to South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental statistics. Those children are also more likely to be born smaller, and die, officials say, as a result. New approaches are needed to impact these sobering facts, officials say, but so far, they are having a hard time understanding what is causing the spiraling rate of pregnancy among Black teens.

New "No Public Potty Law" In Durham

DURHAM Have to use the bathroom in the Bull City? As of now, it better not be on the street or a public park. The Durham City Council, mimicking laws already in

Continues on Page 3

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

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Parents Involvement Group Formed In Support of Public Schools....



Jacqueline Harper (left) and Donna Jacobs (right), Parent Involvement Coordinators for Parents for Public Schools as pictured at their recent reception.

A coalition of community groups Chamber of Commerce, which includes Parents for Public Communities in Schools, Schools, the Greenville/Pitt County Community Schools, Partnership

for Progress, the League of Women Voters, the Family Support Network, the PTA Council, the Mediation Center of Eastern Carolina and Greenville Housing Authority have joined forces in support of public schools.

The long term goal of the coalition is to improve the quality for all children in Pitt County through the efforts of parent involvement. In many cases parents are not involved because of lack of knowledge on how to help their child or the school. The coalition envisions a community in which the majority of parents are actively involved in their children's education, both on the home front and in the schools.

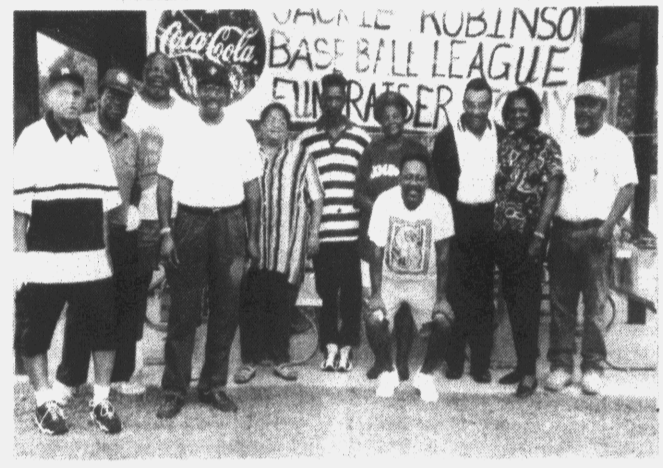
The network of parents created by the coalition will be reflective of the entire community. Parents and students from different neighborhoods, socioeconomic strata and ethnic backgrounds will learn from each other.

The short term goals of the coalition are to create three assessments: a Principal's assessment to gather input from principals throughout Pitt County and Parent and Teacher assessments to assist with planning parent training sessions.

With funding from the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation, the Parents for Public Schools Coalition has employed two parent involvement coordinators, Jacqueline Harper and Donna Jacobs, to coordinate and teach training sessions to parents.

Parent training sessions scheduled in July will teach parents how to serve effectively on School Involvement Teams. For further information, contact Parents for Public Schools at 752-5504.

Jackie Robinson Baseball League Fundraisers gather at Tom Forman Park



Jackie Robinson League Commissioner Micheal Jordan (back and left) is pictured with some of the league's supporters. The winners of the Jackie Robinson League for this year's contest was Phillip Church of Christ. (Phot: Jim Rouse)

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**State Briefs
Continues from Page 3**

force in other Tar Heel cities like Raleigh, adopted the Public Urination and Defecation Law." Police there are now empowered to lock up anyone caught "relieving" themselves in public. Observers say the law specifically targets "homeless" people, who don't have immediate access to bathroom facilities. But city leaders say their citizens demanded something be done after drunken revelers would leave their streets and neighborhoods filthy and disheveled.

Charlotte Boy Savagely Beaten
CHARLOTTE Laverne Hughes doesn't understand why four children
Continues on Page 7

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Diabetes in African Americans

from the National Diabetes Information Clearinghouse, NIH Publication No. 97-3266, March 1997

How Do Diabetes Complications Affect African Americans?

Compared to white Americans, African Americans experience higher rates of three diabetes complications—blindness, kidney failure, and amputations. They also experience greater disability from these complications. Some factors that influence the frequency of these complications such as delay in diagnosis and treatment of diabetes, denial of diabetes, abnormal blood lipids, high blood pressure, and cigarette smoking, can be influenced by proper diabetes management.

