

# The Minority Voice

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

Free!

March 2010 Issue

Free!

## 'Mean spirited, vicious racism' comes to surface during debates about president and U.S. politics

## Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., 2010 Annual Black History Quiz Bowl



(FinalCall.com) - Since President Barack Obama signed the landmark health reform bill, the split between Americans, extreme right wing opponents and supporters of the legislation and ideologues, has widened, but many say this division is rooted in racial hatred, rather than health reform.

Racist and hateful acts have been carried out by supporters and those whose ideology reflects the Tea Party Movement, considered to be anti-tax, anti-government and anti-Barack Obama. "We're in now a second phase of Reconstruction because

Black governors now are being turned out. A Black president, they hope, will be a one-term president should he last four years and Black mayors, Black elected officials are being taken out of office. And when the cry comes up, they should be hounded out of town and out of office and hassle them, then the country is in for an explosion and all it needs is a spark and the people will arise and blood will be in the streets of the United States of America," warned the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan during a live, web-streamed interview with Cliff Kelley on WVON on March 24. One Tea Party protester called Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) n—r multiple times

and someone spat on Rep. Emanuel Cleaver (D-KS) as the two men made their way through demonstrators to vote March 21 on a major health reform bill.

Several congressional offices were vandalized by brick throwers, and at least 10 members of the Democratic Party and their families have received death threats. What people are witnessing, Min. Farrakhan said, is the beginning of the end of a civil society, because America is in the throes of Divine Judgment, according to the Bible and Quran. "From wars and rumors of wars, nations rising against nations, kingdoms against kingdoms, famine, pestilence, and earthquakes in diverse places, all of these judgments of God are coming down on America, not for her foreign policy and its wicked effect on the world, but because of her treatment of Black people in her midst," Min. Farrakhan said. Much of the hateful rhetoric against President Obama has been revved up by Republican lawmakers, and much is being driven by conservative radio and TV talk show hosts, like Glenn Beck, Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, and the like. On March 27, Mr. Beck and some 8,000 fans, gathered in Orlando, Fla., for his American Revival, a daylong event aimed at taking back, or regaining America. Media Matters reported that Mr. Beck, who has been accused of "spewing such incendiary language," urged followers to stock food and water for a coming showdown. "If we don't face the truth right now, we'll be dead in five years—this country can't survive," he said, Media Matters reported. Mr. Beck also promised to put forth a federal budget that would cut spending by 50 percent. "Clearly stung by a wave of accusations that

## Shaw Alumni Banquet



Pictured above are some of the attendees of the Shaw Alumni Banquet & Eastern N.C Black Social Workers, as they gathered at the Cornerstone Family Life Center. Shown left to right Rev. Howard Parker, Dr. Tom McMillian Ms. Black Teen N.C. Martina Evans, Dr. David Forbes, Speaker Rev. A.C. Batchelor, and Mildred A. Council President. Mildred A. Council is also running for the N.C. House of Representatives 8th District Martin and Pitt Counties. Her issues include jobs, education, business development, broadband technology for North Greenville & rural areas, building up healthy communities, and Intermodal Transportation. The Minority Voice newspaper wishes her much success.

Photo by Jim Rouse

## Mother Hammond Honored



Mother Peggy Hammond is a mother, wife and above all a woman of god. Mother Hammond began her Christian walk at an early age, at the original Phillippi Church of christ, over 60 years ago. Mother Hammond has a love of serving and chose to serve on various auxiliaries to include, the Sunday school where she served as teacher, the junior choir where she served

as adult leader, the senior choir and Mass choir where she sang faithfully the songs of Zion and the Pastor's aid Committee.

Mother Hammond has been married for over 45 years to a dynamic vessel, the Rev. David Hammond, who she has walked beside faithfully. she is also the loving and devoted mother of three successful children Minister Ester Lynette Hammond, who is director of W.E. Flanagan Funeral Home. minister David S. Hammond Jr., who is employed by the Department of Education. Jill R. Hammond, an officer in the United States Navy.

