

Recognizing The Accomplishments of African Americans 365 Days A Year

The Minority Voice

WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET WHAT YOU READ IS WHAT YOU KNOW AND SAY

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The Minority Voice February 28, 2002 - March 8, 2002

Free

Black America Still In a State Of Emergency

By David Muhammad -The Final Call

I live in Richmond, Calif., a city where the mayor, the majority of the city council, the city manager and most department heads are BLACK.

If I turn on my television I can see Tiger Woods rule golf and the Williams sisters dominate tennis. A recent edition of Newsweek magazine featured three CEOs of multibillion-dollar corporations on the cover-all black. The U.S. government's top diplomats are Black.

This could lead me to believe that 100 years after the 13th Amendment abolished slavery, and less than 40 years after major Civil Rights legislation, Blacks have reached parity and equity in America.

But if I come beyond the mask of virtual reality just described, I see a far different picture, one of poverty, inferior education, incarceration, AIDS, police brutality and racism.

With all the signs and trappings of a new America, the melting pot of diversity and tolerance, Blacks still suffer disproportionately more than any other people. A look into the detailed statistics of the condition of Black America reveals that the masses are suffering severely, in nearly every category.

The most blaring statistics are the deplorable incarceration rates in the Black community. Nationally, while Blacks make up just 13 percent of the U.S.

population, they are nearly 60 percent of all inmates. Blacks are incarceration rates in the Black community. Nationally, while blacks make up just 13 percent of the U.S. population, they are

nearly 60 percent of all inmates. Blacks are incarcerated at six to eight times the rate of whites.

The 2000 Census showed that in California, one in 33 Blacks were in jail, compared to one in 122 Hispanics and one in every 205 whites. While the incarceration rate for the Latino/Hispanic community is bad, nothing is more daunting than the numbers in the Black community. According to the most recent statistics published by Alameda County; Calif., Black youth make up 59 percent of all detainees in juvenile hall. The nearest group in Latinos, who make up 16 percent of the juvenile hall population.

A new study released by the California Youth Authority (CYA) showed that for every 100,000 young whites in California, 6.4 are in CYA. Again, Hispanics, with 25 out of every 100,000 youth in CYA, are closest to figures for Blacks, but still a distant second with an astounding 118 out of every 100,000 black youth in the state's youth prison system.

AIDS rates are just as alarming as incarceration. Blacks, just 13 percent of the U.S. population, account for 54 percent of all new cases of AIDS. In fact, most diseases disproportionately affect Blacks.

Last October, the Surgeon General released a report showing that Blacks receive inferior mental health care. Dr. David Satcher said ethnic minorities face "striking disparities" in access to adequate mental health care, and that it was most

disparaging for Blacks. In most urban school districts around the country, Black students are disproportionately suspended and expelled. According to a report by the Kids First Coalition in Oakland, though just

under 50 percent of the student body, Blacks were subject to more than 70 percent of suspensions.

In August 2001, the National Assessment for Education Programs released a study showing that more than six out of every 10 Black fourth graders read below average and are below average in math. For white fourth graders, only two out of every 10 are below average in reading and math.

Poverty is a leading contributor to some of these problems. One-third of all Black people live in poverty and nearly half of all Black children grow up in poverty. Unemployment rates are also highest among Blacks.

The very environment of most inner city Black neighborhoods breeds destructive outcomes. Black communities are affected by overwhelming blight, unemployment, inferior education, rampant drug sales, firearms trafficking, and numerous alcohol outlets. A study by the Marin Institute for the Prevention of Alcohol found that in West Oakland, a predominantly Black neighborhood, there was one liquor store for every 3,000 residents.

When you have deterioration, few job opportunities, and inferior education in a community with a liquor store on nearly every corner, and drugs and guns readily available, poverty, incarceration and poor health will be common outcomes.

So although Secretary of State Colin Powell has become the

highest ranking Black government official ever and Richard Parsons has been named CEO of the largest media corporation in the world, the state of Black America is unfortunately not strong; it is in a state of emergency.



Edgecombe County NAACP Annual Banquet

Hundreds of people attended the annual affair where Black residents got a chance to meet and greet the candidates who will represent them in the coming election. Pictured, the President of Edgecombe County NAACP Brother Jones, the Mayor of Princeville, NC, Edgecombe County Clerk of Court and guest speaker Sister Carol White and a unidentified guest. Refer To Page 12 to see full Page Collage!

Photo by Jim Rouse



BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION

Ladonia Wright cultural center on the campus of ECU is the place for a historical events. The author of the book "The Titans" Coach Boone was in attendance. Denzel Washington plays the leading role in the new hit movie made from the book. Coach Boone was the host and guest speaker for Black History Month. Shown posing for the camera is brother Bobby Teel, his sister and family were on hand to receive his brother's award for being the first black student to attend ECU. This event was arranged by Nell Lewis, Director of the Ledonia Wright Center.

The "M" Voice Archives



ARCHIVE OF THE MINORITY VOICE

Members of the Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church are shown posing for the Minority Voice. Name these people & win a CD, record and Happy Birthday to one of the ladies in the picture above, all of these brothers and sisters are history makers.

Local Student Explores Justice System

National Youth Leadership Forum Provides Insight Into U.S. Justice System

Washington, D.C. - Mr. Brian Goings of Greenville, has recently been selected to participate in the National Youth Leadership Forum on Law (NYLF/LAW) from March 5 to March 10, 2002 in Washington, D.C. Having demonstrated academic achievement and an interest in law and justice, Brian will join more than 350 outstanding high school students from across America at the Forum.

"Due to the events that took place on September 11, there may be no better time than now for students like Brian Goings to explore and develop a command of the U.S. justice system," said Donna Weldin, executive director of the NYLF. "The experience that the National Youth Leadership Forum on Law provides to these individuals allows them to be much more selective and focused in their studies and internships as they map out their route to law school and beyond. By interacting with partners at law firms, criminal defense attorneys and prosecutors, as well as professors and other professionals who work with the justice system, the process of students shaping their future starts here."

The NYLF is a nonpartisan, nonprofit educational organization that sponsors highly specialized career-oriented programs for outstanding high school students who demonstrate leadership potential. For additional information on NYLF programs, visit us on the Internet at www.nylf.org.

GLOVER Responds To Allegations Of Weed And Seed



Many of your readers have been awakened to the fact that the Greenville WEED & SEED Program has experienced problems and the US Department of Justice has given notice that the 2001-2002 budget will not be extended. This set back is only temporary and I would like to take this opportunity to explain to your readers what has occurred and how the program will be revamped to better serve the needs of west Greenville. The Greenville Weed & Seed is an on-going strategy developed to combat quality of life issues. The strategy consists of four elements.

Law Enforcement - The local police agency provides planned efforts in a targeted area to address crime problems such as drug dealing, assaults, breaking and entering with larcenies and robberies.

Community Policing - The police and the citizens create and nurture a true partnership to address the issues that most citizens are concerned with. This must be a true partnership wherein the participants trust each other and share all information.

Crime flourishes in a community that turns a blind eye to the criminal and his activities. Crime is a community problem and unless the citizens assist the police, crime will prevail.

Restoration and Rehabilitation-Ridding the community of substandard housing, abandoned properties, and overgrown/weeded lots. Restoration also includes the restoration of pride in the community by the citizens. A proud community is a safe and productive community.

Prevention and Intervention-Programs and services that address the individuals needs within the community. The best way to improve the quality of life of individuals is to begin with the individual citizens. Training and education builds self-esteem. Education, training and skill building are key elements in improving the individuals feeling of self worth and potential for employment. Prevention programs are designed to inform the individual what he or she can do to improve their future. Mentoring of the youth by successful adults is a vital function of prevention and intervention.

The Greenville Weed & Seed has created a Safe Haven in the Eppes Gymnasium. This center has been home for many school-age kids when they leave the classroom. Through Ms. Sidney and her staff, individuals are given one on one instructions and assistance with their school work. Adults are also benefiting by learning to use computers, attending parenting classes, learning nutritional food planning and how to live, eat, exercise for a healthier life. The Safe Haven also offers art and music education and a children's

choir has been established.

The Weed & Seed Program will continue despite the reported problems. I have spoken with my fellow council members and we are in agreement that the Weed & Seed efforts will not be allowed to die. We will resubmit an application for funding to continue the program. We will make some administrative changes that will insure that accurate and timely reporting to the Department of Justice will occur. The police efforts comprise fifty percent of the strategy therefore it is in the best interest of the program that the Greenville Police Department administer the strategy.

I am appealing to all the citizens of Greenville to support our renewed efforts in keeping the hope offered by Weed & Seed alive. Strong citizen support can make a difference. Your strong support elected me to office and your voices need to be heard. The Weed & Seed Strategy requires you, as a citizen to take ownership. This strategy empowers you to have a part in making changes in the community. Do not sit idle while other would try to defeat our efforts. There are individuals in our city that would find great pleasure in the failure of the Weed & Seed efforts. By doing nothing, you are assisting these individuals and hurting your community. Speak out-become a Safe Haven volunteer or contact me to find out what part you can play in improving our future. I can be reached by telephone at 752-0838.