Kidney Failure

African Americans experience kidney failure, also called end-stage renal disease (ESRD), from 2.5 to 5.5 times more often than white Americans. Interestingly though, hypertension, not diabetes, is the leading cause of kidney failure in black Americans. Hypertension accounts for almost 38 percent of ESRD cases in African Americans, whereas diabetes causes 32.5 percent. In spite of their high rates of the disease, African Americans have better survival rates from kidney failure than white Americans.

Visual Impairment

The frequency of severe visual impairment is 40 percent higher in African Americans with diabetes than in white Americans. Blindness caused by diabetic retinopathy is twice as common in blacks as in whites. Compared to white women, black women are three times more likely to become blind with diabetes. African American men have a 30% higher rate of blindness than white American men. Diabetic retinopathy may occur more frequently in black Americans than whites because of their higher rate of hypertension.

Amputations

African Americans undergo more diabetes-related lower-extremity amputations than white or Hispanic Americans. One study of 1990 U.S. hospital discharge figures showed amputation rates for African Americans with diabetes were 19 percent higher than for white Americans. In a 1991 California study, however, African Americans were 72 percent more likely to have diabetes-related amputations than white Americans, and 117 percent more likely than Hispanic

Americans.

Does Diabetes Cause Excess Deaths In African Americans? Diabetes was an uncommon cause of death among African Americans at the turn of the century. By 1993, however, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics, death certificates listed diabetes as the fifth leading cause of death for African Americans aged 45 to 64, and the third leading cause of death for those aged 65 and older in 1990. Diabetes is more dangerous for African American women, for whom it was the third leading cause of death for all ages in 1990.

Diabetes death rates may actually be higher than these studies show for two reasons. First, diabetes might not have been diagnosed. Second, many doctors do not list diabetes as a cause of death, even when the person was known to have diabetes.

Prevention

In 1996, NIDDK launched its Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP). The goal of this research effort is to learn how to prevent Type 2 diabetes in people with impaired glucose tolerance (IGT) and in women with a history of gestational diabetes. As mentioned, both are strong risk factors for Type 2 diabetes.

About 4,000 volunteers are participating in DPP. The study is being conducted at 25 centers throughout the United States and has enrolled volunteers from groups at high risk for developing Type 2 diabetes. Because of the propensity toward diabetes among some ethnic groups, about half of the DPP participants are African American, Hispanic American, and Native American. Other at-risk participants are the elderly, overweight people and women with a

previous history of gestational diabetes.

DPP will evaluate three interventions to prevent Type 2: an intensive healthy eating and exercise program and the use of two diabetes medications, metformin and troglitazone. Researchers will tailor interventions to the cultural needs of individuals in the program. The DPP began in 1996 and will follow participants for about five years, with findings to be released before 2005.

Points to Remember

****In 1993, 1.3 million African Americans were known to have diabetes. This is almost three times the number of African Americans who were diagnosed with diabetes in 1963.**

****For every white American who gets diabetes 1.6 African American gets diabetes.**

****The highest incidence of diabetes in blacks occurs between 65 to 74 years of age. Twenty-five percent of these individuals have diabetes.**

****Obesity is a major medical risk factor for diabetes in African Americans, especially for women. Some diabetes may be prevented with weight control through healthy eating and regular exercise.**

****African Americans have higher incidence of and greater disability from diabetes complications such as kidney failure, visual impairment, and amputations.**

****If African Americans can prevent, reverse, or control diabetes, their risk of complications will decrease.**

****Healthy lifestyles, such as eating healthy foods and getting regular exercise, are particularly important for people who are at increased risk of diabetes.**

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VICTORY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY HELPS ECB WITH FUNDRAISER

GREENVILLE Students at Victory Christian Academy in Greenville recently presented a \$50 donation to Dorson White, Executive Vice President of The East Carolina Bank, for the Children's Miracle Network

Telethon. The donation was made in conjunction with The East Carolina Bank's cookout and fundraiser held recently. The fundraiser and cookout, held at The East Carolina Bank Branch on Stantonsburg Road in

Greenville, raised over \$3,000 which was, in turn, contributed to the Children's Miracle Network Telethon, benefiting the Children's Hospital of Eastern North Carolina in Greenville.

