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THE MINORITY VOICE

Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce

Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce



Rally and March for Justice & Equality Sat. July 28



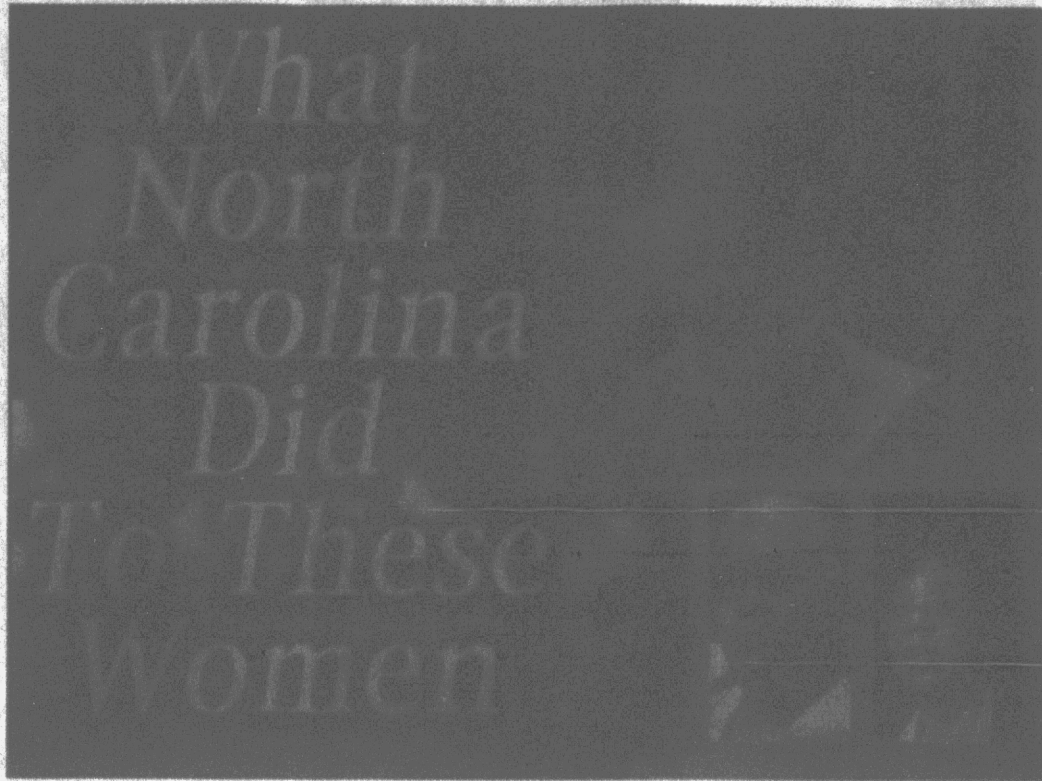
Chuck Autry pg 11 for at Large Seat



Holy Trinity UHC



READ THE M'VOICE



by CASH MICHAELS The Wilmington Journal Originally posted 7/5/2007

To many, they are heroines, all living with the stark reality of a fate they still, after so many years, are trying so

desperately to understand. To others, they are figures of history, living monuments to a dark time and a demented practice that brutally robbed them of their youth, nature, and legacy.

Elaine Riddick, Mary English The ladies tearfully shared

and Nial Cox Ramirez are all survivors of North Carolina's over 40-year misguided social experiment with the involuntary sterilization of poor women, otherwise known as "eugenics."

their heartfelt, certainly painful stories to a select audience during the June 19 unveiling of the NC Museum of History exhibit examining North Carolina's eugenics program, and its impact on the over 7600 lives it ruined.

Sponsored by the NC Department of Health and Human Services, and the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities, the free exhibit titled, "Why Me?," is unique for being the only one in the nation being offered by one of 33 states that employed the "master race" eugenics philosophy.

From 1929 to 1974, North Carolina saw the forced sterilization of young white and Black poor women, some as young as 13 and 14, as "the self direction of human evolution," according to a newspaper editorial cartoon of the time.

Incredibly, no less than the US Supreme Court upheld Virginia's eugenics program in 1927. Researchers say that state deliberately used forced sterilizations to "preserve white racial purity."

What it was, in fact, was a state-sponsored attempt to control certain segments of the indigent populations, using mental illness, physical maladies, anti-social behavior, sexual promiscuity, or even homosexuality as the reason.

"Some people requested sterilization, but many of them were forced against their

Sterilization continues page 9

Judiciary subcommittee probes unfair sentencing

By James Wright, Contributing Writer July 9, 2007

WASHINGTON (Special to the NNPA from the Afro-American Newspapers) - By all accounts, Serena Nunn should be an American success story. She just finished the University of Michigan Law School, considered by many in the legal profession to be in the top five in terms of education and training.

A graduate of Arizona State University, she works as a clerk for a criminal defense attorney in Detroit as she studies for the bar examination. She also has a gig as a radio host of a public affairs program in that city.

However, there is a darker side to Nunn's life. A native of Minneapolis, Nunn was convicted of three felony counts involving the distribution of

cocaine in May 1990.

Her conviction came by way of a relationship with a boyfriend known as Monty, who was also convicted of selling drugs. Nunn, a former high school homecoming queen and one-year student at Morris Brown College in Atlanta, had no prior record but because of the federal mandatory minimums, she was sentenced to 15 years and 8 months in prison.

With the help of an attorney in Minneapolis who worked on her behalf pro bono, Nunn received attention of the media and, over several years, picked up support from political figures in her state such as Jesse Ventura, who was the governor at the time. The efforts of Nunn and her attorney led then-President Bill Clinton to commute her sentence on July 7, 2000.

Nunn was one of the witnesses at a hearing of the House Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on crime, terrorism and homeland security on June 26. Nunn told the members of the subcommittee her story and said that mandatory minimums were not just.

"Mandatory minimums negatively affected my life in many ways," Nunn said. "They stole many of my productive years in life because I went to prison at age 20 and was not due for release until age 34.

Fortunately, I received a presidential commutation so I had the opportunity to redeem myself. However, there are hundreds of women and men serving lengthy sentences under mandatory minimums that will not receive a presidential commutation and will serve

each day of their sentence."

The chairman of the subcommittee, Rep. Robert Scott (D-Va.), is known for being against mandatory minimums because of their discriminatory effect on people of color.

"We are holding this hearing

today to see where we are in terms of mandatory minimums and what changes should be made, if any," Scott said. "The late (chief justice) William Rehnquist said that the mandatory minimums were time consuming and costly in terms

Unfair sentencing cont. pg 11

Local Church Club and Daughters of ISIS CO-Sponsors a Teenage Awareness Symposium

On Saturday, June 16, 2007, The Golden Links Club of York Memorial AME Zion Church, Greenville, and Rofelt Pasha Court # 108, Daughters of Isis, Rocky Mount co-sponsored a Teenage Awareness Symposium at York Memorial Church.

What a beautiful site to see approximately 150 of our young people; ages 1 - 17 (with a special talented 8 year old present also) gathered together to learn first-hand of the dangers of AIDS, Smoking, Drug use, Teenage Pregnancy and other evils lurking to destroy them.

The program was called to open by Requite Demery, Mistress of Ceremony. After the opening song, scripture reading and prayer was offered

by Rev. AC Brown, Pastor of the church.

We were then blessed with an extraordinary keyboard selection by 8 year old Keshone Barron of Williamston. Keshone offered up mighty praise to God on his keyboard. What a marvelous and uplifting experience it was to hear this young guy use his God given talent. (I believe it was said that Keshone has never had music lessons.)

Words of welcome were extended by Daughter Mary Pender, Illustrious Commandress of Rofelt Pasha Court 108, Daughters of Isis and Sister

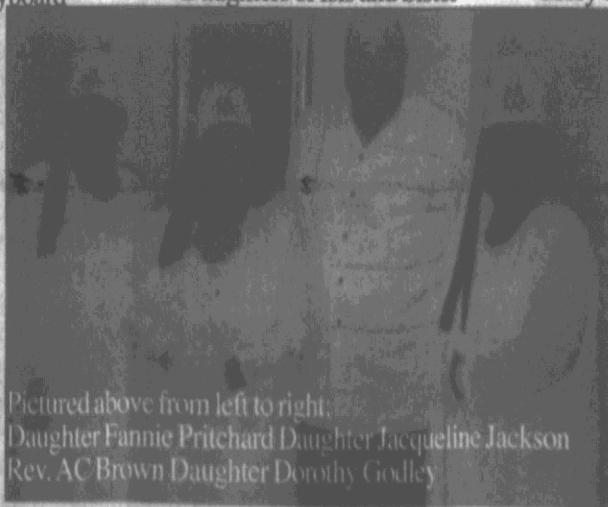
Edward James Turner (E.J.) another talented musician followed with an instrumental selection. E.J. played to the Glory of God also.

Progressive FWB Church Praise Dancers.

Shatina Cassey and Floretta Graham presented a skit on Teenage Pregnancy which so accurately portrayed the dilemma a young girl could so easily find herself in without realizing just what she has gotten herself and family caught in.

Treymen Tyson glorified God and entertained the audience with a solo of praise.

Alonza Wiggins, Jr., captivated the audience with an inspirational reading reminding us that we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. Hold on to your dreams and work hard to accomplish them. continue pg 11



Pictured above from left to right: Daughter Fannie Pritchard Daughter Jacqueline Jackson Rev. AC Brown Daughter Dorothy Godley

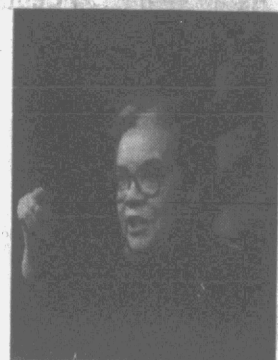
(Daughter) Olga Jones, President of The Golden Links Club of York Memorial.

The dangers of AIDS was portrayed with a one-woman skit by Ms. Johnola Smith. Ms. Smith's presentation was not only educational and informative but offered a few chuckles also. Ms. Fe Rogers introduced Ms. Smith.

There are many expression of praise as we evident (clear/obvious) by the performance of the

OPINION

The U.S. Supreme Court's Wrong Turn on Racial Equality



**Marian Wright Edelman
President of The Childrens
Defense Fund**

The July 28th U.S. Supreme Court decision to strike down voluntary school integration plans in Louisville, Kentucky, and Seattle, Washington, will erode gains in racial equality won through landmark court cases and the struggle by Americans of all races in the Civil Rights Movement. The action by the conservative five justice majority assaults both the spirit and intent of the Warren Court's 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* desegregation ruling, which had a domino effect of undoing legally sanctioned racial apartheid in all aspects of American life. It is sadly ironic that this recent

ruling came within days of the anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Although lower courts had upheld both Louisville's and Seattle's voluntary plans, which achieved diversity using race as one of the criteria for school placement, the High Court ruled both plans unconstitutional. Chief Justice John Roberts, joined by Justices Antonin Scalia, Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito, said boards of education cannot take the race of an individual student into account to help foster racial integration of schools. Writing for the majority, Roberts stated, "To achieve a system of determining admission to public schools on a nonracial basis is to stop assigning students on a racial basis." The practical implication of Robert's reasoning is that if Americans were only "colorblind" in implementing social, economic and political policies, the problem of racial bias would go away. This is naive at best. As a society, we are not at the point where we can rely on

individuals to make colorblind decisions on a range of matters.