Sincerely yours,

Rose Glover
Greenville City Council
District 2

Michael Jackson: Personification of self-hatred

By Cassandra George Sturges,
Psy.D

Michael Jackson's soul absorbed every derogatory Black, dark complexioned, kinky-hair and big-nose joke in an oppressed society for African Americans. His physical appearance is the personification of self-hatred longing for acceptance in a society that deems Afro-centric features as undesirable and treats them as if they are invisible. Please don't make fun of Michael Jackson in my presence because I feel his pain. He is the phantom of what many Blacks would look like if they had the resources to change their physical appearance to the reality of their nightmares of low self-esteem.

Michael Jackson became Michael Jackson before he became a Black man. His fans, the public, owned him before he had the opportunity to define himself. As a vulnerable child

star, his perception of self was molded by the beliefs and opinions of others, both positive and negative. When one feels that the world owns them, then one feels that they owe the world. Michael Jackson didn't know when to stop giving of himself.

If the children in school make fun of your nose and skin color, this

hissed this to you before you had the spiritual and mental fortitude to decipher its credibility, you'd be more receptive to its venom. Michael Jackson's fame did not spare him from the task of learning to love and accept himself from the inside out. His fame just gave him less resilience and nowhere to hide.

mainstream appeal. Society dissects the physical beauty of Black women. I still wonder why braids became sexy on Bo Derek in the movie (Ten), but some Black women were required to take legal action to be allowed to wear them to their jobs. White "movie stars" have injections to have fuller lips, but full lips on African Americans are called "soup coolers" or simply "big lips."

Having round, full buttocks didn't become front-page news until they were on Jennifer Lopez, who is close enough to White, but frowned upon and ignored by mainstream society and the broadcast media as the natural physique of most Black women. Rap performer Lil' Kim has blonde hair and blue eyes because I think she wants to be noticed and validated as a sex symbol. Society has taught her that the blonde bombshell does not sell in shades of Black. I believe that

Halle Berry is taking off her clothes in her current movie roles because somehow her acting ability hasn't been enough proof that she is a gifted actor who has the capability to play more prestigious leading roles, such as Julia Roberts. Reportedly, Julia Roberts earns \$20 million dollars a movie and has not resorted to nudity.

I believe that Michael Jackson had cosmetic surgery so that his fans would love all of him, not just his dancing and singing. He wanted to be perfect. I don't think that Michael Jackson felt that being "Black" would allow him to be the mega star that he is today. Michael Jackson's mesmerizing performance is a reminder that true beauty resonates from the soul. So please don't laugh at Michael Jackson's physical appearance. He did not do this to himself, we did it to him. He gave us his all, he gave us his best.

Please don't make fun of Michael Jackson in my presence because I feel his pain.

would be daunting for most of us, yet the average person places this type of teasing in perspective and prevails without making major changes to their appearance. But if the world quietly

I know what it's like to feel invisible. I am just glad that I don't have to answer to the world. I still wonder why there are no African-American female sex symbols with

King's dream of voting equality remains a continuing struggle

Commentary



EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
AFRO File Photo

"The Negro voting problem is more than a legal issue, for it takes courage, patience, and massive effort." -- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., March 14, 1965.

Dr. King wrote those lines two weeks before bloody Sunday transpired on the Edmund Pettus Bridge on the outskirts of Selma, Ala. On that particular day, state troopers on horseback beat down protesters and those knelt in prayer with clubs and cattle prods. They were there demanding nothing more than full citizenship through the right to vote.

As we celebrate Black History Month, it is instructive to review Bloody Sunday, which represents American, homegrown terrorism. It

symbolized the blood-covered history of how peaceful citizens in search of their Constitutional rights were met with brutality. The brutal response to the voting rights movement created such martyrs as Jimmy Lee Jackson, the Rev. James Reed, Viola Liuzzo, and hundreds of others we may never know.

If it were not for those brave souls who braved the lash, the beatings and trampling under horses in places like Selma, I would not be among the 39 Black legislators in Congress today. In 1964, there were only three African-Americans in Congress and 300 Black elected officials nationwide. Today those national numbers have swelled to nearly 9,000.

With King at the helm, massive numbers of Americans, both Black and White, showed the courage and patience to continue to fight for enfranchisement, which resulted in the 1965 Voting Rights Act. In 1975, provisions were included to protect Hispanics, Asians and others who were being disenfranchised.

As chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, I have been criticized for continuing to raise the issue of

election reform, but I will not back away from the battlefield of voting rights and election reform. That is why as we reflect during Black History Month, I echo the sentiments of the gospel song, "We are no ways tired."

The 2000 presidential election and the massive charges of intimidation and voter abuse in Florida are ugly reminders of yesterday and how quickly we can lose our rights without constant vigilance. In that race we saw that while the King movement had won the right to vote, it would take more effort to actually get every vote counted.

The U. S. Civil Rights Commission and the Congressional Black Caucus received testimonies from scores of elected officials, voters and other affected parties from across the nation, attesting to barriers to voting, particularly by people of color. In Florida, for example, thousands of African-Americans mislabeled as felons were purged from the voting polls.

This is unacceptable. On the battlefield of voting rights, where so many have fought and died, the caucus has come early and we plan to

say late.

As a group, we were one the first Congressional bodies to hold hearings on election reform. We have placed

The 2000 presidential election and the massive charges of intimidation and voter abused in Florida are ugly reminders of yesterday and how quickly we can lose our rights without constant vigilance.

the issue at the top of our legislative agenda. Although a bill has passed the House, it is only a first step on the

larger goal to make every vote count. We will continue our efforts in the Senate to produce legislation that will at the very least accomplish such changes as uniformity of voting machines, ballots and poll closings.

We plan to stay late because we know that the American Dream which Dr. King so eloquently articulated from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1963 remain a nightmare for far too many. One-fourth of African-American children are born into poverty and, unlike their White counterparts, are more likely to go to jail than to college. African-American males, who have never been accused of terrorism against our nation, are "racially-profiled."

We have come a long way since King articulated his dream, "of a nation where one day our children will not be judged by the color of their skin."

To turn that dream into reality, it still takes what Dr. King called for some 37 years ago: courage, patience and massive effort.

U.S. Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-Texas) is chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

A fundamental need for prison reform

Commentary



HUGH B. PRICE
AFRO File Photo

The economic downturn sweeping over the country and undermining states' economies may accomplish something advocates of prison reform have been seeking for years -- a significant reduction in America's addiction to building more prisons as the end-all answer to reducing crime.

For more than two decades, states have been on a spending spree of prison construction, fueled by get-tough crime policies that increased the nation's total inmate population by 500 percent, to more than 2 million inmates since the early 1970s. It now costs \$30 billion a year to operate all of America's local jails and state and federal prisons.

These dollar outlays have put a significant financial strain on states' capacity to provide other services, such as funding for public higher

education.

That these new prisons were almost always located in rural communities whose economic bases were fast disappearing made that approach even more politically popular. The salaries of guards account for roughly 80 percent of the costs of maintaining prisons.

But the prison boom never made common sense, financially or socially, a truth now becoming more and more evident.

We must stop pretending that merely locking people up is the answer.

According to a Jan. 21 news story in the *New York Times*, budget deficits are forcing many states to at least begin to re-think their approach to incarceration.

Some states are considering transferring some inmates from some prisons so that they can close them. Recently Michigan, Ohio and Illinois have each closed a prison and laid off some correctional guards.

Washington State's governor has proposed reducing sentences for those who commit nonviolent drug offenses and crimes and making it easier for inmates to gain early

release in order to reduce the state's inmate population.

California may even have a proposal on the November ballot to reduce the number of criminals subject to its Draconian three-strikes sentencing law, which applies even to those convicted of nonviolent offences. Currently, 6,700 inmates in California are serving sentences of 25 years to life because of the law.

Steven Ickes, an official of the Oregon Department of Corrections,

told the *New York Times*, "My sense is that budget problems are making people ask fundamental questions about whether we can afford to keep on doing what we've been doing. We're going to have to make tough choices about prisons versus schools, and about getting a better investment return on how we run our prisons so we don't have so many prisoners re-offending and being sent back."

In the old days -- before the get-tough posturing overwhelmed common sense -- it was understood that incarceration had to have a dual purpose if it was to provide the

greatest benefit to society: It had to be a proper instrument of punishment for those who committed crimes, but it also had to give offenders a chance to go straight, to become rehabilitated.

But that latter idea, which was meant to protect society by reducing the number of repeat offenders, was buried under a deluge of "lock-'em-up-and-throw-away-the-key" rhetoric. That rhetoric conveniently ignored the fact that most inmates cannot be locked up forever.

So, as a recent, gripping *Time* magazine article about an ex-offender trying to go straight pointed out, more than 630,000 people will be released from prison this year, the largest prison exodus in history.