Mother Hammond has two grandchildren whom she loves dearly, alexandria sampson who

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Pictured are some of the winners of the 2010 Black History Quiz Bowl sponsored by Iota Kappa Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated along with George Washington Carver Library teams included "I Can" young Historians 4-h All Stars Alpha Pharaohs 2nd place Winners cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church 2010 Black History Quiz Bowl Champions Creative Cousins Greenville Housing Authority Holy Temple Church 3rd place Winners Nash county Phillippi Church of Christ. In our opinion all the teams are winners!.....Photo by Jim Rouse



Pictured above is candidate Watsi Sutton for District Court Judge at a local fund-raiser held in Washington, NC. The Minority Voice newspaper wishes Ms. Sutton much success with her campaign.

Photo by Jim Rouse

Jowner Library  
Carolina Group, ACU  
Greenville  
27634



right-wing radio and Fox News

editorials

# Will 'perfect storm' of problems doom Black radio?

By Saeed Shabazz

**'We are in a kind of a 'perfect storm' with the bad economy and the unfair competition we are facing from Clear Channel, owner of 1,200 radio stations, and VIACOM and the Arbitron listener rating system known as the Portable People Meter.'** —Jerry Lopes, president of the American Urban Radio Network

NEW YORK (FinalCall.com) - Activists and advocates recently failed to stop movement on a congressional bill related to the radio industry.

With Michigan Democrat John Conyers' success bringing the legislation, "H.R. 848, The Performance Rights Act," out of committee and a step closer to congressional vote, Black station owners and their defenders say the bill will help push the already struggling stations out of business. The bill which will require all radio stations to pay royalties for playing music, combined with revenue losses in a bad economy, corporate takeovers, and skewed ratings used to snag dwindling advertising could mean the loss of an important source of information. "This industry is already on the verge of bankruptcy, this tax will push us over the brink," warned Alfred Liggins III, president and CEO of Radio One, the largest Black owned radio company in America with 59 stations. Radio One's revenue dropped 10 percent in 2008 and was down 30 percent in the first quarter in 2009, said Mr. Liggins, whose mother, Cathy Hughes, started the company. "We have been forced to reduce our payroll and if this bill passes we will be forced to cut costs further, and we will have to lay off more people," he added. The Conyers bill, which came out of committee May 13, grants performers compensation from traditional radio broadcasters. Stations that gross less than \$1.25 million a year could pay a flat fee, instead of royalties based on song plays. Broadcasts of religious services would be exempt from payments. In simple language, the bill, according to activists, creates a performance tax or royalty fee on radio stations for airing free music to listeners. The standard in the industry has been stations playing music for free, with artists and record companies benefitting as air time promoted record and CD sales. The National Association of Broadcasters said that in 2008 annual music sales generated through free radio airplay grossed \$1.5 billion to \$2.4 billion. Radio airplay's role in increasing ticket sales at concerts was reported to be \$2.8 billion a year. The Recording Industry Association of America, one of the driving forces behind the bill, says artists deserve to be paid for their performances—even if the performances are pre-recorded. Fifty percent of the tax would go directly to record labels and subsequently to artists, said RIAA.