Students at Victory Christian Academy heard of the fundraiser and decided to get involved by making contributions of their own. Headquartered in Engelhard, North Carolina, The East Carolina Bank is a 78-year old state-chartered, independent, community bank insured by the FDIC. ECB provides a full range of financial services through 15 branches in Eastern North Carolina: nine mainland offices in Currituck, Hyde, Pitt, Tyrrell, and Washington counties; six offices in North Carolina's famed Outer Banks from Ocracoke Island in Hyde County to Southern Shores in Dare County; and a Loan Production office in Washington.

The East Carolina Bank is listed on NASDAQ's Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board under the symbol "ECBE".

The youngest person ever nominated for a competitive Academy Award was Justin Henry, who was only 9 when he was nominated for Best Supporting Actor in *Kramer vs. Kramer* (1979).

from the desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



Beatrice Maye

- first day of creation?
 3. Although God made light on the first day of creation, on which day do the sun and moon appear?
 4. Which is the longest chapter in the Bible?
 5. Which disciples did Jesus call "sons of thunder"?
 6. What are the names of four of the brothers (half brothers) of Jesus given in the Scriptures?
 7. What is the shortest verse in the Bible?
 8. What was the name of John Mark's mother?
 9. As mentioned in ACTS 22, what were two ways people became Roman citizens?
 10. What are the last words actually spoken by the apostle Peter in the New Testament?

WORKING IN GOD'S GARDEN

Kemmons Wilson, founder of an international motel chain, quoted some advice for planting a "garden" that would enhance our work skills: Five rows of "peas" - prayer, preparedness, promptness, perseverance, politeness.

Three rows of "squash" - squash gossip, criticism, and indifference. Five rows of "lettuce" - let us love one another, let us be faithful, let us be loyal, let us be unselfish, let us be truthful.

Three rows of "turnips" - turn up for church, turn up with a new idea, turn up with the determination to do a better job today than you did yesterday.

Today, let's evaluate our attitude toward our work. Do we see it as a necessary evil that deserves the least possible effort? As an unfortunate prerequisite to retirement? Or do we see it as an opportunity to serve God?

"Whatever you do," wrote Paul, "do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ: (COL 3:23-24). With that attitude, we can work enthusiastically and wholeheartedly, not just for a paycheck, but for the glory of God. "Work becomes worship when done for the Lord". From: Our Daily Bread, July 1998.

Ten Commandments of FRIENDSHIP

- (Back to the Bible-Woodrow Kroll)
 1. Thou shalt not choose thy friends on superficial grounds (PROV. 19:6)
 2. Thou shalt recognize the incredible influence friends have on you. (PROV. 13:20)
 3. Thou shalt not pick fights with thy friends (PROV.3:30)
 4. Thou shalt be understanding to thy friends at all times.(PROV. 19:11)
 5. Thou shalt be available to thy friends when they need you. (PROV. 18:24)
 6. Thou shalt encourage thy friends, for some day thou shalt need encouragement thyself. (PROV. 12:25)
 7. Thou shalt not withhold good from thy friend. (PROV. 3:27)
 8. Thou shalt not demand thine own way with thy friends. (PROV. 18:1)
 9. Thou shalt be open and honest with thy friends so they will be open and honest with thee. (PROV. 27:5-6)
 10. Thou shalt not wear out thy welcome with thy friends. (PROV. 25:17)

Top 10 Characteristics Employers Seek in Job Candidate
 (By Fredrick Fluker -The News & Observer)

- Honesty/integrity-
- Motivation/initiative-
- Communication-
- Self-confidence-
- Flexibility-
- Interpersonal skills-
- Strong work ethics-
- Leadership skill-
- Enthusiasm-

SPARKS FROM THE ANVIL

- ** When liquor comes in-judgment goes out.
- ** Be ready to go with God... anywhere... anytime.
- ** Unless they have been conditioned by Jesus, I don't care what seminary they have graduated from, these preachers don't know God.
- ** When you are not talking ABOUT God, talk TO him.
- ** Every test is a blessing in disguise.
- ** You had better stay off the territory of the Devil.
- ** If God can keep ME, he can keep you.
- ** Righteousness is the thing that counts, not the name you worship in.
- ** I'm going to step hard on sin.
- ** Unless you are willing to die to follow the Lord, He can't save your life.
- ** You are going to hell because you sin, not because you don't go to church.
- ** You carry the cross with you until they nail you to it. Then the cross will carry you to the crown.
- ** God will not pay you for the service if He did not hire you for the job.
- ** There is unlimited power in oneness.

