

HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
PRINCEVILLE

AKA QUIZ BOWL

A NIGHT TO  
REMEMBER

# THE MINORITY VOICE

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

Serving Eastern North Carolina Since 1981 Feb. 21 - Mar. 7, 2003 FREE!

## Meeting promotes action, not talk, to take on challenges facing black community, city

By T. Scott Batchelor  
The Daily Reflector

A litany of issues affecting Greenville's black community echoed in the Dubois Center on Thursday during what organizers hope was the first of many "town hall" meetings. Education, violence, economic growth, discrimination and health care were some of the topics addressed by a panel of civic leaders and audience members during the forum, sponsored by the Pitt County Black Caucus, The Minority Voice Newspaper, WOOW - AM and Millennium Community Bank. "Together, we have so many things we can talk about," Minnie Anderson, the evening's moderator, told the crowd of about 250 gathered in the center off Hooker Road. She urged members of the community to seek out the plethora of government grants for everything from starting small businesses to education tuition.

"So many of the monies that come into Greenville really do not trickle down to the people with ideas, great ideas," Anderson said. However, she said, "If you don't have a place to stay, it's all about nothing."

Councilwoman Rose Glover said leaders and rank-and-file residents need a "road map" to guide the black community. "So many times we talk but don't do anything," she said. She decried the ravages of drugs on the community, especially in west Greenville, and "absentee landlords ruining our communities."

Bennie Rountree, president of the state Southern Christian Leadership Conference, said, "Many problems we have is because our leadership is not together."

But the new head of the NAACP in Pitt County, Calvin Henderson, pledged to strive for success in serving his constituency. "It's really time for work," not just talk, he said, adding that the local NAACP would be the arm for helping people with health, education, community development, and veterans affairs.

City Councilwoman Mildred Council urged residents to "tap the sleeping giant" of neighborhood resources. "These organizations can help us if you tap them and use them well," she said.

Tying his message with the celebration of February as Black History Month, keynote speaker U.S. Rep. Frank Ballance said it's a long way from Africa to here, and a long way from the back of the bus to the front, referring to the defiant stance taken by civil rights protestor Rosa Parks.

He lambasted President George W. Bush for opposing universities' use of affirmative action in the admissions process. "It is my considered opinion that he is opposed to Black History Month," Ballance said. "What is Black History Month but affirmative action?"

Though blacks face problems still in America, "you can rise as high as you want to," the congressman said. During the question and answer section of the town hall meeting, one man asked Ballance, "Why can't you shut down convenience stores that sell alcohol in West Greenville?"

A woman audience member said 100 percent of the troubled students she works with are black, and almost all of them males. "I'm trying to understand, what can we do as a community to give them hope?" she said. "They no longer know who they are, what their sense of place is in this community."

Another woman wanted to know the "real causes behind the persistent, chronic suspensions of black males" in the county schools.

Michael Dixon, vice chairman of the Pitt County Board of Education, said the schools "don't have teachers coming from diverse backgrounds."

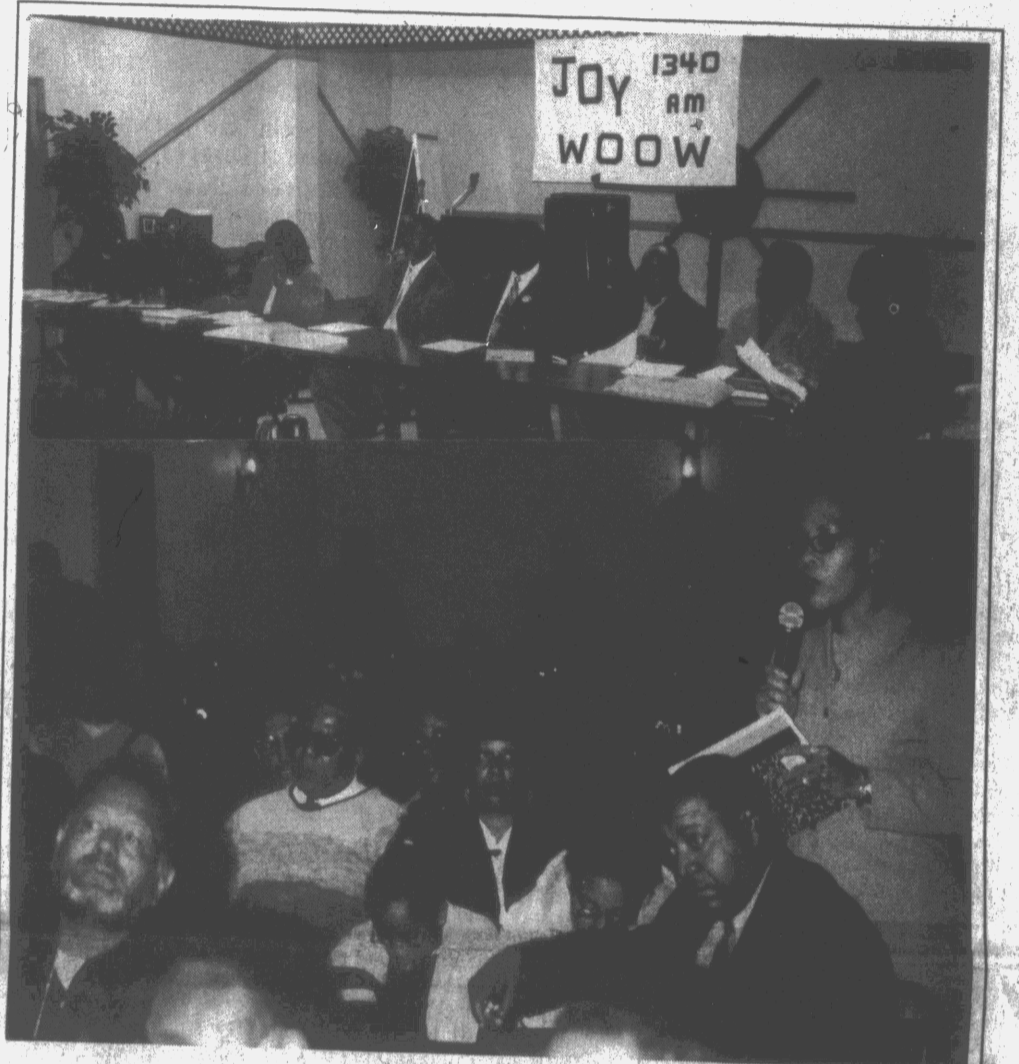
The faculty are predominantly white females who can't identify with many of the black males and address their needs, he said.

During the beginning of the meeting, which ran for more than 2 1/2 hours, Mayor Don Parrott said he toured west Greenville and downtown before he decided to seek election.

"This is the core of our community, and we're letting it deteriorate," he said, displaying a map showing the vision for revitalization undertaken by the council, which he said represents a dream.

"You know all about a dream," Parrott said. "You've got to have a dream."

T. Scott Batchelor can be contacted at sbatchelor@cox news.com



"Black folks speak out...." Sponsored by the Pitt County Black Caucus, WOOW Joy 1340 AM Radio, and Millennium Community Bank, instructed a Town Hall Meeting at the black owned DuBois Center. Black folks came out in strong numbers to voice their concerns about the high utility bills, teen violence, drugs, housing discrimination and other important issues concerning the city of Greenville. The event was very informative as Black elected officials and some government officials answered questions from the audience. The next meeting has been scheduled for May.

## "Petite powerhouse" claims Humanitarian Award

The Daily Reflector

The 2003 Best-Irons Humanitarian Award on Saturday was bestowed on a woman described as a "petite powerhouse of drive and determination" during a banquet at the Hilton Greenville. Nell Lewis, director of the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center at East Carolina University, was nominated for the award by Brenda Myrick.

The 2003 award for an organization went to STRIVE, a job-readiness training program in Pitt County that helps people become employable. The yearly awards are handed out by the Greenville Human Relations Council.

In her nomination letter, Myrick recounted Lewis' 29 years as an educator and her rise to the position she now holds at ECU. "Through the strong and vivacious leadership of Nell Lewis, the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center has flourished," the letter states. "The attendance of visitors, college students, high school, elementary school and primary school students, as well as community-based organizations, [has] increased." Myrick credited Lewis with organizing and leading the Cross-Cultural Communication Committee, whose mission is "to provide leadership, direction and motivation through cross-cultural communication for more awareness and involvement in diversity programming as an organization."

The committee's work resulted in the Diversity Connections

Program Guide, which contains information on events happening at ECU and in the community. Myrick also pointed to Lewis' work in organizing a committee of health professionals to create an event which will encourage healthy lifestyles among African-Americans.

Niagara Parke, a social worker with the Pitt County Department of Social Services, nominated STRIVE for the Best-Irons Humanitarian Award to an organization. She said the three-week training program stresses discipline and compliance and "works towards the betterment of the community."

"STRIVE deserves this award, as they offer this training free of charge to the community at large," she said. "STRIVE is willing to work with anyone that wants to go to work, to increase their job-seeking skills, job-readiness skills, as well as working with them on workplace behavior."

The Best-Irons Humanitarian Award was established in 1990 in honor of Dr. Andrew A. Best and Dr. Malene G. Irons - the first recipients of the award in 1992 - for their belief on the issues of equality and human rights.

Criteria for the individual award include activity in community affairs, promotion of community and human betterment, involvement in at least one activity worthy of human relations recognition and positive attitudes toward improving human relations.

Organizations that receive the award must have an active affirmative action program; provide leadership seminars and Directions for upward mobility; have an educational scholarship program; promote local and state human relations affairs; and have initiated at least one human relations effort.

Other nominees for the 2003 individual award are Evelyn Carmon, Clifton Hickman, Harvey G. Jackson, Beatrice Maye, James Speight, Dr. Edward Treadwell and Dr. Earl Trevathan.

### 2003 BEST IRONS AWARD RECIPIENT



NELL LEWIS - 2003 Best-Irons Humanitarian Award Recipient poses for the M'Voice Camera

photo by Jim Rouse



"Exum Convenient Store...." Shown above are the owners of the Exum Convenient Store located on Hwy. 33 in Princeville, NC. The beautiful face of Mother Exum is all smiles as her husband looks on with a bigger smile. Drop by and pay them a visit !!!!

Staff Photo: Jim Rouse



"Eastern Black Social Workers...." Shown above are the women of the Eastern Black Social Workers Association standing tall with Historian Father DD Garrett, who owns the oldest accounting, real estate, and rental office in Pitt County. The Eastern NC Black Social Workers has this year's occasion at Pitt Community College. D. D. Garrett will keep you laughing as he tells stories of black folks from the past.

Staff Photo: Jim Rouse

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## STRANGE THINGS

## Are we there yet?

●Glen and Eleanor Milligan, both 78, left their home in Stark County, Ohio, for a one-hour drive to a relative's home. When they didn't arrive, their family reported them missing. Twenty-eight hours later, Cleveland police investigating reports of a suspicious car on the city's southeast side discovered it was the missing Milligans. "They kept driving around the same neighborhood over and over again," Stark County Sheriff's Sgt. Mark Maskaluk said. "They thought they were still in Canton, Ohio."

●Dorothy Woodman, 80, headed out Monday evening for a shopping trip to Washington, D.C., about 15 minutes from her home in McLean, Va. While driving home, she made a wrong turn, drove all night and wound up 250 miles away in Baden, Pa. A man at a gas station directed Woodman to a motel, where several employees offered to drive her home. She declined and decided to drive herself.

She got lost again. Tuesday afternoon, she found herself in Edgeworth, Pa. She flagged down Edgeworth resident Nancy Merrill, who noticed she seemed exhausted and drove her to the police station. Woodman spent Tuesday night at a motel, then made the five-hour trip home Wednesday afternoon in a limousine rented by her son.