Justice Stephen Breyer was right in his dissent to call this ruling a radical step away from settled law. Writing on behalf of himself and Justices John Paul Stevens, David Souter and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Justice Breyer asserted that race-conscious considerations can be valuable tools in "eradicating earlier school segregation, bringing about integration or preventing retrogression."

The ruling is not a total disaster. Although he joined the majority in overturning the Louisville and Seattle plans, Justice Kennedy distanced himself somewhat from Roberts with a separate opinion in which he argued that "avoiding racial isolation" and "addressing the problem of de facto re-segregation in schooling" were compelling state interests and that a school district could constitutionally pursue them "as long as it did so through programs that were sufficiently narrowly tailored." Kennedy also said that it was "profoundly mistaken to read

the Constitution as requiring that state and local school authorities must accept the status quo of racial isolation in schools." In sum, the Court's decision in the University of Michigan Law School case was affirmed.

The Court's ruling will now throw many school districts and local communities into confusion, stripping many of the tools used for decades to implement voluntary antidiscrimination measures. It also will open the door to re-litigation of other established integration plans.

The legacy of 250 years of slavery and a century of segregation laws did not end very long ago. We simply have not come far enough that we can dispense with any remedies to end discrimination. In America, where nearly all of us are descended from people who came to these shores from other lands, many in desperation and many in chains, laws that protect minorities are as vital as our

founding principles, however poorly honored in practice. Racial, ethnic and cultural diversity are essential elements of our national character as is the equal protection of the law guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment—a more solid bedrock of America's quest for justice for all. The idea that we no longer have to take affirmative measures to preserve civil rights is no more valid than the idea that we no longer have to take strong measures to uphold the First Amendment or any of our liberties. There have been numerous challenges to our rights of free speech, freedom of assembly, and freedom of the press over the last 200 years. Just as those fundamental, charter freedoms require preservation, so do the protections of racial equality arising from the Fourteenth Amendment, the Brown decision and the Civil Rights Acts.

America's strength is in its rich mosaic of peoples. Think of the many men and women of color who have contributed so significantly to our society. Imagine baseball without Jackie

Robinson and Roy Campanella. Consider Johns Hopkins Surgeon Dr. Benjamin S. Carson; Yahoo online network founder Jerry Yang; Manny Diaz, Mayor of Miami; Vietnam War Memorial architect and designer Maya Lin; astronaut Dr. Ellen Ochoa; and golf champion Tiger Woods. Would we have benefited from their many contributions if the doors of racial opportunity had been closed? Who will be excluded if these doors begin to shut again?

I am appalled that Chief Justice Roberts suggested his ruling was faithful to the heritage of Brown. Roberts got it wrong. Brown was crafted to eliminate racial separation. The Roberts court overturned school integration plans that sought to achieve racial diversity in the classroom. It is my hope that those who now sit on the Supreme Court will commit themselves to advancing justice and building bridges between those of different racial and income groups—not burning those bridges.

Mr. President, It is Time to Bring the Troops Home



**By Harry C. Alford, NNPA
Columnist
July 23, 2007**

It was like yesterday. We were attending a board of directors meeting at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

As planned, we walked across the street to the Old Executive Office Building of the White House for a presentation by the President, George W. Bush. It was there on that rainy November afternoon that he told the business CEO's of

America that he was going to lead us into war with Iraq. He explained his logic and expressed utmost confidence in our military leaders' war plan. The thing that surprised me the most, in retrospect, was that not one person leaked this meeting to the press.

The world watched as the White House built its case against Iraq from that date to February of the following year. The deal was already done but there was a need to prepare the public.

The actual war was brilliant and lasted shortly. What was deeply underestimated was the aftermath. That has become a total disaster. The Shiites, Kurds and Sunnis have been fighting for centuries and the fall of Saddam Hussein did nothing to change that. In fact, what has happened is a rallying call from all these entities and a newly established operating base for al Qaeda and other such thugs.

What we have is a full blown civil war sprinkled with a lot of terrorist activity. Iraq is a mess and we don't have the answer.

Our mission was complete and we decided to change the scope and hang around. That hanging around is costing us precious lives and many billions in wasted dollars. The Military Industrial Complex, Halliburton et al, has been making record profits but we certainly can't call that progress.

Democracy doesn't always work. It didn't in Vietnam and it certainly isn't going to work in Iraq anytime soon. Iraq, the land of Nebuchadnezzar, has been at war since biblical times and it will be for quite a while longer. We, in all our glory, will not be able to end it and should come to the reality that we should not be there. It is time to "pull the plug."

Our president has dug in his "heels" and refuses to even

consider the thought of pulling out. Instead, he has ordered a surge. Surge? In the Vietnam days we called that escalation. It is escalation indeed and history shows that such activity only increases your losses, such as military lives. Enough!

As a former officer in the U.S. Army, I am appalled at what is happening to our troops. Going into combat without the best equipment available is an American shame. We have troops in harms way without a known mission and an inevitable exit strategy.

You can't put up a serious and successful fight without a mission. Some of our troops have had to do 3-5 tours in the same war. That is totally unheard of. How much wear and tear can the human body and mind take? The law of averages is going to catch up with individuals having to deal with that. Sooner or later you

are going to be crippled or dead via a war with no mission. This is not fair to those who sacrifice so much and bring grief onto their loved ones.

It must really mess with the minds of young officers who lead their troops down urban streets waiting for some bad guys, not enemy soldiers, to strike them with grenades and sneaky bombs. That is not combat. It is police action and soldiers should not and cannot successfully do police action. Soldiers, especially American soldiers, should not practice and train for searching citizens' homes and chasing people down the streets whose total activity is to ambush and run through a civilian infrastructure. This is not military. How can the "mightiest power on earth" come down to this level? Russia, China, India, etc. must be thinking, "Their time is limited and our time is coming".

There is a nouveau saying that "When you jump into a mud pit to

wrestle with a hog, the hog is having big fun and you are making a mess of yourself".

Sadly and in macabre terms this is our state in Iraq. We can't win fighting in this mud pit that has lived with oppression, terror, revolution and civil war far longer than our nation has been in existence.

Mr. President, we are asking too much of our military. They are working out of their job classification; receiving little appreciation and deserving much more pay, care and love from a nation that depends on them dearly. It is an abuse of our troops, economy and our future. We made a big mistake. Mistakes will be made. How we handle the mistakes is what really matters. Bring our troops home now!

Harry Alford is the co-founder, President/CEO of the National Black Chamber of Commerce. Website: www.nationalbcc.org.

NAACP: Still fighting



**By Ron Walters, NNPA
Columnist
July 23, 2007**

For all of the questions that I received from journalists about the viability of the NAACP before the conference, because it lost its CEO, Bruce Gordon, none have called back in the wake of a successful affair that saw: Chairman, Julian Bond continue his blazing critique of the Bush administration, an interesting presidential debate, and the meeting close with the announcement of an important housing law suit. Other highlights included a survey that showed the organization at the highest level - 94 percent -

among all civil rights organizations and doing well with its 30,000 youths that initiated the "Stop" campaign to bury the N-word and formed 24 more youth councils last year. Then, with a base of more than 2,300 chapters, the organization has initiated a campaign to raise \$100 million this year and find a new leader more aligned with its mission.

In any other context one would think that since the Bush administration unleashed the IRS on the NAACP because of Bond's criticism of his policies, that Bond would cool it. Rather than that he opened the conference with a speech noting that the administration had encouraged the Justice Department to lean on districts with lots of minority voters to find and prosecute incidences of voter fraud. Moreover, he observed the pass given to officials who were involved in so-called "vote caging" a practice of attempting to eliminate potential voters such as those away in the military

when they do not respond to registered letters they were sent by Republicans verifying their address.

Pressure was also put on the Justice Department to put the heat on minority elected officials, such that, no doubt, former Washington, DC mayor, Marion Barry, Louisiana Rep. William Jefferson, former mayor of Newark, Sharpe James and others came into the cross hairs of Attorney General Roberto Gonzalez to harass. Bond said pointedly: "Partisanship, not principle, guides the Bush/Gonzalez Department of Justice."

The presidential debate followed the line of the one recently held at Howard University in challenging the Democratic candidates to address issues directly relevant to black voters. In this event, Barack Obama showed up and by all evaluations, won the day with his observations that "... more poor black men go to prison than to college," and, to

roaring applause, he said: "We have more work to do when Scooter Libby gets no prison time." He's getting it. Rather than preaching to blacks about their lack of values, his ability to point out the racial double-standard goes farther with blacks as they would with any other group of voters.

By the way, the only Republican who showed up at the debate was Rep. Tom Tancredo of Colorado, who stood alone among the seven empty Republican lecterns. But, I have been reliably informed that none of the Republicans at this juncture have agreed to speak at the upcoming annual conference of the National Urban League. It appears that after the losing effort of Republican party Chair, Ken Mehlman's "outreach campaign" to blacks, none of the candidates feel they have anything to offer black voters in the wake of the disastrous Iraq war, their president's abominable handling of Katrina, his Justice

Department's anti-voting rights campaign and oppression of black officials, and the lack of any reasonable White House outreach to Blacks.

At the close of the Convention, the organization announced the filing of a class action suit in Los Angeles Federal court against 14 of the nation's largest lenders for "systematic institutionalized racism in sub-prime home mortgage lending." Data that showed that Blacks are 30 percent more likely to receive such loans that are issued at a higher loan rate than Caucasians with the same loan qualifications. This is very significant because of the national rash of home foreclosures and other indications of a crisis in the availability of housing for low income residents either for sale or rent.

But as positive as this suit may be, there is critical pressure on public housing residents as witnessed by protests that have broken out in the last few months. A national protest on the Mall in Washington, DC was sponsored

by tenants from Philadelphia and other cities which drew more than 500 residents and the homeless - many others not having the funds or housing to make the trip. Other protests were conducted in Atlanta and New York City against their Housing Authorities. If our civil rights organizations have a soft under-belly it is that too often they advocate on behalf of the middle class rather than dipping down where people are not only discriminated against and are in pain, but have little or no options.

In any case, it is heartening to see the NAACP still on the battlefield, growing stronger, planning to keep up the struggle in the midst of such public questioning about whether they are needed in the 21st century.

Dr. Ron Walters is the Distinguished Leadership Scholar, Director of the African American Leadership Institute and Professor of Government and Politics at the University of Maryland.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Mrs Beatrice Maye

Bringing Up Boys

By
Dr. James Dobson
(Founder & Chairman,

Focus on the Family)

Boys watch their dads intently, noting intently every minor detail of behavior and values. Your sons will imitate much of what you do. If you blow up regularly and insult your wife, your boys will treat their mother and other females disrespectfully. If you curse, smoke, or fight with your co-workers, your boys will probably follow suit. If you are selfish, mean, or angry, you'll see those characteristics displayed in the next generation.

Fortunately, the converse is also true. If you are honest, trustworthy, caring, loving, self-disciplined, and God-fearing, your boys will be influenced by those traits as

they age. If you are deeply committed to Jesus Christ and live by biblical principles, your children will probably follow in your footsteps. So much depends on what they observe in you, for better or worse.

Someone said, "I'd rather see a sermon than hear one." There is truth in this statement. Children may not remember what you say, but they are usually impacted for life by what you do. Your boys and girls need to see you doing what is right, even when it is inconvenient to do so.