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Festival 98 office 252.413.0925

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VENTURE GRANTS AWARDED

The United Way of Pitt County is pleased to announce the recipients of Venture Grant Funds. These one-time disbursements are provided for Pitt County nonprofit organizations helping people in need.

Based on the 1997 United Way of Pitt County Needs Assessment, priorities for the funding were developed: transportation, crime prevention, services for the Hispanic population, elder care, rural fire departments/rescue squads, literacy programs and youth-services.

1997 fundraising campaign. The Venture Grant Evaluation Panel awarded a total of \$22,000 to the following organizations.

BETHEL RESCUE SQUAD RECEIVES \$1,500 for the training of Emergency Medical Services Explorers scouts through Scouting.

The **FALKLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT** received \$1,500 towards the installation of an emergency power conversion switch to enable a gasoline powered generator to supply power to the facility in the event of a power outage.

The **GRIFTON RESCUE**

SQUAD was awarded \$3,225 to purchase of enhanced patient monitoring equipment.

The **WINTERVILLE RESCUE AND EMS** received an award of \$1,500 towards the purchase of miscellaneous equipment purchase.

\$2,075 was awarded to the **ADVENTURES IN HEALTH CHILDREN'S MUSEUM** for educational traveling trunks for use in school to teach children in a variety of health topics.

The **FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK** received \$1,000 award to acquire the services of a Spanish speaking interpreter for Spanish speaking clients and translation of materials.

PAMLICO SOUND LEGAL SERVICES received a \$350 award to aid its efforts in printing of outreach literature in Spanish.

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA OF PITT COUNTY was granted \$2,100 to its "Parents and Children Reading Together" project, which focuses on recruiting and teaching nonreading parents of preschool age children.

The **LITTLE WILLIE CENTER** received a grant of \$300 for its Summer program for latch-key children.

MEDIATION CENTER OF EAST CAROLINA received a grant of \$X,XXX for their **RESOLVE**, a conflict resolution program for at-risk youth and their families.

The **PIACO** (Pitt County AIDS Service Organization) received \$4,000 award for their "Be Proud! Be Responsible!" a HIV prevention program targeted towards youths ranging from 13 to 18 years of age.

And the **MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION** receive and award of \$750 to provide transportation for older adults to provide opportunities for social engagements.

VICTORY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY HELPS ECB WITH FUNDRAISER



Dorson White, ECB Executive Vice President, accepting a donation from students at Victory Christian Assembly for the Children's Miracle Network.

Students at Victory Christian Academy in Greenville recently presented a \$50 donation to Dorson White, Executive Vice President of The East Carolina Bank, for the Children's Miracle Network Telethon. The donation was made in conjunction with The East Carolina Bank's cookout and fundraiser held recently.

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The East Carolina Bank is listed on NASDAQ's Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board under the symbol "ECB."

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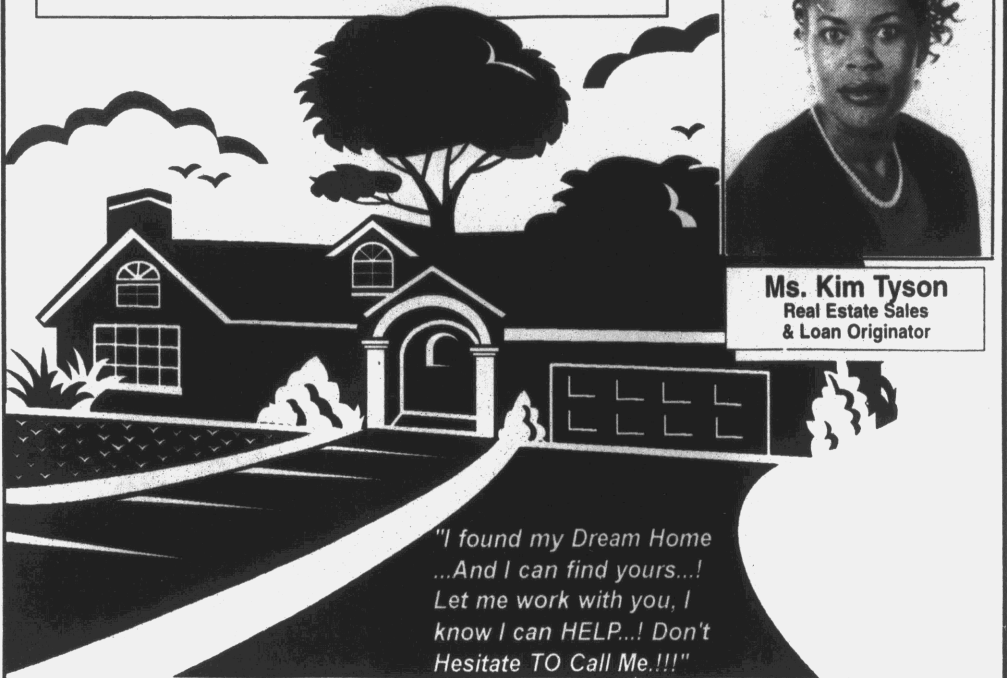
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DR. JOE NATHAN DIXON, III