## Curses, foiled again

Police in Edmonton, Alberta, arrested two youths who allegedly accosted a pizza deliveryman and demanded the four pizzas and cash that he was carrying. The robbers, ages 17 and 18, then decided to take his car instead. Their getaway was thwarted because they didn't know how to drive a standard transmission. "It was a tossup between pizzas and the car, and they knew how to operate pizzas," Edmonton Police spokesman Wes Bellmore said, adding that the suspects were apprehended after officers arriving on the scene spotted one of them entering the home where the pizzas were to be delivered.

## Support group

Thailand's health ministry announced it is dispatching a troupe of dancers to show women how to increase their bust sizes. Thai women who have been bombarded by media images of big-busted women often feel inadequate and resort to wearing ill-fitting brassieres, according to Pennapa Subcharoen, deputy director-general of the ministry's department of traditional medicine. "Many women are not aware that wearing an appropriate size of bra and regularly taking bosom-firming dance can make their wish come true," she said. "So we are training 12 pairs of instructors to teach women how to take care of their breasts, and we plan to launch them on Valentine's Day next month." Pennapa added that each dance team would consist of one small-chested and one large-chested instructor.

## Worth the risk

Increased cellular phone use has led to more car accidents, but the value users place on being able to call from the road roughly equals the accidents' cost, according to the Harvard Center for Risk Analysis. The center's study concluded that the yearly cost of accidents caused by cell phones, including medical bills and property damage, equals \$43 billion. This figure is virtually the same as researchers arrived at for the value of calls made while driving.

## First things first

●Willmar, Minn., resident Tyler Bratsch, 25, was sentenced to a year in jail after he admitted visiting pornographic, sports and music Internet sites and checking e-mail instead of watching his 13-month-old son, who drowned while taking a bath unattended.

●Police in Placentia, Calif., charged Janet Chen, 31, with leaving her two young children home alone for nearly three weeks while she went to North Carolina to visit a man whom she met on the Internet. Officers, who discovered Chen's 7-year-old daughter and 4-year-old son after neighbors reported hearing them crying inside the apartment, said the children had been living on frozen meals, Bagel Bites and cold cereal. Chen told investigators that she had a falling out with the man but slept in her rental car for the next week rather than come home because she didn't want to pay for a new airline ticket.

## Lucky... not

Paul Smith, 37, survived his van rolling down an embankment outside Moosic, Pa. After climbing back to the highway and walking a half-mile along the shoulder, however, he was killed by a hit-and-run driver.

## Francofollies

A group of French chefs, writers and celebrities announced it would petition Pope John Paul II to remove gluttony from the list of seven deadly sins. Members of the Association for the Gourmand Issue explained that the question is essentially linguistic.

The word gourmandise meant eating to excess when it was added to the French version of the Roman Catholic Church's seven sins, but today it connotes conviviality and good living. The association wants to replace it with another word, gloutonnerie, which it said translates gluttony more accurately.

Compiled by Real Times, Inc., 2400 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60616.

## LEAD STORY

## Slave trade

From Africa to the U.S. and beyond

The history of slave trade from Africa to America and beyond

For Westerners, the slave trade specifically denotes the enslavement of Africans and their transport across the Atlantic to North America and the Caribbean. Other cultures as well have traded in slaves, but this article focuses on American and Western European slavery.

The slave trade began in America in the 16th century; most of the ships were owned and crewed by Europeans, but many of the people who kidnapped those for this trade were Africans and Arabs.

Another source for large numbers of slaves was prisoners captured in inter tribal conflict or warfare. It was common practice to kill captives or trade them to other tribes or slave traders for sell at the coast to shippers in the slave trade.

The trade was banned by international agreement in the early 19th century, but this ban was ignored and the British Royal Navy was ordered to enforce the ban, this succeeded in eliminating the Atlantic slave trade by the end of 19th century.

For the British to end the slave trade, significant obstacles had to be overcome. In the eighteenth century the slave trade was an integral part of the Atlantic economy. The economies of the European colonies in the Caribbean, the American colonies, and Brazil required vast amounts of man power to harvest the bountiful agricultural goods. In 1790 the British West Indies, islands such as Jamaica, Barbados, and Trinidad, had a slave population of 524 000, while the French had 643 000 in their West Indian possessions.

Other powers such as Spain, the Netherlands, and Denmark had large numbers of slaves as well. Despite these high populations more slaves were always required. Harsh conditions and demographic imbalances left the slave population with well below replacement fertility levels.

By 1800 the English had imported around 1.7 million slaves to their West Indian possessions since 1600, the fact that there were well over a million fewer slaves in the British colonies than had been imported to them illustrates the conditions in which they lived.

The immorality of slavery was excused by economics. Slavery was involved in some of the most immensely profitable industries of the time. Seventy percent of the slaves brought to the new world were used to produce sugar, the most labor intensive crop. The rest were employed harvesting coffee, cotton, and tobacco, and in some cases in mining.

These products would be shipped to Europe or Africa. The ships from Europe would then return carrying manufactured materials and foodstuffs.

The ships from Africa would return carrying slaves. The entire economy of the Atlantic sector depended on fresh supplies of slaves to the West Indies, and this triangular Atlantic trade formed the core of maritime trade throughout the world. These colonies were some of the most important possessions of each European power.

France in 1763, for instance, agreed to lose the entire vast colony of New France in exchange for keeping the minute island of Guadeloupe.

By far the most successful West Indian colonies in 1800 belonged to the United Kingdom.

After entering the sugar colony business late British naval supremacy and control over key islands such as Jamaica, Trinidad, and the Barbados gave it a prominent edge over its competitors. This advantage was reinforced when France lost its most important colony, St. Domingue, to a slave revolt in 1790.

The British islands produced the most sugar, and quickly the British people became the largest consumers of sugar. West Indian sugar became ubiquitous as an additive to Chinese tea.

Products of American slave labor soon permeated every level of British society with tobacco, coffee, and especially sugar all being indispensable elements of daily life for all classes.

To support its colonies Britain also had the largest fleet of slave ships, mostly operating out of Liverpool and Bristol.

In Liverpool, by the late seventeenth century, one out of every four ships that left harbour was a slave. They were highly profitable ventures and played very important economic roles in those two cities.

How did the abolition of the slave trade occur if it was so economically important and successful? The historiography of answers to this question is a long and interesting one. Before the Second World War the study of the abolition movement was performed primarily by British scholars who believed that the anti-slavery movement was probably among the three or four perfectly virtuous pages in the history of nations.

This opinion was controverted in 1944 by the West Indian historian, Eric Williams, who argued that the end of the slave trade to economic transitions totally unconnected to any morality.

Williams' thesis was soon brought into question as well, however. Williams based his argument upon the idea that the West Indian colonies were in decline at the early point of nineteenth century and were losing their political and economic importance to Britain. This decline turned the slave system into an economically burdensome one that the British were only too willing to do away with.

The main difficulty with this argument is that the decline only began to manifest itself after slave trading was banned in 1807 before which slavery was flourishing economically.

The decline in the West Indies is more likely to be an effect of the suppression of the slave trade as the cause. The falling prices for the commodities produced by slave labor such as sugar and coffee can be easily discounted as evidence shows the falls in price lead to great increases in demand, actually increasing total profits for the importers.

Profits for the slave trade remained at around ten percent of investment and showed no evidence of being on the decline.

Land prices in the West Indies, an important tool for analyzing the economy of the area did not begin to decrease until after the slave trade was discontinued. The sugar colonies were not in decline at all, in fact they were at the peak of their economic influence in 1807.

Williams also had reason to be biased. He was heavily involved in the movements for independence of the Caribbean colonies and had motive to try to extinguish the idea of such a magnificent action by the colonial overlords.

A third generation of scholars led by the likes of Drescher and Anstey have discounted most of Williams' arguments, but still acknowledge that morality had to be combined with the forces of politics and economic theory to bring about the end of the slave trade.

The movements that played the greatest role in actually convincing Westminster to outlaw the slave trade were religious. The rising of evangelical protestant groups coupled with the Quakers in viewing slavery as a blight upon humanity.

These people were certainly a minority, but they were a fervent one with many dedicated individuals. These groups also had a strong parliamentary presence controlling 35-40 seats at their height, and their numbers were magnified by the precarious position of the government.

Known as the "saints" this group was led by William Wilberforce, the most important of the anti-slave campaigners. These parliamentarians were extremely dedicated and often saw their personal battle against slavery as a divinely ordained crusade. After the British ended their own slave trade, they were forced by economics to press other nations into placing themselves in the same economic straitjacket, or else the British colonies would become uncompetitive with those of other nations. The British campaign against the slave trade by other nations was an unprecedented foreign policy effort.

Denmark, a small player in the international slave trade, and

the United States banned the trade during the same period as Great Britain.

Other small trading nations that did not have a great deal to give up such as Sweden quickly followed suit, as did the Dutch, who were also by then a minor player.

Five nations objected strongly to surrendering their rights to trade slaves: Spain, Portugal, Brazil (after its independence), France and the United States.

Britain used every tool at its disposal to try to induce these nations to follow its lead. Portugal and Spain, which were indebted to Britain after the Napoleonic Wars, slowly agreed to accept a large cash payment to first reduce and then eliminate the slave trade.

By 1853 the British government had paid Portugal over three million pounds, and Spain over one million in order to end the slave trade. Brazil, however, did not agree to stop trading in slaves until Britain took military action against its coastal areas in and threatened a permanent blockade of the nation's ports in 1852.

For France the British first tried to impose a solution during the negotiations to the end of the Napoleonic Wars, but Russia and Austria did not agree. The French people and government had deep misgivings about conceding to

Britain's demands. Not only did Britain demand that other nations ban the slave trade, but also demanded the right to police the ban.

The Royal Navy had to be granted permission to search any suspicious ships and seize any found to be carrying slaves, or equipped for doing so. It is these conditions especially that kept France involved in the slave trade for so long.

While France formally agreed to ban the trading of slaves in 1815, they did not allow Britain to police the ban, nor did they do much to enforce it themselves and thus a large black market

slave trade continued for many years. While the French people had originally been as opposed to the slave trade as the British, it became a matter of national pride and they refused to allow their policies to be dictated to them by the British.

Also such a reformist movement was viewed as tainted by the conservative backlash after the revolution.

The French slave trade thus did not come to a complete halt until 1848.

While slavery had been abolished in the U.S. following the Civil War, it took another 100 years before apartheid was finally outlawed.

## Where Black History began

by Valerie Cunningham

Special to the Tri-State Defender

Second Part of a Series

For more than a century Africans and black Americans were openly bought and sold throughout the colony along with other imported items. Surviving documentation shows that slave merchandising in Portsmouth was conducted according to common business practices of the day.

Samuel Moore, a ship owner and captain whose enterprises involved trips to the slave coast of Guinea, sold two male slaves to Archibald McPhaedres in 1726.

The accounts of Hugh Hall show him importing slaves from Barbados aboard his ship the Katherine in 1729 and 1730. The *New Hampshire Gazette* advertised slave sales from ships trading between Africa, the West Indies and America, as in this example: "To be sold ... a few Negroes, lately imported in the snow Gen. Townshend ... from the West Indies ... at Stavers Tavern." Some slave sales occurred at public meeting places. One advertisement announced that a slave could be purchased "opposite the north door of the State House."

There were also private sales: To be sold by Mrs. Dorcas Bradford, a likely Negro woman about thirty years of age, suitable for any business."

Although the importation of slaves was not a major business, it occurred frequently enough to be an unremarkable event. Departing ships carried purchase orders from wealthy area residents, perhaps specifying a preference for "Guinea" slaves direct from Africa or "seasoned" slaves, those already trained in Western ways and with particular skills learned in the American south or Caribbean Islands.

Two slaves from Barbados, a man and woman, were ordered and delivered to Jeremiah Wheelwright in 1752 but when the pair arrived in poor health and unable to perform productive work, Wheelwright sued the shipmaster, Archibald Smith of Somersworth, for damages.