Where do you see responsible masculinity represented? Bill Cosby modeled it on TV for a few years, but who else has been portrayed in the media as a good family man? In the absence of good husbands and fathers, impressionable boys are often left to follow very flawed models.

A "good family man" in today's world first should be a family provider. Another contribution is a father is to serve as the leader of the clan.

However, the main contribution made by a father is to serve and protect. Therefore, the man in responsible to see that the house is safe at night, and that children are home at a reasonable time. Finally, the fourth contribution to be an effective dad is to provide spiritual direction at home.

Fathers, your goal is to prepare your boys to lead a family when they are grown and to show them how to earn the respect of those they serve. Tell them it is great to laugh and have fun with their friends, but advise them not to be "goofy". Guys who are goofy are not respected, and people, especially girls and women, do not follow and men whom they disrespect.

Also remind them they are not as strong as they think they are and that girls are deserving of their respect. Not only should boys not hurt girls, but boys should protect girls on the street, he should walk on the outside near the cars. When he is on a date, he should pay for her food and entertainment.

Lastly, girls should not call boys on the telephone-at least not until a committed relationship has developed. Guys should be the initiators, planning the dates and asking for the girl's company.

The Top 10 Etiquette Mistakes in Dining

1. Speaking with food in your mouth.
2. Holding the knife like a dagger or the fork like a cello and putting cutlery, once used, back on the table.
3. Putting purses, keys, gloves, etc., on the table.

4. Finishing your meal before or after everyone else. (Joshua 6:15)
5. Flapping the napkin to open it and putting it on the table before the meal is ended.
6. Slouching, squirming, or tilting your chair.
7. Picking or poking at your teeth.
8. Leaving lipstick smears.
9. Smoking - wait until the meal is over (and, please, do not use your plate as an ashtray.)
10. Buttering all the bread at once - tear off each piece and butter it before you eat it.
3. Who was the captain of the armies of the Canaanites when Deborah Judged Israel. (Judges 4:2)
4. When an angel of the Lord came to Ophrah, where did they find Gideon? (Judges 9:8-14)
5. In the parable, what four tress and plants were asked to rule over the trees? (Judges 9:8-14)
6. Who owned the field where Ruth went to work when she and Naomi returned to Judah? (Ruth 2:5)
7. What was the name of the son of Ruth and Boaz? (Ruth 4:17)
8. Whose book did Jesus use as a pulpit for one of his sermons? (Luke 5:31)
9. How could Mary become a mother without the help of a man? (Luke 1:35)
10. Name of the father and mother of John the Baptist? (Luke 1:5)
11. What question did a rich young ruler ask

(From "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Etiquette," by Mary Mitchell)

Alpha Books

Bible Quiz

1. Who carved the ark of the testimony when Israel crossed the Jordan River to enter the Promised Land? (Joshua 4:16)
2. On which day did the Israelites march around the city seven times?

of Jesus? (Luke 18:18)

Congratulations to John Robert Bryan !!!

John Robert Bryan is the recipient of the Award of Excellence in the Senior Photography Division of the National PTA Reflections Program. His photo, entitled "Gifted Hands," will win him a \$200 cash award and a silver-plated Reflections medallion from the National PTA. He is the only National winner first place in his division at the local and state levels. His photo inspired from this year's theme, "My Favorite Place," is a picture of his mother's hands while she's playing the piano.

John Robert will be a senior at Bellevue East High School in Bellevue where he is a member of the National Honor Society, captain of the boy's basketball team, All-Metro first team in football, All-Metro second team in basketball, a two-year state qualifier in track, and has lettered in three sports the last three years.

His proud parents are Bill and Mamie Bryan. His grandparents are Mrs. Beatrice Maye of Greenville, and Mrs. Claudia Bryan of Kansas City, MO.



Suejette A. Jones

The Scriptural Concept Behind Tithing

The giving of tithes was commanded under the Mosaic Law given to the nation of Israel. Israelites were told to give one tenth of the increase of all they had to the Lord to be used to support the priesthood, widows, orphans, and all the needy. As the Law to Israel states: "...concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the LORD." (Leviticus 27:32) As a result of keeping the Law, the Lord would assure the prosperity of the Hebrews.

As for tithing today, Christians have not been commanded to tithe, nor have they been promised prosperity as was Israel. Christians are not under the Law Covenant given to the Hebrews, for that covenant was nailed to the cross of Christ - came to an end for those who have accepted Christ. As the Apostle Paul said, "Wherefore the Law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster (under the Law)." (Colossians 2:14; Galatians 3:24, 25). Therefore, there was no law of tithing given to the Christian. The Christian is under the law of love - a

spirit of giving that would expect nothing in return. Matthew 22:36-40.

More important than money, God desires our hearts, our time, and our talents. He says, "My son give me thine heart..." (Proverb23:26) A Christian's entire life and being is given to God - not just a tenth - and he is then to be a steward over all of this time and possessions, to be used in God's service as opportunity is presented. This does not mean to give all to a church organization, which may or may not make good use of it. It means that we should determine for ourselves how to best use our time, money and talents in the Lord's service. In exchange, the faithful steward will receive spiritual blessings and a heavenly reward.

But why do the churches promote tithing today if it is

not required? Tithing became common in the Christian church by about the third century to finance the large cathedrals and to support the complex organization of clergy. Although some of the money was put to good use, there was also much corruption in this practice. "The priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money..." (Micah 3:11) "Yea, they are greedy dogs which can never have enough, and they are shepherds that cannot understand: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain..." (Isaiah 56:10,11) The plea for tithe-money today seems no different, as preachers solicit money to keep their TV evangelism or mega-churches functioning. In contrast, Jesus and his disciples never asked for money to support the Lord's work. They did, however,

receive unsolicited contributions from those who supported their efforts. Yes, it does take money and volunteers to spread the Gospel message today, but we should follow the example of the early church would did not have paid ministries, expensive buildings and large organizational expenses.

****(Note: This article does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the writer. It is the theory of the Waterbury Bible students.)****

Reading a Newspaper - A Lost Art

Young people are missing out on something important - the fine art of holding a newspaper. They are seen at their laptops as they drift through My Space; that encyclopedia of the pathetic, and it is plain that nobody has ever shown them that opening

up a newspaper is the key to looking classy and smart. A man at a laptop is a man at a desk, a stiff, a drone. But stylish reading a paper puts you in the company of Cary Grant, Spencer Tracy, Jimmy Stewart, all the greats. Here's how it's done: Open the paper with a flourish and an audible ripple of newsprint. Turn the pages crisply, your eyes dancing over the world's sorrows and moving on, crinkling the page, snapping it, rolling it, folding the paper in halves and quarters. Scan quickly, as if to show nothing impresses you overmuch. When you're done, clap it shut and toss it aside. The whole procedure should take 20 minutes, tops. Or, go on wasting hours a day mucking through all the garbage on the Internet. It's your life, you choose.

Respectfully Submitted
By: Suejette A. Jones



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SPECIAL LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dancy Communications Network

The DCN News Blog

At the end of the day, it is not our enemies we remember, but the silence of our friends!
Dr. Martin L. King

Saturday, July 21, 2007

Rocky Mount Telegram

Daily Southerner

Greetings:

I am hoping that both papers will begin to report the news and will stop trying to silence the real black leaders in the Twin Counties. It is obvious that Rocky Mount Councilman Andre Knight has been scrutinized for the past 4 years by some in the community, however I feel you have played a major role in attempting to help these few folks discredit him.

It appears that the Rocky Mount Telegram reporters try to always put a twist in their stories to highlight Andre's controversies however that is fine but atleast print his press releases and other statements. Ramsey it appears you had a problem with Knight's Press Release since you mentioned he declined a phone interview. To me that was to send a negative message as if Knight was avoiding the media. But he had a written statement so why is it you feel that should not have been honored? Just because a person chooses to submit their comments in writing should not affect your ability to write an article or maybe it does because you can have some limits to what is printed.

I felt that Laura Ashley Lamm's article concerning Knight's Press Release was great.

It appears that Knight, the new Superintendent Dr. Craig Witherspoon and myself have been targeted in certain ways over the past several months.

Knight's residency issue, we all know has been in the news especially since last year in

September when he was challenged by a known criminal who both papers seems to cater to.

Dr. Witherspoon's issue with the "No Extra Duty Pay" has been an issue for the Daily Southerner.

It appears that both papers have tried to silence me because my comments at the meetings especially the Edgecombe County Public Schools and the Edgecombe County Board of Elections are left out of both papers. I also can't help but notice that I can send in editorials and I have not had but maybe 1 or more printed for quite some time now. Well as I have stated I have a blog and my comments are said where they need to be said so if it do not make it in the paper for those who were not there, so be it. I noticed how the reporters will walk right by me all night at the meetings and will not speak however they seek out other folks who may attend a meeting for the first time to give comments or they print their comments from the public comments section on the agenda where I give mines and I give the press a copy of my prepared comments.

I have been very vocal about Gladys Shelton and Gayle Hudson resigning from their perspective duties and my name has not been mentioned in the most recent articles as they have either gone out or on the way out. But I received a call from Zach Ahmad last week about my wife residency being challenged by Roosevelt Higgs which is not real news to me since she did not vote in the last election and will not be able to vote until May 2008. But at the Board of Elections swearing in, regular meeting and reception on Tuesday Zach didn't even speak. So at the end of the day I told Zach to do not call me anymore just read what I post on my blog or if I send him and email. I will not be disrespected by the staff writers and then think they can call me so that I can help them with their articles. I hope Knight and others will also take the same approach

especially Knight who I feel has helped both papers sell some papers to a certain degree.

I do hope that both papers will begin to respect the young black men and women of Edgecombe County who are participating in politics and trying to make a difference just like you cater to the known criminal Roosevelt Higgs who has stated to the papers that he live underground.

