

Happy Birthday
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
The "M" Voice Salutes You!

Black History
Archives
Page 5

From Africa
To America
Page 7

The Minority Voice

Serving Eastern North Carolina Since 1981

January 12, 2001 - January 18 2001

FREE!

What You See Is What You Get, What You Read Is What You Know And Save.

Massive Protest Planned Against Bush's Coronation

By F. Finley McRae
 Sentinel Wire Services

A series of national protests against the Supreme Court's action that halted a hand recount of disputed ballots in several Florida counties was announced Monday by Rev. Jesse Jackson. Flanked by leaders at Holman United Methodist Church representing California Rainbow Coalition/ Push, the Southern Leadership Conference, major Jewish temples, noted black congregations, labor and civil rights organizations, Jackson labeled the Supreme Court's ruling "immoral" and a deliberate attempt to "disenfranchise" voters.

Assemblyman Gilbert Cedillo (D 46), represented sympathetic elected officials. "This was not right and this is the basis of our (protests): the Bushes (believe in winning) "by any means necessary," he said in characterizing the votes cast by the court's five conservative justices.

The response to what Jackson described as a "constitutional coup d'etat" and "racial targeting while voting" will be hosts of national protest during King week, through Jan. 20, 2001 when George W. Bush becomes the 43rd president of the United States.

"While the crowning will be taking place in Washington, we will be marching all around America on that day.

"This decision was really about taking (taking blacks back to) Selma, where we (marched across Pettus Bridge) to dramatize southern injustice in 1963, so we'll be back there once again during King Week (to use the court decision as a symbol)" Jackson said.

Cedillo said "this is an important event for us as it brings our community together to set up a vehicle, a program and a plan of action in which we will be able to express our outrage at the failure to realize the true promise of democracy.

Jackson said prominent

ultra conservatives and their "right wing political agenda are the forces behind Bush with a states rights agenda to destroy affirmative action women's rights and equal opportunity. Sen. Strom Thurmond, Jesse Helms, Phil Graham and Majority Leader Trent Lott are testing our will to fight", he declared.

On a more ominous note, Jackson said, "the Heritage Foundation and Cato Institute (two foes of affirmative action and most advances of the Civil Rights Movement won for Blacks) are moving into the Justice Department and the CIA by the truckloads."

In Palm Beach County, an estimated 27,000 votes, 18,000 of them cast by African Americans, were not counted as a result of the Supreme Court's ruling.

As many as 180,000 votes cast by African Americans, according to black elected officials and civil rights leaders, were uncounted or disqualified.



Great Men Accomplishing Great Things, Shown above is Appellate Court Judge James Wynn, along with former Chief Justice Henry Frye, and the lovely ladies who support them. In a last effort attempt to appoint Judge James Wynn to the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals (second only to the Supreme Court) President Clinton once again, renominated Judge Wynn just hours after the new senate convened.

Photo by Jim Rouse

The court appointment requires the approval of the fractured Senate---Jesse Helms by John Wagner

Washington - President Clinton took a final stab Wednesday at putting a North Carolina judge on the 4th US Circuit Court of Appeals by renominating James Wynn for a seat just hours after the new Congress convened. Wynn, a judge on the N.C. Court of Appeals, was first nominated

by Clinton in August 1999. But the US Senate never held a hearing on his confirmation because of staunch opposition from U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms, a Raleigh Republican.

In a politically charged move, Clinton sent the name of Wynn and seven other previously nominated appellate judges back to the Senate less than three weeks before he leaves office. Wynn inclusion was particularly pointed, because Clinton and

others have suggested that Helms opposes the nomination because Wynn is black.

Helms has maintained that 15-seat court is functioning efficiently and does not need any more judges, despite five vacancies and no north Carolina representation. The court, which is one step below the U.S. Supreme Court, hears federal appeals from North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland.



South Lee Street CDC

Pictured at a Christmas gathering Sister Sherian Brown, Executive Director of the South Lee St. (an organization that helps flood victims and assist in feeding the elderly) is shown having a great time fellow-shiping with CO workers. Hats off to Sister Brown and all the beautiful ladies work with with her.

Photo by Jim Rouse

Adams Mark Hotel May Face Black Protesters

By Malcolm DuBois
 African-American
 News&Issues

When AAN&I published a scathing article criticizing the decision of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) agreement to hold its "2001 Midwinter Conference" at the Adams Mark Hotel in Dallas, a number of Black leaders, who read the story, lead by Lee Alcorn, President/CEO of the Coalition for the Advancement of Civil Rights (CACR) decided that they could not allow such a meeting to take place. Alcorn, former president of the Dallas Branch NAACP, knew right away that something smelled fishy.

"I had been very active in supporting that lawsuit on behalf of the NAACP, so I knew that I must investigate this to see just what was really going on. I believe that we must confront this. The NNPA should not be holding meetings there until the hotel chain explains what or how they intend to settle up with the many Blacks that have filed lawsuits against them. I hope that this is not some way that some of our most respected Black newspapers and the leadership of the NAACP is using to get a few crumbs on the backs of common African-Americans who have been blatantly discriminated against. We should not be doing business with Adams Mark. And if Adams Mark has not done anything to make up for their crimes against those people then we will just have to get the batteries out for our bullhorns and get ready to take care of business. The Black newspaper is one of our greatest institution and if they (publishers) are trying to pull off something here that is underhanded

against Black people then they should really be ashamed of themselves." Rev. Michael Bell of Fort Worth Texas, a prominent member of the Tarrant County Local Organizing Committee and a CACR member said that he would bring a bus load of protesters to the NNPA conference to participate in any action that Alcorn wishes to perform. "What is happening with the Adams Mark

Hotel situation is really indicative of what has been happening in different parts of the country. People seem to have a very short memory. We need to remember what happened to bring about this situation and then act on that. We seem to want to ignore what has been done in terms of right and wrong. And we can not do that, if we intend to profess that we stand for all Black people, as we should. It seems that the leadership of the group that made the determination to meet there at Adams Mark, they are oblivious to or is ignoring what Adams Mark has done in the past. This is similar in other situations like for instance we've gone back to Denny's, is premature. But what needs to be done is that the leadership of the journalist group is more sensitive to what's going on and not ignoring others. Also let me tell you what I really think about this whole mess! It seems like apparently somebody is willing to carry the ball for Adams Mark and has not touched bases with the community on it and so that's why we're going to go over there to remind them of those hurt individuals who they have seemed to have forgotten. The NAACP just graded them with a "D minus" about two or three months ago. We must protest this wrong until they resolve this issue with those people who were harmed by their racist practices! They must move quickly to resolve the content of the lawsuit." During the month of December 1999, a CNN news report carried extensive interviews and press conferences of several lawsuits aimed at Adams Mark by hundreds of Black hotel guests who spoke of gross discrimination allegations. Federal investigations of those lawsuits uncovered information so gross that both the federal and state of Florida filed

discrimination lawsuits against Adams Mark as well. They accused it of things such as charging Blacks more than whites, offering them less desirable rooms and putting security restrictions on them. During that time according to the CNN report, Fred S. Kummer, president and chief executive of the privately held chain declined to comment on the Justice Department suit until he had an opportunity to read it. The report

when on to quoting Bill Lann Lee, acting assistant attorney general in charge of the civil rights division said "This is the first time that Civil Rights Division and the Department of Justice has filed against a hotel chain on a nationwide basis." Attorney General Janet Reno and Florida Attorney General Bob Butterworth, who announced a related lawsuit accusing the hotel chain of violating state consumer protection laws, joined Lee at a Washington news conference. "In violating its guests' civil rights, Adams Mark also trampled on their rights as consumers, Tourism and recreation are Florida's lifeblood. Through its blatant racist policies, Adams Mark has sent the unmistakable message that at some places in Florida, Blacks are not welcome." Strong charges against the hotel for sure. As for the AAN&I article the publisher Roy Douglas Malonson, a member of NNPA said during that time that he would not stay at the hotel while attending the conference. he said that he would instead sleep in another hotel in protests of the NNPA's decision. "I have not changed my plans. We have to learn that money is not everything. We must walk what we talk and that's the bottom line. Too many Black people have been hurt by Adams Marks racist policies." Another group who has thrown their support behind the CACR is members of the New Black Panther Party. They too intend to be there to support this cause. "In reference to the issue and the New Black Panther Party is that they need to be shut down by all means necessary. We need to go to the extent of hunt their hotels down if possible. If they are to continue to bring forth racism in this blunt a matter and just ignore Black people of being actual human beings, then we need to take care of them." The

protesters said that they intend to march on the hotel on Wednesday, January 10, 2001 at 12:00 Noon just minutes before the NNPA's Welcoming Ceremonies and the meeting of its Board of Directors. They said want as many concerned people as possible to join them there. AAN&I is committed to be there to cover and report all the news of this breaking story.



From The "M" Voice Archives

Rev. Shorty Wilks is shown posing for our camera's at Roscoe Norfleets' Fleetway Cleaners. The Reverend Wilks was an educator, motivator and loyal husband. He was also a great supporter of WOOW and the "M" Voice newspaper "May he rest in his soul!"

Photo by Jim Rouse

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Pitt County, Beaufort County & NC State Chapters
 Dr. Martin Luther King Birthday Celebration -2001
 Theme: Keeping the Dream Alive... In a New Century!!

Schedule of Events:
 Saturday January 13, 2001 - 6:30pm
 Eppes Rec./Weed & Seed Facility - Greenville

CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL VIGIL
 Sunday January 14, 2001 - 6pm
 Philippi Church - Greenville
 PRAISE & WORSHIP SERVICE
 THEME ADDRESS

Delivered by Rep Daniel Blue - NC House District 21
 "The Occasion" Delivered by Rev. Ronald Dolbeny

Monday January 15, 2001
 7:30am - J.H. Rose High School - Greenville
 COMMUNITY UNITY BREAKFAST
 Keynote Speaker, Mr Steadmen Graham
 (Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce)

10:00am -Eppes Rec./Weed & Seed Facility - Greenville
 CAR, Muhammed Mosque #79,
 NAACP, Weed& Seed, & SCLC

POLITICAL REFORM PARADE
 From Thomas Foreman Park to the Pitt Co.
 Courthouse & back

1:00pm - Philippi Church - Greenville
 YOUTH PROGRAM

4:00pm - Philippi Church - Greenville
 ANNUAL MLK CELEBRATION FEAST

Knowledge is Power

This Bush could also lead US to the Promised Land

MY PEOPLE, et al. LISTEN UP!
 A little over six millenniums ago on an isolated mountainside, we must be reminded that GOD used a BUSH to capture the attention of Moses so that he would eventually lead an enslaved people out of captivity into a Promised Land. Maybe, this Bush's burning for the leadership required for the Presidency is indicative of the same.
 We know that many of you have been admonished to "stay out the Bushes," but we advise that you at least part and hold back the branches (especially House and Senate) to see what's rustling in President-elect George W., possibly the Bush HE (GOD) has set in place to rule US, a people now split and splintered over party lines and personal opinions and speculations regarding what he (Bush) might do with and through those whom he has or will set over the greenery (Cabinet) that either shades or brightens our lives.
 Moreover, amid the whispers of reconciliation wafting through the resounding rhetoric of warring factions now preparing for protests and other peace-breaking tactics before and during the Jan. 20 inauguration of Bush as 43rd president of US, hear this also my people...THE LORD our God is ONE, denoting, unity, or the only means for US to get it all together for the good of all humankind. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for the brethren (and sisters) to dwell together in unity."
 Instead of protesting, (mumming and complaining), use that vigil time to pray that all the bad and wrong that you're speculating in and around the Bushes will be turned for our good and total freedom out of the captivity of inequality. PUSH and pray for reconciliation and unity...PUSH and pray that platform promises will flourish in the Bushes....PUSH and pray that cooperation will spiritually nurture the Bush for all of US, even along and among party lines. PUSH and pray that compassion will truly come from this Bush, possibly burning now to catch the attention of all of US who want better and more prosperous lives that can come with education reform, lower taxes, and much-needed reform in federal regulations.
 "This is a hopeful, optimistic agenda that cuts across all barriers of race and party," President-elect Bush, "the compassionate conservative," declares. "And it is a bold agenda that will expand an economy that is not only the envy of the world, but its inspiration."
 Maybe, just maybe, this is the "Bush" that will burn long enough to catch the attention of all of US for all needed reform this new millennium.

After all's said and done, it's the dollar bill, y'all

In a nutshell, the e-mail is requesting that Blacks boycott CompUSA. We don't know how many of you listen to Tom Joyner in the morning, but, it's one of the few shows where one can get important information and good music. If you are a regular you know that every Tuesday and Thursday, Tavis Smiley, BET host, does a commentary informing us of the week's injustice against our people. For the last eight weeks, he has been trying to speak with CompUSA about their lack of advertising dollars spent in our neighborhoods or towards our people. And for the last eight weeks, he has been ignored. Thousands of receipts were sent in from people who bought products from CompUSA, but were protesting. Still no response from CompUSA and not so much as a phone call to make an appointment to talk.
 Well, finally, we have a response from CompUSA. They are suing for defamation of character! Can't even express how upsetting it was to hear Smiley near tears that morning, with Joyner talking about how they were talking about taking his show off, if Travis didn't stop giving his commentary!
 Thousands of hate groups are allowed speak against us on a daily basis. They march, they have talk shows, they even have websites. However, we are told to stop when trying to make a large corporation have a simple discussion on why they are ignoring us in their advertisements, while saying that we don't buy enough from their stores to have to worry about us. *We are outraged!*
 So, in the midst of you sending the usual junk e-mail, please send a note to at least 10 people, letting them know how far we've come in the last 100 years. Once this is known, you can only blame yourself when things don't happen.
 They've only shown us again how little they think of African Americans and that they don't need to address our complaints—just tell us to Shut Up!