The recording industry watchdog group in a February press release stated that FM stations earn \$16 billion a year from advertising revenue without compensating artists and musicians. However, RIAA has yet to break down the actual percentage of the proposed tax to go to the artists, which is why Rep. Maxine Waters referred to the bill as a "runaway train" during the debate on May 13. Ms. Waters asked for more time to study the bill. "We do not have enough knowledge on the implications of this bill," Ms. Waters said. "John Conyers literally snatched the rug from under us today," Radio One founder Cathy Hughes told nationally syndicated talk show host Michael Baisden on his May 13 radio show. According to insiders on Capitol Hill, the bill probably won't go before the full House for vote anytime soon. That has not eased the concerns of Black radio station owners. Several calls and e-mails to Rep. Conyers' office were not returned by Final Call press time. The "impact of the tax would be forced upon marginally profitable formats such as African American news/talk and gospel," radio executive Charles Warfield, president and chief operating officer of the New York-based Inner City Broadcasting Network told Radio and Record, an industry newsletter. There are presently 240 Black owned stations in the country, according to the National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters. The Federal Communications Commission states there are 13,476 radio stations in total. "The Conyers' bill is an ill-conceived idea," Bob Law, a legendary broadcaster and radio activist told The Final Call. "The congressman does not understand the political and social dynamic of Black radio." "We are in a kind of a 'perfect storm' with the bad economy, the unfair competition we are facing from Clear Channel, owner of 1,200 radio stations, and VIACOM and the Arbitron listener rating system known as the Portable People Meter," said Jerry Lopes, president of the American Urban Radio Network, which broadcasts news and information to 250 stations across the country.

In an online commentary titled "Should We Save Black Radio?" Min. Scott wrote: "Black radio must make a commitment to truly be the voice of the people. We must make Cathy Hughes and the rest of them sign a contract with Black America that will put the needs of the community first and foremost." "Sure Cathy and the rest of us get criticized—not enough news, not enough information. We are committed to the community that we serve, but the bottom line is we are in business to make money," countered Mr. Lopes. The decline of Black-owned radio has become a hot-button issue in New York City. In April, the Committee to Eliminate Media Offensive to African People (CEMOTAP) held a forum on this issue in Harlem. Two of the participants were Bob Law and Imotep Gary Byrd. "The decline of Black radio is the result of rating company Arbitron's estimates of listenership, with the company saying nobody listens to Black radio," Mr. Law explained to The Final Call. "Black owners have been reluctant to stand up and fight for a just system because they don't want to raise the issue of racism. So, then I ask what was the N.Y. attorney general's lawsuit about?" In 2008, N.Y. state Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo filed a lawsuit against Arbitron, the second largest media rating system, charging the firm undercounted minority listeners. A landmark agreement was reached in March between the attorney general and Arbitron, with the company admitting it failed to disclose important flaws in the Portable People Meter's methodology that contributed to the system's failure to adequately chart Black and Latino listeners' habits. Arbitron was forced to pay \$260,000 to settle the attorney general's claim, and \$100,000 went to the National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters (NABOB) and the Spanish Radio Association. Now, on the other hand, said Mr. Law, corporate conglomerates Clear Channel and VIACOM are forcing small owners out of business. Former President Bill Clinton's 1996 radio deregulation bill opened the door for the big corporations, "and they took advantage of the new regulations right off the bat," Mr. Law said.

Advocates say Black ownership is not the only thing threatened in the current environment. Popular broadcaster Tom Joyner, whose show runs in 115 markets, had to purchase his own airtime in Chicago on Black-owned Crawford Broadcasting. Mr. Joyner had been removed from a Clear Channel station despite his popularity. The corporation tried to cut costs by dumping the "Tom Joyner Morning Show" and broadcasting the "Steve Harvey Show" on two of its "Black-oriented" stations in the city. Clear Channel owns six stations in the Chicago market.

These shows are syndicated, which means they reach Black audiences and may run on White-owned stations but still ring with the community and tackle serious issues. "TJMS" is known for jokes, old school music and serious social and political analysis and commentary.

But it also helped to inspire 200,000 voters to register for the 2008 election that put Barack Obama in office. The show reportedly reaches approximately eight million people everyday. Syndicated hosts such Tom Joyner, Michael Baisden and the Rev. Al Sharpton also helped in the mobilizing of national support for the "Jena 6," Black youths in a small Louisiana town that faced jail time after a fight with White students. The hosts' discussion and coverage of the case led to 20,000 joining a major march that was dubbed the rebirth of the civil rights movement by many. The important role played by Black-owned radio to institutions such as the civil rights movement did not go unnoticed by leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. According to historian Bryd, during a speech to a gathering of NABOB Dr. King stressed the importance of the stations to the civil rights movement. Black radio advocates also say Black talk radio plays an equally important role, but fear the genre may well go the way of the rotary telephone.