My comments can be found on my blog 24 hours a day at <http://www.thepoliticalagitor.com>

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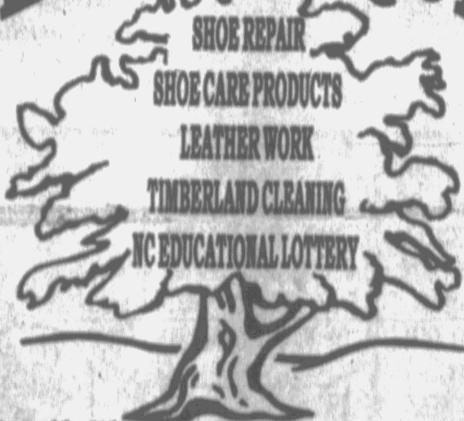
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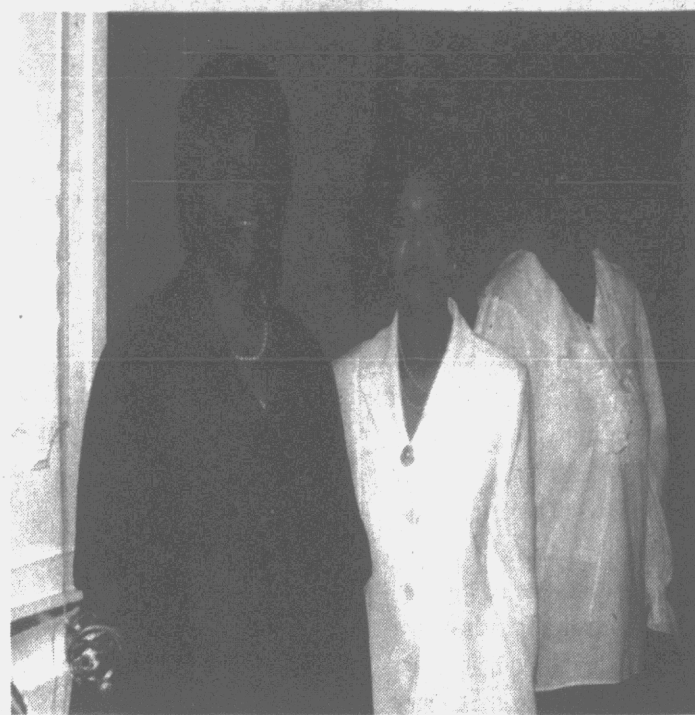
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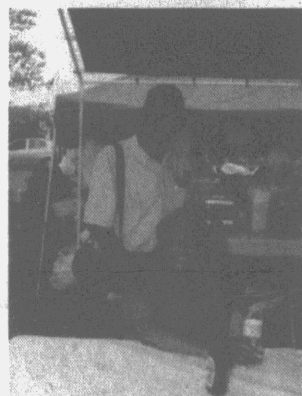
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Caught By Surprise . . . The M'Voice News Reporter caught these beautiful sisters by surprise at the Carol Caldwell Banquet held at the Willis Building. Thanks for the shot Sis Haselrig (to the left) and Co. photo J.Rouse

Greenville's Own Charles Lee Taylor: Poet Extraordinaire



About Charles Lee Taylor

Charles Lee Taylor:
 Born November 21, 1932 in Greenville, North Carolina.
 Parents: John Henry and Lillia Ringgold Taylor.
 Married: Amy Shivers Taylor December 26, 1955.
 Children: Angenette, Sharlette and Layne.

Education: C.M. Eppes High School, Morgan State University and Western Maryland College.
 Occupation: Retired.
 Member of The Black Writers Guild and International Poets Society. Member of the First Baptist Church of Baltimore where I served as Chairman of the Counting Committee, a member of the Deacon Board and choir member. I am president of the Baltimore Chapter of the GIHS/Eppes Alumni Association and a member of AARP. I have written many poems through the years starting as a teenager. They had not been published but a few had been read at public gatherings. Most of my poems have been inspired but a few had been written because of a request. I do think they speak to a very personal part of me and my life experiences.

Randallstown, Maryland
 charlesleetaylor@comcast.net
 410-922-3036

Charles Lee Taylor:

It has been said that when writing one should stick with the known.

These poems are a collection that evolved through my experiences with life over many years. You will easily see that they cover a full range of emotion — joy, sorrow, depression, etc.

Some of the poems will show the reader a glimpse of my spiritual side, which is the most important part of my being. As I read them I find that they renew my faith again and again. It is my hope that as you read these offerings, they will awaken some memory and/or emotion that has a special place in your life.

What Readers Are Saying:

This is truly a dynamic book. How blessed Charles Lee Taylor is to be able to express himself in such a literary way. I tried to select the poem that meant the most to me and I could not pick just one. There are definitely three that are very dear to my heart: A FRIEND, LET US PRAY, and LIVING FOR CHRIST. These three poems are very personal and meaningful to me. Vera

Note to Charles Lee Taylor:

Thank you so much for sharing your book "REFLECTIONS: A POETIC APPROACH". As I read your book, I had my own reflections—of my husband, father, childbirth and friends. On Sunday, I didn't go to church, but read your poem "A TRIP TO CHURCH". It reminded me of all the reasons why I go to church. I will be there come next Sunday. This is truly a wonderful book with a glimpse into the life of



Charles Lee Taylor, a life that is so reminiscent of a true Black Man. It reinforces the fact that all Black men are not incarcerated, but are wonderful sons, husbands, fathers, writers and an all-round inspiration to others.

Jeannette

Hi Amy,
 I have enjoyed reading Charles' book and have found that it brings back fond memories of my own childhood. Please tell him to keep up the good work — he truly has a gift for writing.

Lauranette

Charles,
 I especially enjoyed 'LET US PRAY'. I believe you're at your best when you step outside yourself and speak to 'our' human condition. Thanks. Mary

Amy,

When I got my copy of Charles' book and started reading it, I found it almost impossible to put it down. I did not know that he had it in him but I am very glad that he is sharing it with others. I wish the best for you both. Elois

To my big brother,
**CHARLES LEE TAYLOR,
 WHOM I LOVE AND NOW
 HAVE FOUND A NEW
 APPRECIATION FOR.**

As I read the words that you wrote, what can I say.

You did real good and I hope that your work will impress others as it did me. The books I got as gifts went over very well. Thanks. Faye

Thanks Charles,
 I am so glad you got your poems published. You are a very talented and gifted man. I appreciate your talent. Weezie

Dear Mr. Taylor,
 I have reviewed your book and the poems are very rich in content. May God richly bless you as you continue to use your talents in writing for His glory. Dr. Hugh

charlesleetaylor@comcast.net
 410-922-3036

A FLIP-FLOP

One day I sat and wrote a list Of names so long and neat, I wrote across the page top. These were the people I could beat.

From that day for a very long time I carried that list around, And one day as we played some ball That list fell to the ground.

One of the boys did pick it up,
 He opened it to see
 The words I wrote across the top,
 Then gave it back to me.

I returned it to my pocket,
 He spoke of what he had seen,
 One of the boys didn't like my list
 And he was big and mean.

I started to slowly walk away,
 But found I had to stop.
 He asked about his own name
 And I said it was on the top.

This made him very, very mad,
 My head he wished to break;
 I stood my ground and let him know,
 That was something I would not take.

He reached out to grab me
 While waving his gigantic fist,
 I told him he left me no alternative
 But to remove his name from my list.

To do the things we think we can
 Does not always turn out right;
 You can solve your problems in many ways
 All of which make more sense than to fight.

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Today's Scripture

"No one can be established through wickedness, but a righteous root cannot be moved"
 (Proverbs 12:3, NET).

Do you ever feel tossed around by the storms of life? Have you ever seen a tree in a hurricane? The winds and the rain blow the leaves from the branches, and sometimes the branches are torn off, or the tree is blown over. But the tree's roots are protected from the weather by being firmly established in the ground. The same is true in our lives. If our thinking is not in line with the Word of God, we become vulnerable during the difficult times. But when our thoughts are in line with God's thoughts, He plants a righteous root within us. We become firmly established. Our thinking becomes clear so we can be strong and overcome the storms of life. God wants you to be solid. He wants you to be steady. He wants you to have an established life and character. He wants your roots to grow deep in His Word. He wants you to be righteous in Him. Ask the Lord today to show any areas of your thought life that might need to be firmly planted in God's Word. As you develop your relationship with the Lord you will grow deep spiritual roots and stand victoriously against the storms of life.

The NAACP Filed an Historic Lawsuit Against Mortgage Lenders Alleging Racial Discrimination



The Facts:

- Today (July 17, 2007) the NAACP filed a Federal class action lawsuit against fourteen of the country's largest subprime mortgage lenders.
- This lawsuit is designed to stop these lenders from engaging in systematic, institutionalized racism in making home mortgage loans.
- In a 2006 study, the Center for Responsible Lending found that when creditworthiness and credit risk were equal, African-Americans were still 31 percent to 34 percent more likely to receive higher rate, more expensive subprime loans than Caucasians.
- The National Community Reinvestment Coalition revealed that lenders on average made high-cost subprime loans to higher-qualified African-Americans 54% of the time, compared to 23% of the time for Caucasians, even when the Caucasian applicants were less qualified.
- These and other studies demonstrate that African-American homeowners are paying higher mortgage interest rates than their Caucasian counterparts.

The Lenders: Ameriquest, Wells Fargo, Fremont, Option One, WMC Mortgage, Long Beach Mortgage, CitiGroup, BNC Mortgage, Accredited Home Lenders, Encore, First Franklin, HSBC, Washington Mutual

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Sow A Seed

By Joy R. Brown

I was thinking about an athlete who concentrates on running track. I can envision the athletes as they kneel and prepare themselves for the kick-off. As the sound of the gun alarms, the athletes dash toward the finish line. I can imagine each runner with a vivid picture of him or her, framed beautifully in the corridors of their minds, as a snapshot is taken of them being the first one to cross the finish line. Even though the athletes may get tired and weary during the race, they never stop or give up, because they know that there is victory at the end of the race.

As I was thinking about an athlete and the endurance that has been instilled in them, I began to meditate on Gal. 6:9.

Paul was encouraging the believers concerning the promises of God. Paul said, "And let us (Joy) not be weary (to grow tired, to get discouraged, to give up) in well doing (that which is pleasing in the eyes of our Father) for in due season (at the appropriate time ordained by God) we (Joy) shall (it must come to pass) reap (gain a harvest of blessings both natural and supernatural) if we (Joy) faint not (to lose heart; give in).

Just to encourage your hearts on today...even when it seems as though the more you do and the harder you work, no results are being manifested. I suddenly began to realize, it's not what I see

that should excite me, but it's what I don't see that should make me rejoice continually.

If you walk in righteousness, which is simply being in right relationship with God, no good thing will He withhold from you.

The Harvest that is in store for you cannot be totally seen with the human eyes. Just know that God wants to bless you and the blessings of

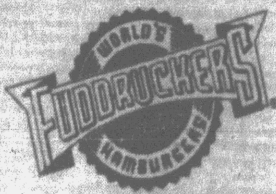
God addeth no sorrow. He will give to you what you are capable of handling at that appointed time.

Don't grow weary when nothing appears to be moving in your life. Just know that God is doing HIS best work behind the scenes.

In closing, seasons... we all have a favorite season. My favorite season is due season. This season can last as long as I walk in obedience to God's word and plan for my life. My prayer for you is that you get locked into your due season and reap the bountiful blessings that are in waiting just for you.