Reflecting back, what you see, is all you're ever going to get

Who is responsible for the massive carloads, the truckloads, the boatloads, the shiploads of illegal drugs that enter the U.S. on a constant basis?
 To paraphrase what a popular cartoon character once said: "We have met the enemy...and it is us."
 The new President of Mexico, Vicente Fox, said so correctly the other day that the U.S. should deal with its own drug habit and not be reluctant to look in the mirror at the millions and millions of addicts and dealers who run the economic engine that keep the illegal drug business booming in America.
 Stop playing the blame game with his nation (Mexico) in connection with the narcotics problem, Fox admonished.
 "The United States, year after year, blames us (Mexico) for drug trafficking. Why?" Fox asks. "Who lets the drugs into the United States? Who is doing gigantic business in the United States?"
 Corrupt police and government officials, we think, along with despicable drug dealers and any other links to the illegal drug underground.
 The war on drugs has been proven to be a farce. The only way to deal with the massive drug problem in America is to greatly reduce demand, which will only happen through increased drug-treatment programs—not harsh punishment and incarceration.
 The burgeoning prison population, swelled mostly by small-time drug users and dealers, is not the way to tackle the unresolved matter of drug-use and abuse in America. Again, it is treatment, treatment, treatment.
 Take a look in the (cocaine) mirror America and you may get a clearer look at the monster who is causing your venal problem of addiction. You see, what you see, is staring back.

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

Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr



COMMENTS

Black business survival really lurks in affirmative 'access'

by Samuel J. Cornelius

History is an excellent teacher of the future. The only requirement is to listen, think and analyze.
 In 1968, when the Republican candidate sought the presidency of the United States, he was vigorously attacked by the Black civil rights establishment. He was called a racist and anti-Black. He was said to be for the rich, while forgetting the poor. Finally, it was believed by the civil rights establishment that this candidate would do away with welfare and appoint anti-Black judges.
 Let's examine what happened. That candidate, (eventually) President Richard M. Nixon, launched the federal minority enterprise program. As a result of this Republican effort, we now have a whole new minority business class all over America. The program produced many new franchises, automobile dealerships, radio station ownerships and high-tech small businesses. Between 1970 to 1976, the Nixon-Ford Republican administrations created more than 500,000 new minority businesses. Moreover, no administration since that time has remotely come close to that effort. Early on, the liberal Black and White voices declared the program a cop-out and an effort to do away with social programs.
 In addition to this trailblazing, business development venture by Presidents Nixon and Ford, President Ronald Reagan's tenure introduced America to the "Enterprise Zone" program for urban and rural distressed areas. Throughout all this productivity, our so-called "Black leaders" continued to attack the programs, while secretly becoming millionaires, participating in the very programs they were criticizing.
 Now that Gov. George W. Bush is on the cusp of becoming the 43rd president of the United States of America, some of these same so-called leaders are out of the woodwork with the same old tired arguments we heard 30 years ago.
 Black voters now have a unique opportunity to again turn our attention from welfare to economics. But, if we continue concentrating on civil rights and social programs, we will continue to stay on the bottom rung of the ladder.
 Bush has been a small business owner and leans heavily in the business arena. This bodes well for Black-business owners who need access to capital, markets and other means to make their businesses grow and prosper.
 And, unless we are able to get the "affirmative access" proposed by Bush, Black business development and growth will come to a screeching halt.
(Cornelius, a long-time Republican activist, served Presidents Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan. Currently, he is secretary-treasurer of the Krud Group, Inc., an investment broker group.)

Democrats, NAACP playing hide 'n seek on rights issues

by Kevin Martin

Everyone played "hide and seek" as a child. For Black voters, however, the game continues every election. This year was no exception.
 Democratic leaders and their Black allies "hide" equal justice and civil rights issues in campaigns for Black voters to seek, and then use them to win their support. This year, these issues included police brutality, racial profiling, hate-crime legislation and Confederate heritage displays. I question why these concerns only arose close to election time.
 The NAACP continues its boycott of South Carolina over the Confederate Battle flag. The group succeeded in moving the flag from atop the Statehouse to the grounds, but is now pushing for its complete removal from sight. The NAACP also pressured Texas Governor and then-Republican presidential nominee George W. Bush to remove commemorative plaques in some state buildings in Texas that contained that same flag. Bush did the right thing and replaced the plaques.
 What's wrong with the NAACP's actions? Nothing. The problem is that they were being partisan in their outrage. They did not, for example, call upon Democratic nominee Al Gore to pressure his home-state legislators in Tennessee to remove KKK founder Nathan Bedford Forrest's name from a state park and highway.
 Black voters were also targeted by commercials featuring a truck dragging a chain behind it along with the voice of James Byrd's sister criticizing Bush for not supporting hate-crime legislation. (Byrd was dragged to death behind a truck driven by three White men). In my home state of Maryland — which is also the home of the NAACP — there was barely a raised eyebrow when two White men harassed a carload of elderly Black women for 20 miles and finally loosed a shotgun blast at close range which ended the life of one of the women. Maryland has hate-crimes legislation on the books. However, both suspects were only charged with second-degree murder. But, our state also has a Democrat governor and a member of the Kennedy family serving as lieutenant governor. That seemed to make a difference. It appears that if you are a Democrat, you get a free ride from the NAACP. If you are a Re-

publican, stand by to stand by.
 The same rule applies to police brutality. In Philadelphia, (there a Black, Democratic mayor), there was an appeal for calm this past summer when an escaping Black criminal was caught and beaten by White and Black officers—caught on tape. In New York City (White, Republican mayor running for Senate against First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton at the time), Al Sharpton and others took their high-profile protest to city hall and Washington when officers shot a Black man to death in a confusing and regrettable melee. There is no excuse for police brutality, but the selective and partisan outrage in these cases ought to be a crime as well.
 There also seems to be a willingness to accommodate Democrats on the issues of racial profiling. During the campaign, Gore promised that, if elected, he would sign an executive order outlawing racial profiling, which has been at the forefront of the news for years now. Why didn't he call upon President Bill Clinton to sign an executive order earlier? Why would Blacks have to wait until after the election for racial profiling to be outlawed? It seemed to be little more than a campaign issue for Gore, and its exploitation went unchallenged.
 In Washington, the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) seems willing to withhold their support from 38 former and current Secret Service agents who claim in a federal lawsuit that they were victims of racism from within the Clinton White House. Yet, when CBC member Cynthia McKinney accused Gore of having a low "Negro Tolerance Level" when it was reported that he knew of limits on the number of Black agents on his security detail, outraged Democratic leaders pressured her to retract her words.
 The time has long since passed for our so-called Black leaders to hold the Democratic Party to the same standards they hold the Republican Party to when it comes to the issues that are most important to us. If I wanted to play hide and seek, I would go play it with my three-year-old cousin. It is time for Democrats to stop treating us like children on a playground, and for our leaders to stand up for our beliefs.
(Martin is a member of Project 21 working for an environmental contractor in the Washington, D.C. area.)

Opinions

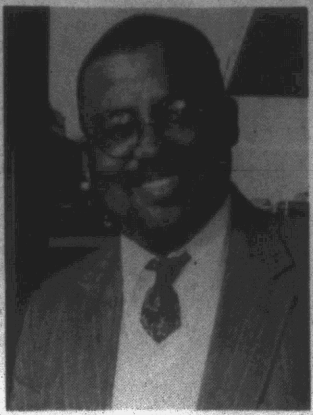
We're being a little soft on crime here

Dear Editor,
 I am writing this letter to inform you of an underhanded deed. Last October a man named Michael Harris went on an armed-robbery spree. He robbed seven businesses in two weeks.
 He is already a two-time felon with aggravated robbery once before. This is his third to around.
 I don't believe a man like this is credible. Obviously the State does. They are offering him a light sentence in exchange for testimony in another, unrelated charge. I don't understand how they can take his word on the stand against someone else. He's only doing this to get less time for violating the public.
 He could have killed you, one of your employees, or worse a customer. All to get crack money. Now the State's offering him a way out. Who's to say when he gets out, he won't come back and do it again. He lives right on Kirby and Winchester, so you're in his area. This time it may be fatal. I pray it doesn't.
 Prosecutor Jerry Kitchen is in charge of his case. He's sending a powerful message to the businesses in Shelby County. To him it's not about a punishment that fits the crime. It's all about getting a conviction.
 "I'm sure it would be an unwanted surprise for him to find out that you knew what he was up to. They can't deny this. Why else would they hold off prosecuting him? They want to see what the outcome of this matter will be in order to figure how valuable his testimony is."
 You would think that with all the business opportunities you bring to the community, the State would allow you the dignity of prosecuting your violators properly.
Brandy Warren, Memphis

Courtroom is no place to honor our heroes

Dear Editor,
 Even as we commemorated the 1941 entrance of America into World War II last month, a few malcontents are keeping this country from saying a long-overdue thank-you to the World War II Generation. On Nov. 11, even as Americans gathered to break ground for the much-anticipated National World War II Memorial on The Mall in our nation's Capitol, some ungrateful people made plans to disrupt work on the project. They sued to delay construction well after seven years of thought and planning for the memorial.
 The decision-making process encompassed 18 public hearings over the last five years — more than enough time for a good decision on the design and location. Opponents of the site and design were heard at every step. The process was fair. It's ungrateful to ask the courts to undo what a fair, open and lengthy process has determined — that there is no better place than the Mall to honor the generation that preserved our freedom.
 When completed, the memorial will be a lasting tribute to an entire generation, which drew strength from the very same values that inspired the colonial citizen-soldiers. The cause of democracy prevailed as a result of the unflinching courage of 16 million World War II GIs — 400,000 of whom gave their lives in military service.
 The American Legion and its affiliated organizations — The American Legion Auxiliary and The Sons of The American Legion — donated about \$4 million for the National World War II Memorial. The American people exceeded the fund-raising goal by a long shot, which demonstrates the people support the design as well as the Rainbow Pool site on The Mall.
 The memorial's design and location are appropriately first-rate. Not only will it permanently recognize the entire World War II generation that saved the world from tyranny, but will also be a reminder of one generation's exemplary devotion to principles of freedom, justice and equality.
 By its completion date, this memorial will have taken more than twice as long to create as it took U.S. and allied forces to win the Second World War. It will have taken from 1993 to 2003. That is, of course, if the project is not mired in courtroom battles.
 We have taken too long to memorialize our fallen World War II heroes and we have certainly waited far too long to say "thank you" to the men and women of "Our Greatest Generation."
 Millions of our World War II heroes have already passed on, and we lose more each day. It's time for protesters to leave the courtroom and to join hands and hearts with the millions of their fellow Americans to pay homage while we still can. Let's emblazon our gratitude with a thank-you note in stone.
Ray Smith, National Commander, the American Legion, Indianapolis, Ind.

WOOW JOY
 1340AM
WTOW JOY
 1320



Keith W. Cooper

931-0752
kwcbottomline @ yahoo.com

People around the world make New Year resolutions after Christmas. For many, the Christmas spirit still lingers. I made a list of three vital New Year resolutions, which should be embraced by supporters of progressive change in Pitt County. These resolutions constitute a major step towards a noteworthy legacy for our posterity to cherish.

All fair-minded Pitt County citizens should see the need for a Pitt County human relations council. In too many communities, hate, racism, exclusion, and intolerance are up and hope and stability are down. Reverend Walter Sadler has worked with me and others on human relations for over two years. The county commissioners, who once endorsed the idea through a unanimous vote, recently backed out of long overdue efforts to organize a council.

Now that there is a black school

board chairman, it should not be difficult to encourage the infusion of multicultural education within the social studies curriculum of the Pitt County school system. I was encouraged by Assistant Superintendent Shirley Carraway's willingness to research the matter and entertain suggestions as to how to construct such a curriculum. I admire the multicultural education curriculum currently enjoyed by the Winston-Salem Forsyth County school system. I have a copy of that curriculum. I'll be happy to share this with Michael Priddy, the new school superintendent, if he responds to my letter for a meeting with him. We should replicate this noble idea.

I asked commissioners to establish a prescription drugs supplemental fund to help indigent senior citizens subsidize the exorbitant costs of medication. For many, the monthly costs of multiple life-sustaining drugs exceed the amount of Social Security checks. Around January 3rd of 2001, an old slobbering lady asked me for assistance in purchasing her medication. I made a referral. Unfortunately, Social Services doesn't have the answers.

Somehow this madness must cease. We must stop now. I speak as a child of God and brother to the suffering poor of Vietnam. I speak for those whose land is being laid waste, whose homes are being destroyed, whose culture is being subverted. I speak for the poor in America who are paying the double price of smashed hopes at home and death and corruption in Vietnam. I speak as a citizen of the world, for the world as it stands aghast at the path we have taken. I speak as an American to the leaders of my own nation. The great initiative in this war is ours. The initiative to stop it must be ours.

Martin Luther King, Jr., The Trumpet of Conscience, 1967.



Cedric B. Walston
SALESPERSON

"Come in and ask for Cedric Walston"



131 S.W. GREENVILLE BLVD. • GREENVILLE, NC 27834
TEL.: (252) 756-9050 • MOBILE: (252) 412-5283
PAGER: (252) 323-1819

In-Store Financing Now Available
♦♦♦
GOOD Credit,
BAD Credit,
SLOW Credit,
NO CREDIT!!
BUY TODAY!
PAY WHEN TAX REFUND CHECK COMES IN!!