Because of the almost complete lack of educational and job-training programs in our prisons, most of these inmates will come back to society as they left it, with only the most minimal educational credentials, if any, and few marketable skills.

In the best of circumstances, ex-offenders face daunting prospects of finding work even at the bottom of the occupational ladder. Numerous studies have pegged their "unemployable" rate at higher than 60 percent; the large majority who

have found legitimate work have done so in low-paying "off-the-books" jobs.

Now, in these economically difficult times, what can we expect the job prospects for these ex-offenders will be? You don't have to be an expert on either the criminal-justice system or the economy to say, not good at all.

Furthermore, there is, of course, an indisputable racial facet to this because of the 1.3 million inmates in federal and state prisons, 428,000 are Black men, 20 to 29 years old, and a significant proportion of those inmates scheduled for release this year will be Black and Hispanic.

All of this alarming information points to one compelling conclusion. America's prison system needs a massive new effort to rehabilitate inmates. We must stop pretending that merely locking people up is the answer. We must give inmates the education and the job skills that would give them a real chance to go straight once they're released.

This is a mammoth task, but it must be undertaken if American society is to defuse the human time bomb beneath it and reclaim a significant part of its citizens.

Hugh B. Price is president of the National Urban League.

Proudly Celebrating The Accomplishments Of Black America
24 hrs A Day, 365 Days A Year!

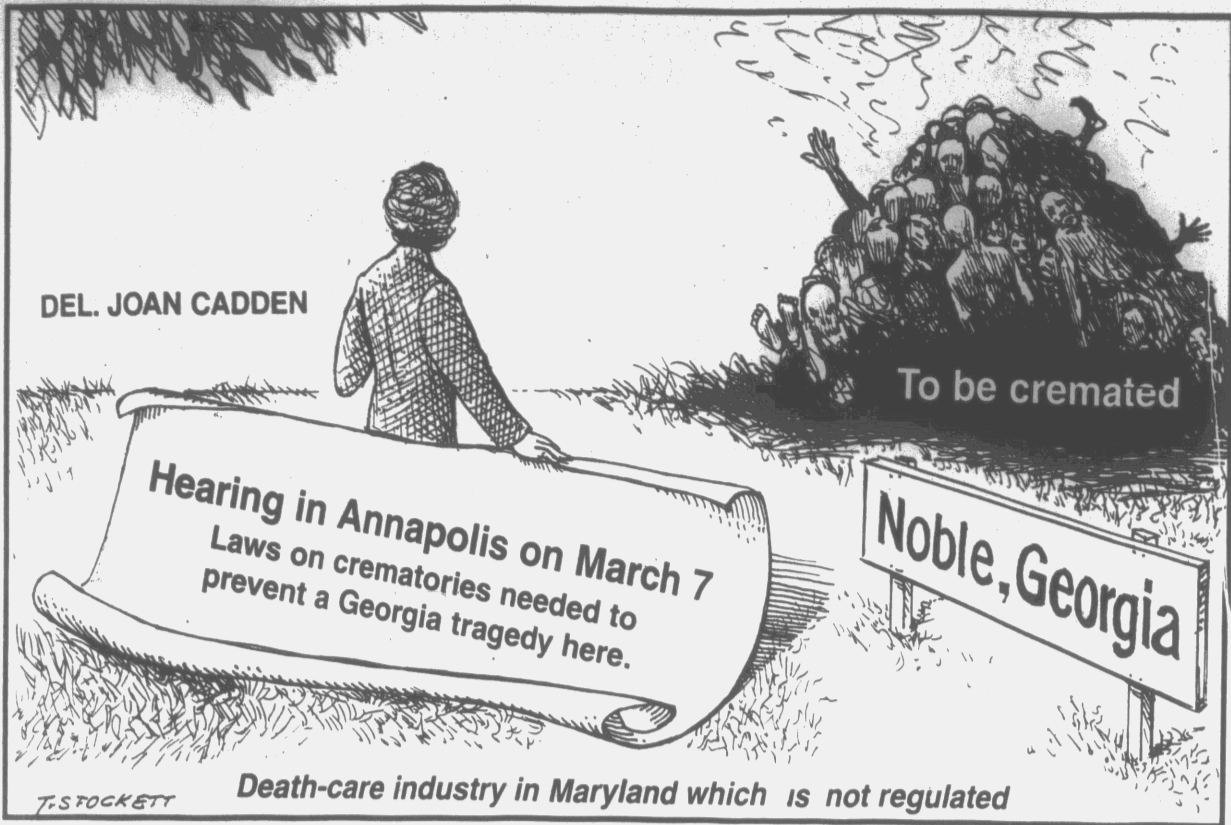
Mildred Atkinson Council

Honored February 8, 2002 at luncheon held at Riverside Steak House. The luncheon was given by Eastern N.C. Regional Association of Black Social Workers for 25 years for her Advocacy, service and dedication to improve the lives of African-Americans.

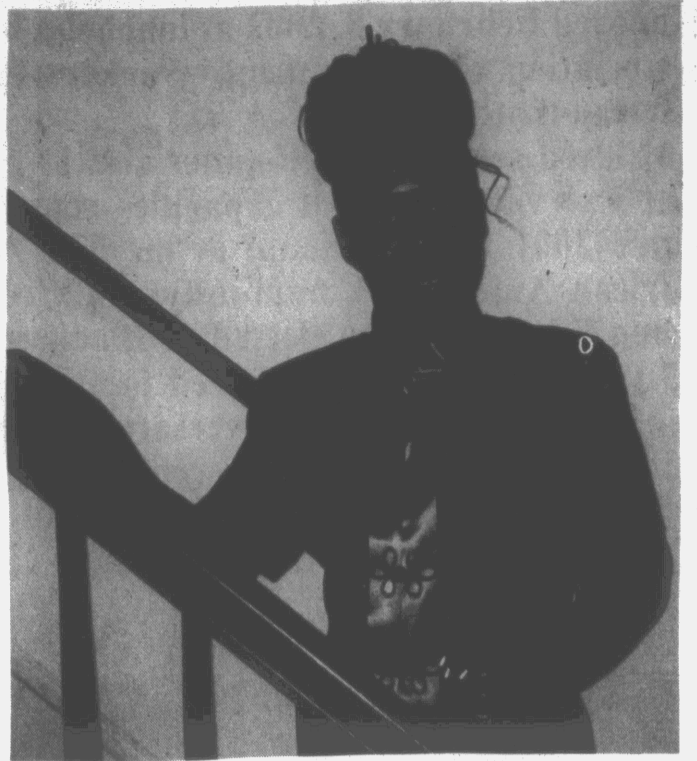
Mildred served as co-founder and 1st president of Eastern ABSW and as one of co-founders of the N.C. State A.B.S.W. She's served in several capacities representing on the National ABSW Steering Committee and as state secretary. In April 2001 from National at the 33rd Annual Conference held in Charlotte, N.C. for Significant Contribution to the African American Community. In Greenville she has elected 1st African-American female city council member 1987 when Ed Carter was elected 1st Black mayor. She has served as 1st black female mayor pro-tem 1999-2001 which totals 15 years as she was re-elected for the 8th 2-yr. term in November 2001. Other significant milestones she's celebrated recently was 25 years anniversary with her husband Walter B. Council August 7, 2001. 25 years with the state of North Carolina and 30 years class reunion-Shaw University Raleigh, N.C.

"God has bless me and I give him all the glory" She is the mother of 2 sons Walter Council, II age 20 and Logan R. Council age 15.





Read The Minority Voice Newspaper



CPR FOR THE SOUL

WHERE CAN YOU PLACE THE BLAME,
FOR NOT LIVING IN GOD'S EXPECTATIONS?
DO YOU FAULT THOSE WHO HAVE POINTED OR
TEASED
HAVE THEY HELD YOU FROM HIS DESTINATION?

WE'VE ALL FELL SHORT FROM HIS GLORY
BUT DARE NOT LIE DOWN AND JUST DIE
FALL ON YOUR KNEES, DECLARE HIS NAME
THEN STAND AND CALL SATAN A LIE.

WHEN YOU FEEL YOUR SPIRITMAN SLIPPING
DIG DEEP TO FIND YOUR MUSTARD-SEED,
HE'LL SEND RELIEF BECAUSE YOU'RE HIS CHILD
HE'LL NEVER LEAVE YOUR SOUL IN NEED.

IN YOUR MOMENT OF GIVING UP
ONLY SHED A TEAR OR TWO,
THEN REJOICE, TAKE UP YOUR BED AND WALK
FOR HE'LL MAKE YOUR BROKEN HEART BRAND
NEW.

SO WHEN LIFE BEGANS TO THROW OBSTACLES
JUST FORCEFULLY PUSH THEM AWAY,
AND WHILE YOU PRAY ON YOUR TOMORROWS
SIMPLY PRAISE HIM MORE TODAY.