Sowing a seed into your life,
Joy R. Brown

Wesley Craft
Director of Operations



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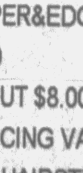
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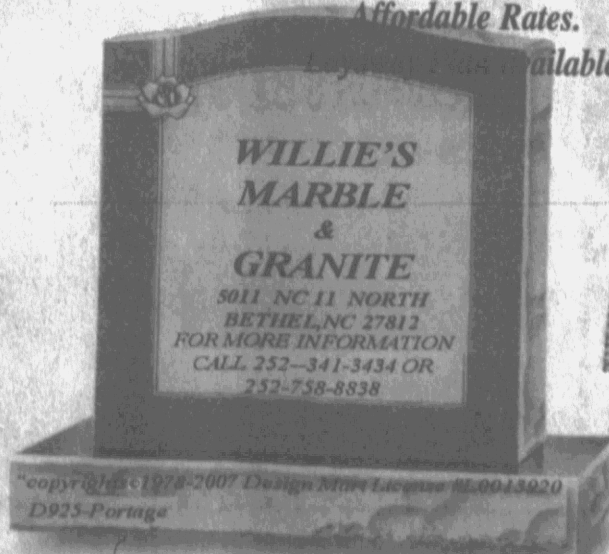
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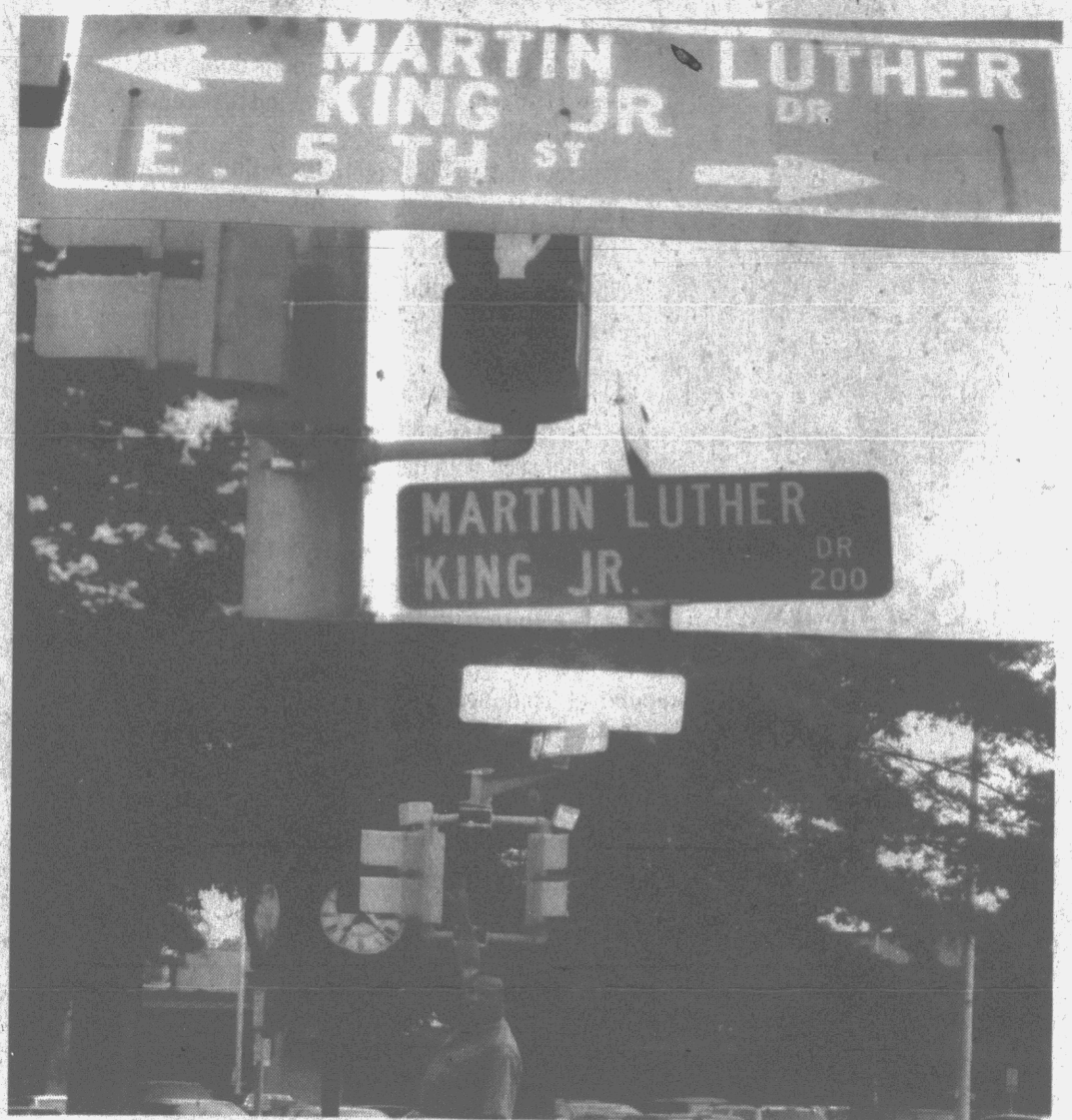
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MLK NO MORE... As Greenville goes down in history for taking the name of a street from Martin Luther King Jr. To - West 5th Street, One protester was noted as saying; "It's not about the name of a stretch of road anymore. It's about what are you going to take next from the African-American community," Former County Commissioner Jeff Savage points to sign. *photo J. Rouse*




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Recipients of the 2007 W. H. Robinson/J W Maye Scholarship.



Zontá Thompson




Eulysa Artis

The W. H. Robinson Alumni Association announces the recipients of the 2007 W H Robinson/J W Maye Scholarship. A \$250.00 scholarship was awarded to each recipient

Ms. Zontá Thompson, a graduate of Ayden Grifton High School, will be attending Pitt Community College to obtain an associate degree in early childhood education. She is the daughter of Ms. Sondra Thompson of Ayden, NC.

Ms. Eulysa Artis, a graduate of South Central High School, will be attending Elizabeth City State University to obtain a BS degree in elementary education. She is the daughter of Mrs. Charmayne Artis of Winterville, NC.



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Out On A Stroll... While taking a walk in uptown Greenville our photographer stopped this Mother and Daughter for a moment to pose for our camera. Mother, Ms Ann Love remarked she was considering moving back to the city. Thank You Ladies *photo Elder M. Adams*

Sterilization from pg 1

will," the 2004 NCDHHS Eugenics Study Committee Report noted. "In some cases, victims were children as young as 10 who had no knowledge or understanding of the procedure."

The young female victims, none of them ever told why they were being operated on, never knew that their ability to have children had been destroyed forever, until years later when they were told by their doctors.

For Riddick, English and Ramirez, the many years since have been nothing short of torture.

Elaine Riddick was a young teenager living in Perquimans County when a social worker determined that she was "feble-minded" and "promiscuous."

"I was raped at the age of 13," Riddick, now 53, told the museum audience. The perpetrator was a 20 year-old criminal, and Riddick soon discovered that she was pregnant.

"I did not have any one that I could go and talk to.

In 1968 at age 14, young Elaine was sterilized without her knowledge or consent because her grandmother, who couldn't read, was forced by a social worker to mark her consent on a form.

Riddick's child, a boy she later named Tony, would be the only child she would ever have. She didn't know her condition until years later when she married, and tried to have more children.

"I did not know I was sterilized until I was 19," Riddick tearfully told the audience. "A doctor had told me that I had been butchered."

Her physician tried to reverse the sterilization procedure by operating again.

But it didn't work.

"I tried to tell myself that I would get better...but I couldn't deal with it," Riddick, now sobbing uncontrollably, said. "In order for me to survive I knew I had to try and deal with it. But it is so hard because I can't forget."

"I can't forget, I can't forgive the people who did this to me. For most of my life I thought I was feble-minded. I thought I was retarded. I thought I did something wrong."

It took a long time before Riddick realized that it wasn't her, but the system she became caught up in as a child. No mother or father, no one beyond her elderly grandmother who could really guide her in her youth.

Four years ago in an interview, Elaine Riddick said of her experience as both a victim, and survivor, "No one should ever feel the pain and agony of not being able to have children. My heart still bleeds, and it will forever bleed, because of what had happened to me."

"What they did was hateful. It was inhuman."

Riddick now lives in Atlanta,

Ga. with her only child, Tony, an engineering consultant who runs his own computer company.

Mary Frances English, a well-spoken lady in her early fifties, is from Fayetteville, where all who know her call her "Bunny."

English says as a child, she was brought up on good family values, including trusting doctors.

"And I trusted mine," she recalled.

At a young age she had children. But at 22, English's physician allegedly performed a procedure on her, the true nature of which she was unaware.

She had been sterilized.

In 1975 after being made aware, she went back to his office and firmly confronted him.

"My doctor sold me a bill of goods, and when I came back three years later to turn that bill of goods in, he sat across from me...and laughed."

Amazingly, English's doctor not only denied that he sterilized her, but taunted her that she couldn't prove that he did.

"I became hysterical in his office," English told the audience.

She ran out into the waiting area, where she was told if she didn't quiet down, "I could be arrested."

"At that time that's really what I wanted because I was getting ready to hurt a lot of people," English said.

So angry was the woman, she actually told patients in waiting area to "run, this man's sterilizing you!"

Another office administration warned English that the police were on their way, but she didn't care.

Finally, a nurse walked up to English.

"Please, Miss English," the nurse said in a low, soft voice.

"Please leave now."

English knew then that of all of the people in that doctor's office, that nurse knew the truth.

When English got home she called every family member she could reach, including her mother and grandmother, to tell them the horrible truth, but to her shock and dismay, no one believed her.

No one except her fiancée, who after being told that night, broke off the engagement.

"So needless to say, I didn't get married," she says.

It wasn't long before "three very dignified individuals" went to English, warning her not to make trouble for her doctor, or else bad things could happen to her, or her kids.

"They said I needed to leave the doctor alone, or your kids could be taken away from you."

For years since, Mary English said nothing about her

personal horror. She suffered both a mental and nervous breakdown in one year.

"For the third and fourth time I put my life together, and I went on," English said.

Mary English has coped with her private hell since, quietly, without fanfare. But she can never forget.

"At 22 years old did this man say the word 'sterilization?' No. At 22 did he ever tell me that never again would I ever have a child? No," English said.

Nial Cox Ramirez, 59, was one of the first four years ago to publicly tell how, in 1965 at the age of 17, she was forced by the Washington County Dept. of Welfare to be sterilized literally the day after she had her only child.

If she didn't, her family would be kicked off of welfare.

"Your family is going to starve because of what you did," Ramirez recalls the social worker threatening. "If you don't do this, we going to take this check away from (your mother). You can have another baby when you get married."

But years later when Ramirez got married, she found out that she could never have another child.

"Do you know how that made me feel, when you see another woman walking down the street, pregnant, and knowing that that could have been you. You can't ever have another child."

In 1973, Ramirez actually tried to sue the state for what was done to her, but the case was thrown out on a technicality.

"It's wrong, it's wrong to do another human being like that," Ramirez told the History Museum audience.

"It's wrong to take away what God gave me because they thought I was feble-minded. I worked at the hospital for twelve years. How could I be feble-minded?"

"I took care of myself. I took care of my daughter. But [they said] I'm feble-minded."

"It hurts," Ramirez continued, as follow survivor Elaine Riddick wept as she listened. "It hurts so bad. You don't know how hard the pain is."

"I tried to get over it, put it behind me, go forward with my life. But we deserve some kind of [compensation] for all they did to us."

Whatever they give us," Ramirez said, "it's not going to give me my life back."

Ramirez' only daughter, Deborah Chesson, wiped away her tears as she listened from the audience.

According to state Rep. Larry Womble (D-Forsyth), the driving legislative force behind successfully repealing North Carolina eugenics law in 2003, and the sponsor today of legislation to pay \$50,000 in compensation to each verified eugenics survivor, at least half of the 7600 victims between 1929 and 1974 have died.

The state is actively searching

for many of the remaining survivors so that they can have their medical records verified, and be eligible for free services for the NC Dept. of Health and Human Services and the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities.

Finding those survivors is part of the reason why the "Why Me?" museum exhibit will travel the state starting in August, in an effort to educate the public at large in hopes that survivors will come forward.

As for the sterilization compensation bill, it remains stuck in the House Appropriations Committee chaired by Rep. H. M. 'Mickey' Michaux of Durham.

Womble says he was promised by both House Speaker Joe Hackney and Michaux that HB 296 would at least get a hearing.