Joe Nathan Dixon, III, is the son of the late Mr. Herbert Dixon, Sr., and the Eldress Reatha G. Dixon, of Greenville, N.C. He was born and raised in Pitt County, in the town of Winterville, N.C. He is a 1973 graduate of the D. H. Conley High School in Greenville, N.C. He attended Pitt Community College, received an Associate Degree in Business Administration, has an Associate Degree from Bethany Theological Seminary in Theology, has a Minister's Certificate from

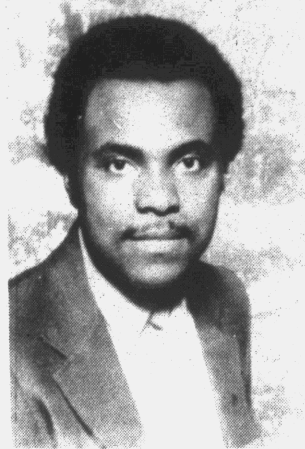
Washington Bible College, has attended Shaw Divinity School, Raleigh, N.C., received a Bachelor's Degree of Theology, and received his Doctorate of Divinity and President's Meritorious Service Award from United Christian College in Goldsboro, N. C.

He is married to the former Linda Ann Lewis of Greenville. They are the parents of Kimberly (20), Kristic (18), and Joseph (14). He has been employed with the American Red Cross for the past

19.5 years. He is the pastor and founder of the Greater Mount Zion Christian Church and the Greater Mount Zion Bible Institute. He is also an HIV/AIDS Instructor for the American Red Cross. He has been an associate chaplain at the Eastern Correctional Center for the past twelve years.

Most importantly, Dr. Joe N. Dixon, III, is a man of God. He touches the lives of the people he meets... wherever he goes. Being

able to say these words is the only introduction needed. His favorite passage of scripture: "I am not ashamed of the Gospel." (ROMANS 1:16).



Dr. Joe N. Dixon

Role Models (Cont'd From Page Two)

give a hand to ailing Black colleges and universities.

Gary who is the senior partner of his law firm, donated Shaw University an unrestricted gift of \$10 million. It's the largest gift ever bestowed upon Shaw and the largest donation made by an alumnus to any historically Black college or university.

"We go to Black colleges, but when we have children we don't think Black colleges are good enough for our children," said Gary. "Black colleges continue to provide good education and produce successful people. My law firm includes lawyers from Harvard

and Yale. But, I, a graduate of North Carolina Central University, signs their paycheck every two weeks."

Gary urged the audience not to forget about young people. "We can be role models for the many young boys and girls who are just looking for someone to look up to. You have an obligation to reach back and help someone who is less fortunate than you. We are living and experiencing some difficult times in this nation. There is a drug storm sweeping this nation. We are losing our young people in record numbers. Crime is higher today than ever in America.

State Briefs

Continues from Page 3

dren would beat her son, Antonio Anthony, 11, with bricks, stones and anything else they could find to hit him with over a week ago. His nose was broken, jaw fractured, and Antonio didn't regain consciousness until he was brought to the

hospital. As police continue to investigate, Antonio is recuperating at home.

N.C Auditor Prepare State for the Millennium Bug.