COSSANDRA MOORE

Education the Key To Success

OBITUARY
EUGENE JEFFREY SAVAGE

Greenville, NO - Mr. Eugene Jeffrey Savage, born December 9, 1926, died Monday. Funeral services will be held Saturday, March 2, 2002 at York Memorial AME Zion Church, with the Reverend David Hammond officiating. Interment will follow in the Veterans Cemetery of Jacksonville, NO on Monday, March 4, 2002 at 12 o'clock noon.

Mr. Savage served two active tours of duty in the U.S. Navy. He was a retired stock clerk with Colonial Stores/Big Star Foods after 35 years of service. He was educated in Greenville City Schools.

He leaves behind his wife of 52 years, Billie Grace Perkins Savage of the home, six sons, Billy G. Savage, Roy D. Savage, Joseph T. Savage and Jeffrey (Angel) Savage all of Greenville; Edgar A. (Patricia) Savage of Charlotte, North Carolina and Gary W. Savage of Washington, DC; one daughter, Kathy S. Brown, of Greenville; one sister, Hattie Williams of Plainsboro, NJ; 21 grandchildren, one great grandchild, and many relatives and friends at the home, 613 Greenfield Blvd., Greenville, North Carolina.

The services for Mr. Savage's funeral have been entrusted to Don Brown Funeral Home, Ayden.

Cincinnati's Economic Terrorists

Cincinnati's Economic Terrorists
By James Clingman, Blackonomics

The recent economic sanctions called by the black groups in Cincinnati, now supported by some white groups, have caused quite a stir in the Queen City and that's putting it mildly. City officials are gearing up an advertising and promotional campaign to deflect the criticism of the lack of justice for the police officers who killed two black men and the economic exclusion of black people in billions of dollars in public economic development projects. Until Cincinnati brings about justice in those two areas, the sanctions will continue. The mayor of Cincinnati, Charlie Luken, calls this "Economic terrorism."

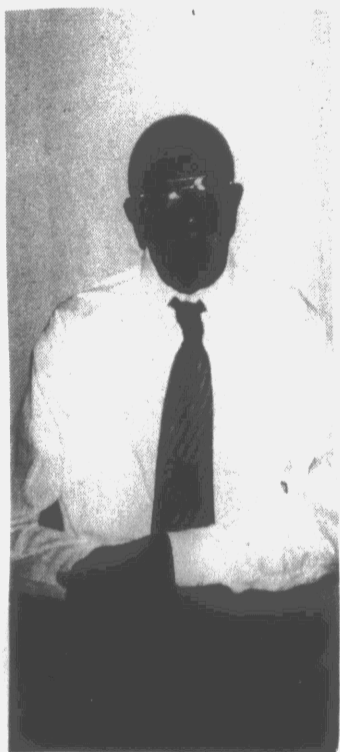
Let's look at how all of this began. While some of us are familiar with the April 2001 shooting death of an unarmed 19-year-old youth, many do not know what happened in November 2000, when Roger Ownesby died after being choked by police officers. None of the officers involved in either of the deaths has been disciplined by the city, not to mention prosecuted in the courts.

Then in July 2000, several downtown restaurants closed their doors when a black cultural festival was held downtown, along with the arrival of thousands of Church of God in Christ conventioners. No such closings have occurred during larger, predominantly white events. Subsequently, in response to the closings, a group called the Cincinnati Black United Front was formed and a boycott of the restaurants was called.

Now in 2002, several activist groups have decided that the only way to get an acceptable response from the so-called powers-that-be is to call for economic sanctions against this city's travel tourism industry, as well as its entertainment industry. This action has widened the chasm between blacks and whites, ratcheted-up the discussions on both sides and makes the point that I always make: it's always all about the money.

The call for sanctions is getting mixed results. The National Progressive Baptist Conference, a black organization and the largest convention scheduled for this city in 2002, recently agreed to come to Cincinnati. They say they are coming to "heal" the city. But Bill Cosby, Smokey Robinson, (and maybe Wynton Marsalis) have cancelled scheduled appearances. More to come, I am sure. Everyone must decide for himself whether to support the sanctions or to fight them. There is no room for neutrality here. The mayor of Cincinnati, who called the sanctions "economic terrorism" (I suppose that means those who support the sanctions are terrorists), says the only way to "overcome" is for people to come downtown and spend money. It seems he couldn't care less about justice or anything except the economic impact of black conventions and entertainers. Thus, he uses the vilest of contemporary terms, "terrorism," to describe a peaceful, nonviolent means of direct action and protest against what many black people in Cincinnati, and some whites, feel is flagrant, arrogant, pompous and condescending mistreatment of nearly 50 percent of the city's population.

Economic problems require economic solutions. The mayor knows that as well as the boycotters know. The big difference is that the mayor can make the changes needed to end the sanctions. The boycotters can only react to their plight. The groups supporting the sanctions are fighting with the only weapons they have: their dollars. The mayor has the political bully pulpit, business clout and six members of a nine-member city council on his side. But check out the statistics for black people in Cincinnati and you will see not only economic terrorism, but you will also find out who the real terrorists are.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY

Claude Atkinson celebrated his 89th birthday February 10th at the home of Calvin and Beatrice Henderson, Winterville, NC. Mr. Atkinson has five children, Beatrice, Cleatrice, Claude, William T. and Alvin Ray. His granddaughter, Sonya Atkinson presented the birthday cake and sang happy birthday.

Family, friends and church members had a great time sharing stories of how they met Mr. Atkinson.

He is retired from Person Garrett and Free State Tobacco Co. He is a member of Faith and Victory Church.

The staff of Minority Voice newspaper salutes this great example of a family man and mentor.

Piggly Wiggly's
Down Home,
Down The Street.

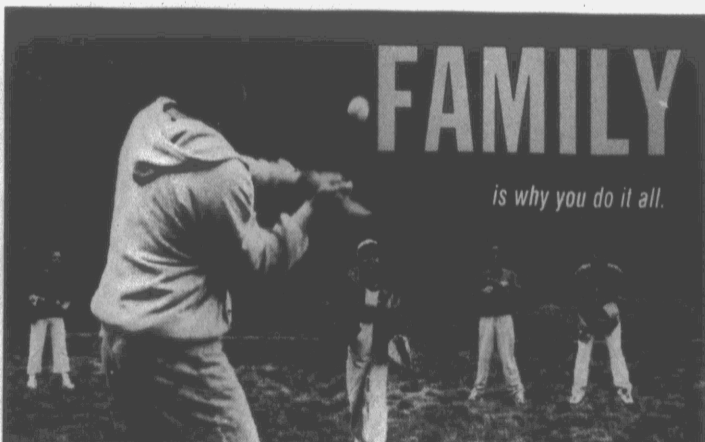


We reserve the right to limit quantities.
None sold to dealers or restaurants.
We gladly accept U.S.D.A. Food Stamps.



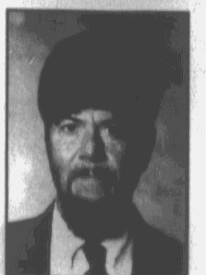
Kinston Goldsboro Pikeville
Greenville Ayden Washington

Did You Know?
John Burr, A Black Man
Invented The Lawn Mower



Protect what you value the most.
Let me, your State Farm agent,
go to bat for you.

Bill McDonald, Agent
2710 E 10th Street
Greenville, NC
252-752-6680



LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, STATE FARM IS THERE.
statefarm.com

STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES • Home Office: Bloomington, Illinois

North Carolina's National College Savings Program



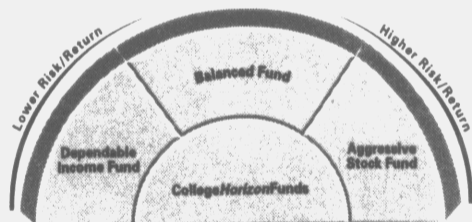
Before you know it, your child will be ready for college. But will you be ready? Now there's a new 529 plan that can help your family save for education expenses - North Carolina's National College Savings Program.

North Carolina's National College Savings Program is:

Accessible. Anyone - parents, grandparents, friends, even an organization - can save toward the college education of someone they care about. And the beneficiary can be any age, from a newborn to an adult. You can even open an account for yourself if college is in your future.

Affordable. You decide how much to contribute and when. Make lump-sum contributions whenever you want or set up a monthly draft.

Comprehensive. Choose from a variety of investment options, from conservative to more aggressive.



Tax free. Account earnings are free from federal and North Carolina income taxes when the money is used to pay for qualified education expenses.

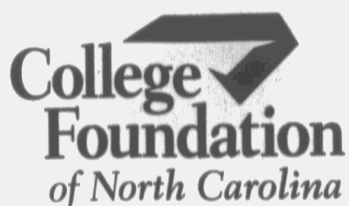
Flexible. Use the money to pay expenses at any college anywhere in the country.

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Reflections, Expressions and Reviews



Suejette Jones

The Reckoning: What Blacks Owe To Each Other

In a previous book review, I wrote about Randall Robinson's *The Debt: What America Owes to Blacks* in which he called on African-Americans to fight for what is rightfully theirs: recognition of their place in America and world history, equal opportunity for success, and reparations for the damage done by slavery and its aftermath.