John Moffatt's ship, the Exeter, returned from Africa in 1756 with 61 slaves: 20 men, 15 women, 7 "man boys," 2 "women girls," 10 boys and 7 girls. The ship's carpenter, John Winkley, had contracted with Moffatt to receive in exchange for his labor on the trip free passage and his choice of "a prime slave" at the price paid "on the coast of Guinea."

John Moffatt acquired one slave by stealing him from his Massachusetts owner and taking him on a voyage to Portugal; Moffatt was convicted in 1725 for the kidnapping. 36 slaves also were available from brokers at major American auction centers from Boston to New Orleans.

Slaves were owned by well-known and affluent northern families who benefited from a thriving economy -- an economy that ironically was partially based on the international slave trade. The 1727 "Inventory of the Polls and Estates of Portsmouth," showed two or more slaves living in the households of Capt. Walker, William Vaughn, Col. Walden, Richard Wibird, R. Waterhouse and George Jeffries; at least thirty-five additional slaves lived "singularly" in other households.

This pattern continued until the revolutionary period when one-third, (or a total of at least 81) of the families represented by names on the Association Test list of 1776.

Next week, How bad behavior made slaves' prices go down.

## AFRICA DIGEST

## KENYA

## German aid worker killed

Unknown assailants shot and killed a German aid worker as he drove up to his residence in the Kenyan capital at the weekend, police said this week.

Professor Wenra Vondel, an employee of the German aid agency GTZ seconded to the Kenyan agriculture ministry, was gunned down in the Spring Valley suburb of Nairobi late on Sunday, police spokesman King'ori Mwangi told newsmen.

"A gang of people confronted him as he entered his compound and shot him. He died on the way to hospital," said Mwangi, adding that nothing was stolen from the victim.

No arrests have been made in connection with the murder, Mwangi said.

Violent robbery and car hijackings are common in Nairobi.

## NIGERIA

## Sharia law moves to south

Islamic sharia law is making inroads into the predominantly Christian south of Nigeria at a time when religion is expected to be a crucial issue in looming general elections.

Muslim officials have set up sharia courts in Lagos, Nigeria's biggest city, and in the southwestern state of Oyo, to deal with such civil matters as divorce, inheritance questions and contract disputes.

The courts are for Muslims only and do not extend to criminal matters, which caused much controversy in the 12 predominantly Islamic northern states that implemented sharia - canonical law based on the teachings of the Qu'ran and the traditions of the Prophet - over the past four years.

"The course is clear to the introduction of sharia to those states in the south that have significant Muslim populations," says Lateef Adegbite, head of Nigeria's Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs. "There is no constitutional or legal impediment to the extension of Sharia to the south."

Adegbite says the Qu'ran tells Muslims to follow sharia, so Muslims need to have access to sharia courts to live a full Islamic life.

"We have repeatedly told non-Muslims that sharia will not be extended to them," Adegbite told Deutsche Presse-Agentur dpa. "The application of sharia to the Muslims should not be their concern."

Nigeria's constitution gives Muslims the right to practice their religion freely and that includes organizing sharia courts, says Is-Haq Akintola, director of Lagos-based Muslim Rights Concern.

"We're not talking about introducing criminal sharia in southern Nigeria at all," says Akintola. "We've seen how it created doubts and gulfs between the people and generated fear."

Violent protests in Christian enclaves marked the introduction of sharia law in some states of northern Nigeria. Worst-hit was Kaduna, where an estimated 2,500 people died in religious clashes.

## UGANDA

## HIV vaccine trials begin

Ugandan researchers have begun injecting volunteers with one of the world's few prototype HIV vaccines targeting the strain of the virus ravaging east Africa, the research team said this week.

The trial will involve uninfected volunteers in Uganda considered to be at low risk of HIV infection who will be given the vaccine to see whether it is safe and creates immunity.

"The trials will go on for about two years after which we hope we can move it to the next phase," principal researcher Pontiano Kaleebu told reporters.

About half a million people have died in Uganda from the deadly disease and it is estimated that about 1.5 million are infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

The vaccine being tested does not contain HIV and cannot cause HIV infection, Kaleebu said.

Researchers say the vaccine is the only one being tested on humans that is tailored to the virus common in Uganda and other east African countries, HIV subtype A.

Most vaccines being tested on humans are for subtypes other than A, the researchers said. It was possible that different vaccines may have to be developed to treat different subtypes prevalent in various regions, they added.

Making a vaccine against HIV is difficult because the virus integrates itself into cells, and attacks the very immune cells that are normally stimulated by a vaccine.

## ZAMBIA

## Minister stoned in Zambia

A leading opposition politician in Zambia has been stoned by his supporters for accepting a ministerial post.

Forum for Democracy and Development (FDD) supporters stoned Jeff Samukonga, leaving him with a cut on the forehead, when he visited his constituency before being sworn in as deputy commerce minister.

President Levy Mwanawasa has appointed eight opposition MPs to ministerial posts in a bid to reconcile opposition parties who are challenging his election in court.

The FDD rejected his offer, but Samukonga and two other FDD MPs accepted posts.

FDD leader Christon Tembo said the trio should consider themselves expelled. Expulsion would cost them their seats and posts.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

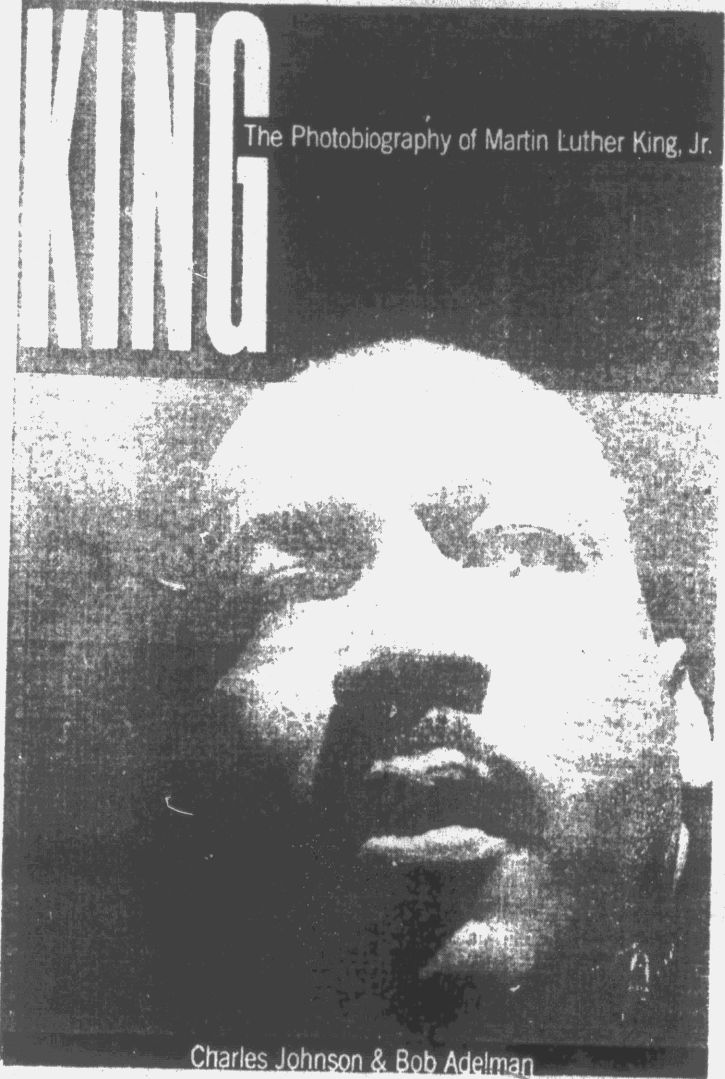
# KING: HUSBAND, FAMILY MAN, FATHER - A PHOTOJOURNEY

## An Intimate Glimpse of the Civil Rights Martyr and Noble Prize Laureate

EDITOR'S NOTE: "KING," a historic photobiography of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., civil rights martyr and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, by award winning author Charles Johnson and internationally recognized photo-journalist Bob Adelman, published by Viking Press, New York, is still on the best sellers list, after two years. It chronicles the story of a hero's journey and should be in everyone's library.

The Sentinel tribute to King's 74th birthday focuses on his role as husband, family man and leader, as ensuing photographs will attest. Johnson, the Pollock Professor of English at the University of Washington; a prolific writer and award winning author (National Book Award for "Middle Passage" 1990) has written ten other books and twenty screen plays. Photo-journalist Bob Adelman, the book's producer, included the works of some twenty-nine other photographers in the book. Adelman's photographs for cover stories of other publications include: Esquire, Time, People, Life, New Yorker, Harper's, Newsweek, New York Times Magazine, Fortune, American Heritage, London Times, Stern, Look, Paris Match, and Asia. Also a major contributor to the book is Robert Phelan, noted photo historian and curator of several exhibitions of the civil rights movement.

"King - The Photography of Martin Luther King, Jr. can be purchased at leading book stores or from Viking Press, Penguin Putnam Inc., 375 Hudson Street, New York, New York 10014. — Libby Clark.



Charles Johnson & Bob Adelman

# BLACK TOP GRAND OPENING! 1 Year Anniversary SALE!

After 1 Year We Finally Get A Black-Topped Lot,  
THE SUZUKI PRESIDENTS AWARD!  
& SUZUKI TOP 50 NATIONWIDE DEALERS!



**XL7**



**AERIO**

**PUSH IT  
OR PULL IT  
DRAG IT IN**

**IT'S WORTH \$2,000**



**AERIO**



**GRAND VITARA**

WE DON'T CARE IF ITS DUSTED, BUSTED OR RUSTED! JUST GET IT TO SUZUKI OF GREENVILLE AND ITS WORTH \$2,000 IN TRADE ON ANY PRE-OWNED VEHICLE ON THE LOT!

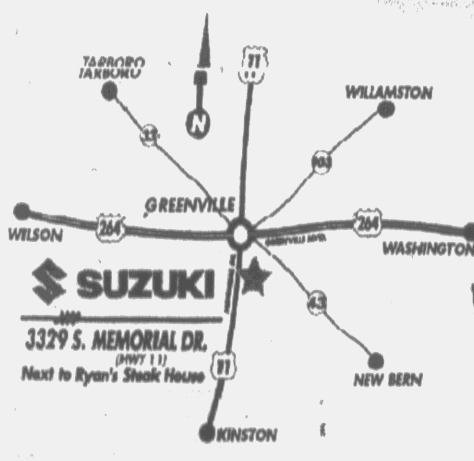
WITH THE PURCHASE OF ANY NEW SUZUKI ON THE LOT YOUR GAS IS PAID IN FULL FOR ONE SOLID YEAR!



POWERTRAIN LIMITED WARRANTY

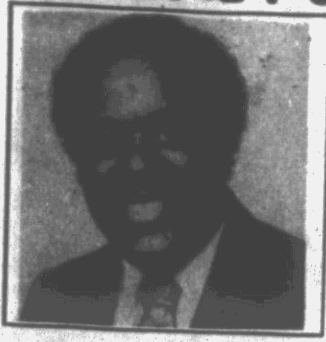
**98% OF OUR CREDIT APPLICATIONS ARE APPROVED!!**

CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-473-1183  
WE GET YOU APPROVED WITH NO MONEY DOWN  
WE ALWAYS MAKE SURE YOU GET THE LOWEST MONTHLY CAR PAYMENT  
WE GIVE CASH BACK! JUST BECAUSE YOUR CREDIT RE-BUILDING, DOES NOT MEAN YOUR NOT REBATE QUALIFIED!