**Expand Your Mind
Read a Book!**

Scared of a little mouse?

WE CAN HELP!

- COMPUTERS
- SOFTWARE
- ACCESSORIES

COMPUTER GEEKS

111-A W. Firetower Road, Greenville 355-3339
Centura Village Shopping Center, Wilson 293-0600

**REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS FOR
POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

The City of Greenville is accepting applications from volunteers who live in City Council District #2 to serve on the Police Community Relations Committee. This Committee is responsible for serving as the liaison between community and police over concerns. The committee serves as an advocate for programs, ideas, and methods to improve relationships between the community and police departments. Terms are for two years. The Police Community Relations Committee meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., and the location is determined by the Committee. If you would like to serve on this committee, please call the City Clerk's Office, 329-4423 to obtain an application. Also you can access a talent bank form on the web at <http://ci.greenville.nc.us/>.

Your interest and support in City Government is needed on this very important committee.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
SHARE THE DREAM!
DREAM!
1929 - 1968

**Bill's Car Care
Proudly Salutes**

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

BILL'S CAR CARE
car wash & detailing



1127 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Greenville, NC 27834

office (252) 757-1584
cell (252) 347-3601

Nobody's gonna tie me down.
In the way I look, the way I walk,
or the way I talk.

If you like to live life on your terms, you'll enjoy the freedom of ALLTEL wireless. Already discovered by more than 10 million people in 26 states. We'll help you go where you want to go, do what you want to do and stay connected to the ones you love. For details, call 1-800-ALLTEL-3.

ALLTEL
The power to simplify

www.alltel.com



Photo by Jim Rouse

The "M" Voice Archives Contest!

You Can Win \$13.40 if you can correctly name the gentlemen in our photo. Call the "M" Voice newspaper at (252) 757-0365 or mail in your entries to 405 Evans St. Greenville, NC 27835.

GET INVOLVED IN CITY GOVERNMENT!

The City of Greenville is accepting applications from volunteers to serve on the following boards and commissions:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Affordable Housing Loan Committee | Human Relations Council |
| Board of Adjustment | Mayor's Anti-Drug Coalition |
| Citizens Advisory Commission on Cable Television | Pitt-Greenville Airport Authority |
| Community Appearance Commission | Pitt Greenville Convention & Visitors Authority |
| Environmental Advisory Commission | Planning & Zoning Commission |
| Firemen's Utilities Commission | Police Community Relations Committee |
| Historic Preservation Commission | Public Transportation & Parks Commission |
| Housing Authority | Sheppard Memorial Library Board |

If you live inside the City of Greenville and would like to be considered for an appointment, please call the city Clerk's Office, 329-4423, to obtain an application to indicate your interest or send a written request to the City Clerk's Office, P.O. Box 7207, Greenville, NC 27835. Also, you can Access a resume form on the web at <http://ci.greenville.nc.us/>.

YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN CITY GOVERNMENT!

*The Management
& Staff of
Gorham's
Beauty Salon
Proudly Salutes
Dr. Martin
Luther King, Jr.*



Donald Gorham & Staff

Gorham's Beauty Salon, Inc.



*Specializing in Permanents, Cutting,
and All Types of Curls*



We Guarantee Our Work

3110 S. Memorial Dr.
Greenville, N.C. 27834

Tuesday-Saturday
Phone (252) 756-2706



Open Monday
Friday: 9-5



SAAD RENTALS

1-, 2-, and 3- bedroom housing units
REAL ESTATE

Since 1949

907 Dickinson Ave., Greenville, NC, (252) 757-3191

Section
8 Accepted

**Martin County
Community Action, Inc.**

Proudly Celebrates

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Martin County Community Action, Inc.
(Serving Beaufort, Martin & Pitt Counties)

Reginald Speight
Executive Director

314 East Ray Street
Post Office Box 806
Williamston, NC 27892

RLSpeight@aol.com
Pager: (252) 353-9272
Tel: (252) 792-7111
Fax: (252) 792-1248

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
SHARE THE
DREAM!**

1929 - 1968

Coins

WASHINGTON

ADVANCE PAYDAY LOANS & Pawn CASH ALL KINDS OF CHECKS

INSTANT CASH LOANS

WESTERN UNION HEADQUARTERS

GOLD & SILVER 20%

We Loan Cash On Anything Of Value



828 Washington Plaza
Washington, NC 27889
(919) 946-5999



From Africa To America

The Amistad

Led by Congolese chief Joseph Cinquez, 1839. Africans mutinied on the Spanish slaver Amistad bound for Cuba. They killed captain and crew, leaving some members to direct them back to Africa. The crew tricked them and instead sailed to the U.S. mainland where they were placed on trial. The English, as did John Quincy Adams, argued against the enslavement and for the mutineers. In the end they won the trial and returned to Africa.

ease, or any other imperfection. These being so set aside, each of the others, which have passed as good, is marked on the breast, with a red-hot iron, imprinting the mark of the French, English or Dutch companies....In this particular, care is taken that the women, as tenderest, be not burnt too hard.' The newly-purchased slaves,

For most slaves life was a nightmare of drudgery. An ex-slave said it seemed the fields stretched 'from one end of the

earth to the other.' Men, women and children worked. Women cut down trees, dug ditches and plowed. The old and the ailing worked; old men and women fed poultry, cleaned the yard, mended clothes and cared for the young and the sick. Male and female, the quick and the halt worked the traditional hours of slavery—from can (see) to can't (see).

On most plantations, a horn ('dat ole fo' day horn') or bell sounded about four in the morning. Thirty minutes later, the field hands

were expected to be out of their cabins and on their way to the fields. Stragglers and late-sleepers were lashed with the whip. An ex-slave in Virginia recalled seeing women scurrying to the fields 'with their shoes and stockings in their hands, and a petticoat wrapped over their shoulders, to dress in the fields

the best way they could.' Overseers and drivers, armed with whips, drove the work force, which was divided into hoe gangs and plow gangs. The overseer might also carry a bowie knife and a pistol. He often rode a horse, accompanied by a vicious dog.



Major Revolts, Rebellions, And Escapes

There Were No Docile Slaves

Fear, toil and the lash, hard words and a little ash cake and bacon, and fields stretching around the world—this was life for most slaves, day in and day out, season after season, with a half-day off on Saturday perhaps and a whole day on Sunday," writes Lerone Bennett Jr., in *Before the Mayflower: A History of the Negro in America 1619-1964*. Why did they do it? he asks rhetorically. And why didn't they revolt? Why didn't they run away? Commit suicide? Or stand like a man and be cut down? "Slaves did all of these," Bennett says, "and more."

They did them so often that it is nothing short of amazing, he says, that the myth of the docile Negro persists.

There were repeated insurrections and there is solid evidence that the South lived in constant fear of the 'docile' slaves. Bondsmen ran away in droves. They fled to Canada and Mexico and to Florida and Louisiana before these territories became a part of the United States of America; they fled to the Indians and joined them in their wars against the White man. Young and old ran, Mulattoes and pure Blacks, Uncle Toms (in the modern sense) and radicals ran.

Following the North Star, some made their way to the North and on to Canada.

Some succumbed to slavery's endless assault but some refused to be broken.

Many were sent to 'professional Negro breakers' and were broken. Many persisted hardened in their resistance.

"They poisoned masters and mistresses with arsenic," Bennett reports, "ground glass and spiders beaten up in buttermilk." They chopped them [slaveholders] to pieces with axes and burned their houses, gins and barns to the ground."

"The court records of the slavery period, Bennett says, yield ample evidence that a large number of slaves refused to play the game of slavery: they would neither smile nor bow. Some bowed but would not smile. Many, perhaps the majority, went through the ritual of obeisance. And these, according to some historians, carried on a passive resistance: "They worked no harder than they had to, put on deliberate slowdowns, staged sitdown strikes and fled to the swamps en masse at cotton picking time. They broke implements, trampled the crops and 'took' silver, wine, money, corn, cotton and machines."

Most of the Negro slaves came from an area bordering a 3,000-mile stretch on the west coast of Africa. They came, chained two by two, left leg to right leg, from a thousand villages and towns. They came from many racial stocks and many tribes, from the spirited Hausas, the gentle Mandingos, the creative Yorubas, from the Ibos, Efiks and Krus, from the proud Fantins, the warlike Ashantis, the shrewd Dahomeans, the Binis and Sengalese. Slaves were purchased from brokers at the forts and factories or in open markets. One famous trader has described an open market on the Slave Coast. "As the slaves come down to Fida from the inland country, they are put into a booth, or prison, built for that purpose, near the beach, all of them together; and when the Europeans are to receive them, they are brought out into a large plain, where the surgeons examine every part of every one of them, to the smallest member, men and women being all stark naked. Such as are allowed good and sound are set on one side and the others by themselves. 'Slaves so rejected are there called Mackrons: being above 35 years of age, or defective in their limbs, eyes or teeth, or grown grey, or have the venereal dis-

1663 First serious slave conspiracy in Colonial America, Sept. 13. Servant betrayed plot of White servants and Negro slaves in Gloucester County, Va.

1712 Slave revolt, New York, April 7. Nine Whites killed. Twenty-one slaves executed.

1730 Slave conspiracy discovered in Norfolk and Princess Anne counties, Va.

1739 Slave revolt, Stono, S.C., Sept 9. Twenty-five Whites killed before insurrection was put down.

1741 Series of suspicious fires and reports of slave conspiracy led to general hysteria in New York City, March and April. Thirty-one slaves, five Whites executed.

1773 Massachusetts slaves petitioned legislature for freedom, Jan. 6. There is a record of 8 petitions during Revolutionary War period.

1791 Haitian Revolution began with revolt of slaves in northern province, Aug 22.

1800 Gabriel Prosser plotted and was betrayed. Storm forced suspension of attack on Richmond, Va., by Prosser and some 1,000 slaves, Aug. 30. Conspiracy was betrayed by two slaves. Prosser and fifteen of his followers were hanged on Oct 7.

1811 Louisiana slaves revolted in two parishes about 35 miles from New Orleans, Jan. 8-10. Revolt suppressed by U.S. troops. The largest slave revolt in the United States.

1816 Three hundred fugitive slaves and about 20 Indian allies held Fort Blount on Apalachicola Bay, Fla., for several days before it was attacked by U.S. Troops.

1822 Denmark Vesey plotted and was betrayed. 'House slave' betrayed Denmark Vesey conspiracy, May 30. Vesey conspiracy, one of the most elaborate slave plots on record, involved thousands of Negroes in Charleston, S.C., and vicinity. Authorities arrested 131 Negroes and four whites. Thirty-seven were hanged. Vesey and five of his aides hanged at Blake's Landing, Charleston, S.C., July 2.

1829 Race riot, Cincinnati, Ohio, August 10. More than 1,000 Negroes left the city for Canada.

1831 Nat Turner revolt, Southampton County, Va., August 21-22. Some 60 Whites were killed. Nat Turner was not captured until October 30. Nat Turner was hanged, Jerusalem, Va., Nov. 11.

1838 Frederick Douglass escaped from slavery in Baltimore, Sept. 3.

1839 Amistad mutiny led by Joseph Cinquez, captured. After trial in Conn., returned to Africa.

1841 Slave revolt on slave trader 'Creole' which was en route from Hampton, Va., to New Orleans, La., Nov 7. Slaves overpowered crew and sailed vessel to Bahamas where they were granted asylum and freedom.

1848 Ellen Craft impersonated a slave holder, William Craft acted as her servant in one of the most dramatic slave escapes--this one from slavery in Georgia, Dec 26.

1849 Harriet Tubman escaped from slavery in Maryland, summer. She returned to South 19 times and brought out more than 300 slaves.

1851 Negro abolitionist crashed into courtroom in Boston and rescued a fugitive slave, Feb 15. Negroes dispersed group of slave catchers Sept 11 in Christiana, Pa., conflict. One White man was killed, another wounded.

Negro and White abolitionists smashed into courtroom in Syracuse, N.Y., and rescued a fugitive slave Oct 1.

1859 Five Negroes with 13 Whites with John Brown attacked Harpers Ferry, Va., Oct 16-17. Two Negroes killed, 2 captured, one escaped. John Copeland and Shields Green hanged at Charlestown, Va., Dec 16.

From *Before the Mayflower*, by Lerone Bennett Nat Turner

Nat Turner's rebellion in Southampton County, Virginia, in the summer of 1831, threw the slaveholding South into a panic, and into a determined effort to bolster the security of the slave system. Turner, claiming religious visions, gathered about seventy-slaves who went on a rampage from plantation to plantation, murdering at least fifty-five men, women, and children. They gathered supporters but were captured as their ammunition ran out. Turner and perhaps eighteen others were hanged.

"A Salute To Dr. Martin L. King, Jr."



Faingold - Denver Hilton

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize for 1964

SIMPSON INDUSTRIES Inc.

HEAVY DUTY PRODUCTS
220 Industrial Blvd
Greenville NC 27834-9000

(919) 758-2526
Fa. (919) 758-2538



We salute his dream...



Martin Luther King, Jr.

Martin Community College
1161 Kehukee Park Rd.
Williamston, Nc 1-919-792-1521

Gwendolyn Speight Holman, A Greenville Native, Writes Soon To Be Best Seller. In Stores Now! She Will Also Be Appearing At Barnes And Nobles Book Stores The Week Of Jan. 15th For Book Signing. Please Come Out And Show Your Support For Sister Holman.