## WHICH NC COUNTIES FACE THE HIGHEST RISK OF LOSING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FROM A CENSUS UNDERCOUNT?, WEEK OF MARCH 25-31, 2010

The Wilmington Journal

With 2010 Census forms due in mailboxes this week, a new analysis shows that one fourth of North Carolina's counties are at a high risk of losing millions of dollars in future federal funding because a significant portion of their residents will likely not mail back a completed Census form. Another one fourth of the counties face an elevated risk of losing money, because they have a history of low mail-back rates in past census years or a significant share of residents who typically have low response rates, such as families living in poverty or in substandard housing. "More than \$400 billion in federal funds are allocated each year based on the population count or about \$1,500 per person," said Bob Hall, director of Democracy North Carolina, the nonpartisan group that conducted the analysis. "For every 1,000 residents not counted, a county could lose \$1.5 million a year for school programs, health care, job training, housing, senior centers and more." Robeson County ranks as the county with the highest risk of losing money, followed by Duplin, Edgecombe, Scotland, Bladen, Vance, Halifax, Columbus, Hoke and Sampson. In 2000, more than 40 percent of the housing units in these counties did not return a Census form. Follow-up visits by Census workers and statistical adjustments produced the final population count for North Carolina, but the Census Bureau eventually determined that it undercounted the state's population by 1.3% of the correct number. If the 2010 Census ends up with a similar 1.3% undercount for NC's roughly 9.5 million people, the state would lose more than \$190 million a year or \$2 billion in the next decade, said Hall. According to Democracy North Carolina's analysis, counties with highest risk of losing their fair share of money are those with the lowest percent of households that responded to the 1990 and 2000 Census forms and the highest percent of residents who fit the "hard to count" profile. The Census Bureau has identified 12 types of people who disproportionately make up "hard to count" groups, including people who lack a high-school education, live in poverty, don't speak English, live in a multi-family dwelling, rent, receive public assistance, or are unemployed. "The high risk counties are poor and exactly the ones that most need help from government programs, so their elected leaders, school officials and service providers have an extra incentive and responsibility to make a concerted effort to promote a big response to the Census," Hall said. He noted that Robeson County is distributing 50,000 flyers developed by Democracy North Carolina through 41 public schools and two dozen participating churches to increase awareness. "Ideally, every school system in the state would provide material about the Census for kids to take home this week or next," Hall said. "This is the peak moment, when the form is in people's hands." Facing the challenge of more unemployment, more immigrants and more foreclosures, some counties (e.g., Guilford and Chatham) have devoted staff to Census awareness campaigns, but more is needed, Hall said. "Shifting staff resources now will pay off handsomely for communities." Democracy North Carolina is working with many partners on outreach programs, including a "Count All Souls" campaign among hundreds of faith-based groups. See, www.democracy-nc.org for more.

## HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM AND AFRICAN AMERICANS,

The Wilmington Journal

FROM THE WHITE HOUSE

*After a year-long debate to bring health insurance reform to the American people, the new law takes effect extending new support and benefits to consumers and ending some of the insurance company's most abusive practices. This is landmark reform that will benefit our entire country for generations, and African Americans, who face some of the toughest challenges with costs and access to care, will feel the impact now and long into the future. Right now...*

\*Nearly one in five African Americans (19%) is without health care insurance. \*African Americans in general spend a higher percentage of their income on health care costs compared to their white counterparts (16.5% vs. 12.2%). However despite spending a larger share of their income on medical care, African Americans face continuing health care disparities. \*African Americans suffer from higher percentages of chronic diseases such as heart disease, kidney disease and diabetes which are perpetuated by a lack of access to quality care. Currently, 48% of African American adults suffer from a chronic disease compared to 39% of the general population. Lowering health insurance costs increases availability to care and can help reduce chronic illnesses over the long term.