*We Make the Deals... That Other Dealers DON'T!*

# SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS



Apostle George Hawkins

## WHAT IS THAT IN YOUR HAND

Greeting:

In Exodus 4:1-2 we find these words "And Moses answered and said, Behold they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee. And the LORD said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod." I want to ask you that question today, "What is that in your hand? What is that that God has given you and what is that that God has entrusted you with? What is that that's in your hand." Moses saw in his hand a rod and so often we look at what God has given us and we just see an old dirty stick that has been around for a while. We don't see it as valuable. We don't see that God has done a special thing in our life and given us a special gift or a special anointing. And we are just like Moses was, it's just a rod. But what Moses did not understand that what he had in his hand was not just a rod, it was "A Rod" and "A Rod" was about to become "The Rod". It was about to become the Rod of God in Moses' hand. And I want to tell you, you might look around today and say what is it that I have, whose going to listen to me, what can I do. I just have a Rod. I just have a stick. I don't have anything special. But what we will find out as we look at the life of Moses is that it was more than just a Rod in his hand. It was something that God had divinely allowed to be placed in Moses hand to be used at a later time. And may I submit unto

you today that God has entrusted and put the right things in your hand to be used at the right time in your life to be used for His glory. IVs more than just a rod. May I ask you again, **WHAT IS THAT IN YOUR HAND?**

I don't know exactly where Moses acquired that rod perhaps from Egypt when he ran he used it as an instrument to get through the dessert or he acquired it when he was herding the sheep of Jethro. That's not really important, what is important is that God allowed Moses to use what he had that was familiar to him. You see one day while on the back side of the mountain Moses saw a bush burning but the fire did not consume it. He decided to go and take a closer look at it and when he did he heard the voice of God call him by name "Moses, Moses" and he answered and said here am I, God identified Himself to Moses and told him that I have seen the afflictions of my people and I have heard their cries by reason of their task masters. And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey. Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me. and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them. Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt (Exodus 3).

You see Moses grew up in the house of Pharaoh, so the life style of the Egyptian was very familiar to him. All he needed was the courage to use what God had already given him. When God told Moses, He was sending him to Pharaoh, that he may bring the children of Israel out of Egypt, Moses had reservation, he question God, yes, saints we can question God. "And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee:

When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain. And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them? And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. (Exodus 3; 11-14)

As Moses was in the presence of the God, God prepared him with signs and wonders that would remove the fear and the doubt that God's power was greater than Pharaoh's. God didn't use anything new to show Moses his power He used what Moses already had in his hands "A Rod" And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it. And the LORD said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand: That they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee. And the LORD said furthermore unto him, Put now thine hand into thy bosom. And he put his hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow. And he said, Put thine hand into thy bosom again. And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh.

God showed Moses these signs not to frighten him but to prepare him to get the job done. Moses, like many of us, had reservations about the task that was set before him, but he loved God enough and he feared God enough that he. If you study the life of Moses you will find that he was chosen from the very foundation of the world to work for God. Some of you that's reading this article \*: As chosen from the foundation of the world to do God's will but you have reservation, bettise of FEAR.



## Youth Today Blazers 4H Club

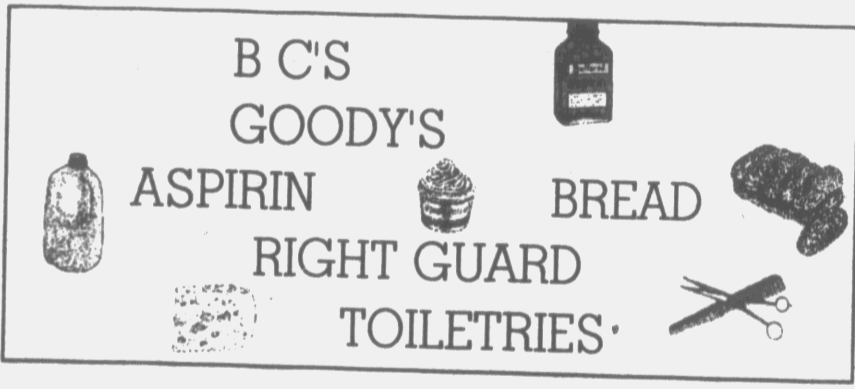
By: Mrs. Angel Savage

Show above from left to right are: Ryan Savage, Iyanla Savage, Sheronda Nicholson, Ashley Bond, Japhry Carmon, Shannon Givens, Akeem Savage, Yolanda Gardner, Naima Savage, Ronicia Washington, Teena Barnes, Christina Stokes, Tiffany Dixon, Tyecia, Stevie, and Kiara Nicholson.

On Monday, February 17, 2003, Youth Today Blazers 4H Club was honored for their community service work. They were presented the 2002 Outstanding Service Award. This plaque will hang proudly in the meeting headquarters for one-year to honor their work. The Youth Today Blazers have shown exemplary service work through many events this year: Jackie Robinson Fundraiser, Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids: "Kick Butts Day" Relay for Life where they raised almost \$700.00, National Foster Care: "Special People Make Special Communities" reception honoring foster parents in the community; Tribute to the Seniors: "Thank You For Paving The Way", at the Tar River Manor Nursing Home, and Kwanzaa Education and booksigning of "Born To Win", Mary Williamson. This event sets the precedence for our club this year, says Angel Savage, 4H Leader. Our children are in fact born to win and through the collaborative efforts of NC Cooperative Extension and Youth Today Inc., Community Resource Center our children show growth in personal development and leadership, as well as community service and civic education. Also, honored for their record books were Ryan Savage, Electricity and Naima Savage who is a four time county champion and blue ribbon winner in the areas of Personal Development and Leadership, Citizenship and Civic Education, Public Speaking, and Celebrating Health. In addition, she earned her Green Clover Achievement Award. The Youth Today Blazers 4H Club has grown to 35+ students who are blazing the trail to personal and academic success. Our champions will advance to the district level for competition and the club will advance the state level for competition in community service.

## CC's Convenience Mart

1900 South Pitt Street  
Greenville, NC 27835  
(252) 321-6991  
HOURS: M-SAT 9am-9pm  
SUN 1pm-6pm



## Heel/Sew Quik



FOOTWEAR

CAROLINA EAST MALL  
GREENVILLE, NC

\*Full and Half Soles  
\*Heel Replacement\*

Rockport Re-soling \* Shoe Care Products  
\*Shoe Shine \*Dye Work\*Key Copying\*  
We Clean Timberlands

Open Mon - Sat 10AM - 8PM  
Telephone 252-756-0044

FOR RENT OR SEE REAL ESTATE CALL

## D.D. GARRETT AGENCY

"SINCE 1946"

Call us if you need someone to collect your rent and manage your property!

Several nice building lots. We handle conv., HUD, VA and FMA, financing

\$21,500. 205 Hine St., Farmville, NC. Frame dwelling, 3BR, 1 bath, some repairs needed  
\$34,400. 1407 Broad St., Greenville, NC. 3BR, 1 bath. Lot 40 x 150. Alum. siding  
\$61,000. 1226 Farmville Blvd., near hospital, 3 BR, 1.5 bath, cen/heat & air new roof, new carpet, carport, detach storage barn, brick.  
\$68,500. 605 Carnaby Ct., Graystone, Winterville, D/W, MH, 1998 Redmon, 3 BR, 2 baths, cookstove, dish washer, assume payments \$509  
\$80,210. 3733 Kings Crossroad Rd., 4 BR, 2 baths, central h/ac, cook stove, refrigerator, dish washer, burglar alarm, fenced, backyard, 1 acre land  
\$99,000. 203 Vines St., 911 & 913 Walnut St., Farmville, these three houses sold as package, investment all rented. Call for details & appointment.

NOTARY PUBLIC  
606 ALBEMARLE  
757-1692 OR 757-1162  
FAX 757-0018

## The Minority Voice Newspaper Inc.

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

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

Joy 1340AM  
WOOW Radio Station  
Greenville, NC 27834

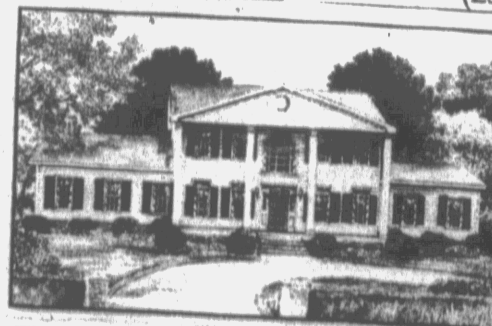
Joy 1320 AM  
WTOW Radio Station  
Washington, NC 27889

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

## Homeworks

•Custom Builders•

We Offer: Turn-Key Construction /10 yr. warranty  
Land/home package w/0% construction  
We pay up to \$4000 in closing fees loan  
Very little down if qualify  
(252)758-3171 Ask for Carmen



# From The Desk Of Mrs Beatrice Maye



Mrs. Beatrice Maye

To The Editor

## February: African - American (Black) History Month Let's Learn More About Blacks.

1. There are five Pitt County Schools named for Blacks. Name them and give their location.
2. Name five streets or subdivisions in Greenville named from Blacks.
3. Who are the two Blacks on the Pitt county Board of Education?
4. Who are the two Blacks on the Pitt County Board of Commissioners?

5. Who is president of the NAACP chapter in Pitt County?
6. Why is president of the local SCLC organization?
7. What does NAACP mean? SCLC?
8. Who founded Negro History Week? What year?
9. Who are the two Blacks that a park in Greenville is named from?
10. There is a Black library in Greenville named from a Black. Give the name, the street and from whom it is named.
11. There is a Black bank in Greenville. Give the name and location.
12. There are two missionary Baptist Churches in Greenville. Give the names and locations.
13. There's a Black Radio Station in Greenville. Give the name, the street and the owner.
14. There are two Blacks on the City Council. Who are they?
15. Name some of the Black doctors.
16. Give the name of the Black Fire Chief. Who preceded him?
17. Who is the assistant nutritionist at the Pitt County Council on Aging?
18. Who is manager of the Joy Kitchen on Albemarle Avenue?
19. Name one Black business

20. Name a Black newspaper in Greenville.
21. What benefits do we gain from observing Black History Month?
22. James Weldon Johnson wrote the "Negro National Anthem". Do you know the words? Is it sung in your group, organization, or church during the month of February?
23. Greenville has had a Black mayor. Do you know his name?
24. Name some Black schools that have been abolished or have been made primary or grammar schools. Do you know any?
25. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. stressed freedom, peace, togetherness and love. Talk about Blacks accomplishing these goals.
26. Negro spirituals express the trials and struggles of Black folks. Can you name some?
27. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. stressed or have made a difference in our culture and accomplishments?
28. What are some concerns of Blacks?
29. Ask yourself. What am I doing?

30. There is strength in UNITY. Why not join the NAACP? The SCLC?

### WHO CARES?

These are the times that try educators, yes parents souls - for far too many boys and girls are not using their time wisely in school - home work suffers, giggling, talking behavior that is unacceptable, behavior that interrupts teaching and learning by those students who want to learn.

What part does a parent play in his child's school day? Who encourages and sees that his child behaves at schools that he does his homework and makes good grades, or at least be quiet and attentive?

Do we ask - Tell me about school today? Were you put outside the door for bad behavior? Did you sit quietly and respond in class? Were you sent to the principal's office? Let me see your homework. Parents, do you attend teacher conferences? Most time the parents who need to go, never show up.

Do you visit the school? Tour your child's classes? Do you know his teachers? Does he

know that you'll follow up on bad behavior at home? Do you limit TV viewing? Are we using wisely what we have? Wake up parents and send teachers students who go to school to learn. Disciplined children at home will be disciplined children at school.

### TACTICS FOR WAIST MANAGEMENT

1. Refuse second helpings (except for vegetables)
2. Eat smaller portions.
3. Double your intake of fruits and vegetables, especially raw.
4. Choose crunchy foods (apples, salads, toast, popcorn).
5. Eat less protein; 4 to 6 ounces per day of meat, fish poultry.
6. Enjoy sweets and alcohol only in moderation.
7. Cut back on fat. Fat makes food tasty, but it's loaded with calories.
8. Don't snack.
9. Drink four glasses of water daily and four glasses of other fluids.