Thank God for the Lifeline
Succeeding Against the Odds
Gwendolyn Speight Holman

Microsoft's \$5 Billion Challenger

Noted lawyer pursues Blacks' bias claims
By Ayana Jones
Tribune Staff Writer

Willie E. Gary is one of the nation's most successful trial lawyers. And this week, he set his eyes on one of the nation's most powerful corporations — Microsoft.

Gary represents seven current and former Microsoft employees who have filed a \$5 billion discrimination suit against computer software giant, alleging racial bias.

"What is \$5 billion to Microsoft?" Gary asked. "You have to hit them in their pockets." The suit filed in the U.S. District Court is considered one of the largest discrimination lawsuits on behalf of a class of African-Americans.

One of the plaintiffs, Rhan Jackson, had previously sued the company for discrimination but the suit was amended to include six more employees and to attempt class-action status that could add hundreds more.

The complaint alleges discrimination in evaluations, compensation, promotions, wrongful termination and retaliation.

Gary said that the high monetary figure, which includes compensatory and punitive damages, is commensurate with Microsoft's size. With \$22.6 billion in sales, the Seattle-based firm is the largest computer software company in the world.

But Gary cites Microsoft's Black employment figures as evidence that it does little to hire or retain African-Americans. In 1999, Microsoft employed 21,429 people, of which only 553, or roughly 2.5 percent, were Black. The firm didn't fare any better on the management level. Of the firm's 5,155 managers, only 83, or 1.6 percent, were Black.

"These numbers demonstrate to the world that Microsoft is not interested in hiring or promoting Blacks," Gary stated.

"Just as the Justice Department has sought to stop their anti-trust behavior, we are seeking to change their culture. Their com-

pany should look more like America, and be just as diverse.

"Their business partners and potential business partners all over the world should be aware of their poor treatment of Blacks, and make sure they are not tarnished by doing business with a tech company that has adopted a plantation mentality from a past era," he said.

From humble beginnings, Gary has become the legal equivalent of David against corporate Goliaths.

Gary rose above poverty to become a multimillion-dollar, nationally known trial attorney. He spent his boyhood in the small town of Indiantown, Fla., working with his family in the cane fields. His determination to learn led him to Shaw University and then on to study law at the North Carolina Central University.

He said he saw law practice as a way to do the most for his family and his people.

Gary started off as a one-man operation when he opened the first Black law firm in Martin County, Fla., in 1974. Today he has a thriving national partnership — Gary, Williams, Parenti, Finney, Lewis, McManus, Watson and Sperando.

Gary litigates complex cases involving product liability, medical malpractice, corporate "bad faith" dealings, personal injury and wrongful death, and he has won multimillion-dollar verdicts from major corporations over the past 25 years.

Five months ago, he won a \$720 million discrimination suit against Disney World. Several years ago, he won \$500 million from the Loewen Group for businessman Jeremiah O. Keefe. At the time, it was one of the nation's largest damage awards.

In the Microsoft litigation, the district court must first decide

whether to approve class-action status for the case, a decision that could take two or three months. Gary said he hopes to go to trial within a year.

At a Washington, D.C., news conference Wednesday, four of the plaintiffs said they were

passed over for promotions, paid less than their peers, endured a hostile work environment and were subjected to retaliation for bringing their concerns to management.

Rhan Jackson, a former account executive in the Washington office, said the three Black members of his working team were held back for promotions while the non-Black employees got ahead.

Microsoft spokesman Dean Katz said Tuesday that his company is committed to diversity.

"Microsoft does not tolerate discrimination in any of its employment practices, and we are committed to treating all of our employees fairly. We take these kinds of issues very seriously," Katz said.

"We're pleased with the progress we've made in increasing the number of minorities working at Microsoft. That said, there are still a number of things we can do to stimulate interest among minorities in the technical fields," Katz stated, citing the nearly \$100 million in grants Microsoft has given to organizations to stimulate interest in technological jobs among women and minorities.

He noted that Microsoft is known for its charitable contributions, some of which have benefited minorities.

"That makes it more disappointing that they do not treat their Black employees respectfully," Gary responded.

"This is hypocritical on their part. On one hand they give money to charitable causes, but at the same time they rob their own Black employees of their dignity by repeatedly passing them over for promotions and not granting them equal pay of their white counterparts. This is a disturbing pattern that must end."

TRADE OIL CO PROUDLY SALUTES DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.



The Mountaintop

"I must confess that there are those moments when I feel a sense of inadequacy as a symbol. It is never easy for one to accept the role of symbolism, without going through constant moments of self-examination. And I must confess that there are moments when I begin to wonder whether I am adequate or whether I am able to face all of the challenges and even the responsibilities of this particular position."

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Trade Oil Co 3602 US 264 Hwy Greenville, NC with 59 locations one near you
Owner Walter Williams



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Greenville Housing Authority
P.O. Box 1426-1103 Broad Street
Greenville, North Carolina

A SALUTE TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Sponsored by Budweiser



An AFRO page from the 20th century

Scarface 'Rests In H---,' Pastor Says

(Story in Column 1)

'WE'LL MARCH'



A MOTHER MOURNS—Mrs. Nancy Johnson is shown as she left the funeral services held at the Rollins Funeral Home, Washington, D.C., for her son, Kenneth (Scarface) Johnson. Mrs. Irene Plummer, nurse, is assisting her.

'Scarface' rests in h... --minister

WASHINGTON (The Minority Voice) — The deceased now rests in hell. The Rev. Walter C. Jones used this graphic and terse statement during funeral services for Kenneth (Scarface) Johnson, 26, of 172 N. Palaski St., Baltimore, Friday.

Accused slayer of 'Scarface' released

James Armstrong, 35-year-old construction worker was released on his own recognizance on a writ of habeas corpus this morning (Tuesday). Mr. Armstrong had been in City Jail since last Tuesday when he was charged with the fatal shooting of Kenneth C. (Scarface) Johnson. The writ for his release was signed by Judge James K. Cullen, Monday afternoon. Johnson, a former heavy-weight boxer, was shot and killed as police said he attempted to invade the apartment of Mr. Armstrong at 603 W. Frank.

Sports at a glance

WEEKENDS RESULTS
BASKETBALL
Dunbar 61, Carver 59 (MSA title)
Morgan 98, Lincoln 54
Morgan 69, W. Salem 65
Sellers 35, Tolman 31
Mace's-Lake 58, Douglass 55
Dunbar JV 38, Carver JV 38
Wrestling
Dunbar 28, Patterson 16
COMING EVENTS
TUESDAY
Carver at Forest Park
(Continued on Page 17)

BEATS CHAIR

Tot sitter's killer gets 18 years

"The only evidence to indicate that any violence was committed anywhere but in the bedroom is the bloodstains leading up to the attic. The explanation of the man going into the attic with a knife is pure speculation. "All you have on rape is the defendant's statement that some type of force was used. The State has failed to prove rape. "There is nothing to indicate that he was trying to kill her to shut her mouth. "There is no evidence to sustain a conviction of first-degree murder under the facts or the law." Attacking the prosecution's theory in the "baby sitter" murder case, Milton Allen argued fluently in a tense and crowded courtroom Friday in successfully saving his teenage client from life imprisonment or death in the gas chamber.

Anderson Lee Best, 19, 2400 block S. Paca St., was sentenced to 18 years in the Penitentiary for the Oct. 4 fatal stabbing of his estranged wife's sister, Miss Shirley Blocker, 16. At the time the Cherry Hill High School student was stabbed seven times, she was baby sitting for Best's two small children and her younger brother. The slaying took place at 2213 W. Hamburg St., Mt. Winans.

PRESTON PAIRO, assistant State's attorney, asked Chief Judge Emory Niles, presiding in Youth Court, to find the defendant guilty of first-degree murder. The prosecutor contended that Miss Blocker had been raped, and that the case came under the State's murder-felony law which called for a conviction in the first degree. In his final argument, Mr. Pairo said: "The body received seven stab wounds and it's impossible for it to have happened the way he (Best) explained it. "The defendant would have you believe that he was fighting a wild woman. The only reason she was a wild woman was because she was fighting to keep

(Continued on Page 3)

\$350,000 fortune fails to excite two Miss, sisters

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Falling heir to a \$350,000 fortune has failed to excite Mrs. Florence Crowell, a retired schoolteacher, and her sister, Miss Emma Green, both of West Point, Miss. "They're taking their good fortune in stride," Thomas F. McDonald, their attorney said. The money was willed to them by Mrs. Caroline Wilkinson, widow of a barber. Her husband, Edwards, who died in 1945, operated a barber shop in the Chamber of Commerce building, where many brokers and businessmen were his customers and made him their confidante.

(Continued on Page 3)



WARNS OF MARCH—The Rev. Martin L. King Jr., Montgomery, chairman of the Southern Leaders Conference, reads the telegram warning Washington, if he continues silent on the reign of terror gripping the South. The conference ended in New Orleans on Feb. 15.

Flash News In Brief

THE WEEK'S REPORT OF PROGRESS
DETROIT—Harry C. Hackett, law clerk for U.S. Judge Frank A. Picard, has just been appointed Federal bankruptcy referee in Michigan, the first colored lawyer to be given this position. He's a native of Birmingham and a graduate of Wayne University law school.

NEW YORK—The Federal Government no longer will grant mortgage insurance to builders who violate the provisions of New York's Metcalf-Baker law prohibiting racial bias in housing. That was the pledge FHA Commissioner Norman F. Mason gave Charles Abrams, chairman of the State Commission Against Discrimination, Friday.

RICHMOND, Va.—Colston A. Lewis, Richmond attorney, announced plans last week to seek a seat in the Virginia House of Delegates, subject to the July 7 Democratic primary.

NORFOLK, Va.— School boards of Newport News and Norfolk, Tuesday, were given until August 15 to integrate classes under their jurisdiction. The order was given by U.S. Judge Walter E. Hoffman. He told board members they need not fear action by state authorities, as he would stand behind them.

ANN ARBOR, Mich.— The University of Michigan has been asked to cancel its football game scheduled for next fall with the University of Georgia.

NAACP gets \$35,000

A judgment of \$35,000 from a trust fund left by the late Charles E. Russell was awarded the NAACP in a court order granted by District Judge James McGuire, this week. The remaining \$35,000 in the \$70,000 fund was awarded to a granddaughter, Mrs. Louise Gibrede of San Francisco, Calif. The grants were in accordance to terms of a will made by Mr. Russell on April 27, 1938. Mr. Russell was a writer and one of the founders of the NAACP.

PEACE AND HARMONY REIGN

Shriners honor Allen
By B. M. PHILLIPS
In a beautiful display of peace and harmony, local Shriners conferred their highest honor on Dr. Willard W. Allen, most worshipful grand master of Maryland Masons, here on Sunday. At the formal session held in the Masonic Temple, nobles donned their orange and red regalia and full dress to watch as Dr. Allen received the past imperial potentate degree, for his 34 years of "enlightened" service to Masonry which mark him as the dean of grand masters. This is the top office in the Ancient Egyptian Arabic order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. The local group is known as Jerusalem Temple No. 4. Witnessing the ceremonies were the Shriners' Imperial Potentate Booker T. Alexander, who flew from Detroit; and Bishop Howard Z. Plummer, Imperial Lecturer, who came from Portsmouth, Va. IN A SURPRISE tournament, designed to seal the peace and harmony theme, Grand Master Allen made Potentate Alexander an honorary member for life of the United Supreme Council 33. (Continued on Page 13)

Prayer crusade to Washington is planned by group

(SPECIAL TO THE AFRO)

NEW ORLEANS—Shocked because President Eisenhower has turned a deaf ear to their pleas that he speak out against the rising wave of violence in the South attending desegregation of schools and other public facilities, colored leaders here this week announced plans for a pilgrimage to Washington unless the Chief Executive speaks out. The plan was unanimously approved at a two-day meeting of the Louisiana Baptist Ministerial Alliance held at New Zion Baptist Church, the Rev. A. L. Davis, pastor. The announcement was made by the Rev. Martin Luther King of Montgomery, president of the Southern Leaders Conference, comprising 97 leaders from all of the southern states.

THE REV. MR. KING, also head of the Montgomery Improvement Association which led a successful year-long bus boycott movement in Alabama's capital city, told newsmen he did not know exactly what form the pilgrimage would take. He added, however, that thousands of colored people, joined by thousands of whites in both the North and South, would go to Washington. "This will not be a political march. It will be rooted in deep spiritual faith," the Rev. Mr. King pointed out. The press session was called after a telegram had been sent to Mr. Eisenhower imploring him to speak out against lawlessness in areas where integration was taking place.

THE MESSAGE is the third addressed to the President by this group since the first of the year. On Jan. 11, the Leaders Conference asked the President to speak anywhere in the South. Later, the Rev. Mr. King asked Mr. Eisenhower to speak anywhere in the nation about the violence erupting in the South. The President, after consulting with the Justice Department, replied that he would be unable to do so, despite pleas from many individuals and organizations that he publicly discourage lawless elements. The telegram also urged the President to call a White House conference on the maintenance of law and order.

"WE BELIEVE such a conference can help develop in the South and in the nation an orderly growth toward civil rights," the telegram said. "Since our last appeal," the telegram stated, "violence has continued to erupt by night and by day. It has grown to alarming proportions. Some of the acts of violence would be unbelievable were the grim ruins not mute testimony."

The Rev. F. L. Shuttlesworth, leader of the fight against bus segregation in Birmingham, Ala., whose home like that of the Rev. Mr. King has also been bombed, remarked that the group was not trying to "threaten the President" with the telegram.