**With this reform, 7 million African Americans who are currently uninsured will now have access to health care. Americans will see immediate benefits as a result of health REFORM**

are ginning up death threats and potential violence against members of Congress and progressives, Beck also expanded on a new theme that resistance to what he claims is growing socialism in America must be non-violent—again invoking Gandhi as well as Martin Luther King," said the watchdog group. The day after Pres. Obama signed the bill, according to reports, Mr. Limbaugh told his audience, "We need to defeat these bastards. We need to wipe them out. We need to chase them out of town. ... They must my friends, be hounded out of office ... It is their influence on that rabid, racist side of the equation that ferments and forments potential violence in the country, Min. Farrakhan said. According to Ronald Kessler, author of In the President's Secret Service, since the first Black president took office, the rate of threats against Mr. Obama have increased 400 percent from the 3,000 a year under former President George W. Bush.

Mother Hammond Continued page 1

is 17 years old and Kyle David Hammond who is 6 years old.

Mother Hammond's love of God has brought her thus far. Mother Hammond's love of Phillippi has been demonstrated over the past 60 years and we "Tell the lord Thank you" for 60 more!

## REPUBLICANS BLOCK AMENDMENT FOR HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF JOBS FOR STRUGGLING PARENTS AND YOUTH,

The Wilmington Journal

SPECIAL TO THE NNPA

FROM THE SEATTLE MEDIUM

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Republican Senators have obstructed passage of an amendment by U. S. Sens. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) and John Kerry (D-Mass.) that would have saved at least 100,000 jobs for struggling parents and created up to 500,000 jobs and training opportunities for young people across the country. "I am extremely disappointed that once again the Republicans have shown that they care more about scoring political points than putting people to work," said Sen. Murray. "This amendment would expand and extend the extremely successful summer jobs program that has created hundreds of thousands of jobs, provided a boost to the economy, and changed the lives of so many young people around the country. Summer jobs programs help families, communities, and businesses by providing jobs and training to the young people who need it most."

## Black Women Least Likely to Breast-Feed in U.S.

Just over half attempt it, compared to about three-quarters of whites, Hispanics, CDC says

By Steven Reinberg

HealthDay Reporter

THURSDAY, March 25 (HealthDay News) — Messages about the health-boosting powers of breast-feeding aren't reaching black American women as well as their Hispanic or white counterparts, a new study from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) suggests. The researchers found that while more than 80 percent of Hispanic mothers attempt to breast-feed, and about 74 percent of white moms do, that number falls to 54 percent for black mothers. And one year after delivery, only about 12 percent of black women are still breast-feeding their child as recommended, compared to 24 percent of Hispanic women and more than 21 percent of white women. The American Academy of Pediatrics currently recommends that babies be breast-fed exclusively for the first six months of life, and that non-exclusive breast-feeding continue for at least six months thereafter. "We have seen before that there are racial/ethnic differences in breast-feeding," noted study coauthor Cria Perrine, from the CDC's division of nutrition, physical activity and obesity. "Hispanics have the highest rates of breast-feeding closely followed by whites and there tends to be a pretty big gap with blacks," she said. The report is published in the March 26 issue of CDC's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. For the study, Perrine's team analyzed data from the 2004-2008 National Immunization Survey on breast-feeding among different groups and also on state-to-state variations.

## Black candidate Corey Poitier calls Obama 'Buckwheat'

BY MICHAEL VASQUEZ

In the midst of delivering an impassioned speech decrying President Obama's health care reform, GOP congressional hopeful Corey Poitier veered dangerously off-script.