But once again the bill, which Womble has filed since 2003, remains politically radioactive.

Survivors like Elaine Riddick, Mary English and Nial Cox Ramirez say even if the bill passed and each one received \$50,000 from the state, certainly that wouldn't be nearly enough to compensate them for the unqualified hurt and pain they've suffered all of these years.

But at least it would be something, a small but tangible gesture echoing Gov. Mike Easley's formal apology in 2002.

The survivors say, however, that they don't expect to see it. In fact they make the charge that the state is just waiting for as

many of the elderly survivors to die off as possible so it has less to deal with.

"I believe they want us gone," said Willie Lynch, a white gentleman in his 70's from Carteret County who was castrated by the state when he was just a teenager. "They don't want to deal with this."

"We should be compensated for what we've been through," said Riddick. "But being compensated will definitely not take away all of the pain and suffering, the humiliation and the embarrassment."

"Money will not [make us feel better] about all of that," Riddick added, "but yes, we should be compensated."



Nial Cox-Ramirez was sterilized in Plymouth.

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Mary English

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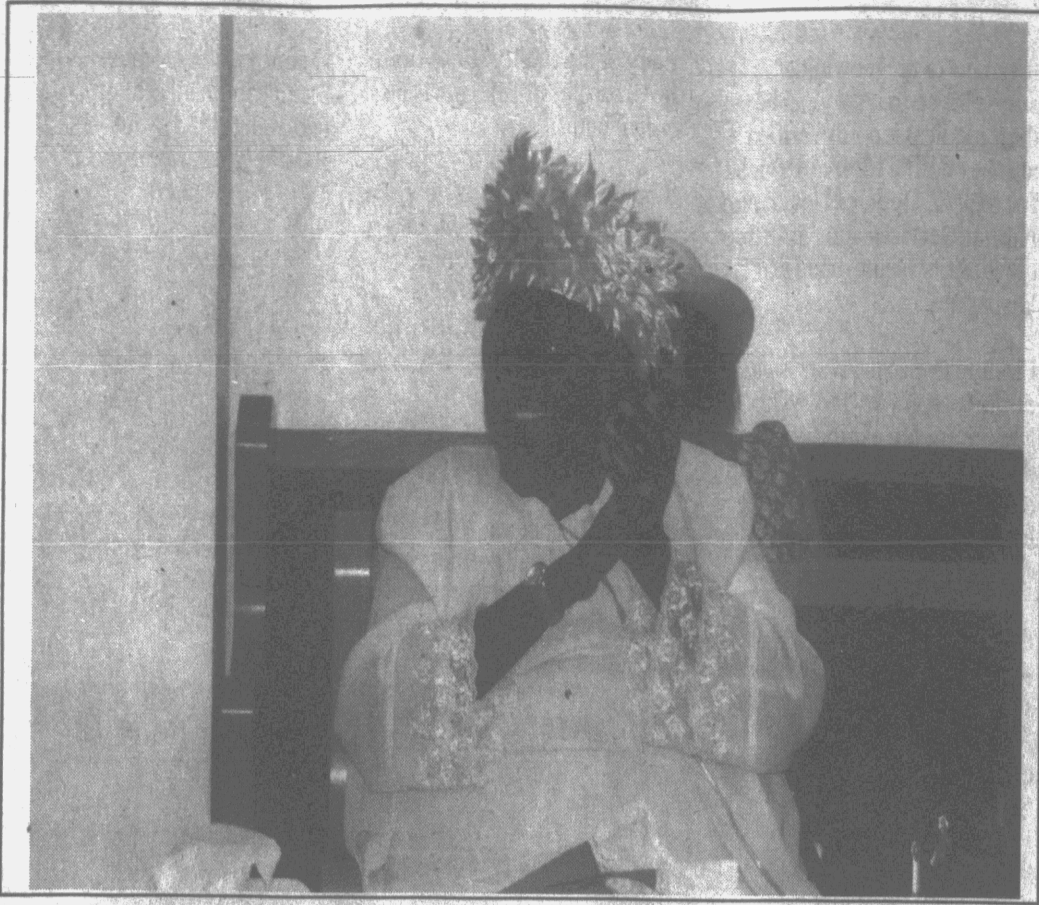
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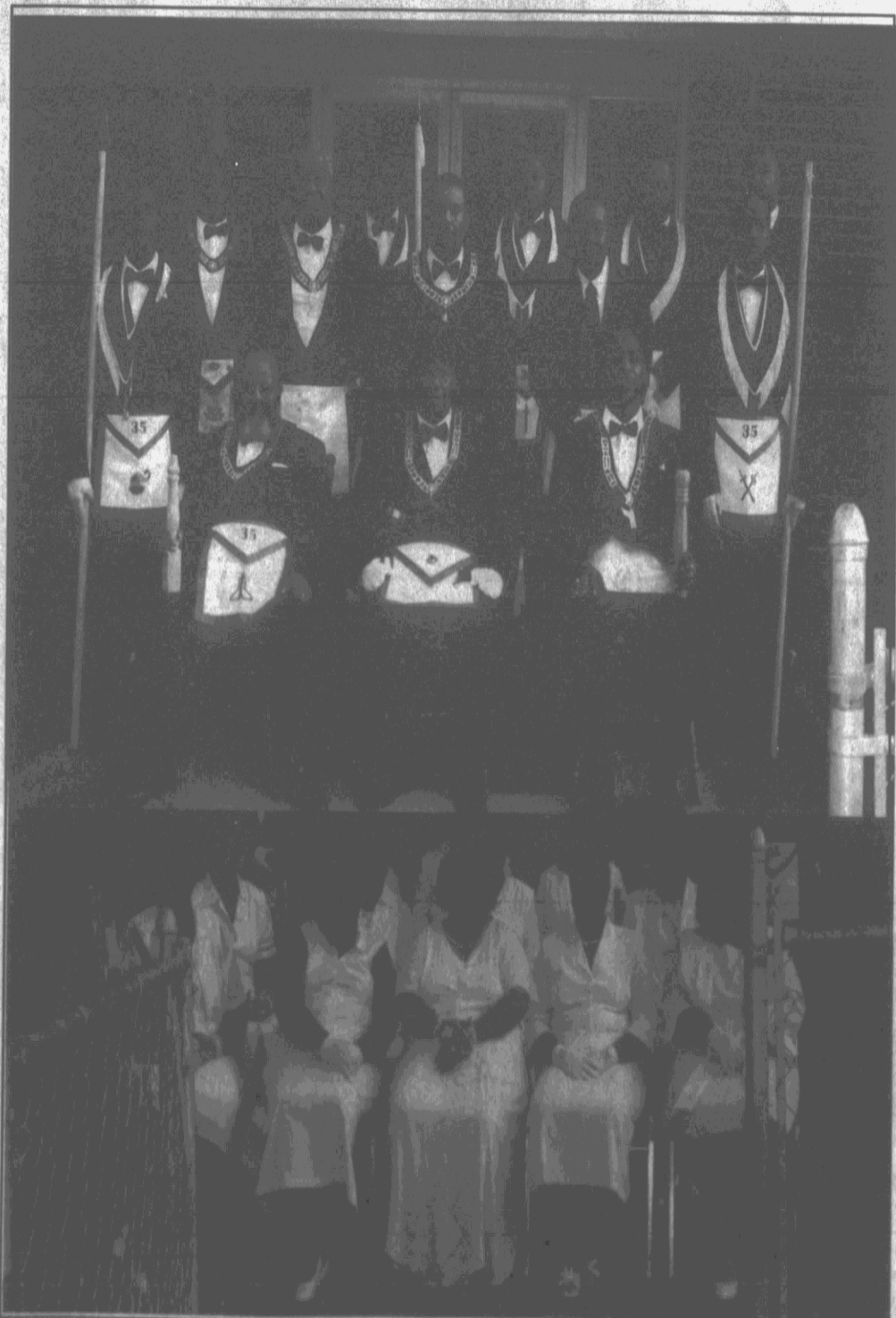
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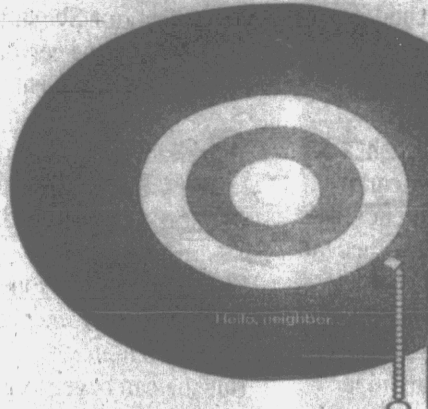
Healing The Hurt . . . Bishop B. V. Rinehardt applauds one of the speakers at a service recently given in her honor. Bishop N. Lanier of The Soul Saving Holiness Church along with other area ministers came together in a week long service to give honor to whom honor is due. Bishop's "Healing The Hurt" Ministry can also be heard on WOOW 1340 each Saturday at 4:30pm. We also love and honor you for your many years of service Women Of God. *photo Elder M. Adams*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY . . . Stopping for a moment for the M'Voice camera is Mother Helen Thomas who will be 90 on her next birthday. (July 28, 2007). This lovely mother can be caught shouting to the Lord at The Holy Trinity UHC where the pastor is Bishop Ralph Love (pictured here) After a rousing message from the Bishop you'll be shouting too. *photo J. Rouse*



WHAT'S IN A NAME If you can name all of the people above you can win two CD's compliments of WOOW 1340 AM GREENVILLE, NC - DEADLINE 8/1/07 *photo J. Rouse*



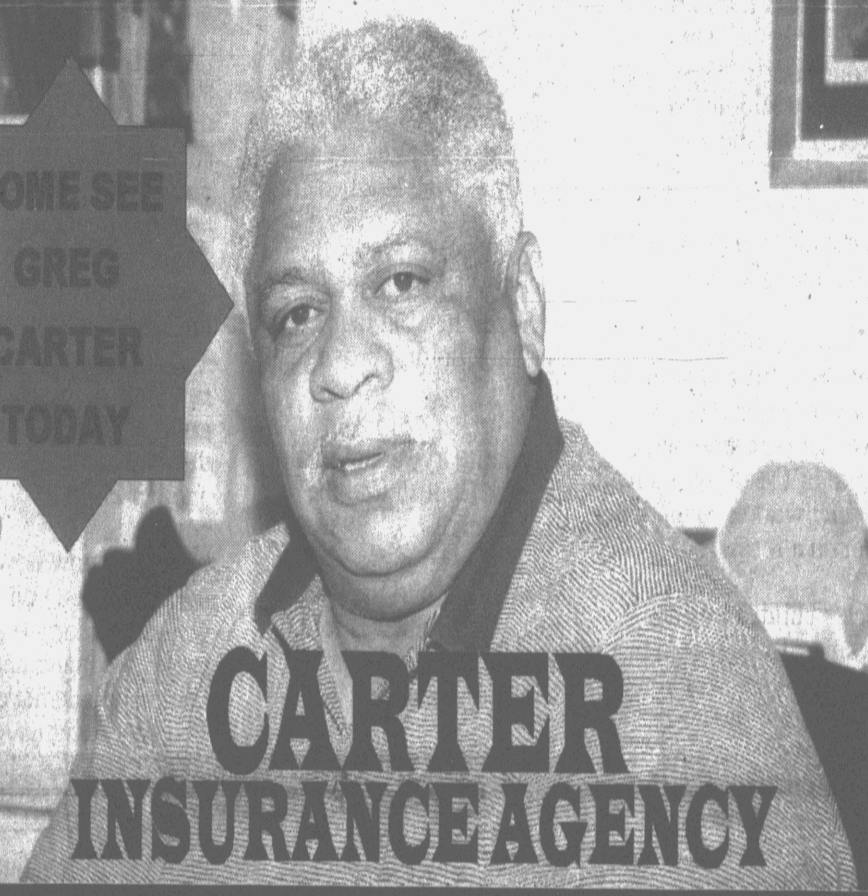
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Unfair sentencing pg1 ...

of the way the federal courts are operating.