HE CITED from the message: "In the absence of some early and effective remedial action, we shall have no moral choice but to lead a pilgrimage to Washington." (Continued on Page 2)

Henry Waters Auxiliary to the Federal Credit Union, business manager of the Associated Business Peoples' Council of Emmanuel Church and the leader of a singing group of her own. Rackets Division officers said. (Continued on Page 2)

MRS. HEGGIE was described as the operator of a dry cleaning establishment at the Argyle St. address and as a long time member at the Emmanuel Christian Community Church. A member and soloist with the church's senior choir, Mrs. Heggie was also listed as the president of the Wilbur

is the total set aside each week for News Tips and News Photos. For News Tips, call MU. 5-6015, 6016, 1812 and 1813. If no answer, call LA. 3-2811. Bring your News and Photos to the City Desk.

Church leader held for numbers

\$50

Church leader held for numbers

Mrs. Juanita E. Heggie, 42, of 1246 1/2 Argyle Ave., identified as a prominent church leader, was ordered held in \$2,500 bail for grand jury action on a lottery charge following a hearing on Saturday in Northwestern Police Court. The matron entered a not guilty plea and was released from custody after posting bail. Arrested with Mrs. Heggie was Willie Banks Jr., 31, of the 600 block W. Lafayette Ave., who also entered a not guilty plea and was released under the same bail. MRS. HEGGIE was described as the operator of a dry cleaning establishment at the Argyle St. address and as a long time member at the Emmanuel Christian Community Church. A member and soloist with the church's senior choir, Mrs. Heggie was also listed as the president of the Wilbur

EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD
There's a carrier available in your neighborhood for prompt delivery.
HOME DELIVERY SERVICE
CALL MU. 5-6016

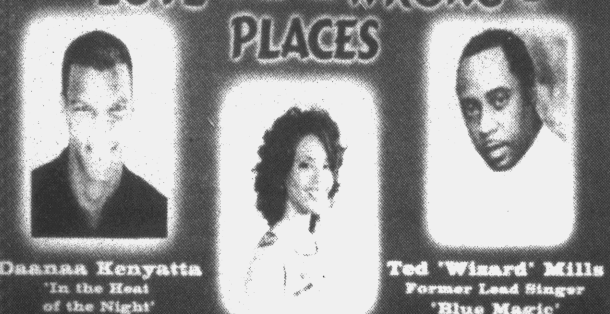
A Musical Stage Play For The Entire Family!
Written & Directed By
Jamez Rogers



LOOKING FOR LOVE IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES

MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
RALEIGH, NC
FRI. JAN 12 / SAT. JAN 13 / SUN JAN. 14

LOOKING FOR LOVE IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES



Daanaa Kenyatta
"In the Heat of the Night"

Rozanne Marr
RET. "Sweet Auburn"

Ted "Wizard" Mills
Former Lead Singer "Blue Magic"

Also Starring: **The Anointed Pace Sisters**

LOOKING FOR LOVE IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES
Is a dynamic musical stage play that takes you through funny yet realistic situations. The play examines the single and married person's struggles to find his or her soulmate through personal Ads, Dating Game shows, Computer Dating, 900's etc. You'll see the perils & pitfalls experienced by each colorful character during their unsuccessful attempts to find love in what they eventually realize are "all the Wrong Places". Through Ma Shipley's elderly wisdom and Biblical teachings, the colorful characters are encouraged to turn inward for the answer. Once you begin to know yourself, You begin to know God. Once you know God, You'll then know Love!

MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
FRI. JAN 12TH@8PM / SAT. JAN. 13TH@3 & 8PM
SUN. JAN 14TH@ 3 & 7:30PM
TICKETS AT BOX OFFICE 919-831-6060
ALL TICKETMASTER LOCATIONS 919-834-4000
MR. FREEZE RECORD SHOP (DOWNTOWN RALEIGH)
www.raleighconvention.com or www.ticketmaster.com

TICKETS MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

Bring Me A Customer And Receive A
\$100 REFERRAL FEE
• Reposs • Bankruptcy • Tax Liens
• Charge-offs • Slow Credit
NO PROBLEM!
**100% GUARANTEED
CAR LOAN APPROVAL**



DAEWOO - Ranked #4
in Customer Satisfaction

FRANCINE PAJAK
Sales Specialist

DAEWOO
of Greenville

3329 S. Memorial Dr., Greenville
252-321-1576 (Work)
1-888-DAEWOO *1 (Toll Free)
252-355-5180 (Home)

**The Minority Voice
Newspaper, Inc.**

405 Evans Street
P.O. Box 8361
Greenville, NC 27834


Phone: (252) 757-0365
Fax: (252) 757-1793

Jóy 1340AM
WOOW Radio Station
Greenville, NC 27834

Joy 1320 AM
WTOW Radio Station
Washington, NC 27889

The Minority Voice Newspaper
assumes no responsibility for the
return of unsolicited manuscripts or
photographs. Photographs and manu-
scripts become the property of The
"M" Voice Newspaper
Address your complaints to:
Mr. Jim Rouse, Publisher
405 Evans Street
Greenville, NC 27834

Understand Black History
Read Black History
Love Black History



Faingold—Denver-Hilton

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Recipient of the
Nobel Peace Prize for 1964

WRECKER SERVICE
DAY 752-3632
NIGHT 757-2485

1900 DICKINSON AVE
P O BOX 1373
GREENVILLE, NC 27834
NIGHT BEEPER 551-0460

**Chuck Autry's
Paint & Body Shop**
GENERAL AUTO MECHANICAL REPAIRS

CHUCK AUTRY
OWNER

The Minority Voice

♦♦♦
Jim Rouse, Publisher
M'Bulu Rouse, Vice-President


William Clark, Gen. Manager
Steve Johnson, Editor

Michael Adams, Editor
Bobby Daniels, Editor

405 South Evans Street • Greenville, North Carolina 27835
Tel.: (252) 757-0365 ♦ Fax: (252) 757-1793
E-mail: woow@skantech.net

Affiliate Member of Associated Press • Member Black Publishers Association
NAACP • SCLC • The Pitt-Greenville Chamber of Commerce
The North Carolina Minority Business Association

**Season's Greetings
And Happy
Holidays**



Paul A. Smith, Sr.
Sales Representative

From our family to your family, have a safe and
blessed holiday, and a prosperous New Year.

DO YOU NEED A CAR?
DO YOU HAVE CREDIT PROBLEMS?
TALK TO SOMEONE WHO
CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**CAROLINA MOTORS
OF GREENVILLE**
252-756-0193
3213 SOUTH MEMORIAL DRIVE, GREENVILLE NC 27834

A Salute To

Martin Luther King, Jr.

**SALUTE
THE
"DREAM"**

**JANUARY
15-**



Owen Burney, Jr.
President

Owen Burney, Sr.
Vice-President

Burney & Burney Construction, Inc.
"Quality From Start to Finish"

We Build Homes And People!!!!!!

For more information call (919)-752-8000

HOLIDAY CLOSING

The offices and Operations Center of Greenville Utilities will be closed Monday, January 15 in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Customers wishing to pay their utility bills at that time may use the drop box beside GUC's Main Office drive-thru window or the drop box at GUC Express, 509 S.E. Greenville Blvd. Greenville Utilities will reopen Tuesday, January 16 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. To report emergencies at night, weekends and holidays, please call 752-5627.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday!



Greenville Utilities

EILENE'S CHILDCARE CENTER

"Quality Care When You're Not There"



2311 S. Memorial Drive Greenville, NC 27834 Joseph & Eilene business (252) 757-3722 pick-up (252) 916-9027 Spencer/Owners

PREMIER HOMES

7312 Hwy 11-S
AYDEN, NC 28513
PH (252) 746-9900



CHAMPION
WORLD'S LARGEST HOME BUILDER

STOP LOOKING AND START LIVING!!

- LAND/HOME PACKAGES AVAILABLE
- \$500.00 OFF SINGLEWIDES
- \$1000.00 OFF DOUBLEWIDES
- MANUFACTURED & MODULAR HOMES AVAILABLE
- SINGLES, DOUBLES, & TRIPLES AVAILABLE
- 3,4,5, BEDROOM HOMES AVAILABLE

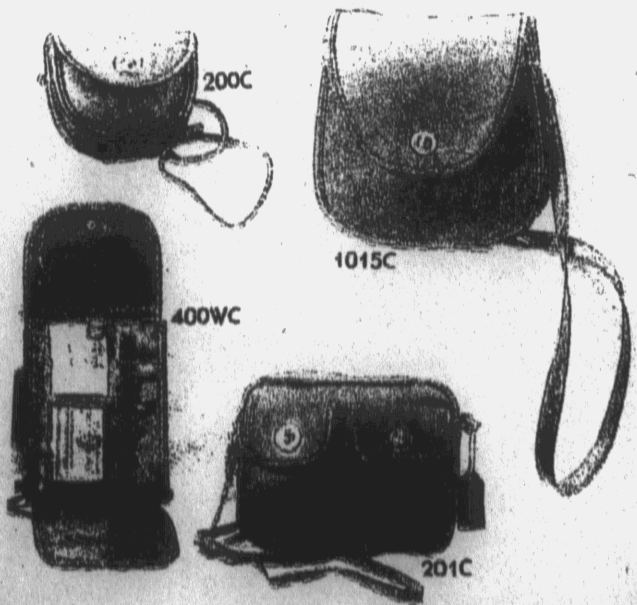
!!! EVERYTHING IN STOCK MUST GO !!!

Shamad Marketing & Entertainment

COOGIE * Style Bags * Most Urban Wear*

Koum Shamd
1-888-234-6363 Ext.1771923

www.KOUM2000@Yahoo.COM
Studio (252) 985-3878



Joy 1340 AM

Understanding Is The Key To Success !!!



From the "M" Voice Archives Deacon Cohen is shown with his wife Louise, at a service honoring him at Holy Trinity United Holiness Church. Deacon Cohen was the head Deacon at Holy Trinity and the father of sister Evelyn Cohen who once was an employee at woow. Deacon Cohen at one time ran the Roxy Theatre during segregation.

Photo by Jim Rouse



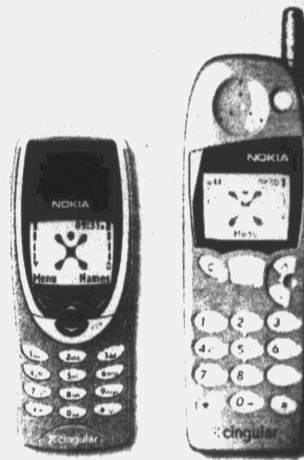
Imam W. Deen Muhammed "Religion And Education : Its Global Impact for The New Millennium" February 7, 2001 7:30 p.m. Also at 6:00 pm An Interfaith Panel Discussion At ECU Campus

Unlimited calling to other Cingular customers.

- Activate a Cingular Home™ plan with access of \$29⁹⁹ and higher and get unlimited mobile to mobile calling and mobile to mobile messaging to any Cingular customer within your local calling area.

	\$29 ⁹⁹	\$39 ⁹⁹	\$49 ⁹⁹
Home Plan:	• 325 minutes	• 500 minutes	• 700 minutes
	Long Distance Included.		

Offer available to new and existing customers
For more information or local delivery, call 1-866-CINGULAR.
www.cingular.com



Nokia 8290
\$99

Nokia 5190
\$10

Pick one of these two Nokia phones.

NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE



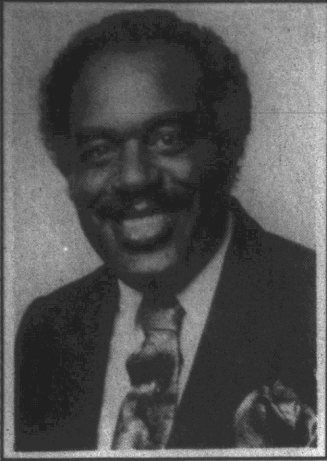
cingular™
WIRELESS

What do you have to say?

- Available At:
- Cingular Wireless Store
 - Other Locations
 - Auto Audio
 - Fuel Doc
 - FARMVILLE
 - CIRCUIT CITY
 - GREENVILLE
 - GREENVILLE Pirates Pointe
 - Debbie's Car Sound & Security
 - Furniture Fair
 - WINTERVILLE
 - 740 Greenville Blvd., (252) 353-5777
 - ABC Phones
 - Executel
 - The Cellular Group
 - WOW Cellular and Paging
 - Absolute Wireless
 - Express Pack & Mail
 - Winoco
 - Atlantic Wireless

Limited time offer. A connection charge or network surcharge will apply during any month in which landline-terminated calls are originated from the wireless phone. Activation fee will apply. Promotional phones require a one or two year agreement. Calls subject to taxes, long distance, roaming, universal service fee, or other exactions. Airtime in excess of any package minutes will be charged at per minute rate from \$15 to \$50. Monthly charges are not prorated. Subject to credit approval. Digital Phone and Cingular long distance service required. Requires minimum 12-month contract. Unlimited Mobile to Mobile calling option includes incoming and outgoing local calls to and from other local Cingular numbers that are within the same Home Calling Area. Unlimited Mobile to Mobile does not include calls placed outside the Home Calling Area. 411, your own voice mail, or prepaid customers. If the called party does not have Unlimited Mobile to Mobile calling option, called party's package minutes will be decremented, or called party will incur an airtime charge. Unlimited Mobile to Mobile may be terminated at end of contract term. Certain other conditions and restrictions apply, see contract for details. Cingular is a service mark of Cingular Wireless LLC. "What do you have to say?" is a service mark of Cingular Wireless LLC. Nokia, Connecting People, the 8200 and the 5100 series phones are trademarks of Nokia Corporation and/or its affiliates. ©2001 Nokia Mobile Phones, Inc. ©2001 Cingular Wireless LLC.