Now, in his latest book, *The Reckoning*, Robinson provides startling and disturbing insights into the crimes and poverty that grip much of urban America, and challenges black Americans to speak out--and reach back--to ensure that the largely forgotten poor of black America get their chance at the American Dream.

Growing out of Robinson's inte-

views with gang members, ex-convicts, and others profoundly scarred by environments of extreme poverty and its unshakeable shadow--crime. *The Reckoning* pays homage to the disenfranchised who wage heroic struggles to free their communities from economic blight and social pathology.

Calling on black Americans of all ages and classes to join this crucial battle to bring the residents of America's inner cities to safe harbor, Robinson scrutinizes elected officials who have joined corporate America to make prisons, largely populated by blacks

and Hispanics--a twenty-first century growth industry. And as our gaze is directed to poor rural towns all across America that jump-started their economics by constructing new prisons--to be filled with shipped-in blacks and Hispanic prisoners, the situation is eerily reminiscent of a bygone highly exploitative era in our nation's history.

Robinson addresses the gritty underside of American urban life. He makes the vital distinction between those who are privileged and have little chance of failing and those who have no chance to succeed. By highlighting communities oppressed by economic blight, Robinson makes an impassioned plea to black Americans to free their under privileged brethren from economic and social risk.

Note: Randall Robinson holds a bachelor's degree from Virginia Union and a Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School. He resides in the Caribbean nation of St. Kitts.

Following is an article from *Viewpoints* which correlates with the realization of the failure of Black leaders, and the necessity for coming together to focus on empowering young African-American males.

Black Leadership (The Crisis No One Addresses)

"The nation's Black leaders have

failed," said one newspaper editor. While leading protests in Vieques, delivering tired speeches about racism, and appearing on TV in expensive suits (not excluding the popular televangelists who "reason" their messages about Christianity with decorative and spectacular attire), these so-called leaders have ignored the only issue that really matters: "anti-intellectualism and violence among young African-American males."

Today, young black men look for leadership from rappers whose inspiring message is "where my niggas at?". These buffoons have

turned stupidity into style, and violence into proof of manhood. Throughout the nation, young black men are ignoring their education and drifting into a life of thuggery and self-destruction. "We will not gain ground by blaming whites for this sorry state of affairs. This is a crisis of our own making, and only we can fix it." The first step is for black people to face the truth, and to rise up against the prevailing culture of self-destruction, violence, and apathy. We should dare to be 'Uncle Toms' and 'sell-outs' by speaking out against this mass insanity."

Commentary

Here is Greenville, an organization, 100 Black Men of Eastern North Carolina has been initiated. I was interested in finding out more about this newly installed group, and called Mr. Faris Dixon to express my desire to attend a meeting to learn more about its mission.

Through his networking to the president, Mr. Maurice Jordan, and the vice-president, Mr. Butler Lewis, I was given clearance to attend (with delight). I was informed that its purpose is to improve the quality of life of our communities, and enhance educational and economic opportunities for all African-Americans. The members serve as a strong force for overcoming the cultural and financial obstacles that have limited the achievements of African-American youth, with a particular emphasis on young African-American males. If you are

interested in becoming a member of this group, call Mr. Faris Dixon (PR) at 252-757-0403 or 252-695-7225. Recently, Rev. Al Sharpton spoke in Durham, N.C. to a group called Chain's Rite of Passage Program whose mission focuses on a violence intervention and manhood training started in 1989, to further the development of high-risk youth in the community.

It is rewarding to know that organizations of blacks trying to help other blacks is fulfilling Randall Robinson's suggestion in *The Reckoning: What Blacks Owe Each Other*.

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HAPPY 95TH BIRTHDAY JJ JONES!



FORMER ECU PIRATE STAR HONORED AT AFRICAN-AMERICAN FIRSTS

Harold Randolph was honored, among others, at the February 9th banquet celebration of ECU's "African-American Firsts," held at Mendenhall Student Center on ECU's campus. He was the first to hold the school record for career tackles. No one since has surpassed his 493 tackles in three straight years from 1975-1977. Harold received many trophies that still flood a corner of his living room.

After his football career at ECU, he went on to become a professional player with the Dallas Cowboys, the Toronto Argonauts and the Montreal Alouettes (both Canadian professional teams), winding up his career with the United States Football League. On December 9th Mr. Jim Gentry, sports writer for the Daily Reflector, did a feature on Harold's career in which he was described as the most intense player in ECU history. The December 24th issue of the Durham Herald-Sun carried the same article. On December 30th the Daily Reflector printed a quote from his interview as one of the "Best Quotables of 2001."

Harold was recently interviewed on WOOW "Talk Show" and was seen on "Minority Voices"---a TV program hosted by Jim Rouse on Cable 7 here in Greenville. Appearing with Harold was his mentor, Dr. Walter Boze.

Having completed his football career, Harold now lives in Greenville with his wife Amanda, and son Justin. His mother and step-father are Evelyn and Jorge Lopez.

by Suejette Jones

STOP THE MADNESS "ACT NOW"

Pitt County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Is Sponsoring a

HIV / AIDS Awareness Program

Date: March 9, 2002
 Location: Pitt County Boys and Girls Club Winterville, NC
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ECSU Recruiting Alumni and Students

Alumni Admissions Partner, Mary L. Cates is a retired teacher of 32 years in Pitt County Schools and a graduate of Elizabeth City State University.

Mary L. Cates, Miss Alumni in 1994, President of Eva J. Lewis Alumni Chapter, Second Vice-President of ECSU General Alumni Association, Chairperson for the Homecoming Activities Committee, Member of the Awards Banquet, and Class Agent for Class of '61 for the '60's

Decade Reunion.

As Alumni Admission Partner, I am recruiting Alumni to join our Local Alumni Chapter and Students who are interested in attending ECSU.

The primary objectives of the Alumni Admissions Partnership can be described as follows:

Identify=Recruit=Enroll=Graduate=Future ECSU Alumni

Provide Students with information about ECSU's programs and facilities

Encourage the enrollment of students

Assist in the diversification of the student body

Eva J. Lewis Alumni Chapter uses the "Melvin W. Rountree" Scholarship Fund to help needed students. Interested students and alumni may contact me at (252) 758-5039 or 1004 Colonial Ave. Greenville, NC 27834.

Education, Knowledge, Wisdom, Courage, The New Black Generation

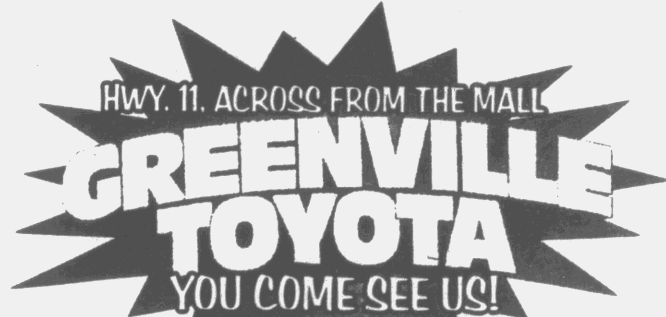
Craig Goess Announces Salesman Of The Year

Craig Goess, owner of Greenville Toyota, along with the entire staff of Greenville Toyota, salutes Byron Tyson for earning the Salesman of the Year Award from Greenville Toyota. Byron has been with Greenville Toyota for 6 years.



Byron Tyson has had "an outstanding year."

He lives in Greenville with his wife Denese and their two sons Orrin and Byron II. Byron says he has always made customer satisfaction his number one goal. He adds the Toyota line-up for 2002 will make one of his most exciting years in the automotive industry. He invites everyone to visit him and the entire team at Greenville Toyota on Memorial Drive. Congratulations to Byron Tyson for an outstanding year, as well as for his contributions to the community and to Greenville Toyota.



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BOOK REVIEW

The Minority Voice Encourages Everyone To Read A Book

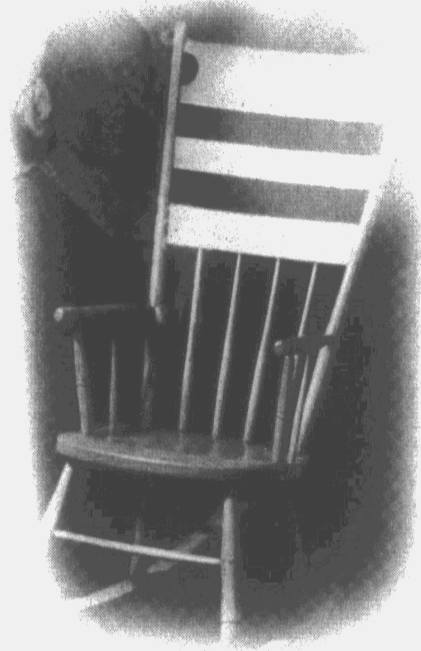


NOT WITHOUT SCARS
Christopher Broussard

This riveting autobiography introduces a remarkable man who has overcome nearly two decades of lawlessness and sixteen years of imprisonment to become an admirable servant-leader in the African American community. It is the proverbial rags-to-riches tale, only the wealth gained is in the form of integrity rather than money.