RALEIGH When the clock strikes "twelve" January First, Year 2000, a technological Armageddon worldwide will occur when computers programmed to read "00" as the year 1900 instead of 2000, will shut down. Both government and private industry are scurrying to upfit their computers to prevent the disaster, and some experts say they may not make it in time. State Auditor Ralph Campbell, Jr. obviously has heard enough. Last week, his office hired an independent contractor to keep all state government computers on track going into the millennium. The price tag - \$132 million, but that's a drop in the bucket compared to what the total system wide computer collapse would cost the state.

Durham "Cut Council" Petitions Move Forward

DURHAM They will have only until September 1st to collect 5,000 valid signatures, but proponents of a move to cut back the predominantly Black City Council from 13 members down to seven say they are determined to see it happen. Led by the conservative Friends of Durham, several mostly white political action groups joined forces to slash the council last month after it's members voted themselves a 37 percent pay increase. That vote was soon rescinded, but not in time to placate angry citizens. If the petition drive is successful, a referendum could possibly be on the November ballot. The Durham Committee on the affairs of Black People, so far have not joined the effort.

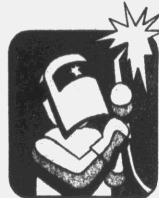
Eagle Are Phoning Home

DURHAM When NCCU Chancellor Julius Chambers raised academic standards for admissions over a year ago, enrollment went down. Taking no chances this year, NCCU is taking on the phones, calling perspective students around the country, selling them on why the historically Black university is the place they want to start their college careers. According to university officials, the drive seems to be working. A steady stream of prospective freshmen are making application, and interviewers are reported talking to at least 8 to 9 interested students a day.

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'97 Prism - Maroon	\$11,995	\$9,995
'98 Saturn Wagon - White	\$15,300	\$12,995
'95 Oldsmobile 88 Royale LS - Sandstone	\$15,960	\$14,300
'86 Chevrolet Caprice LS - White	\$6,995	\$4,995
'91 Mazda 929 - White	\$9,300	\$7,995



(1) '97 Suburban
(2) '98 Suburban



(1) '97 Oldsmobile Bravada
(2) '98 Oldsmobile Bravada



(1) '96 Tahoe
(5) '97 Tahoe
(3) '98 Tahoe



(1) '92 Blazer (3) '96 Blazer
(1) '94 Blazer (2) '97 Blazer
(1) '95 Blazer (3) '98 Blazer

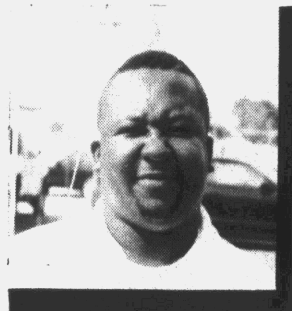


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Eva Clayton For Congress Get - Out - the - VOTE!! Mobilization Weekend Event

August 28-29, 1998
Friday 4-8 p.m.

Member of the NC Assembly will conduct a tour through the 1st Congressional District. The Tour begins in Raleigh. National leaders, US Representatives will travel with State Representatives to Wayne, Greene, Wilson Counties for dinner with local leaders.

Saturday 8:30 -11:30

The **March For Freedom** begins with grassroots canvassing in targeted precincts 2 and 4 in all 20 Counties of the 1st Congressional District encouraging people to vote in the upcoming Congressional Elections. This primary will determine whether Eva Clayton will continue to represent the First Congressional District. **EVA CLAYTON HEADQUARTERS - 400 W. 5TH St. GREENVILLE 1:00 -3:00 p.m.**

THE RALLY IN THOMAS FOREMAN PARK FOR CLAYTON

Three park locations - Henderson, Rocky Mount, Greenville (Thomas Foreman Park, W5th St.) - **THE RALLY IN THE PARK FOR EVA CLAYTON** will be a spirited, high energy, motivational and enjoyable event -- where outstanding nationally known leaders including Rep Cynthia McKenny, Rep. Elijah Cummings, Rep. Bobby Scott, Rep. Patrick Kennedy, Rep Mel Watt, and possibly others will speak. Gospel music groups will provide the music. **PLENTY OF GOOD FOOD** will be provided. Each rally will attract 150-200 persons from surrounding counties. All persons canvassing earlier will be invited and recognized. In addition, various constituent groups, i.e., seniors, farmers, youth, teachers, nurses, environmentalists, and other special organization and Sororities will be encouraged to have representatives

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

JAMMING THE VOTE - YOUTH DISCO&JAM SESSION
This session will be added to the RALLY IN THE PARK to attract youth and young adults. A popular Disc Jockey will spin favorite record and CD's. Youth Leaders will be encouraged to write and speak on the importance of voting and why the September 15th Primary is critical to our communities and to young people.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Dollie Burwell - (919)257-4111
Paid for by the Committee to Elect Eva Clayton

Census....