Source: *The Balancing Act Nutrition and Weight Guide*

Five or more servings of fruits and vegetables each day help fight cancer and heart disease.

Beta-carotene, found in dark green, orange and yellow produce, may help protect against heart disease stroke and some cancers.

Vitamin C, abundant in citrus fruits, green peppers, cabbage, and cantaloupe, may work as an antioxidant to strengthen our built-in defenses against disease.

**Editors Note:** Mrs. Beatrice Maye was also nominated for the Best Irons Awards For 2003.

We applaud Mrs. Beatrice Maye for her continual work in the education of our people.

★ An African American Woman Striving For Excellence

# State considers compensation after sterilization

RALEIGH (AP) -

North Carolina officials are considering financial compensation for people who were sterilized through a state-sponsored program because they were mentally handicapped or considered genetically inferior.

State Rep. Larry Womble, D-Forsyth, said he plans to also introduce legislation within the next few weeks requesting money for victim of the state's eugenic sterilization program. "We need to do what we can, whatever we can, to compensate those folks, to make them whole again," Womble said Tuesday. "I don't think that sort of thing should have been going on in the United States, where we pride ourselves on individual rights."

About 65,000 people nationally were sterilized during the eugenics movement, which adhered to the belief that sterilization would eliminate mental illness, genetic defects and social illness.

North Carolina sterilized more than 7,600 people between 1929 and 1974, the third most in the country after California and Virginia. Children as young as 10 were sterilized, though by the 1960s the program's main

target was young black women. The Winston-Salem Journal first reported many of the details of the program in a series of stories published in December.

Carmen Hooker Odom, the secretary of the state Department of Health and Human Services, will lead a committee studying whether to pay reparations. The group is to meet for the first time Thursday. (Feb 20th) Hooker Odom's committee will review North Carolina's program and other states' responses to similar sterilization programs, Cari Boyce, a spokeswoman for Gov. Mike Easley, said Tuesday.

The committee will include a representative from the Division of Mental Health and two representatives from the state Department of Cultural Resources, which manages the archives where more than 100,000 documents about the program are stored.

In December, Easley followed officials in Virginia and Oregon by apologizing for the sterilizations. South Carolina issued an apology last month.

"I want to take it further than that," Womble said. "These are people whose lives were destroyed. It became very close to me to genocide."

Victims celebrated word of the committee and the chance that the state would make up for its mistakes.

Nial Cox Ramirez, 56, of Riverdale, Ga., was sterilized in 1965 when she was 18.

"I feel real good about this, because somebody needs to do something," Ramirez told the Winston-Salem Journal.

Doriane Coleman, a Duke University law professor who teaches a course about genetics, genomics and the law, said reparations are appropriate for

eugenic sterilization victims, who were often forced to submit to the procedures.

A law permitting sterilization of the mentally ill or mentally retarded "for the public good" remains on the books in North Carolina, but isn't used. Coleman recommended that legislators strike it.

"It looks bad and potentially could be used," she said. Paul Lombardo, the director of the law and medicine program at the University of Virginia

Center for Biomedical Ethics, said he also considered reparations reasonable.

"This is not a brand new idea," Lombardo said. "We have about 15 states that have laws on the books to provide compensation for people who have been wrongfully imprisoned."

"That kind of process has turned out to be very affordable. It's only rarely invoked and generally speaking I've never seen any public outcry over a government saying, "We made a

mistake. We ruined your life and we're going to try to do something to make it better for you."

Lombardo, who has studied eugenics programs for the past 20 years, said he knew of no other state where high-level discussions of reparations have started.

Money wouldn't make up for what was taken from victims, but may help restore some of their self worth, Lombardo said.

## BURGER KING® SALUTES BLACK HISTORY MONTH AND OUR 2003 URBAN EVERYDAY HEROES

### Denise Barrow

Fontana, California

Barrow is a mentor on a mission. Through her Newport Beach, California-based *Women of Excellence*, she has redoubled her commitment to turning today's promising girls into tomorrow's fierce women. Her organization works to provide a new generation of women with the tools they'll need to succeed in the adult world.



### Angela Brown

Atlanta, Georgia

Angela Brown is at the forefront of the environmental justice movement. She has worked for *Greenpeace* and leads the *Youth Task Force*, one of the oldest human rights organizations founded by youth of color in America. Called "another drum major for justice," her efforts have served as a wake-up call to young people, urging them to acknowledge their own ability to shape their surroundings and take charge of their future.



### Rosalind Harris-Diaw

Denver, Colorado

As the publisher of the *Urban Spectrum* newspaper, Harris-Diaw seeks to make the media a more inclusive world. She's the founder of the Denver-based *Urban Spectrum Youth Foundation*, training youth of color for careers in journalism. The program has mentored 60 youths, three of whom have received *Scribes in Excellence* student awards from the Colorado Association of Black Journalists. Instead of complaining about the media's lack of diversity, Harris-Diaw prepares youth of color to succeed against the challenges they'll face.



### Gwendolyn Elliott

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Although her experiences have run the gamut from military work to police investigative work, it is Elliott's dedication to community service that truly informs everything she's done. Elliott founded *Gwen's Girls*, an empowerment agency that teaches young women ages 8-18 to be goal-directed and self-sufficient. Elliott believes that this mindset will enable these young women to break through whatever barriers might stand between them and their goals.



### Stanley P. Newsome

St. Louis, Missouri

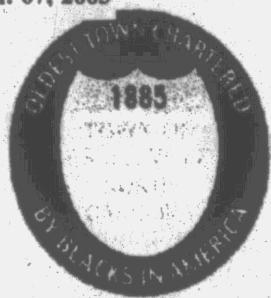
Stanley P. Newsome once bought an old gas station to house shoeshine workers who didn't have spaces of their own in which to ply their trade. He did it because of his deep humanitarian impulses and from a desire to empower other workers to conquer the challenges they might encounter. Once named the *Most Outstanding Employee* by the State of Missouri, the retired fire chief's list of community accomplishments includes founding one of the first Black firefighter organizations in the country.



INVEST IN YOUR HERITAGE  
SUBSCRIBE TO THE M'VOICE NEWSPAPER

To apply for your subscription write:  
SUBSCRIPTIONS  
405 Evans Street  
Greenville, NC 27834





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE TOWN OF PRINCEVILLE CELEBRATING 118 YEARS OF HISTORY



## FREEDOM HILL: CONTINUING THE VISION

What's the first college savings program you should consider?

North Carolina's 529 plan.  
Tax-Free. Flexible. Affordable.

800-600-3453 [www.CFNC.org/Savings](http://www.CFNC.org/Savings)

North Carolina's  
**National College Savings Program**

# Affirmation Action's Invisible People



BY  
HUGH  
B.  
PRICE

Lee A. Daniels  
Director of Publications  
National Urban League  
(Guest Columnist)

I spent part of the weekend with a large group of some of America's most invisible people.

They're not actually invisible, of course; this wasn't a convention of ghosts. In fact, they're very much flesh-and-blood and focused on being productive and doing well in the real world.

That means I wasn't among those timeworn figments of the fevered imaginations of the opponents of affirmative action—the "unqualified" black youth undeservedly occupying seats at leading colleges and universities.

Instead, I was at the annual conference of the African-American Student Union of the Harvard Business School. It brought nearly 500 HBS students and alumni (and a large contingent of undergraduates from various colleges) together in Cambridge, Massachusetts for three days of discussion, advice and networking.

The conference's theme was "Redefining Wealth: Claim It, Grow It, Sustain It!" But, as Rayford L. Davis and Raquelle E. Thigpen, the organization's co-

presidents, stated, their intent was "to view net financial worth as only one facet of what being truly wealthy really means." To that end, many speakers on the various panels made much of the necessity of acquiring wealth, not merely for self-satisfaction, but in order to aid the economic development and political progress of black communities, large and small.

As the Supreme Court prepares to rule on the University of Michigan's affirmative action program, this was a gathering that underscored with crystalline clarity two things.

The first thing it makes obvious is what affirmative action has done for the larger American society.

Last weekend's was the 31st annual conference staged by the HBS black student union—a fact which refers in outline to the significant numbers of African-American students who have graduated from Harvard and other business schools during the past three decades and gone on to contribute to innumerable corporate bottom lines, staff in growing numbers the faculties of Harvard and other business schools, and enrich the larger American society.

The second thing conferences like this make obvious is why some people are against affirmative action.

For it is at gatherings like these that one can see those people who are at the center of the raging debate over affirmative action, but who are rarely actually talked about and talked to: black stu-

dents and alumni from top-rung colleges and universities who represent both compelling individual stories of achievement and the individual examples of an entire ethnic group's advance deeper into the American mainstream.

It is at gatherings like these that one gets a powerful sense of the depth and breadth and variety of achievement orientation among black Americans.

The writer Albert Murray referred to this drive in *The Spyglass Tree*, a fictionalized memoir of his youth, as the indelible "ancestral imperative to do something and become something and be somebody." It was a quality fully evident in the resumes of the panelists, which contained enough multiple degrees, academic honors, and post-graduate achievements in the business world to impress even the most jaded.

It was even more apparent in the intensity of the spirit of the many panelists. Whether they were conservative corporate types or the relatively more free-wheeling entrepreneurs, their commitment to the pursuit of achievement was almost palpable.

And it was apparent in attentiveness of the undergraduates among the throng to every word their elders spoke.

David A. Thomas, an HBS professor and an authority on executive development and diversity in the workplace, who's attended many of the conferences, said among the most important of their functions is that "they make

a lie of the rhetoric that affirmative action rewards people who are unqualified."

That's the view of many others who inhabit the real world of affirmative action.

It was that clarity of vision which impelled both Condoleezza Rice and Colin Powell to support its use recently—in effect, disputing the position against affirmative action taken by President Bush.

It's that clarity of vision which, according to a recent story in the *New York Times*, has provoked "dozens" of significant American corporations to prepare to file briefs with the Supreme Court in support of affirmative action.

And it's that clarity of vision which has caused officials of the nation's service academies—the United States Military Academy, the United States Naval Academy, and the United States Air Force Academy—to proclaim the value of their own use of affirmative action in admissions.

Finally, it's that clarity of vision about the value of affirmative action which Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy captured when he said, referring to the military academies, "Clearly, diversity in our military is a national priority. But it's also a national priority for our colleges and universities, which are the gateways to opportunity. If we followed the administration's policies, we'd be a lesser nation, a lesser society."

# Yes to Jordan bridge

It is good, for a change, to be four-square behind a proposal of government that makes so much sense.

This week, the Wilmington City Council passed a resolution naming the bridge on the Martin Luther King Parkway over Smith Creek, McRae Street and the CSX Railroad tracks in honor of the late state Sen. Luther H. Jordan, Jr.

We are proud to say that the resolution was introduced by Mayor Harper Peterson, Mayor Pro tem Katherine Moore, and City Councilwoman Sandra Spaulding Hughes.

The next step in the process is to have the state Department of Transportation to sign off on the proposal, which could take a while.

But the fact remains that gracing the MLK Parkway with the name of a devoted, dedicated public servant who gave so much to this city, county and his community, is indeed, very fitting.

Sen. Jordan, who died last April of throat cancer, was a man who always worked hard for what was best for New Hanover County. He believed in education and economic development, and fought hard for the issues he knew really affected people's lives.

We miss him.

While serving sixteen years on the Wilmington City Council before going to the state Senate, Luther Jordan could always be counted on to give the powerless an important voice at the decisionmaking table. Here was a man who walked with kings, as they say, but never lost the common touch.

Jordan's colleagues all admired and respected him. Even if some disagreed with his positions on several issues, they trusted his honor and integrity enough to be more than willing to work towards a compromise that would make all sides happy.