Spiritual Thoughts



PASTOR GEORGE HAWKINS

Roadblocks to Revival

Greetings in the Matchless name of Jesus Christ:

For many years now, I have believed God for a mighty move of His Spirit that will bring great revival to the church and a glorious harvest of souls. The church that will experience this visitation of God will not be an organization or institution but a living organism, the body of Christ.

As I have waited expectantly for this revival, the Holy Spirit has impressed upon me that the church must first be delivered from five areas of wrong thinking that hinder

His work:

1. Denominationalism A denomination is a society of people, called by the same name, who support a particular system. As long as a denomination remains open to the life of Jesus, it is not harmful.

But when it becomes obsessed with self-preservation, it becomes a dam that dangerously limits greater streams of truth from flowing into it. Elitism, legalism, and judgmental attitudes are almost always the result.

A denomination serves a purpose similar to the scaffolding used to build a structure.

Scaffolding is not intended to obscure the building permanently. After serving its purpose, the scaffolding is dismantled so the real building can be seen.

Constructed of human ideologies and dogmas, denominationalism is a man-made structure that obscures the true church Christ is building. For the life of Christ to be seen in the church, the scaffolding of denominationalism must be removed.

2. Human traditions. Tradition is an established pattern of thought or behavior handed down by word or example from one generation to another. The Pharisees once asked Jesus, Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat? (Matt. 15:2, NKJV).

Jesus condemned their hypocrisy, and He accused them of "making

the word of God of no effect through (their) tradition" (St. Mark 7: & 13).

Unfortunately much of Scripture has been "interpreted" for us by carnal speculations handed down from one generation to another. Such traditional misconceptions hinder the Holy Spirit from revealing rigid truth to us.

The contemporary church must return to the Word of God and allow the Spirit of Truth to teach us.

The apostle Paul declared he was "exceedingly zealous for the traditions" of his fathers until "it pleased God, to reveal His Son in me" (Gal. 1:14-16) Like Paul we will be delivered from devotion to religious traditions only as the Holy Spirit reveals Christ in us.

3. Prejudice. Those unreasonable biases, judgments and opinions that breed suspicion, intolerance and hatred have no place in Christ's church. Paul declared that after faith has come our prejudicial distinctions do not exist in Christ (Gal. 3:25-28). He admonished Timothy to obey his instructions "without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality" (1 Tim. 5:21).

prejudice against people of another race, gender, sect, class or status will keep us from receiving God's truth. Christ's true church will be free from the destructive power

4. Culture. Perhaps nothing is more basic to our natural thinking than our culture those concepts

habits, manners, styles, skills, tarts and institutions that characterize our society. Our native ways of thinking, talking and acting seem "tight" to us. We need to be delivered from our bondage to culture so Christ in us can move in and through any culture. He brings a new and higher way of life that transcends the boundaries of culture.

5. Customs. A custom is any long-established uniform practice instituted by common consent of a society. Such customs, which take on the force of unwritten law, are enforced by social disapproval of any violation. Christ has freed us from the tyranny of any human standard of righteousness imposed by society and has put His standard of righteousness within us by the Holy Spirit, who writes His laws upon our hearts. Paul denounced some Jewish Christians who attempted to add their customs as requirements for salvation. To do so, he said, meant the vicarious sacrifice of Christ was not quite enough to effect salvation (see Gal 2:21) Wherever the church has included demands of customs as criteria for salvation, it must repent and return to complete faith in the work of Calvary.

The contemporary church must allow the Holy Spirit to speak God's truth to us, convicting our hearts and cleansing us of our wrong thinking. Only then will we be prepared for the great revival that is coming.

CULINARY CUISINE



Culinary Cuisine

Sometimes the place we least likely think of as an eating establishment is right under our noses. Who would think a grocery store as a great place for good food already prepared. Yes my friends on Jarvis Street there is a place called City Market that has great food. A hot bar and for all you diet conscious, fitness fanatics a salad bar with an array of foods that big expensive (Perkins) restaurants should take note of. The self service bars are excellent. Stuffed peppers, BBQ chicken, BBQ pork, macaroni

and cheese, collards, cabbage, potato salad, lettuce, deviled eggs, beets and fruit bar. My gosh! I could go on and on but you the reader would have to be the judge.

For once, I ask the reader to try this place. You may call me after getting the number from the editor, if you don't agree that the food is great. There are many ways I could try to explain why this place is excellent but I'm going to let you decide on this one.

You see, I know my rating but I want you to decide for yourself. In the next few weeks after the calls I will tally up and give my rating plus the reader's rating. So I ask you to please go to City Market located on Jarvis Street. Fill up your plate and afterwards call me. This time, let's compare notes.

The Invisible Food Editor

Happy Birthday Dr. King!



Progressive Freewill Baptist Church

Bishop T.L. Davis is shown with church members as they gathered for opening service at their new church on Hooker Rd. Bishop T.L. Davis invites everyone to stop by for Sunday service.

Photo by Jim Rouse



Gorham's Beauty Salon!

Shown posing for the "M" Voice camera is Brother Donald Gorham with his two brothers, his daughter and another stylist. Brother Donald Gorham Beauty Salon is the oldest beauty salon in our city. When a man touches a woman hair a wonderful sensation comes to life!

Photo by Jim Rouse

We Salute Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"I Have A Dream"
August 28, 1963

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

These famous words of Dr. Martin Luther King are remembered today.

He was a leader who allowed his dream to inspire the masses. His dream created a new way of life and a change for our nation.

If you have a dream about your future, the counselors at Pitt Community College can help you explore your options and begin planning and training for a new career.

Call today: 355-4245



Pitt Community College
Greenville, NC



VACUUM CLEANER HOSPITAL

114 E 10TH ST GREENVILLE NC 27858
 FULL SERVICE DISTRIBUTORS OF
 FLOOR CARE & JANITORIAL SUPPLIES
 phone (252) 752-9395



THE VACUUM CLEANER HOSPITAL SALUTES DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

Solutions to the complex plight of the Negro will not be easy. This does not signify that they are impossible. Recognizing these complexities as challenges rather than as obstacles, we will make progress if we accept the fact that four hundred years of sinning cannot be canceled out in four minutes of atonement. Neither can we allow the guilty to tailor their atonement in such a manner as to visit another four seconds of deliberate hurt upon the victim.



WHY WE CAN'T WAIT
 by Martin Luther King Jr.
 pg. 142



"Quote from Rev Farnley Moore: Martin Luther King Memorial Service Jan. 15, 1988" To the young of America, hold forth your ears! It was on August 28, 1963 that a young black man from Georgia - In the challenging, beautiful, teeming city of Atlanta who came forth to lead a march. The event was a Symbol of Protest to the moral conscience of America. That Jobs, Justice and Freedom, were not equally available to all! So, disturbed and concerned who had hope! The nations darling members who cared, from every nook and cranny of the land that came, and also beyond: Two hundred and fifty thousand faithful devotees who yet held faith in the American Dream! They assembled peacefully together beneath the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial. To say to the Masters in Government that the time for proper settlement " is NOW

Sponsored By Pitt County SCLC A Cry At Midnight Sermon by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

of physical limitation and material inconvenience, science lifted us to the bright morning of physical and material comfort. When we were in the midnight of crippling ignorance and superstition, science brought us to the daybreak of the free and open mind. When we were in the midnight of dread plagues and diseases, science, through surgery, sanitation, and the wonder drugs, ushered in the bright day of physical health, thereby prolonging our lives and making for greater security and physical well-being. How naturally we turn to science in a day when the problems of the world are so ghastly and ominous.

Happy Birthday Dr. King!

But alas! science cannot now rescue us, for even the scientist is lost in the terrible midnight of our age. Indeed, science gave us the very instruments that threaten to bring universal suicide. So modern man faces a dreary and frightening midnight in the social order.

What You See Is What You Get
 What You Read Is What You
 Know And Save
 THE 'M' Voice Newspaper

Although this parable is concerned with the power of persistent prayer, it may also serve as a basis for our thought concerning many contemporary problems and the role of the church in grappling with them. It is midnight in the parable; it is also midnight in our world, and the darkness is so deep that we can hardly see which way to turn.

history. The psychopathic wards of our hospitals are crowded, and the most popular psychologists today are the psychoanalysts. Bestsellers in psychology are books such as *Man Against Himself*, *The Neurotic Personality of Our Times*, and *Modern Man in Search of a Soul*. Bestsellers in religion are such books as *Peace of Mind* and *Peace of Soul*. The popular clergyman preaches soothing sermons on "How to Be Happy" and "How to Relax." Some have been tempted to revise Jesus' command to read, "Go ye into all the world, keep your blood pressure down, and, lo, I will make you a well-adjusted personality." All of this is indicative that it is midnight within the inner lives of men and women. It is also midnight within

It is midnight within the social order. On the international horizon nations are engaged in a colossal and bitter contest for supremacy. Two world wars have been fought within a generation, and the clouds of another war are dangerously low. Man now has atomic and nuclear weapons that could within seconds completely destroy the major cities of the world. Yet the arms race continues and nuclear tests still explode in the atmosphere, with the grim prospect that the very air we breathe will be poisoned by radioactive fallout. Will these circumstances and weapons bring the annihilation of the human race?

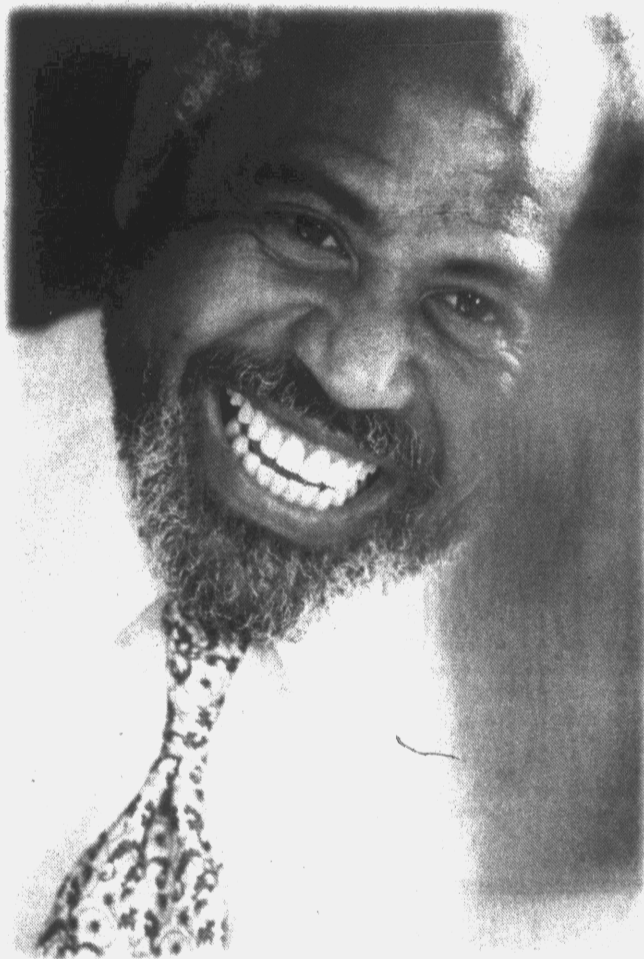
This midnight in man's external collective is paralleled by midnight in his internal individual life. It is midnight within the psychological order. Every where paralyzing fears harrow people by day and haunt them by night. Deep clouds of anxiety and depression are suspended in our mental skies. More people are emotionally disturbed today than at any other time of human history. The psychopathic wards of our hospitals are crowded, and the most popular psychologists today are the psychoanalysts. Bestsellers in psychology are books such as *Man Against Himself*, *The Neurotic Personality of Our Times*, and *Modern Man in Search of a Soul*. Bestsellers in religion are such books as *Peace of Mind* and *Peace of Soul*. The popular clergyman preaches soothing sermons on "How to Be Happy" and "How to Relax." Some have been tempted to revise Jesus' command to read, "Go ye into all the world, keep your blood pressure down, and, lo, I will make you a well-adjusted personality." All of this is indicative that it is midnight within the inner lives of men and women. It is also midnight within the moral order. At midnight colours lose their distinctiveness and become a sullen shade of grey. Moral principles have lost their distinctiveness. For modern man, absolute right and wrong are a matter of what the majority is doing. Right and wrong are relative to likes and dislikes and the customs of a particular community. We have unconsciously applied Einstein's theory of relativity, which properly described the physical universe, to the moral and ethical realm.

When confronted by midnight in the social order we have in the past turned to science for help. And little wonder! On so many occasions science has saved us. When we were in the midnight of physical limitation and material inconvenience, science lifted us to the bright morning of physical and material comfort. When we were in the midnight of crippling ignorance and superstition, science brought us to the daybreak of the free and open mind. When we were in the midnight of dread plagues and diseases, science, through surgery, sanitation, and the wonder drugs, ushered in the bright day of physical health, thereby prolonging our lives and making for greater security and physical well-being. How naturally we turn to science in a day when the problems of the world are so ghastly and ominous.

But alas! science cannot now rescue us, for even the scientist is lost in the terrible midnight of our age. Indeed, science gave us the very instruments that threaten to bring universal suicide. So modern man faces a dreary and frightening midnight in the social order.