Arthur Council, Sr. 99, Passes



Arthur Council, Sr.,
Deacon Arthur Council, Sr., son of the late Octavia and Baker Council was born in Martin County on August 1, 1909. God called him home on August 9, 1998 at 112:00

noon.

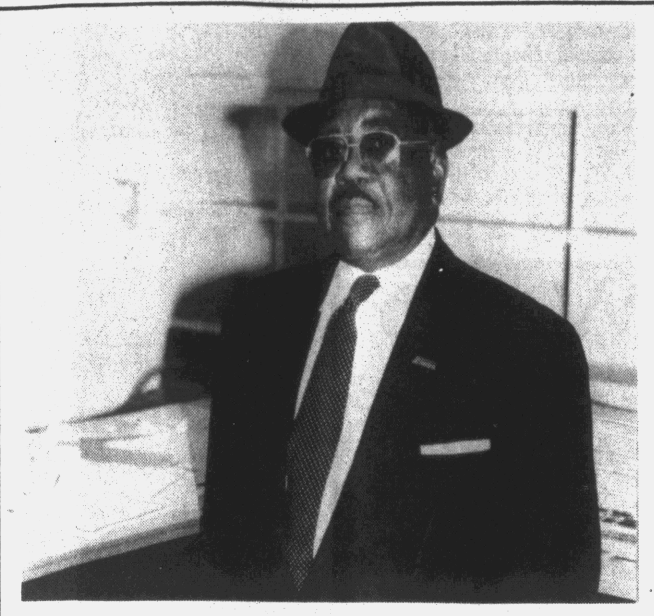
Deacon Council attended Martin County schools and always stressed the importance of education. He knew and understood it's importance; therefore, in his adult life, he instilled that in his children, many grandchildren as well as in others the need to prepare themselves academically and spiritually.

Deacon Council joined church at an early age in 1947. He was a faithful and supportive member of Seven Holly Primitive Baptist Church for 51 years. He was the Head Deacon and Building Treasurer at his church for fifty years. On the Union Line Association, he was State Deacon Finance Committee Member, Building Committee Member, Assistant Clerk, and Recording Union Minutes Secretary.

He was united in Holy Matrimony on December 18, 1935 to Rosa Dixon. To this union five sons and three daughters were born. One son, Robert preceded him in death on February 16, 1997.

He leaves to cherish many fond memories: a devoted and lovely wife, Rosa; five sons, Arthur Council, Jr. of Greenville, NC, Jesse Council of Rochester, PA, William Council of Alexandria, VA, Walter Council and Thomas Council both of Greenville, NC; three daughters, Marion Council Mitchell, Stella Council Mooring and Deloise Council Johnson all of Philadelphia, PA. Deacon Council is also survived by twenty-eight great grandchildren and seven great, great-grandchildren.

A Mentor and a Friend... In loving Memory of Rev. J.H. "Shorty" Wilkes



Rev. J.H. Wilkes

"Don't you dare touch that dial..." -- the by-line of former WOOW Radio Station announcer--the Rev. J. H. "Shorty" Wilkes, a retired educator, pastor of the Union Grove and Burney's Chapel Free Will Baptist Churches. Eulogistic services were held recently for Rev. Wilkes. Certainly, his contagious smile will be missed by all who knew him. Our sincere condolences are sent to the Wilkes family from the entire WOOW, WTOW, and 'M' Voice staff. (File Photo: Jim Rouse)

Fellow Police Officers Remember Officer Greg Lewis...



Police officers Greg Lewis, who was killed a few weeks ago at his former estranged wife's home last week by one of her friends, is remembered by his co-workers as a very likeable and caring person.

Officers Dominick Daniels who had worked with Lewis for five years. Officer Daniels states that he remembers how Lewis always expressed his Christian beliefs even in public.

"He was very spiritual person who was always willing to extend a helping hand not just in police work, but with life situations in general," said Daniels. "He had a way of making a person feel good in his presence. He was not only a good police officer but also a very good community service ambassador."



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