"Listen up, Buckwheat — this is not how it is done!" Poitier blurted out. The apparent comparison of the nation's commander-in-chief to a 1920s *Our Gang* and *The Little Rascals* character — a character seen as demeaning and offensive by many African Americans — sent a jolt of notoriety through Poitier's previously-unknown campaign. "The press has run amok with this, and turned me into a racist," said Poitier, who is himself black. The candidate complains CNN never bothered to interview him before running its own version of the story. "I've never seen Buckwheat as a disparaging character. People love Buckwheat." Poitier says he and his brother have in fact called each other "Buckwheat" as a way to gently chide the other for being foolish — essentially a substitute for the word "dummy." While speaking to a group of Broward Republicans Monday night, Poitier says he was trying to call the healthcare bill — not Obama — "dumb and silly." The candidate says he was initially surprised that the public instead took his comment as directed at the President. "People can connect anything these days," Poitier said. In an interview at a Miramar Starbucks, Poitier stared down at his own hands to further demonstrate he meant no racial slight. "This isn't a spray tan," Poitier, 36, said of his skin tone. "This is real." Poitier is one of nearly a dozen candidates vying to fill the open congressional seat being vacated by U.S. Rep. Kendrick Meek, who is running for a spot in the Senate. Poitier is the only Republican running to represent the heavily-Democratic district that takes in portions of Pembroke Pines, Miami Gardens and Miami Shores, among other areas. To date, Poitier, who lives in Hollywood, said he has raised a modest \$1,500 in campaign donations — not surprising given the widely-held expectation that Democrats will retain control of the seat come November. The Democratic primary for the seat features a heavyweight list of well-funded, experienced candidates — including a state senator, a Miami Gardens mayor and multiple other local elected officials. "Corey Poitier has no chance," said Democratic candidate Phillip Brutus, a former state representative. "It's a Democratic seat, period." Brutus said *The Little Rascals* "did not advocate the subjugation of black people or anything like that" but that Buckwheat was still an unflattering depiction of African Americans — created at a time when blacks still suffered under segregation. Poitier, Brutus said, "didn't think before he spoke, and he just said a stupid thing." Poitier, while insisting he meant no disrespect to Obama, has publicly apologized to both the president and residents of the congressional district for any misunderstanding. The long-shot candidate has had his hands full reading dozens of angry e-mails and Facebook messages that are pouring in. Many are dripping with hate. "You're an Uncle Tom, you're an N-word," Poitier said some of the e-mails say. For now, Poitier is taking the controversy in stride, mindful it at least raised awareness of his candidacy — even if it's not the kind of awareness he'd prefer. As an economics and government teacher at North Miami Beach Senior High School, Poitier also offered himself up to his students as a cautionary tale. "I said, 'I learned a lesson, that you have to watch everything you say, something you think might be harmless might be offensive to someone else,'" Poitier said.

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# Healthcare Reformed Signed Into Law!



Barack Obama speaks to the nation following the final vote in the House of Representatives for comprehensive healthcare

Sunday's vote in the House of Representatives is huge for Barack Obama. He found his voice on healthcare - after the special election in Massachusetts took away his filibuster-proof Senate. He took an issue that seemed dead, a party in disarray, and an administration on the defensive and rallied them.

President Obama has managed something that eluded Roosevelt, Truman, Kennedy, Nixon, Carter, Clinton, and both Bush Sr and Bush Jr. Winning national health insurance - even this weak version - will be his legacy. And it restores his reputation as an effective and eloquent force. Even more important, he avoids a loss that would have diminished his star to the vanishing point. Lose this and he becomes Jimmy Carter. Win it and he does what even the greats could not do.

And here's something people are missing: this was the Democrat's signature issue. It has been since 1945 (when FDR designed a reform and left it as a legacy to Truman who made it the cause of his life). When was the last time a Democratic president rallied his party on one of their issues and overcame fierce Republican opposition? Bill Clinton (1993-2001) did not manage it once; he won essentially Republican issues - budget balance, Nafta, welfare reform. Jimmy Carter (1977-81)? No, again. To find a Democrat winning a contested victory on a Democratic issue you have to go back to Lyndon Johnson before the 1966 midterm. Forget the politics for a moment. On the substance, I'd consider this the biggest Democratic victory in 45 years.