It is truly befitting to have the name of Luther Henry Jordan, Jr. adorn a bridge—a true symbol of bringing people who are separated, back together again. It is an honor that we can share with our families for generations to come.

It would give our community, in particular, hope that even better days are coming.

And it would add another positive chapter in the legacy of the Port City.


We hope that the powers that be at NCDOT don't take too long make this great proposal happen. The agency is already under tremendous scrutiny by the African-American community regarding allegations of racism.

It's time to turn that image around, NCDOT, and you can start with honoring the life and community of a man who gave his all for others.

Luther H. Jordan, Jr.



**It's A Grownfolks Houseparty Every Friday Nite On Joy 1340AM**  
Join: RCM - Dr Bones  
The Meadowbrook Kid - DJ Jelly  
and Mike Adams



**Bev's Got the Talk.**

Listen to Joy 1340 from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. for *The Bev Smith Show*. Brought to you by the American Urban Radio Networks, *The Bev Smith Show* is the only national talk show targeted to a Black audience. Bev goes in deep, tackling top politicians, examining health care issues affecting African-Americans, laughing, crying and sharing joy nightly, Monday through Friday. *The Bev Smith Show* has its own 800 number allowing listeners to talk "toll free" to Bev and her provocative guests.

Focus your marketing on Joy 1340 AM. To advertise with "The People's Station," call our sales department at 252.757.0365

**WOOW**  
JOY 1340 AM

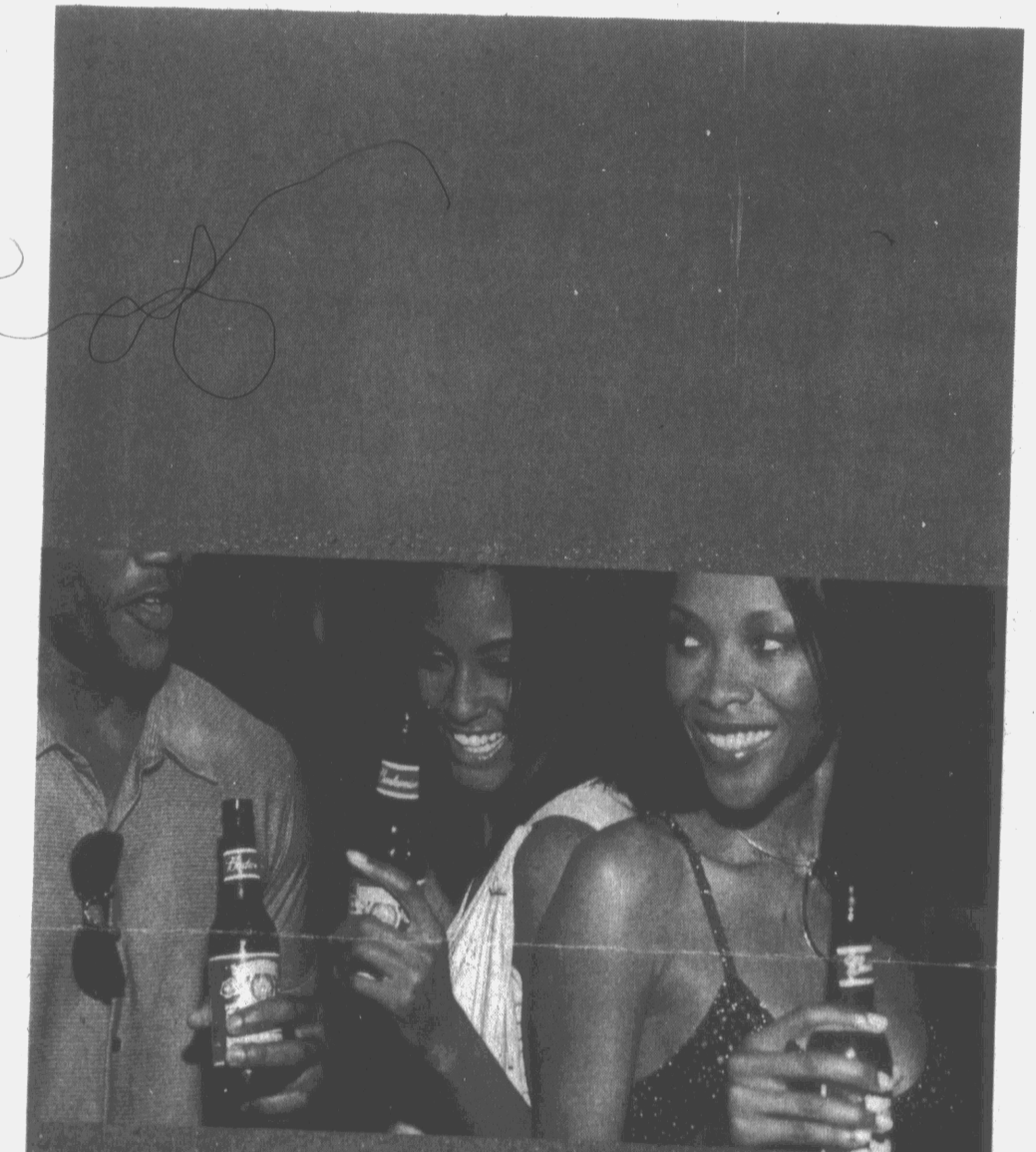


**Mrs. C's Kitchen**  
411 Deck St.  
Greenville N.C. 27834  
252-756-9558

Hours: 3:00-11:00  
Thurs-Fri-Sat.  
Owners: Mr. Cutis Cummings



Fish, Pork Chops, Chicken, Neck Bones, Hamburger  
Stringbeans, patatos, Collards,  
Sweet Patatos Pie, Bread Pudding AND MORE.



Confidence is the sexiest thing you can wear.

**Budweiser**  
KING OF BEERS

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY EVERYDAY

# Black History MONTH

## What if there were no Black people. . .

This is a story of a little boy named Theo, who woke up one morning and asked God,

"What if there were no Black people in the world?"

Well God thought about that for a moment and then said,

"Son, follow me around today and let's just see what it would be like if there were no Black people in the world. Get dressed and we will get started."

Theo ran to his room to put on his clothes and shoes. But there were no shoes, and his clothes were all wrinkled. He looked for the iron, but when he reached for the ironing board, it was no longer there. You see Sarah Boone, a Black woman, invented the ironing board and Jan E. Matzeling, a Black man, invented the shoe lasting machine. "Oh well, God said, go and do your hair."

Theo ran in his room to comb his hair, but the comb was not there. You see, Walter Sammons, a Black man, invented the comb.

Theo decided to just brush his hair, but the brush was gone. You see, Lydia O. Newman, a Black female invented the brush. Well, he was a sight, no shoes, wrinkled clothes, hair a mess without the hair care inventions of Madam C.J. Walker, well, you get the picture. God told Theo, "Let's do the chores around the house and then take a trip to the grocery store." Theo's job was to sweep the floor. He swept and swept and swept. When he reached for the dustpan, it was

not there. You see, Lloyd P. Ray, a Black man, invented the dustpan. So he swept his pile of dirt over in the corner and left it there. He then decided to mop the floor, but the mop was gone.

You see, Thomas W. Stewart, a Black man, invented the mop.

Theo thought to himself, "I'm not having any luck." "Well son," God said. "We should wash the clothes and prepare a list for the grocery store." When he was finished, Theo went to place the clothes in the dryer, but it was not there. You see, George T. Samon, a Black man, invented the clothes dryer.

Theo got a pencil and some paper to prepare the list for the market, but noticed that the pencil lead was broken, well he was out of luck because John Love, a black man, invented the pencil sharpener. He reached for a pen, but it was not there because William Purvis, a Black man, invented the fountain pen. As a matter of fact, Lee Burrige invented the type writing machine, and W.A.Lavette, the printing press.

So they decided to head out to the market. Well, when Theo opened the door, he noticed the grass was as high as he was tall. You see the lawn mower was invented by John Burr, a Black man. They made their way over to the car and found that it just wouldn't go, You see, Robert Spikes, a Black man, invented the automatic gear shift and Joseph Gammel invented the supercharge system for internal combustion engines.

They noticed that the few cars that were moving were running into each other and having wrecks because there were no traffic signals. You see, Garrett A. Morgan, a Black man invented the traffic light.

Well, it was getting late, so they walked to the market, got their groceries and returned home. Just when they were about to put away the milk, eggs and butter, they noticed the refrigerator was gone. You see,

John Standard, a Black man, invented the refrigerator. So they put the food on the counter. By this time, they noticed it was getting mighty cold. Theo went to turn up the heat and what do you know, Alice Parker, a Black female, invented the heating furnace. Even in the summer time they would have been out of luck

because Frederick Jones, a Black man, invented the air conditioner. It was almost time for Theo's father to arrive home. He usually took the bus, but there was no bus because its precursor was the electric trolley, invented by another Black man,

Elbert T. Robinson. He usually took the elevator from his office on the 20th floor, but there was no elevator because

Alexander Miles, a Black man, invented the elevator. He usually dropped off the office mail at a nearby mailbox, but it was no longer there because Phillip Downing, a Black man, invented the letter drop mailbox and William Barry invented the postmarking and canceling machine. Theo sat at the kitchen table with his head in his hands. When his father arrived,

he asked, "Why are you sitting in the dark?" Why?? Because Lewis Howard Latimer, a Black man, invented the filament within the light bulb. Theo quickly learned what it would be like if there were no Black people in the world. Not to mention if he were ever sick and needed blood. Charles Drew, a Black scientist, found a way to preserve and store blood which led to his starting the world's first blood bank. And what if a family Member had to have surgery. This would not have been possible

without Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, a Black doctor, who performed the first open heart surgery. So if you ever wonder, like Theo, where we would be without Blacks? Well, it's pretty plain to see, we could very well still be in the dark!!!

# Black History MONTH

# Reflections, Expressions, and Reviews



Suetta Jones

## A FORWARD LOOK

Congratulations to **100 Black Men of Eastern North Carolina**. As I continue to read about your meeting announcements, I am encouraging you to continue your efforts to comply with Randall Robinson's urging of blacks males who are readers of the *Minority Voice* newspaper, please take heed that you are needed to join the **100 Black Men** to help fight the social ills, particularly those that are perpetrated by the African-American male. I would like to share a commentary that was written in the *USA Today* by an African-American male. I quote:

"As an African-American male, I, too, am sick and tired of the 'poverty pimps' among us who profit from our despair. Yes, slavery was wrong, and America still has a long way to go before past injustices can be totally forgotten. But as blacks, we need to start getting our own houses in order:

1. Educate our children about proper values and good ethic work ethics.
2. Teach our young sisters that it is not right to have a child out of wedlock-- especially children they can't afford to take care of on their own.
3. Tell our young brothers, "If you do have a child out of wedlock, you should take full responsibility for that child."
4. Stop committing crimes against one another.
5. Quit pointing fingers at everyone else for what goes wrong within black communities.

I am through blaming white Americans for our problems. I won't get caught up in the destructive game of race bating. Other groups have faced hard

times, yet they've realized the American Dream. It is time all of us exercised the same privileges. We must start with **black leadership**. And the sooner we realize that recognizable figures such as Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton are not our leaders, the better off we will be. The real black leaders today are those in our community who are trying to make a positive difference: the black police officer in my hometown who coaches youth basketball; the hard-working church volunteer who helps out in the soup kitchen and other social-outreach programs; the neighborhood block captains; etc.

If we are to improve the social picture of black Americans, we will have to come to grips with the fact that it's not about "us against them", but rather "doing for ourselves and moving forward without looking back."

Respectfully submitted:

Bravo To The **100 Black Men of Eastern North Carolina**

# CITY FASHIONS

403 S Evans Street Mall  
Men • Women • Kids • Clothing  
Specializing In Orders For Groups



# Edification of a New Generation



Faith May

## MEASURED BY HEAVEN'S STANDARDS

The Bible teaches us to see the value of our lives by adding God's perspective to our own. The path to this kind of eventual self-esteem, however, is challenging. The Scriptures do more than acknowledge the importance of loving ourselves. They also attach our ultimate well-being and happiness to whether we are willing to see the long-term benefits of knowing when to think negatively and regretfully about ourselves.