Not Without Scars is a dramatic and heartening story than can educate and encourage anyone interested in the redemption of human beings, particularly young African American men who are walking in the wayward path. It is proof that no life is beyond saving and in a time when many young men aspire to become the "gangsta" that Mark Olds was a refreshing sign of hope.

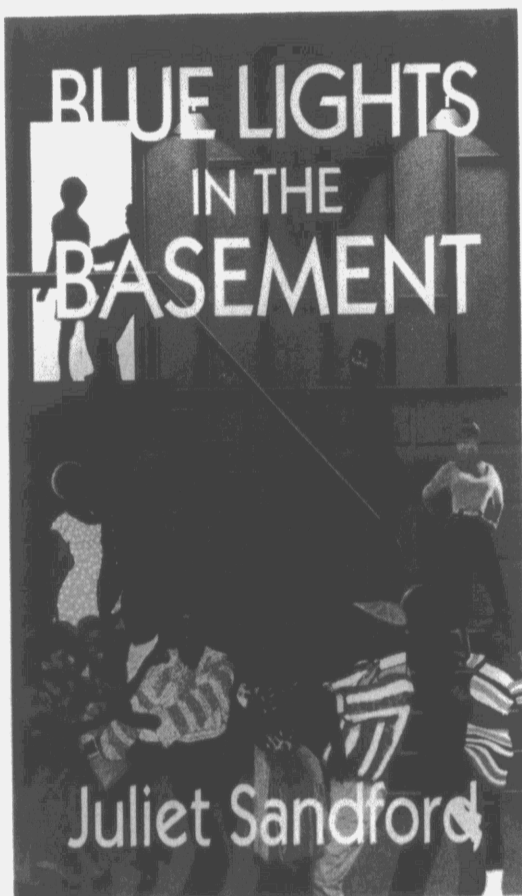
"Seeing the Hands of God Move"
Last Days with Momma



LAST DAYS WITH MOMMA
By Pamela Gayle Short Little

While my mom was living, I communicated with her daily through visits or by talking to her on the telephone. Calling Mom before I lay down at night was as much a part of my routine as saying my prayers at night. My night seemed complete after chatting with Mom before I retired to the bed. Throughout my life, I saw the many sacrifices Mom made for her children. I began to plan my future for Mom. I said to myself, "When I grow up, I'm going to give Mom whatever she wants and just spoil her." When I married Dallas, I shared my desires with him. Dallas had no problem with that and joined right in with the spoiling. I thank God for how He allowed my wants to become a reality.

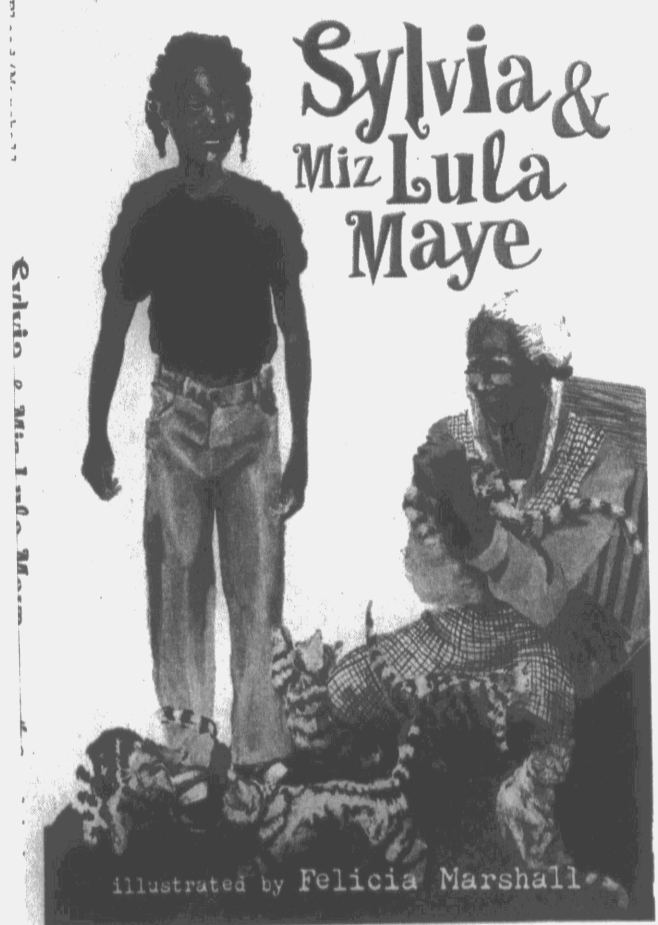
I strongly recommend to every person to keep in constant contact with your family, show love, spend quality time with them and speak kind words to them. Do it now because once they have left this world, none of this can be accomplished. Give your family flowers while they can smell and enjoy every one of them.



BLUE LIGHTS IN THE BASEMENT
By Juliet Sandford

Jewel Sinclair is bright, motivated, seventeen, and black. She has three friends: Linda Harris is aggressive, Teresa Lloyd is straightforward, while Joanne Wilson thinks she has a ticket to the top based on her complexion. For them, times are good during a period of bad times. As Friday rolls around, their focus is on the "blue lights in the basement party" on Saturday. It's the biggest event of the year, and nothing, except their parents or the Grim Reaper could stop them from going. If you came of age in the Sixties, Blue Lights in the Basement will take you on a ride down memory lane. If you didn't, you will have the experience of a lifetime as seen through the eye of four teenage girls in urban America.

Pansie Hart Flood



SYLVIA & MIZ LULA MAYE
By Pansie Hart Flood

It's 1978, and ten-year-old Sylvia Freeman has just moved to Wakeview, South Carolina. She's sure the summer is going to be nothing but boring until she meets her neighbor Miz Lula Maye, who is about to turn one hundred years old. It's always been just Sylvia and her momma, but as the hot summer days pass, Sylvia finds herself heading down the dusty dirt road to Miz Lula's Maye's house more and more. With Miz Lula Maye, everything is an adventure, whether it's chasing after missing cats, eating supper on a stormy night, or just swaying on the porch swing. Then, one day, a stranger comes to town with news about the past that changes Sylvia's life forever. With her world turned upside down, what can Sylvia do?

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Edification of the New Generation



by Faith May

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The Holy Spirit is the same as the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Christ, and the Spirit of God. He is the executor (one who carries out) of the will of God in earth. If you are familiar with a will, you know there has to be a person appointed to make sure your will is carried out according to your wishes. Well, the Holy Spirit serves as the One who oversees and makes sure God's will for us is carried out. The Holy Spirit also is to our soul what blood is to the flesh, the natural, human body. Without blood flowing in our body, there is no life. Blood is the life-sustaining fluid of the flesh. All the components of life for the flesh are in the blood.

Levitus 17:11 says, "For the life of the flesh is in the blood." The life of the soul, the spirit of man, is the Holy Spirit.

Just who or what is the Holy Spirit? What is His function, purpose, and benefit to the life of the Christian? Who is He? The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Godhead. The Godhead is also called the Trinity. It is made up of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. First John 5:7 states, "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word (Jesus) and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." So actually we can't have one without the other two.

To help all us, young people included, further understand the Trinity, I will give this explanation. God is the creator and Father of all, Jesus is the Word of God (what God has said or will say) made flesh, and the Holy Spirit is the breath (wind of God) that carries the Word of God out. And He was sent back unto us in earth. Now the Father and His Word (Jesus) made flesh are in heaven along with His breath. But if you note Acts 2:17 says, "And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit (breathe, wind life) upon all flesh." "Out of" is used as a function word to

indicate origin, source, or cause. When God, poured His Spirit out of Himself on the day of Pentecost, He did not empty nor deplete Himself. He once again breathed into us as in Genesis 2:7.

Whereas man was formed of the dust of the ground, and God breathed (poured out of His Spirit) into the nostrils of man the breath (Spirit, wind) of life; and man became a living soul. The formed flesh (dust of the ground) would never have lived without the breath (Spirit) of God. Just as fallen or unregenerate man never can live, nor have life, without the Spirit (breath) of God.

I believe when God imparted breath. He also imparted blood and Spirit for the life of the soul. This is why blood is required for the atonement of the soul. This is why blood is required for the atonement of the soul. The flesh goes back to dust, which is cursed. But the spirit belongs to God and is from and of God.

When we ignore the "prompting of the Holy Spirit" which always will lead us in the right direction, we always fall. If we can tune in this "prompting" we will not make as many mistakes. We will not have as many broken hearts and broken homes. Please read next issue's Who Is The Holy Spirit? Part II.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Subject: U.S. Nursing Homes

A local newspaper recently ran a cartoon that was very offensive to the residents and relatives of those that reside in Nursing Homes. It's content posed two people reading a newspaper with a headline that read "Georgia Crematorium Shocker". In the background was a building with an arrow pointing at it. The sign read U.S. NURSING HOMES. The caption above one of the characters reading the paper read, "IT'S UNCONSCIONABLE. ALL THOSE BODIES WOULD BE ALLOWED TO JUST SIT THERE AND ROT".