We need to see if continuing mandatory minimums is the best way to administer justice."

The Congressional Black Caucus has long been opposed to the mandatory minimums, saying that the distinction between crack cocaine and powder cocaine works against Blacks. Statistics have shown that Blacks tend to serve longer sentences because of the possession of crack cocaine while Whites, who tend to sell and use powder cocaine, get lighter sentences.

Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.), chairman of the Judiciary Committee, has stated that one of his priorities will be to look into the disparity of the mandatory minimums and to do something about it.

Ricardo Hinojosa, chairman of the United States Sentencing

Commission, said that looking into the affect and potency of the mandatory minimums is timely.

"This needs to be looked into," Hinojosa said. "The last report that we issued on the topic was 16 years ago and we need to see how it is working."

Hinojosa presented demographic characteristics on the racial affect of mandatory minimums in 2006. The data showed that while Blacks are 13 percent of the population, 32 percent of the cases prosecuted under the mandatory minimums are Black defendants.

Thirty-eight percent of the cases prosecuted are Latino defendants while Whites constituted 26 percent.

Marc Mauer, executive director of the Sentencing Project, said that mandatory minimums have been a failure.

"They have not achieved their stated objectives," he said. "When they were enacted in the late 1980s, it was designed to stem the tide of crack cocaine and to avoid the abuses that some judges used when they sentenced defendants. Instead, you have prosecutors who are selectively targeting people for whom they feel should be put under the guidelines, which in many cases is minorities."

Mauer said that mandatory minimums do not fight recidivism, or the rate of returns to prison. Plus, he said, drug abuse and selling of drugs have not been stemmed.

U.S. District Court Judge Paul Cassell, who serves on the Judicial Conference of the United States' Criminal Law Conference, said that surveys conducted by his organization show that three-fourths of the American people would want a mandatory minimum sentence

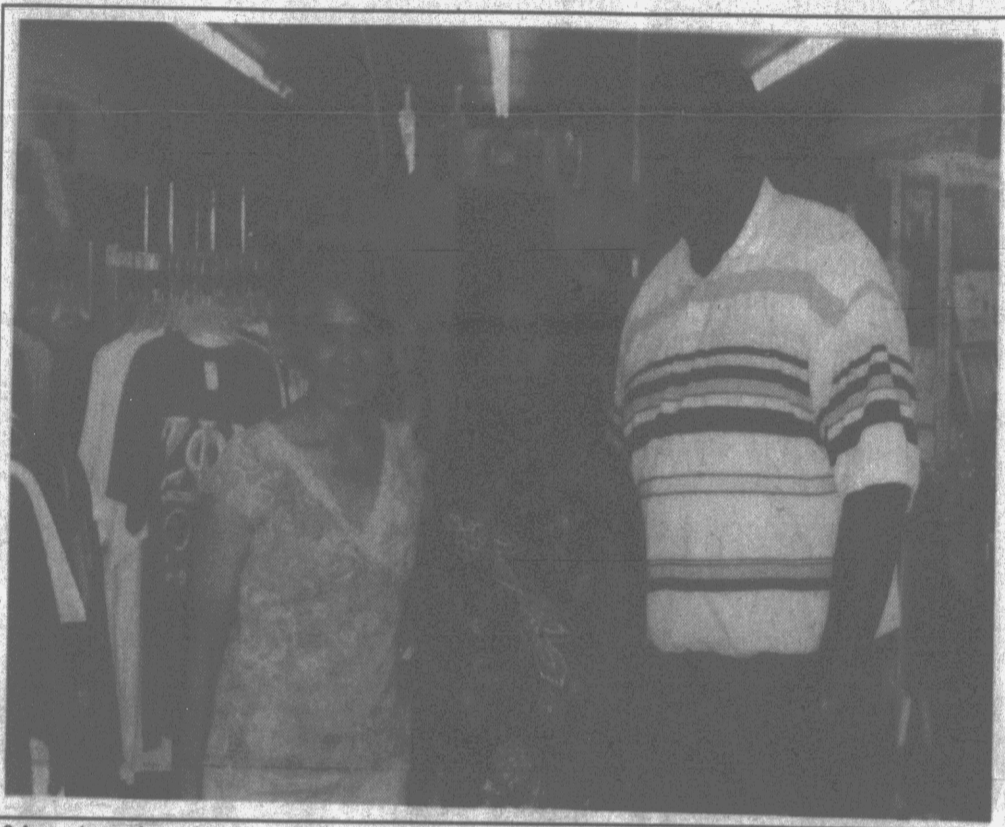
set aside if another sentence for a defendant was more appropriate.

"Each offender who comes before a federal judge for sentencing deserves to have their individual facts and circumstances considered in determining a just sentence," Cassell said.

Nunn agrees with Cassell. She plans on becoming a public defender and to continue to speak out against mandatory minimums and unfair sentencing.

"Mandatory minimums should be abolished to allow judges to regain their sentencing discretion," she said.

The hearing was mostly a fact-finding exercise, Scott said. Conyers said that there will be additional hearings on the subject before legislation is considered that would alter or dismantle the mandatory minimums.



African American Art Shown above is the owner of the African American Art Store located at the Carolina East Center with two of her employees. Drop by and the Beautiful Black Art and Pictures will make your home stand out to your children. Specializing in Black Books Sorority and Greek Material.

staff photo

Daughters Of Isis

The dangers of smoking were portrayed in a skit by Shatina Cassey and Olga Jones. The Cornerstone MB Church of Williamston Praise Dancers praised God and entertained us with their beautiful praise moves.

Proper Dressing skit was presented by Ida Carmon and Treyman Tyson. This was followed by another skit on illegal drug use by Laurette and Victoria Greene.

Margaret Staton and Shemay Green on dating and a Word Game lead by Eleanor Hagans.

Door prizes were distributed by Marsha Sharpe and Jacqueline Jackson.

Grace and closing was done by Pastor Brown. Lunch was served to all. Each attendee and participant received a free Dictionary.

A wonderful time was had by all. Thank you to all the participants, attendees, and all who made this Teenage Awareness Symposium possible. A special thanks to Mr. Jim Rouse — The Minority Voice Newspaper and Radio Station WOOW.

Submitted by: Daughter Jacqueline Jackson Rofelt Pasha Court # 108, Daughters of Isis



Pictured above from left to right: Sister Olga Jones, President of the Golden Links Club Sister Margaret Staton, Member of the Golden Links Club Rev. AC Brown, Pastor of York Memorial AME Zion Church



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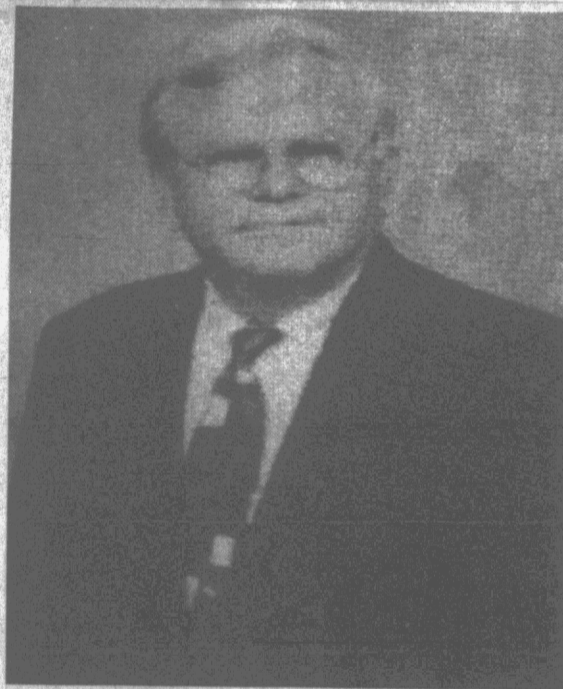
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CANDADATE AT - LARGE



hard to get them to stop talking about him, his service to the community and his generosity.

However, if you ask Chuck Autry about his candidacy to return to the Greenville City Council, you'll find that in his heart and mentally, he never left. His intense interest in public affairs is not a publicity stunt or an ego trip of some kind. He has specific issues that concern him greatly. Number one on his list of concerns is the high crime rate in Greenville. "I'm looking forward to working with the Chief of Police on ways to patrol high crime areas 24/7" Autry stated recently in an interview for this story. He also sees the need to unify the City Council which often experiences sharp divisions. In that area, he may have a unique advantage. "I always got along fine with them and there has never been a harsh word spoken between us" he says when asked about his relationship with persons he served with on the City Council. Few people can honestly make that same statement, especially given the heated divisions that recent City Councils have experienced.

Aside from business and civic interests, Chuck Autry is a devoted family man who has been married for 54 years and has 5 adult children, 6 grand children and 2 great grand children. Autry is a decorated war veteran, who earned the Silver Star and a Purple Heart while serving with the U.S. Infantry in the Korean War. Now that he is no longer in the auto body business, he can devote an even greater amount of time and attention to public concerns than he did in the past. That is what his supporters can expect and it's a sure bet that Chuck Autry won't let them or the City down. In his plain spoken, down-to-earth fashion, Chuck appears to be just what the City Council needs.

LOOKING AT CHUCK AUTRY

Whenever people who don't know Chuck Autry ask others about him, one thing becomes clear very quickly; everyone who does know Chuck Autry has lots of good things to say about him. People are needing to learn what they can about Chuck Autry right now because he is currently the strongest candidate for the Greenville City Council At-Large seat which will be decided in the November 6th Municipal Election.

Mr. Autry, who operated Autry's Body Shop for 20 years on Dickinson Avenue in Greenville, has become almost legendary for being recognized as a consistent friend to so many people. Often, it was people who were trying to pay mortgage or just needed to get a car repaired in order to have transportation to work. And many people haven't forgotten. They certainly haven't forgotten his previous years on

the City Council as he often boldly voted with Council members who represented the African American community. He served three terms on the Council from 1995 through 2001. In fact, most people agree that Chuck Autry has little or nothing to prove when it comes to the question of whether he deserves support in the African American community. As long as anyone can remember, he has openly made an effort to relate and reach out, not only to the representatives of the black community, but directly to everyday people whether they were voters or not. Those people who will need to ask, will hear about Chuck Autry's annual New Year's Day feasts and the traditional black-eyed peas and trimmings that were on the menu. His community cook-outs, paid for with no outside support, have fed many hungry people and provided an opportunity for him to befriend many that he may not have otherwise come in contact with. If you meet almost anyone who knows Chuck Autry, it's really

Jena, Louisiana: Nooses and White Supremacy

By Alice Woodward

On a late summer day in 2006, in Jena, Louisiana, a Black high school student asked permission to sit beneath the "white tree" in front of the town's high school.