At this point you may be wondering whether you want to continue reading. Please don't stop now. Don't be afraid. The happiness and inner emotional health God offers is eternally better than anything you stand to lose in the process.

At first, the Bible's approach to self-esteem will seem to go against all of your own instincts. But that's because God sees everything more clearly than we do. He knows that we will eventually be happy only if we learn to see the importance of loving, hating, and dying to ourselves.

## LOVING OURSELVES

Ironically, the Bible assumes that we already love ourselves. Jesus seemed to acknowledge this when He said, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Mt. 22:39).

Our own experience will probably bear this out. We habitually look after our own bodies by feeding, clothing, and protecting them. We naturally look after our own rights and are inclined to become frustrated or angry if others try to take advantage of us. We care for ourselves so much that when we don't measure to either our own expectations or those of others, we can become very unhappy with ourselves.

What we sometimes miss, however, is that the only reason we are dissatisfied with our appearance or discouraged by our failures is that we naturally care about ourselves. If we didn't, we wouldn't care what we looked like. We wouldn't care what others thought of us. We wouldn't care whether we were hurting inside. We wouldn't spend time with the image we see in the mirror. If we didn't love ourselves, we wouldn't even entertain thoughts of whether we'd be better off dead.

But now comes the real mind-stretcher. According to the Bible, if you really love yourself, you will also hate yourself.



## Island Jacks Travel Company

3107-C South Evans Street  
Greenville, NC 27834

Phone: 252-321-1393

E-mail: [Travel@IslandJacks.com](mailto:Travel@IslandJacks.com)

Website: <http://www.IslandJacks.com>

More Vacation, Less Money

# ACT FOR HEALTH

AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY  
TARGETED FOR HEALTH



Dr. Joycelyn Elders  
Former US Surgeon General  
Keynote Speaker

- A life-changing summit on topics vital to African Americans
- An opportunity to improve your quality of life
- The motivation to stick to healthy life choices
- New, fun, and practical approaches to better health

**WHEN:** SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2003, 9:00AM-1:00PM

**WHERE:** GREENVILLE CONVENTION CENTER

**COST:** FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL

**DOOR PRIZES & REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:  
Ledonia Wright Cultural Center

ECU Student Health Service Wellness Education

SPONSORS:



East Carolina University Division of Student Life

Eastern North Carolina Poverty Committee

## Phillips Brothers Mortuary

1501 West 14th Street • Greenville, NC 27834  
Phone: (252) 752-2536 or 752-5177 • Fax: (252) 754-2820

As owner of Phillips Brothers Mortuary, I find it appropriate to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to the community at large for the success of the business.

One year, one month ago when I acquired the business, the challenge was to continue offering our services in the same professional manner established by the original owners, Roderick and Donovan Phillips, Sr.

My staff and I are committed to providing the following services; Funeral Preneed arrangements, traditional funeral services, burial/cremation options, personalized funeral options, life insurance for ages 0-90 regardless of medical condition, and shipping world wide.

We're committed to giving the most caring, compassionate service to everyone who calls upon us.

So if you appreciate professional, quality service, but don't appreciate overspending, think of us. You'll be glad you did.

Thank you for supporting us and to discuss any needs that you may have, give us a call for a free confidential consultation.



Billy Anderson  
Owner/Insurance Consultant

## PETERSON BAKERY OUTLET

~FEATURING~

All Merita Products

Fresh Breads

Fresh Baked Goods including

Cakes, Cupcakes, Desserts, & Snacks

Hot Dog, Hamburger, & Specialty Rolls

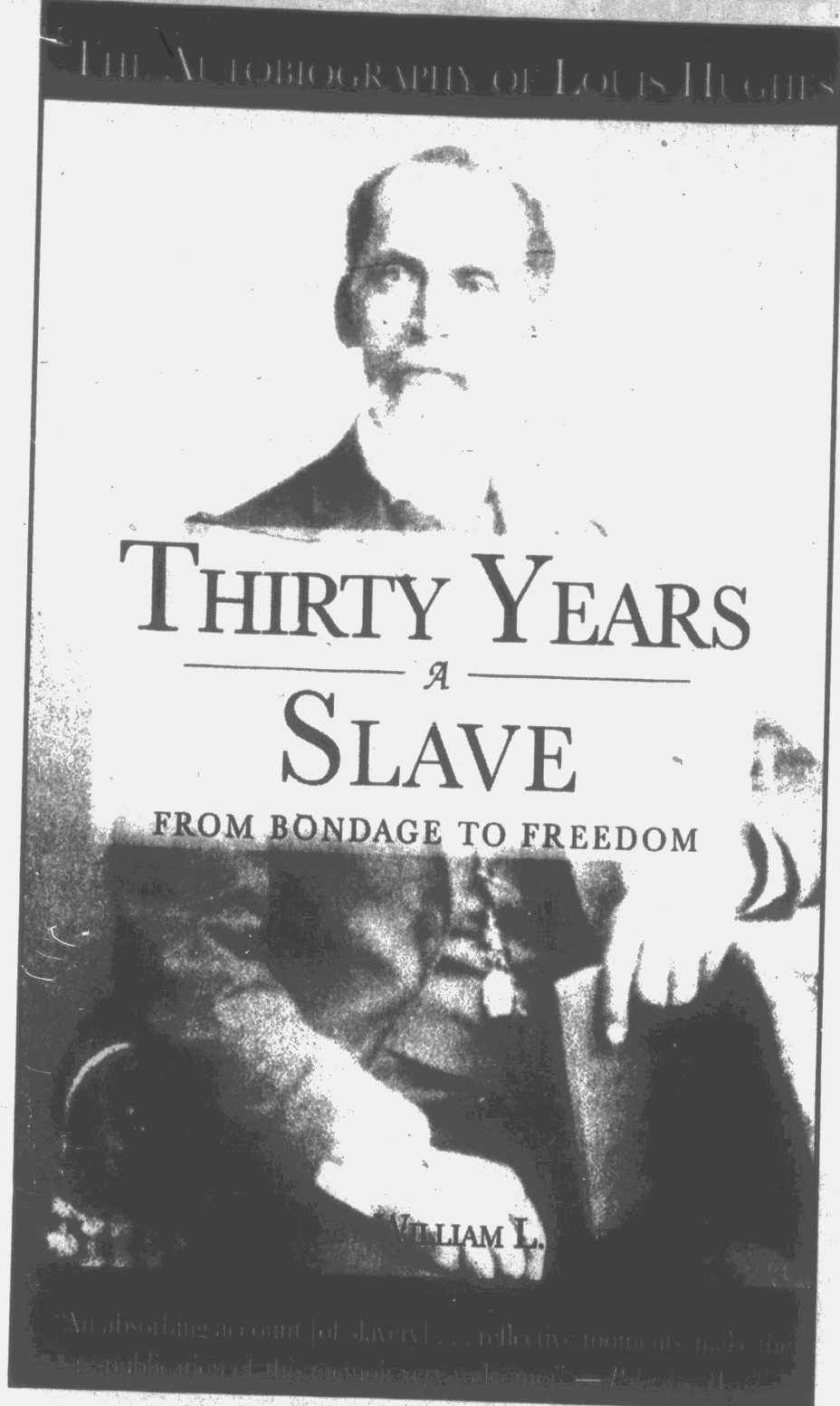
Soft Drinks & Specialty Juices

~OPEN~

10 am to 5 pm, Monday - Friday  
9 am to 5 pm, Saturday

204-A West Marlboro Road • Farmville, NC 27828 • (252) 753-8008  
(located beside Doug Henry car dealership)

# JOURNEY TO FREEDOM



In his poignant autobiography, Louis Hughes would spend 30 years in servitude before making his move to 'freedom land.'



"A Loving Father...."  
Shown above is Clifton Reid, holding his daughter as a proud father should. But, we need your help. Clifton Reid is missing. We need to bring back to his daughter. Clifton Reid has been missing since Jan. 27, 2003 and his mother and family are desperately looking for her son who she has not heard from since this day. If you have any information please contact The Minority Voice Newspaper for any information that you may have concerning Mr. Clifton Reid at 252.757.0365. We need to bring closure to his family and we need the community's help in returning this young man to his family.

**THE ARTS**

**CAN YOU SING, DANCE, ACT, or MODEL**

Vision & Gateway Productions are looking for you. If interested in modeling or being in a local Gospel Musical Production contact Ms. Rudee Peele at (252) 825-2578 or Milton D. Sutton at (252) 321-2680

**JOY 1340 AM  
GOSPEL RADIO**

## A NIGHT TO REMEMBER



Pitt County  
Dinner Theater  
Sponsored by  
Gateway & Visions Production Co.  
March 15<sup>th</sup> 2003  
At  
The Downtown Willis Building  
On the corner of Reade & 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
7:00p.m.  
Plays - A Fashion Show  
By City Fashions



**Greenville Financial Services, Inc.**  
3101 S. Memorial Drive  
Greenville, N. C. 27834

## HARVEST OF SOULS CROSSOVER



A novel by  
**V.A. McCloud**

**Come On In,  
Come On In,  
Come On In!**

This is the place we  
praise Him.

Where we bless  
His Name.

Where we worship  
His Name.

Where we love  
on Him.

**It's Party Time!**

I.S.B.N. 1-932338-04-7  
**\$16.95**

**About the Book**

The Harvest of Souls Crossover is a story that is exciting, vigorous, and full of suspense about the fight of good and evil in two realms, the light and dark world. The Howdy Family is determined to defeat the world of darkness led by the seemingly undefeatable dark world leader, Shuby.

**To Order:**

**By Phone Toll Free**  
1-866-355-6272

**Or Online:**  
[www.mccloudassociates.com](http://www.mccloudassociates.com)

**By Mail:**  
McCloud & Associates  
Attn: Publishing Department  
P.O. Box 30765  
Greenville, NC 27834

# Opinions

## THE MINORITY VOICE NEWSPAPER

"What You See Is What You Get  
What You Read Is What You Know And Save"

**Jim Rouse** Publisher  
**William Clark** General Mgr.  
**Michael Adams** Editor

## THE MINORITY VOICE NEWSPAPER

Here, we believe that the future of Blacks will depend upon their awareness of the world around them. The 'M' Voice newspaper is designed to inform, educate, and entertain. Additionally, each issue features local photographs, stories, and advertisements that mirror this region. We endeavor to market those products that are of concern to the minority community. Since 1981, The Minority Voice newspaper has been the best print medium to deliver your message into the homes of the minority communities that rely on us for news and information from a different perspective.

## A FAST ONE

In the midst of the sweeping educational reform, known as the No Child Left Behind Act, that public school officials here and across the country are still trying to understand, comes this sneaky little five-paragraph provision that has parents and educators seeing red.

High schools are not compelled to release the names, addresses and telephone numbers of all juniors and seniors, unless parents or the respective students submit a written opt-out prior to that release.

Remember, our country has an all-volunteer military. Young people are free to join if they wish, and there's certainly nothing wrong with serving your country in the armed forces if that's what you ultimately choose to do.

But thanks to the zeal of some Republican lawmakers in Congress, and the laziness of Democrats in Congress to even raise an eyebrow, let alone an argument, the Army, Navy and Air Force will now have unfettered freedom to call your child at home, come visit, uninvited at home, clog up your mailbox with tons of recruiting materials, visit your child in school when they want, and just be as aggressive as they want, for as long as they want to be.

**In a nutshell, this is a clear and classic case of the Bush Administration flexing its Big Brother muscle, all the while smiling wide and claiming to have "compassion."**

And if the school refuses, the whole school district can lose federal funding, have the military pay it a visit, or even have

the governor pressure it to shape up, or else.