I am a resident of Cross Creek Health Care facility in Swan Quarter NC, and was personally offended by the cartoons are placed in media portals for humor as well as to express opinions. This was not funny and the opinionated view of it's author has undermined the efforts of all nursing homes to care for the needs of those who require special services. The newspaper promoted the stigma associated with long term by allowing it's insertion. Those that truly need to be in a facility sometimes delay making a decision to reside in a facility and family members feel guilty about abandoning their loved ones because of publicized misinformation.

Residents don't come here to die. We are nurtured and stimulated mentally/physically to enjoy life. A Bill of Rights exists to protect our individualistic needs. If issues arise that are not remedied to our satisfaction, an unbiased legal advocate, the Ombudsman, will represent us. The State does yearly inspections and interviews residents to correct any infringements of the standards for quality of care: i.e., safety, hygiene, medications, records, documentation, complaint follow-ups, etc..

There are a few facilities that give ALL Nursing Homes a bad name, but don't "label" all of them by the expressionism portrayed in that cartoon! Many people stay for a brief while and

return home after being cared for. When a facility is considered, people should use common sense in choosing one appropriate for the need(s) that exist. Internet sites have reviews of most nursing homes and sometimes list complaints (but don't tell if they were corrected. If you request a tour of a prospective facility and you need to make an appointment and/or be escorted when you arrive, they must be hiding something(?). Visit one unannounced and tour unescorted, talk to the staff/residents, speak with people in the community and then decide.

I have never regretted coming here. It's reputation for quality of care preceded my arrival and has continued for all of it's residents. It has been my privilege to hold Resident's council meetings (with no staff allowed) and residents speak openly. All in attendance approve of the way Cross Creek continually stresses to the staff the importance of our comfort, safety, privacy, self-esteem, and our right to individualism.

Did You Know? Alexander Mills, A Black Man Invented The Elevator

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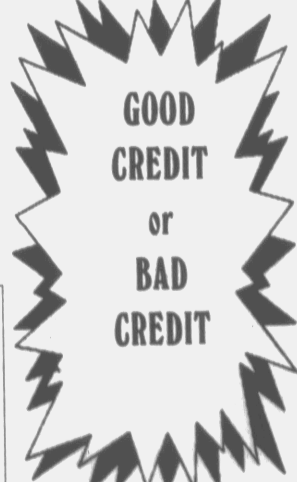
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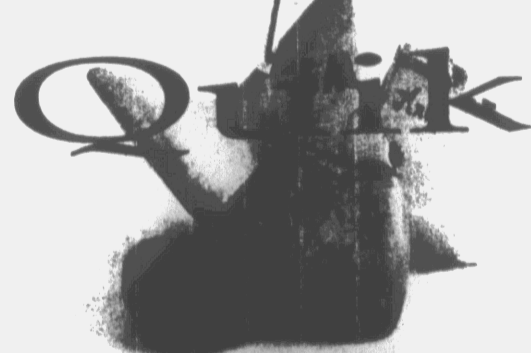
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Spiritual Reflections



Dr. George Hawkins

The Strait Gate and the Narrow Way

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ:

The church of today is getting further and further away from the strait gate and the narrow way of the Bible. New ideas and doctrines are coming into most churches at what seems to be an ever-lasting rate. People are

being tossed to and from with the winds of all kinds of misleading doctrines. The God-fearing, born-again, love filled, fruit-bearing, obedient, Bible-reading, and discerning Christian, who understands spiritual warfare, who demonstrates his love for God by obeying His commandments, who reveals his faith by serving God and taking a stand for truth, and who is watching and ready for Jesus to return, seems to be a disappearing figure in this generation. Most churches today are places where make-believe Christians gather on Sundays to feel comfortable and be entertained. They leave church confident and reassured that all is right in their life. Then they die and are shocked, as they find themselves in a place called "hell".

Today, many Christians are the same way. They make light of sin. The strait gate and the narrow way is seldom taught. Many so-called Christians today also have a golden calf. Their money, pride, selfishness, televi-

sion, job, house, car, the things of the world, astrology, drinking, drugs, sex, the government, or their own desires are their "golden calf." Jesus is to be your LORD and Savior. He is to come "first." Most Christians today, as then, have not known God's ways. Many call upon the name of the Lord, but they will not follow "Him." Many commit abominations and are not ashamed. They are NOT VALIANT FOR THE TRUTH--Jere.10:14. God is IN THEIR MOUTH, but FAR FROM THEIR REINS--Jere. 12:2. THEY HAVE BURNED INCENSE TO VANITY--Jere. 18:15.

Do any of these fit you?

Jesus described the Laodicean church as lukewarm. The lukewarm are confident they are correct and righteous. Their confidence is so deeply rooted that it is nearly impossible to reach them with the truth. Lukewarmness comes from mixing both hot and cold. They are not cold toward the things of God, but neither are they hot. They are content, apathetic, and indifferent. They are not truly concerned with what is right and wrong or what is good and evil. Within the Laodicean church is the prevailing attitude of

"live and let live; don't rock the boat; don't cause waves; it will turn out O.K." They are taking a neutral position. They are trying to serve God, but are also trying to please men. They are serving two masters and justify their position. They are serving God, and they are serving "self." They are serving God, and they are serving the world. This is totally unacceptable with God. Remember, the name "Laodicea" means "the rights of the people." Their knowledge and understanding of God, His Word, and of these things is, at best, only lukewarm. Their daily conversation may be centered on both the things of the world and the things of God. They are like a wave. They are carnal and have not denied themselves. They are not fully following Jesus, though they are usually sure they are.

Jesus is in their life, but He is not the center of their life. Their life revolves around things of the world and worldly circumstances; Jesus is only a part. They have

need of milk (basic doctrines) and not meat (perfection). They are not ready for the doctrine of perfection and holiness. Their thoughts are divided between Jesus and the things of the world. Laodiceans want to maintain a level of control over their lives; they will trust Jesus only to a point. They do not have the understanding that Jesus is in control when very difficult situations come against them; their knowledge is lukewarm.

At best, their understanding of who is saved, by the grace of God, and who is not saved is only lukewarm. It may be said, they do not fully comprehend the strait gate and narrow way.

Their teaching may consist of some sound doctrine mixed with confusion, false doctrine, deceit, doctrines of men and denominations, new fads, or other distortions of Scripture that come along.

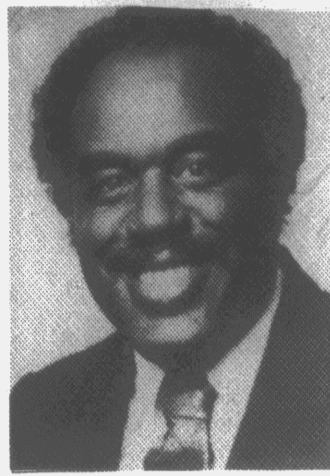
They may have a great church complex, a magnificent choir, large attendance, much money coming in, a vast radio and television ministry, an extensive mailing list reaching multitudes with a monthly magazine, and many letters and telephone calls coming in. They may be claiming to have won many souls, but if the

message being proclaimed is only lukewarm, then that is all they are.

The following should be considered. Sound doctrine is disappearing; most people will not tolerate it. One might ask, "What would happen if sound doctrine was being taught?" The answer is found in the Scriptures. In the days of the apostles, sound doctrine was being taught in Laodicea; however, it was rejected. The Laodicean church was only lukewarm; this is unacceptable to God.

For those who may wonder if lukewarm is really so bad, Jesus gives the following warning. **I WILL SPEW (or spit) THEE OUT OF MY MOUTH.** The entire Laodicean church will be spit out and perish. There will be such a small number from this church that will repent, not even the word "few" is used as it was in the "dead" church of Sardis. The lukewarm will not be taken when the Rapture comes.

From the Desk of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



Mrs. Beatrice Maye

To the editor.

One of the most common ways women can be disobedient is with our speech. The Bible is very clear on this subject. "We are not to be too quick to speak". Proverbs 29:20. "We are not to say everything we feel, when we feel like it", Proverbs 29:11. "Our words can destroy people", Proverbs 18:21, and "Timing is everything", Proverbs 15:28.

Most women talk too much. That's because nearly any woman is overflowing with thoughts, feelings, emotions, revelations, insight, hurts, and joys, and it feels as if she will burst if she doesn't share them with someone. Out of the overflow of the heart her mouth speaks, and some women overflow more than others.

Communications is a woman's greatest joy. It can also be one of her greatest assets. By her speech, alliances are formed, emotions are healed, knowledge is imparted, relationships are restored, mysteries are unraveled, and world problems are solved. She loves to talk things out. Show me a woman who will not talk, and I'll show you a woman who has had people in her life who never listened to what she had to say.