And the midterm test that everyone is focused on now is shortsighted. Lyndon Johnson changed America with the Civil Rights Act (1964) and Medicare (1965). No Democrat and few Republicans would mess with those laws. Lyndon Johnson usually ranks as a near great president - and without Vietnam he'd rank even higher. But he got buried in the 1966 midterm election. For people with an eye to history, the midterm test is not a reliable one.

Is the health reform good for Republicans? No. They already have the anti-government crowd sewed up. Before the vote they could make two arguments: 1. Democrats can't

get anything done; 2. And what they want to do is bad - too much government. Now, they lose the "Democrats are ineffectual" argument. As to the second argument, the Dems have a chance to prove them wrong with an actual programme.

But there's one final point that no one should miss. The politics continues. Democrats have a chance to reframe this debate and take their momentum on to other issues. Republicans will try to keep portraying Democrats as wild and out of control. But look at how many the politics have been. The Republicans dominated that debate for a year. Then, crazily, they won a long-shot special election - and promptly lost control of the debate. Nothing became Obama so much as his response to a stinging defeat. What's next? Here's the irresistible conclusion: expect the unexpected.

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## Oprah Winfrey Settles Ex-Headmistress' Defamation Case

By The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Oprah Winfrey has settled a defamation lawsuit filed by a headmistress she had accused of performing poorly at her South African girls school, where some students claimed they were abused, lawyers said Tuesday. The lawsuit by former headmistress Nomvuyo Mzamane claimed Winfrey defamed her in remarks made in the wake of the 2007 sex-abuse scandal at the school. Mzamane said she had trouble finding a job after Winfrey stated she had "lost confidence" in her and was "cleaning house from top to bottom." A trial had been set to start next week in federal court in Philadelphia. Winfrey and several schoolgirls had been expected to testify. A joint statement released late Tuesday by lawyers for both sides said Winfrey and Mzamane met to resolve their differences. "The two parties met woman to woman without their lawyers and are happy that they could resolve this dispute peacefully to their mutual satisfaction," the statement said. Winfrey was visiting her school last week when U.S. District Judge Eduardo Robreno refused to dismiss the lawsuit, concluding Mzamane had presented enough evidence to go to trial. Court papers suggest Mzamane is again working at a school in Africa, but a Winfrey spokeswoman declined to say if the meeting took place during Winfrey's trip. The parties do not plan to discuss terms of the settlement, according to the spokeswoman, who works with Winfrey's production company, Harpo Productions, which also was a defendant in the suit. A dorm matron at the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls has been charged in South Africa with abusing six students. Winfrey has called the allegations crushing given her own stated history of childhood sexual abuse.

The dorm matron, Tiny Virginia Makopo, has pleaded not guilty to 14 charges. Mzamane claimed that she was never told of the sexual abuse. However, Winfrey's lawyers said in a pretrial memo this month that Mzamane failed to discipline Makopo despite her history of run-ins with students and fellow staff. One of Mzamane's lawyers, Timothy McGowan, declined to comment Tuesday beyond what was in the joint statement. Mzamane, born in Lesotho, formerly worked at the private Germantown Friends School in Philadelphia and was living in the city when she sued two years ago. She earned \$150,000 a year as Winfrey's headmistress. Winfrey had planned to defend the case on free speech and other grounds, arguing she merely voiced her opinions.