This midnight in man's external collective is paralleled by midnight in his internal individual life. It is midnight within the psychological order. Every where paralyzing fears harrow people by day and haunt them by night. Deep clouds of anxiety and depression are suspended in our mental skies. More people are emotionally disturbed today than at any other time of human

When confronted by midnight in the social order we have in the past turned to science for help. And little wonder! On so many occasions science has saved us. When we were in the midnight



We'll waive the monthly service charge for 6 statement cycles* when you sign up for Business Quest Checking.

Business Quest provides premium banking services and the flat monthly service charge saves you money too.

Call or come by your nearest First Citizens branch. Then count the ways Business Quest can improve your bottom line.

Working for your business every day.

Business QuestSM Checking

- Up to 500 items included in monthly service charge
- Avoid monthly service charge with \$10,000 average checking balance or \$20,000 combined balances in checking and savings
- Earn overnight interest with a sweep account**
- Preferred rates on loans and CDs



firstcitizens.com

1-888-FC DIRECT
 (1-888-323-4732)

* 6 statement cycles (approximately 6 months).
 ** Sweep accounts are not bank deposits and are not insured by the FDIC. Offer good through 2/28/2001. Normal credit approval applies. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.



Don Brown Funeral Home

108 East Second Street
Ayden, North Carolina 28513

Don Brown
Manager/ Mortician
(252) 746 - 3133

Life Insurance 0-90
Pre- Need And In Need
Funeral Arrangements

"Committed To The Community We Serve"

Salute Martin Luther King Jr.

We Proudly Salute
The Life and Legacy
of

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



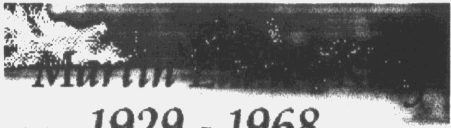
3325 S. MEMORIAL DR.

GREENVILLE, N.C. 27834

"EASTERN CAROLINA'S VOLUME DEALER"

DARRELL PHELPS

(252) 756-2150



1929 - 1968



Wilders Auto Sales Salute Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Wilders Auto Sales
3810 S. Charles Blvd.
Greenville, NC 27858
(252) 355-3401

TRUE CONNECTIONS



LOLA THOMPSON

Day Spa & Salon
Specializing In All Hair Services

115 Firetower Road
Suite A
Winterville, NC 28590

Call For Appointment
439-0025 or 756-8676

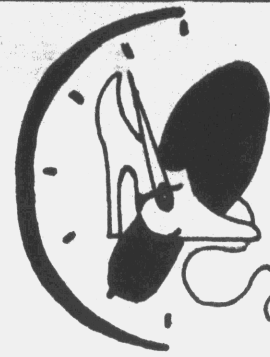


Salute To A Music Director !

Mt. Calvary Freewill Baptist Church was the scene last Saturday as they payed tribute to Music Director Brother Church Hill Thomas. He is pictured with family and friends as well as his church family and friends.

photo by Jim Rouse

Heel Sew Quik Salutes Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Heel Sew Quik

FOOTWEAR CLINIC

Carolina East Mall
252-756-0044

We clean Timberland Shoe and Boots

Shoe Repair & Clothing Alteration

Happy Birthday Dr. King

Martin Luther King, Jr.

CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER



Saad Rentals Salute Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
907 Dickinson Ave., Greenville, NC (252) 757-3191

*From the Desk
of
Mrs. Beatrice Maye*



Healthbeat

- Battle high blood pressure with exercise and weight loss.
- Physical activity is on the decline with kids.
- A high-fiber diet combined with lower fat intake and exercise can help control body weight.
- Fiber foods: peas, oats and barley; fruits and vegetables like apples, oranges, and carrots, brown rice, green beans and potatoes — these can help prevent constipation, diverticulosis, and hemorrhoids and may also help prevent some cancer.
- Contact your doctor if you or your child develops an ear-

ache or other symptoms of a middle ear infection.

- The best way to prevent kidney stones is to drink six to eight glasses of water each day.
- Anger-prone people are apt to suffer sudden heart attack.
- Anger, anxiety and depression have an impact on the heart.
- Choking requires quick action.

11 Steps to a Longer Life

1. Minimize the stresses.
2. Lower your exposure to chemicals and pollutants.
3. Eat a natural diet of vegetables and fruits.
4. Don't overeat.
5. Feed your mind and soul.
6. Exercise your body.
7. Exercise your brain.
8. Supply wisely (vitamins).
9. Be wary of claims for anti-fogging products.
10. Have a purpose in life.
11. Accept your mortality.

What do Women Want?

Wives, sweethearts, teenagers, little girls want your time, your

affection, your love, your caring, communication, commitment, just being alone with you, your intelligence, admiration, courage and wisdom in the face of negativity and adversity, stepping-stones and dead-ends, roadblocks and stumbling stones. Then you can encourage, inspire and motivate us. Husbands, tell your wives that it's the smartest thing you've ever done when you met, loved and married them.

Involvement

If we'd all get more involved with one another, lending a hand rather than living such isolated lives, the world would be a much nicer place. *Guy Burnett*

Stress

Stress affects everyone. No one is immune. Some causes of stress: frustration, fear, anxiety, anger, revenge, impatience, powerlessness, sadness, lack of control, boredom.

These inner resources are needed to calm our nerves and open our minds: courage, optimism, humility, humor, intuition, acceptance, forgiveness, love and patience. These inner resources are to our souls what medicine is to the body.

Age

Age is just a number and life is what you make it.



An Invitation

Tuesday, January 16, 2001, at 10:30 a.m., Mr. Gaston Monk, president, Pitt County Chapter, NAACP, will speak to the Retirement Living Class, taught by Mrs. Beatrice Maye, at the Pitt County Council on Aging, 1717 West Fifth Street (The Nutrition Site) behind the Social Service Building. His topic, "Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." Come, spend a half-hour, 10:30-11:00 a.m., and be informed, entertained and uplifted. Dr. King is the first and only Black that a national holiday has been bestowed upon for observance.

February

- ☐ February is African-American (Black) History Month
- ☐ Theme 2001, "Creating and Defining the African-American Community: Family, Church, Politics, and Culture"

Questions

- ✓ Who was the most influential teacher you've ever had?
- ✓ Was he or she sympathetic and encouraging?
- ✓ Besides your parents, did he or she show any real interest?
- ✓ Did he or she encourage your writing, nurtured your imagination and protected your dreams?

Help Wanted

Do you have a picture of the late Ms. Sadie Saulter from whom

the Sadie Saulter School on Fleming Street is named for? If so, contact Mr. Michael Dixon, chairman, Pitt County Board of Education or Mrs. Beatrice Maye or Mrs. Suejette Jones.

Just for Today

1. Have you helped anyone — just a smile, a pat on the back, a hug or a kiss, a compliment or a word of praise?
2. Did you ask for forgiveness for an ugly word, a sour disposition or a negative attitude?
3. Did you offer a ride, carry a heavy package, let someone go in front of you at the grocery store, open a door for a lady or the aged?
4. Do you know your neighbors?
5. Have you called that long, lost friend?
6. Did you call your mother this morning? What about your spouse? Too often we respect someone we don't know better than the people in your own home.
7. Did you make the first move? The first to speak?
8. When have you visited a nursing home patient even though she or he is not a family or church member?

Remember Me?

My name is Gossip. I have no respect for justice. I maim without killing. I break hearts and ruin lives. I am cunning, malicious and gather strength with age. The more I am quoted, the more I am believed.

I flourish at every level of society. My victims are helpless. They cannot protect themselves against me because I have no name and no face. To track me down is impossible. The harder you try, the more elusive I become.

I am nobody's friend. Once I tarnish a reputation, it is never the same.

I topple governments and wreck marriages. I ruin careers and cause sleepless nights, heartaches and indignation. I spawn suspicion and generate grief. I make innocent people cry in their pillows. Even my name hisses.

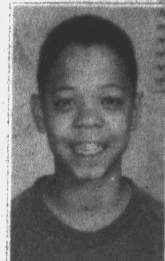
I am called Gossip. Office gossip—Shop gossip—Party gossip—Telephone gossip. I make headlines: Is it true? Is it fair? Is it necessary? If not, do not repeat it. **KEEP QUIET.**

GREAT minds discuss ideas... Average minds discuss events... Shallow minds discuss people... Which are you? ■

Ann Landers

Submitted by Amanda Kurlan

Remember Me? was typed and submitted by William Harrison Bryan IV, pictured right, from *Chicken Soup for the Teenager*. William, the grandson of Mrs. Beatrice Maye, is a 7th grader at Logan Middle School in Bellevue, Nebraska.



W. H. Bryan IV

**Keep The Dream Alive!
Keep The Dream Alive!**

**Harmon's TV
1205 W. 14th St.
Greenville, NC 27835**

**Salute
Dr. Martin
Luther King Jr.**



Now Open

Above & Beyond Child Care Center

1933 N. Memorial Drive  Greenville, NC

Formally Ariel's Child Care

Ages 0-12 1st Shift Capacity 108

Establishing a 2nd Shift With Capacity For 75

For Details Call Mrs. Khateeta Ore At: (252) 752-9020

**IS THE FUTURE HALF-FULL
OR HALF-EMPTY?**

We are here. To show you how to make the most of your money today and to help you plan for tomorrow. As Frederick Douglass once said, "Men may not get all they pay for in this world, but they most certainly pay for all they get." The future is closer than you think and it's up to you.

CALL 1-800-WACHOVIA OR VISIT A BRANCH TODAY.

LET'S GET STARTED.

WACHOVIA

SEAMS UNIQUE

Leather Repairs
Cleaning
Wedding
Formal Attire

Alterations & Sew Much More
115 Red Banks Road
Greenville, NC 27834

OWNER: CATHERINE VISAGE

WEEKLY SPECIALS

<p>15' Wide Berber 5 Colors Reg. \$17⁹⁵ \$9⁹⁹ Sale In Stock</p>	<p>6 lb. Rebond Cushion \$1⁹⁹ Just sq yd. While it lasts</p>
<p>Armstrong Nowax Vinyl 1-6 ft. Reg. \$9⁹⁹ yd. Starting At \$2⁹⁹ sq yd.</p>	<p>In Stock Ceramic Tile \$1⁴⁹ sq ft. Reg. \$4⁹⁹ sq ft.</p>

"COMMITTED TO THE LOWEST PRICES & THE BEST VALUE!"

Carpet BargainCenter
ROLLS, REMNANTS, VINYL & TILE

90 DAYS SAME AS CASH WITH APPROVED CREDIT
Visa • Mastercard • Cash or Check

1009 Dickinson Ave. Greenville (252) 758-0057
Mon. - Fri. 8am - 6pm Sat. 8am - 5pm

JOLLY'S PAWN SHOP
BUY — SELL — TRADE
PAWN

INSTANT CASH LOANS ON ALMOST ANYTHING OF VALUE

MON. — FRI. 9 - 6
SAT. 9 - 5

752-5759

CORNER NORTH GREEN ST & PACTOLUS HWY

LARGE SELECTION OF KEROSENE WICKS IN STOCK

YOU ARE INVITED
To a Special Showing of Black Art

Your Hosts:
Ethnic Art Consultants
David & Dorothy Douglas

Times & Dates
To Be Announced
On WOOW, Joy 1340 Radio Station

301 Pearl Drive
Greenville, North Carolina 27834
(252) 355-5415

Mastercard, Visa, Discover and AMEX Accepted

Ask About Special Showing Arrangements
And Our Easy-Payment Plan

We Proudly Salute

Dr. Martin Luther King

Paul A. Smith, Sr.
Sales Representative

WHY WAIT FOR YOUR TAX REFUND CHECK TO COME WHEN YOU CAN RIDE TODAY?
PAY DOWN PAYMENT LATER — WHEN THE REFUND CHECK COMES!
COME BY CAROLINA MOTORS FOR DETAILS.

CAROLINA MOTORS OF GREENVILLE
252-756-0193
3213 SOUTH MEMORIAL DRIVE, GREENVILLE NC 27834

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. SHARE THE DREAM! 1929 - 1968

We Proudly Salute
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

MINGES BOTTLING GROUP, INC.

Greenville, North Carolina
(252) 756-4303

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. SHARE THE DREAM! 1929 - 1968

We Proudly Salute
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

BJ's Chicken BBQ Seafood

DRIVE THRU & CARRY OUT

CALL IN ORDER EXPRESS

711 South Memorial Drive
Monday — Saturday 10:00 am - 9:00 pm
Tel: (252) 757-3046
Fax: (252) 757-1905

In-Store Financing Available

♦♦♦♦

Six-Month, or MORE ... SAME AS CASH!!!

William Harper, Jr.
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Come to Our Appliance Section and Ask for William Harper, Jr.

Furniture Fair
APPLIANCES • ELECTRONICS

131 S.W. GREENVILLE BLVD. • GREENVILLE, NC 27834
TEL: (252) 756-9050 • HOME: (252) 753-7138

TEEL'S USED CARS & TRUCKS

"Buy Here, Pay Here!"

237 Washington Street
Williamston, NC 27892
(252) 799-0068

James Teel
Owner

Serving Eastern North Carolina

We Proudly Salute

Dr. Martin Luther King

Sonny Bostic
Sales Representative

WANT TO BUY A CAR TODAY? NEED TO WAIT FOR YOUR TAX REFUND CHECK TO COME? COME TO CAROLINA MOTORS TO SEE HOW WE CAN HELP YOU RIDE TODAY! MAKE DOWN PAYMENT WHEN THE REFUND CHECK DOES COMES.