What Black Women Really Want in a Man

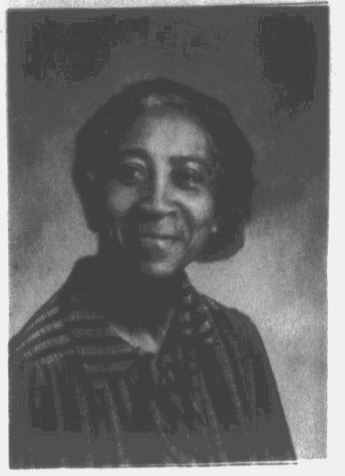
A Black woman wants men, but not just any man will do. They want a man who will be supportive of their careers, their dreams and goals, their lives in general, emotional support, romance, no intimacy, companionship, responsible, dependable and committed to his family, stable income, ambitions and who has potential, fun-loving men who can make you laugh, who can laugh with you, someone with whom you can relax. Finding a man who is employed, fun, intelligent as well as committed is quite difficult. Women must first love themselves and seek spiritual guidance. When you love yourself, then you are open to receiving love from another person. Too many men feel intimidated by professional women.

What is Discipline?

Discipline is one of the sterling traits of success. The other two are education and perseverance. Discipline means being on time, not abusing company policies, displaying good manners, showing respect for peers and superiors, and keeping your word. You must know how to follow the written and unwritten rules of the organizations.

Set goals and write them down. You must develop strong work ethic and expect excellence in everything you do. Success results from hard work. It does not come overnight. You must persevere to get what you want. There are many obstacles to overcome: discrimination, racism and sexism. They are very real and they are not going away. But don't let prejudice and the "isms" keep you from getting what you want. You will fail at some things, but what you learn from failure is important. Failure is important. Failure will make you stronger. Don't be afraid to try new challenges, positive challenges.

Virgis Colbert, Executive Vice President, Miller Brewing Company



A Profile Of An English Teacher Mrs. Virginia Jones

Mrs. Jones was a brilliant, stimulative and an influential teacher who taught Honors English to Grade 12 at J.H. Rose High School, Greenville, North Carolina. She was sympathetic and encouraging, showed a real interest in her students by encouraging their writing, nurtured imagination and protected their dreams.

The educational community gives regular lip service to the notion that every child can learn but it is time; in fact, long past time, to finally put the notion into practice. Mrs. Jones demonstrated how.

First, be sympathetic to those in your keeping. Second, never assume that a student is just average. Every student possesses the ability to excel at something worthwhile, whether drawing, science or friendship. Their grades count, but sincerity of efforts counts, too. Fourth and last, the opportunity to teach is ever present--seize it as often as you can.

Mrs. Jones, though retired now, has made a positive difference in many children's lives.

Did You Know? Sarah Boone, A Black Woman Invented The Ironing Board

B C D

Job Fair for Teachers Union County Public Schools

Thursday, March 28, 2002
12:00 Noon - 6:00 p.m.

Location of Job Fair
Monroe Middle School
601 East Sunset Drive
Monroe, North Carolina

Job Fair Features

- Interviews Conducted by Principals at Job Fair Site
- School Visitations Provided upon Request
- Applications Accepted at Job Fair Site
- License Information Provided upon Request
- Early Contracts for 2002-2003 School Year

Registration Accepted by
Fax: (704) 289-9852, E-mail: lillian.rorie@ucps.k12.nc.us
Voice Mail: (704) 283-3658, or register on site.
Please provide name, address, telephone number and area of teaching license.
(Welcome Student Services Personnel)

For more information, visit our web site at www.ucps.k12.nc.us (Click on Employment Opportunities and View Current Vacancies.)

Contact Persons: Lillian G. Rorie & Terri I. Cooper
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Monroe, NC 28112
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Elaine Hopkins, Class of '68, of Elizabeth City State University, is busy with the recruitment efforts to reunite the 60's classes. As a member of the 60's Decade Planning Committee, Elaine, specifically, is helping to co-chair the plans of bringing together the class of '68 by Homecoming 2002.

While enjoying early retirement, Elaine frequently travels to the campus of her alma mater for numerous alumni affairs. In addition to serving as Co-Chair for the 60's Decade Reunion, she was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of the General Alumni Association. She is a lifetime member of the General Alumni Association and a member of both the Awards Banquet and the Homecoming Committees. Locally, she is

serving as recording secretary of the Eva J. Lewis Alumni Chapter of ECSU. A couple of her community involvements include being a member of the Millennium Committee (sub-committee of the City Council) and a member of her sorority.

Most importantly is the life Elaine shares with neighboring friends and especially family and her church family at Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church.

Elaine feels that being a former educator tends to qualify one to be a lifetime teacher. Therefore, she expects to return to the classroom again this year as a tutor for the End of Grade Testing. Meanwhile, she continues a vivid search for ECSU alums who will commit to the tremendous task on the campus of her alma mater.



Pitt County Senior Games is one of 52 sanctioned programs by NCSG which is the statewide senior Olympics program that motivates participants to stay active and encourages them to renew old skills and learn new ones senior games offers 67 athletic and arts events. Senior games approach to wellness is designed to challenge each individual at their own level. Some of the other programs that are available through NCSG include: Silverstriders, the national award winning program for walkers

Silverliners, the statewide association for senior line dancers Silverarts, celebrating North Carolina's senior artists

NCSG is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing year-round health promotion and education for adults 55 years of age and better. NCSG is sponsored statewide by the North Carolina Division of Aging. For more information regarding

Mrs. Lucy Coburn Teel, a graduate of Bethel Union High School - Bethel, North Carolina and a graduate of Elizabeth City State University - Elizabeth City, North Carolina retired from the Martin County School System in 2001 after teaching for 36 years. Nine of those years were spent in the Westmoreland County School System - Colonial Beach, Virginia.

Lucy is a member of the Eva J. Lewis Alumni Chapter of Pitt County, the Pitt County Retirement System, Bethel Light court # 622, and the Beauty Aim Saving Club. She is also a member of the Saint Mary Missionary Baptist Church (Greenville, NC), the Hospitality Club, the Senior Usher Board, Able Book Club, and she enjoys the many activities of the church.

Mrs. Teel is a true "people's person." She loves people and she spends quality time tutoring area students. Lucy receives great satisfaction from the growth of others. This is a very satisfying moment for her. She enjoys helping the sick and shut in and lending a helping hand wherever it is needed. Her motto is: "If I can help someone as I travel life's journey, my living will not be in vain."

She is married to William Lawrence Teel and they are the proud parents of two children and two Godchildren.



Mrs. Lucy Teel

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Pitt County Senior Games

James D. Evans from Greenville, NC has been chosen by Pitt County Senior Games to serve as a North Carolina Senior Games (NCSG) ambassador.

Ambassadors are an elite group of individuals who have committed themselves to encouraging others in their community and across the state to stay healthy and live better longer through participation in local senior games programs. Ambassadors assist their local coordinator in recruiting participants and promoting senior games. Ambassadors receive training in public speaking, use of audio-visual tools, and senior games promotional information.



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Start WITH YOUR Heart

North Carolina Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention Task Force

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ANNOUNCING SMART START REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

The Martin/Pitt Partnership for Children (MPPFC), the local Smart Start agency, is requesting applications for Smart Start funding for the fiscal year July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003. MPPFC, a private, non-profit (501 (c) 3), serves the interests of Martin and Pitt County's young children, ages 0-5, and their families.

MPPFC administers Smart Start funding for Martin and Pitt County and is currently accepting applications for the following programs:

Early Care and Education

1. A program to provide subsidies to assist families who need licensed child care services.
2. A program to provide salary supplements for child care providers working in licensed child care programs who are pursuing continuation of early childhood education.
3. A program to provide information and referrals to parents seeking child care services; also provide technical assistance to licensed child care providers to increase their star ratings.
4. A program to provide health/safety technical assistance to child care providers, as well as providing health screenings for children in licensed child care programs.
5. A program to provide technical support and training for child care providers of children with special needs.
6. A program to provide on-site technical assistance to child care providers to improve the quality of child care and licensing.
7. A program to address school readiness issues.

Family Support

1. A program to provide support, information, referrals and educational materials to families of children with special needs and chronic illnesses.
2. A program to provide intensive home visitation to decrease child neglect and abuse and to improve the usage of preventive care services.
3. A program to provide training of nurturing/parenting skills to families and caregivers who have been reported/substantiated for child abuse/neglect.

All interested individuals or agencies must contact the Partnership to obtain a Request for Application (RFA) packet. Completed applications with required documentation must be submitted to the Partnership's office no later than 12:00 pm, Friday, February 8, 2002. Faxed or late proposals will not be accepted.

Martin/Pitt Partnership for Children 115 Eastbrook Drive Greenville, NC 27858 www.mppfc.org (252) 413-7545

EDGECOMBE COUNTY BRANCH OF THE NAACP 2002 ANNUAL FREEDOM FUND BANQUET