It was unspoken law that this shady area was for whites only during school breaks. But a student asked, and the vice principal said nothing was stopping them. So Black students sat underneath the tree, challenging the established authority of segregation and racism. The next day, hanging from the tree, were three ropes, in school colors, each tied to make a noose.

The events set in motion by those nooses led to a schoolyard fight. And that fight led to the conviction, on June 28, 2007, of a Black student at Jena High School for charges that can bring up to 22 years in prison. Mychal Bell, a 16-year-old sophomore football star at the time he was arrested, was convicted by an all-white jury, without a single witness being called on his behalf. And five more Black students in Jena still face serious charges stemming from the fight.

Casptla Bailey, a Black community leader and mother of one of the Black students, told the *London Observer*, "To us those nooses meant the KKK, they meant, 'Niggers, we're going to kill you, we're going to hang you till you die.'" The attack was brushed off as a "youthful stunt." The three white students responsible, given only three days of in-school suspension.

In response to the incident, several Black students, among them star players on the football team, staged a sit-in under the tree. The principal reacted by bringing in the white district attorney, Reed Walters, and 10 local police officers to an all-school assembly. Marcus Jones, Mychal Bell's father, described the assembly to *Revolution*:

"Now remember, with everything that goes on at Jena High School, everybody's separated. The only time when Black and white kids are together is in the classroom and when they playing sports together. During lunch time, Blacks sit on one side, whites sit on the other side of the cafeteria. During canteen time, Blacks sit on one side of the campus, whites sit on the other side of the campus.

"At any activity done in the auditorium—anything—Blacks sit on one side, whites on the other side, okay? The DA tells the principal to call the students in the auditorium. They get in there. The DA tells the Black students, he's looking directly at the Black students—remember, whites on one side, Blacks on the other side—he's looking directly at the Black students. He told them to keep their mouths shut about the boys hanging their nooses up. If he

hears anything else about it, he can make their lives go away with the stroke of his pen."

DA Walters concluded that the students should "work it out on their own." Police officers roamed the halls of the school that week, and tensions simmered throughout the fall semester.

In November, as football season came to a close, the main school building was mysteriously burned to the ground. This traumatic event seemed to bring to the surface the boiling racial tensions in Jena.

On a Friday night, Robert Bailey, a 17-year-old Black student and football player, was invited to a dance at a hall considered to be "white." When he walked in, without warning he was punched in the face, knocked on the ground and attacked by a group of white youth. Only one of the white youth was arrested—he was ultimately given probation and asked to apologize.

The night after that, a 22-year-old white man, along with two friends, pulled a gun on Bailey and two of his friends at a local gas station. The Black youths wrestled the gun from him to prevent him from using it. They were arrested and charged with theft, and the white man went free.

The following Monday students returned to school. In the midst of a confrontation between a white student, Justin Barker, and a Black student, Robert Bailey—where Bailey was taunted for having been beaten up that weekend—a chaotic fray ensued. Barker was allegedly knocked down, punched, and kicked by a number of Black students. He was taken to the hospital for a few hours and was seen out socializing later that evening.

Six Black students—Robert Bailey Junior, Theo Shaw, Carwin Jones, Bryant Purvis, Mychal Bell, and a still unidentified minor, allegedly the attackers of Justin Barker—were arrested, charged with attempted second degree manslaughter, and expelled from school.

White Supremacy Then and Now

This did not all happen in the "Red Summer" of 1919 when Jim Crow segregation thrived, and Blacks in major cities faced race riots that raged throughout the country. This did not occur in the 1950s after *Brown vs. Board of Education* was decided in 1954 and young children faced angry white mobs to make history in desegregating public schools. This did not happen in the summer of 1955 when, in Money, Mississippi, a vibrant Black youth by the name of Emmett Till was brutally murdered for whistling at a white woman. This did not happen during the period 1865 to 1965 during which 3,446 Black people were lynched in the United States.

This is now. When three white students in Jena committed this hate crime.

Burney & Burney Construction Company is building North Recreation Complex for ECU

On 8/24/06, Burney & Burney Construction Co., Inc. came out of the bidding office on ECU's campus as the



lowest bidder for the ECU-North Recreational Complex project located on Highway 264 E. Burney & Burney accomplished two things that day: Being the lowest bidder & becoming one of the few black contractors to ever receive this size of an award from ECU. Burney & Burney has in the past performed work for ECU, but no where near this magnitude; however they are teaming on a project to construct a Coastal Studies Institute in Manteo, NC for ECU. Mr. Owen Burney, President of Burney & Burney stated, "This is not the first large job we bid through the UNC - System or at ECU." Burney & Burney's states blessings do not come from any system, it comes from our Lord Savior Jesus Christ!

This maybe a record for ECU in awarding this size contract to a minority; however, by no means is this type of contract similar in Charlotte, NC. Mr. Burney comments, that this project has been in great opportunity to highlight Burney & Burney's management & organizational skills to bring together a successful team who will complete this project months ahead of the scheduled completion date & within budget.

ECU-North Recreational Complex project contains approximately 70 acres which will include a 6 acre lake to be used for fishing, small craft boating, 4 rugby fields, 4 soccer fields, an artificial beach, a toilet facility, maintenance & storage facility, concession stand & more than 400 parking spaces. This is only Phase I of the project; the next phase will include another 60 acres to include 4 additional soccer fields, 4 baseball diamonds, 4 tennis courts, a golf course, a 3-story recreational building, a boat dock, volley ball area on the extended beach & a natural walking trail. Burney & Burney's project manager Dallas Peele and Superintendent, Michael Rodgers both agrees that "during the



construction of this project, we have been proactive with planning and scheduling of all contracted work. We have had a good working relationship with ECU and the designer with 75% of work completed." Mr. Burney added that "We are blessed to have an opportunity to build this project in our community & to serve others like this one in our home town. We want other minorities to know — Yes, it's hard out here, but you've got to keep believing and shaking the bushes until something falls; when it falls (and it will fall if you are a true believer) please do not forget who made it possible — God!" Burney & Burney states "ECU will receive not only a completed project, but a project that was built with Quality from Start to finish!"

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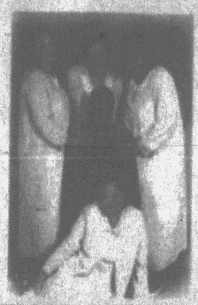
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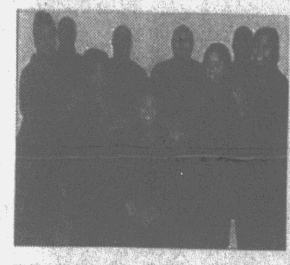
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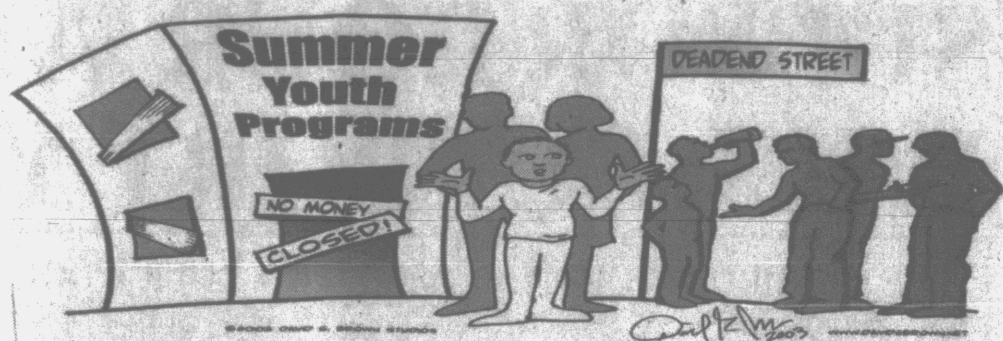
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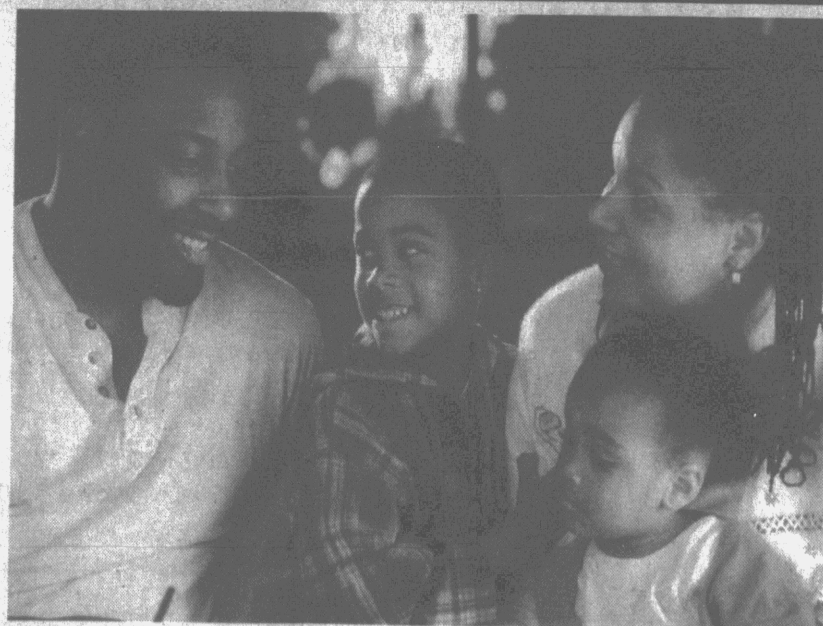
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- **You're in Control.** The Natural Gas Rate Lock-In program gives you a chance to do something about your natural gas rate. While all customers can control how much natural gas they use, with Lock-In, you can also have more control over the rate itself.
- **It's Your Choice.** Lock-In is a voluntary program. If you don't wish to participate, you will continue to be billed, like always, on GUC's standard natural gas rates. But, without the security of Lock-In, when market prices go up, so will your gas rate.

Questions You May Have:

- **What Is the Rate?** The Lock-In rate residential customers can sign up for is \$1.847 per ccf. The rate for commercial customers is \$1.745 per ccf.

Very simply, the rate is the "per unit" cost. Think of it like buying gasoline for your car. You pay a certain amount per gallon, and that price or "rate" goes up and down. With natural gas, you pay a certain amount per hundred cubic feet (ccf). That's the "per unit" cost of natural gas, or the rate. GUC's standard natural gas rates go up or down, depending on the market. With Lock-In, the rate will stay the same.

- **Will I Save Money?** We can't promise savings, but we can guarantee you'll pay the same natural gas rate all year. Your total bill will depend on how much natural gas you use. In four of the last seven years, Lock-In customers have ended up paying a lower rate than customers on the standard rate.
- **What's the Risk?** No one can predict for certain if market prices will go up or down. If market prices go down, the Lock-In customer's rates won't decrease.

The benefit of taking that risk is that if market prices go up, the Lock-In customer's natural gas rate won't increase because it's a fixed price.
- **How Do I Sign Up?** Signing up for this FREE program is easy and convenient. You can sign up online at www.guc.com. You can also sign up in person at either GUC's Main Office (401 South Greene Street) or GUC Express (509 SE Greenville Boulevard).
- For further information, please call 329-2266. You can listen to a recording that should answer most questions or you can speak with a Customer Service Representative.

Remember, sign up is from August 28th through September 28th and is limited to the first 3,000 customers.



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