CAROLINA MOTORS OF GREENVILLE
252-756-0193
3213 SOUTH MEMORIAL DRIVE, GREENVILLE NC 27834

VISA MASTERCARD
GAUARANTEED APPROVAL

BECOME A CREDIT CARD HOLDER OF THE MOST WIDELY USED CREDIT CARDS IN THE WORLD REGARDLESS OF CREDIT HISTORY

call for details 1-877-608-8631
or write Credit Masters P.O. Box 2675
Winterville, NC 28590

Reflections, Expressions & Reviews



Suetje A. Jones

SHAW UNIVERSITY PREPARES FOR TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY MINISTRY

Shaw University is North Carolina's first black school of higher education. Shaw University has long been committed to training North Carolina's African-American Baptist ministers. It all began 135 years ago when in a downtown hotel, Bible classes were taught. The first and only medical school in the nation for blacks was established at Shaw University and existed from

the late 1800s to the early 1900s—the old Leonard Medical School, as it is referred to now. It once trained medical doctors for the profession. My late father attended Leonard for two years before deciding to pursue another profession. Shaw University is also my boast—having spent two summers enrolled in the school of education to renew a teaching contract before expiration. So you see, I will always be interested in reading or hearing about Shaw's progress and expansion. Some of my roots are there.

The religious approach at Shaw University Divinity School today is much more sophisticated, in preparation for a high-tech twenty-first century church. Classes in religion will be offered for the Internet and in the near future, a doctorate in ministry will be offered—a doctorate which will be earned through study of all aspects of ministry and its accompanying counterparts (courses) and not the "doctorate" conferred through years of service which is so common irrespective of formal training or in some cases where "degrees" are bought through the mail for a fee with no course required. People are becoming more enlightened and ministries are evolving more. Changes in culture and in society, particularly

driven by technology, mandates a need to change ministry tactics and ministry strategies. With the broadening of Shaw's School of Divinity, these new modes of ministry will help.

Today, approximately 133 students at Shaw are enrolled in the master of divinity degree program. They welcome the changes and realize that theological education is evolving. One student remarked, "Baptist churches are changing. They are looking for more ministers who are scholars of the Bible and have an understanding of the church administration." As a tradition, churches chosen as pastors men they felt were gifted by God and not necessarily formally trained. Churches want more today. The day of the circuit rider is long past.

Shaw's Divinity School is now catering to students who want a divinity degree but not the title of a pastor. Some want to go on to law school and work in the area of church law, Christian education or as chaplains. Plans are also to offer degrees in Christian education and theological studies for those who want to work on social issues or in faith-based community programming.

Today, there are ten accredited divinity schools with a primarily African-American student body. Besides Shaw, they include Hood Theological Seminary in Salisbury. For many pastors who will spend their careers in black churches, attending a black divinity school is important. Shaw is an arm of the general Baptist State Convention and unlike the Southern Baptist Convention, does approve of women in church leadership positions. Forty-five percent of its divinity body students today are women. You probably read recently that our former president, Jimmy Carter, withdrew from the Southern Baptist Convention because of its dogmas and rigid creeds.

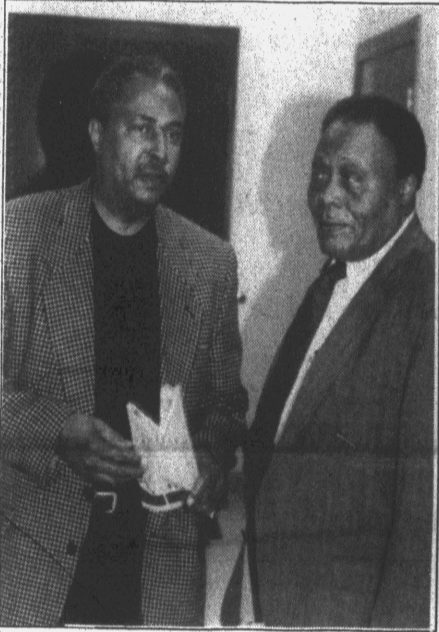
Shaw University Divinity School is housed in the Leonard Hall building where African Americans were taught how to bring healing to their communities by training doctors. Today in the same building it is teaching African-Americans to bring healing both physically and spiritually.

Note: Some information and statistics herein have been excerpted from December 14th issue of News and Observer and other sources of North Carolina facts.

KING AND HIS UNWANTED PEOPLE

**KING UNWANTED, BUT ALWAYS ON THE RIGHT TRACK
HE DID HIS VERY BEST TO HELP THE UNWANTED PEOPLE, THE BLACK.
SURE, YOU MIGHT NOT LIKE HIM BECAUSE OF THE COLOR OF HIS SKIN, BUT WHEN HE DIED, HE WAS ONLY READY TO BEGIN.
YOU MIGHT PRETEND YOU LOVED HIM ON THE OUTSIDE
BUT INSIDE YOUR HEART THE GAP BETWEEN HATRED IS GETTING WIDE.
YOU CAN GIVE THE UNWANTED PEOPLE A CHANCE,
THE LAW SAYS SO,
BUT WHAT YOUR FOREFATHER PREACHED TO YOU IS NEVER! NO!
WHEN I SAY UNWANTED I DON'T MEAN ONLY THE BLACKS, BUT PEOPLE WHO DON'T HAVE WHAT WE HAVE AND LACK.
THE BLACKS ARE NOT HALF THE UNWANTED PEOPLE THEY USED TO BE.
NOW IT IS ANOTHER CLASS OF PEOPLE WHO WANT TO BE FREE.
IF WE COME TOGETHER NOW AND STOP JUDGING THE COLOR OF ONE'S SKIN, OUR WORLD WILL NEVER END.**

By Chekieta Williams



The "M" Voice Archives!
Shown above is one of the great African American pioneers who helped integration in our community. Dr. Andrew Best, who is pictured with Eva Clayton's husband caught by our camera discussing medicine and the law.

Photo by Jim Rouse

Support The People Who Support The Black Press

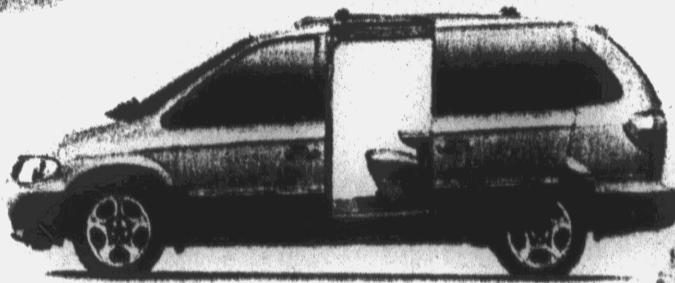


Eilene's Childcare Center
"Quality care when you're not there"
Pictured is Joseph and Eilene Spencer Owners/Director of Eilene's Childcare Center located 2311 S. Memorial Dr. Greenville, NC 27835
Business # (252) 757-3722
Fax # (252) 757-3722
Transportation # (252) 916-9027
Photo by Michael Adams

The Best Mini-Van Ever!

We're got 'em!

2001 MINI-VANS



Drive for only...

\$298*

*\$298 includes up to \$250 down, 12,000 miles per year, 36-month payment, and security deposit tax & title fees. Sales taxes \$20.00.



\$750 - \$1000

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB!

EVERY VEHICLE IN OUR INVENTORY!
Complete details on over 300 Pre-owned cars, trucks and SUV's. Use the Kelley Blue Book to research the value of your trade-in! Use the Payment Calculator, too!

www.ecauto.com

East Carolina

3401 S. MEMORIAL BLVD.
GREENVILLE

355-3333 or 800-849-3355

Also on the web at www.ecauto.com



A Message to GUC's Natural Gas Customers

Since early summer, Greenville Utilities has seen a steady increase in our market cost of natural gas. Now that the heating season is upon us, our natural gas customers are beginning to feel the full impact of these increases. Unfortunately, the current cold temperatures and predictions of a colder-than-normal winter ahead indicate that immediate relief is nowhere in sight.

This situation is not unique to Pitt County; the rising cost of all heating fuels is a nationwide problem. Low inventories at a time of high demand have created the higher prices. Although we expect it to be a temporary problem that should be resolved by increased production, our natural gas customers will be impacted throughout this heating season.

Here is some background information and answers to the most-often-asked questions:

Q. What are the reasons for the increase in natural gas costs?

A. The increases are due primarily to high demand, low supply, a lag in production and the rising cost of other fuel commodities.

High Demand - The economy is booming and Americans are consuming about 1.5 billion cubic feet more natural gas a day than last year. This new demand is mostly the result of an increase in gas-fired electrical generation. In comparison with other energy sources, natural gas is cost-effective and environmentally friendly. As a result, more new power plants are using natural gas to generate electricity, thus demand for natural gas has increased.

Low Supply - At the same time there is high demand for natural gas, inventories are low. While there is an abundant supply of natural gas in the U.S., it must be drilled by producers and stored underground. Currently, underground storage levels are the lowest they have been in the past five years. Natural gas inventories are low for several reasons, primarily the increased use of natural gas in electrical generation and a lag in production.

The increased use of natural gas for electrical generation has changed the seasonal pattern of demand. Traditionally there is high demand for natural gas during the winter heating season, then a drop off during the summer cooling season. Summer has usually been a time to produce and store natural gas to build up inventories for winter. But this year we saw an unusually high demand in the summer because people were running their air conditioners on electricity fueled by natural gas. As a result, natural gas was being consumed instead of stored during the summer. And, because of this change in summer usage, natural gas reserves ran low and market prices rose accordingly.

Lag in Production - Complicating the supply-and-demand picture is the fact that (prior to this year) natural gas prices have been low and temperatures have been milder than normal for the last three winters. Lower prices meant producers weren't willing to provide the investment capital to search for new gas. In fact, many producers halted drilling and laid off thousands of workers. All that has changed now, and the number of rigs drilling for natural gas has more than doubled from last spring. While domestic gas production has increased, it will take between 12-18 months for the natural gas to make it to the market place. The impact of new production will not be seen, in terms of price reduction, until after this winter season at the earliest.

Other Fuel Commodities - The cost of other fuel commodities such as crude oil, gasoline, propane and home heating oil is much higher than normal. When those fuel prices go up, natural gas prices follow the trend and increase.

Q. Where does Greenville Utilities get its supply of natural gas and is it adequate for this winter?

A. We fully expect to have an adequate supply of natural gas this winter. GUC has a firm supply contract with North Carolina Natural Gas (NCNG) which will allow us to meet our customers' needs. We also purchase gas (when available) on the spot market. In addition, GUC has a liquefied natural gas storage facility that is used during peak demand and as a secondary supply to our firm supplies contract.

Q. With natural gas prices increasing, how does the cost of natural gas compare with the cost of electricity and other fuels?

A. Because of current market conditions our residential gas customers are now paying an average \$1.33 per hundred cubic feet (Ccf). Last year at this time they were paying an average of 89 cents for the same amount of gas (49% less).

Here is a comparison of home heating costs with natural gas and other fuels in our service area today:

(Per million BTUs)

- Natural Gas - \$15.96 (based on 80% efficiency at \$1.33/Ccf)
- Propane - \$27.73 (based on 80% efficiency at \$2.12/gal.)
- Electric Resistance Heat (furnace, baseboard) - \$24.32 (based on 8.3 cents/kWh)
- Electric Heat Pump - \$9.85

Q. How much could my bill be impacted by the increase in natural gas costs?

A. It all depends on the market price of gas and the weather. High market prices and colder temperatures will result in substantially higher utility bills. As temperatures dip, natural gas usage for heating will go up and bills will be higher. A mild winter could minimize the impact of high market prices, but predictions are that we're in for a colder-than-normal winter.

Based on current market predictions, we are expecting our residential natural gas rates to increase between 40-60 % above last year's rates for the heating season. This percentage could move up or down depending upon the open market. How much natural gas customers use will depend on the weather and how diligent they are in making their homes and lifestyles more energy efficient.

Our natural gas customers are billed in units of Ccf or hundred cubic feet (equal to 1 therm). For a comparison, if your monthly gas costs were \$75 last January, and your usage remained the same, your bill would be \$112 this January (49% higher). However, the price of natural gas is fluctuating wildly because market forces are attempting to balance supply and demand. That percentage can change daily!

Q. Does Greenville Utilities benefit from the higher cost of natural gas?

A. No. We change our pricing only as much as needed to recover the increased cost from our supplier, and no more.

Q. What has Greenville Utilities done to inform and help its customers about the increased costs of natural gas?

A. We have attempted to give our customers ample warning beginning in late August with a bill stuffer, advertisements, news releases to the local media and information on our website (www.guc.com).

We have made our local leaders aware of the change in the marketplace and the effect it will have on low-income families in our area.

Through our American Public Gas Association, we have also asked that Congress give consideration to providing additional funds for the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program and any other assistance that may be available.

Q. What can customers do to reduce the impact of higher heating bills this winter?

A. Budget and plan now for higher heating costs to continue at least through March 2001.

A heating system uses 60% of a home's energy. Keep furnace filters clean, and make sure your heating system is operating efficiently.

Set the thermostat at 68 degrees (or lower) during the winter months. For every degree below 68, you save around 5% per degree. If you're gone for several hours or more, set the thermostat at 55 degrees, or even cut it off (unless pipes are in danger of freezing).

Make sure your home is well insulated.

Weather strip and caulk windows and doors to seal small cracks.

Insulate your gas water heater and set the temperature as reasonably low as possible. We recommend setting water heaters at 120 degrees.

Call GUC's Energy Services Office at 551-1525 for specific tips on lowering your energy bill.