Can parents selectively opt-out of sending the military information, but gladly give colleges and corporations access?

No.

If Harvard and IBM get it, so must the military, or else no one does.

In a nutshell, this is a clear and classic case of the Bush Administration flexing its Big Brother muscle, all the while smiling wide and claiming to have "compassion."

The only compassion "Dubya" has is for his old oil buddies who can't wait to tap onto some of that Iraqi crude the moment Saddam takes his last breath.

The bottom line is this military recruitment provision stinks to high heaven. The very fact that it was buried in the 670 page, and no one debated it before it was passed, and then no one knew it was in the law until literally nine months after the president signed it, and three months after it actually took effect, means that powers that be knew it was a political hot potato from the start.

But the most troubling part of this has been whether parents and students have been duly notified by the schools.

Shoving the announcement in a multi-paged handbook, making it an insignificant notice among many that gets sent home with the report card, or worse yet, assuming that everybody's going to find out one way or the other, is not exactly what one has in mind when it comes to something this important.

There are issues of student privacy and the government (of which the military is a significant part) having undue access to a child's personal information.

There is also the issue of a school system's right, indeed duty, to protect the privacy of its students.

The problem is our public schools can't exist with federal money, and as long as they accept one dollar from Uncle Sam, they have to dance to his tune.

Parents and students need to be proactive about this now.

If you want the military to have access to your child's personal information for the expressed purpose (so they say) of military recruitment, then do nothing. That's your right, and no one should judge you for it.

But if you have real concerns about that fact that you knew nothing about this before you read our story and editorial, then you need to contact the principal's office of your junior or senior's high school, and find out what you need to know in order to make an informed decision.

And if you've already made up your mind, based on what you've read, that you do not want your child's info released by the school, then immediately write a letter to that effect to the principal today.

An informed community is an empowered community, and you have the right to be informed.

## Your Voice

### Officials need to establish board to revitalize depressed areas

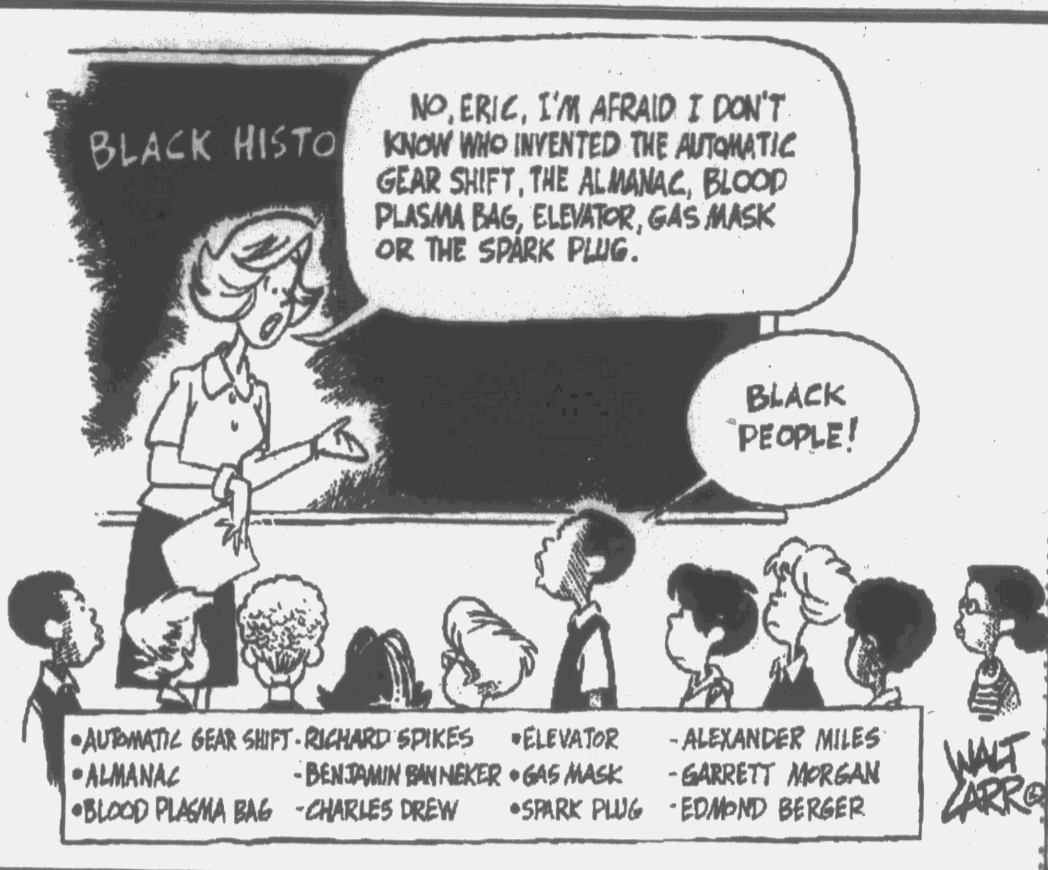
The article in the local daily paper, recently, about the establishment of three boards and commissions for New Hanover County encouraged me to write this letter.

I am appalled by the fact that they did not include an African American community commission to enhance Castle Street and Fourth Street. These are two vital areas in the African American community that could be of utmost importance to the residents of Wilmington.

Castle Street, as it is now, is controlled by the drug dealers and ladies of the night. This street could be made to be a central shopping, cultural, and entertainment area. It is dark and desolate, has young people hanging on corners and lurking in dark places, has boarded up buildings, buildings that should be either torn down or renovated, and a few stores that close before dark. There is a town hall that could be used for exhibits, conferences, children activities, adult seminars conducted by prominent speakers, and be the cultural center of the area. Fourth Street has the same personification.

My suggestion is for the officials to establish such a board that could help revitalize these areas, help the African American small businessman get established and stay in business, renovate the area, brighten it up, and make it tasteful and inviting to the general public. The African American business people need assistance from the City, County, and the State to accomplish such a task. This renovation project would give the African American community something to be proud of and it would remove the apathy that now exists in the community.

Novella C. Spencer  
Wilmington, NC



## Poet's Corner

### The Guys in Kuwait

Editor's Note:

This poem was written By Dr. Lydia Wilson in tribute to Ronald Rogers, who is presently serving in Kuwait



*Military men of distinction are you;  
You are faithful in all that you do.  
You protect our country and we love you;  
Greater men we never knew.*

*May God bless you as you protect our land;  
Whether you're in the air or on the sand  
Real men and valiant are you;  
Continue to be faithful and true.*

*God is protecting you each day,  
While we in the U.S.A. continue to pray.  
War is hell, as we all know.  
But heaven is where we want to go.*

*So, as you fight for our country with great loyalty,  
We'll petition the Master from sea to shining sea.  
When you come home, we'll greet you with open arms;  
We trust you'll be safe and free from all harm.*

To my son, Ronald Rogers  
From your mother, Barbara  
(January 21, 2003)

### The Kidnapped African Would Not Die!

By Herbert Harris, Jr.



operation of a coward's vanity and ego.

Oh! it must have been some feeling of vile exhilaration for the vicious slave hunter to watch proud African men of royal descent broken down, beaten, and tortured to the rhythm of constant pain systematically inflicted.

#### BUT, THE KIDNAPPED AFRICAN WOULD NOT DIE!

Beautiful African women were kidnapped from the bosom of Mother Africa - torn from her magnificent breasts and taken across an ocean of tears to a hostile land which gave her no respect or praise.

In the new world, the Kidnapped African was whipped, tortured, and mutilated into submission or death. They who survived this cruel destruction of body, mind and spirit became the slaves of America. This dehumanizing process transformed the Kidnapped African into human property to be possessed and used at the whims and fancies of a heartless master.

#### BUT, THE KIDNAPPED AFRICAN WOULD NOT DIE!

The transformation of the

Kidnapped African into the American slave had as its intent the total destruction of the African mind, consciousness, and spirit. Penetrating every level of existence, the vicious slave master attempted to destroy all that made the Kidnapped African human.

The male was valued for the strength of his back and the power of his seed. The female was valued for her fertile womb and the lustful pleasures which could be taken at will. The family was destroyed by separating the men, women and children.

#### BUT, THE KIDNAPPED AFRICAN WOULD NOT DIE!

Then, the final indignity was inflicted upon the Kidnapped African. Rewriting this bloody saga of captivity and affliction, the ruthless slave master attempted to close the eyes and minds of his human property to the past and land from which they had been stolen in the night - hiding forever the greatest wrong ever committed by one people against another.

The pain and horror of the captivity were replaced by endless pages of silence and insincere

apologies. The muffled screams of Black men hanging were drowned out by pompous speeches loudly proclaiming the American dream for all.

#### BUT, THE KIDNAPPED AFRICAN WOULD NOT DIE!

The faint remembrance of the African Homeland was deeply buried deep within their souls - deeper than the whip could reach - deeper than the hangman's noose - deep within the bosom of theft God.

Mother Africa is now calling for her sons and daughters of the captivity to unite once more with the sons and daughters in her bosom, to begin again to build another dream which will never be destroyed.

The Kidnapped African who did not die, heeding the call of the eternal mother, is now set free to remake the universe in the image of good, in the image of God, in the image of the distant glory from whence they came.

#### FOR, THE KIDNAPPED AFRICAN WOULD NOT DIE!

JONES STREET - BY VAL ATKINSON

## Picking Our Foreign Policy Choices

The Bush Administration is lucky that Americans have exceptionally short memories, because if that were not the case Americans might be asking... "So tell me again, is it the biological and chemical weapons, nuclear weapons, the way Saddam treats her neighbors, his intractable character, the fact that he fires weapons in the air and waves swords; or is it the oil, or maybe it's his ties to Osama Bin Laden..." Pick your choice. There are enough reasons to go around. The main point is that the Bush Administration has decided that they want Iraq to be ruled by the U.S. Military instead of Saddam Hussein.

I personally believe that war is inevitable now. There's no retreat route for the troops already amassed on Iraq's borders. The political embarrassment and lost

of military confidence are too much for this administration to bear. They rather fight an unjust war and waste hundreds of thousands of lives than switch plans.

This Administration would have us believe that there are only two options: (1) Attach and conquer Iraq or (2) be militarily defeated by her in the near future. The problem with this logic is that it could apply to every nation on the planet. Mexico could one day rise up and attack us with weapons not yet developed because she doesn't like our current immigration policy. Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Libya, Lebanon or even a not yet created Palestine could be a potential enemy using this administration's logic. And what about France, Germany, Russia and China? Certainly a couple of these guys might get the nerve to jump us at some point. Three of

these guys (France, Russia and China) have nuclear weapons. Russia has tested nukes, biological and chemical weapons on its own people, China has a population problem and might see territorial expansion as its only means of survival. Germany might get a leader that's a little soft on the Neo-Nazis and France... well how can you trust a bunch of wine drinkers who won't send their troop to die for the administration's war in Baghdad?

The truth of the matter is that the coin that was chosen by the Bush Administration (kill Saddam on one side and the death of America on the other) wasn't the only coin on the table. There were and still are other coins on the table that have two other sides that haven't even been considered yet. What about dealing with Saudi's regarding their citizens

attacking the twin towers and the pentagon? What about dealing fairly with the Israeli / Palestinian problem? What about a real introspective look at American foreign policy, especially our Middle Eastern foreign policy? And another thing - when we cry out that Iraq is not living up to U.N. Resolution X or U.N. Resolution Y, we ought to be mindful that there are a couple of Resolutions that the Allies (U.S.A., UK and Israel) haven't lived up to either. What about U.N. Resolution 242 that requires Israel to withdraw from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip? There has been no real movement on that Resolution at all. I guess it's like picking two sided coins from the table; maybe we get to pick and choose which Resolutions we adhere to as well.

Contact Val at:  
JonesStreet@nc.rr.com