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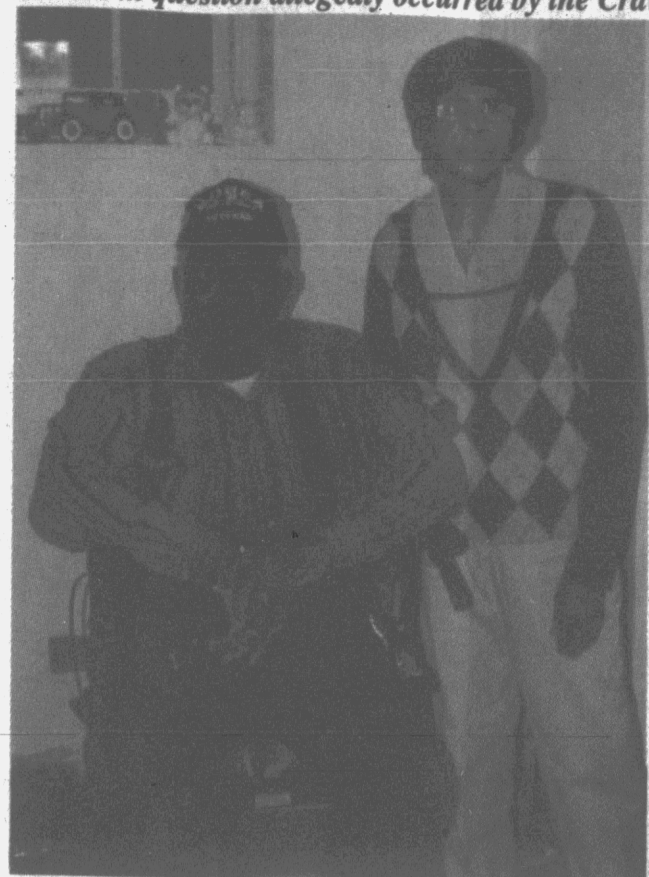
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The Minority Voice newspaper would like to run a retraction for the story printed in the February 2010 edition of the Minority Voice newspaper the incident in question allegedly occurred by the Craven County Sheriff Dept.



by Stephen Johnson editor

On Feb. 6, 2010 between the hours of 7:00 - 8:00 P.M. Mr. Jenkins and his wife were resting in their bedroom, when they heard beating at the side door of their home. Convinced that someone was trying to break into their home they called 911 and requested that someone come out. According to Mr. Jenkins after he informed the 911 operator of his location she immediately began asking him if he had a gun. Mr. Jenkins informed the operator that yes he did in fact own a gun. She also asked if he had been outside or knew if the person was White or Black. He responded "No, I have not gone outside," Flustered with what he thought appeared to be pointless questions Mr. Jenkins again requested that someone come out and hung up the phone. A short time later Craven County Sheriff Dept. pulled up and the beating outside suddenly stopped. Mr. Jenkins states "I can't believe what happened next. After answering the door the sheriffs just walked into my home without any introduction or invitation and again asked me if I had any guns!" "yes", He responded "I am a 79 year old Veteran and I have a right to have a gun in my own

home and I have permits for them."

He showed them a gun that he normally keeps in the front room for protection and hidden from sight. He says the Sheriff stated that he was going to take his gun and grabbed at the barrel of it while Mr. Jenkins was still holding on to it. At this point they began to struggle for the weapon while the Sheriff's partner simply stood in the doorway laughing at the situation. The altercation went on for a few minutes longer until the officer grabbed Mr. Jenkins neck. Mr. Jenkins states "He grabbed held of the gun with one hand and the back of my neck with other twisting and turning my body in an attempt to get me to release the gun."

Mr. Jenkins' wife had seen all she could take as she screamed out, "Let go of my sick husband!" She ran toward the two men and began to struggle with them as well to get possession of the gun. A few seconds had past and she managed to get hold of the gun and quickly left the room with it. Tired, exhausted and possibly a little frightened Mr. Jenkins tells the officer that he should not be treating him like this, that he is 79 years old and very ill. According to Mr. Jenkins the officer simply re-

sponded that he did not care. The other Sheriff who had been standing in the doorway watching the events unfold finally asked if Mr. Jenkins needed an ambulance and told the 1st officer to wait in the car.

The Minority Voice newspaper was unable to contact anyone from the Craven county Sheriff Dept. for comment. We asked if the original complaint regarding the break-in had been investigated or if the officers involved had been reprimanded for their actions. According to our sources neither have taken place. The following day the Jenkins family says they spoke with Chief Bundy to ask why the sheriffs had come into his home and attacked him as they did. He informed us that he was told that the Department would take of any medical injuries resulting from the incident and that incident would be taken care of.

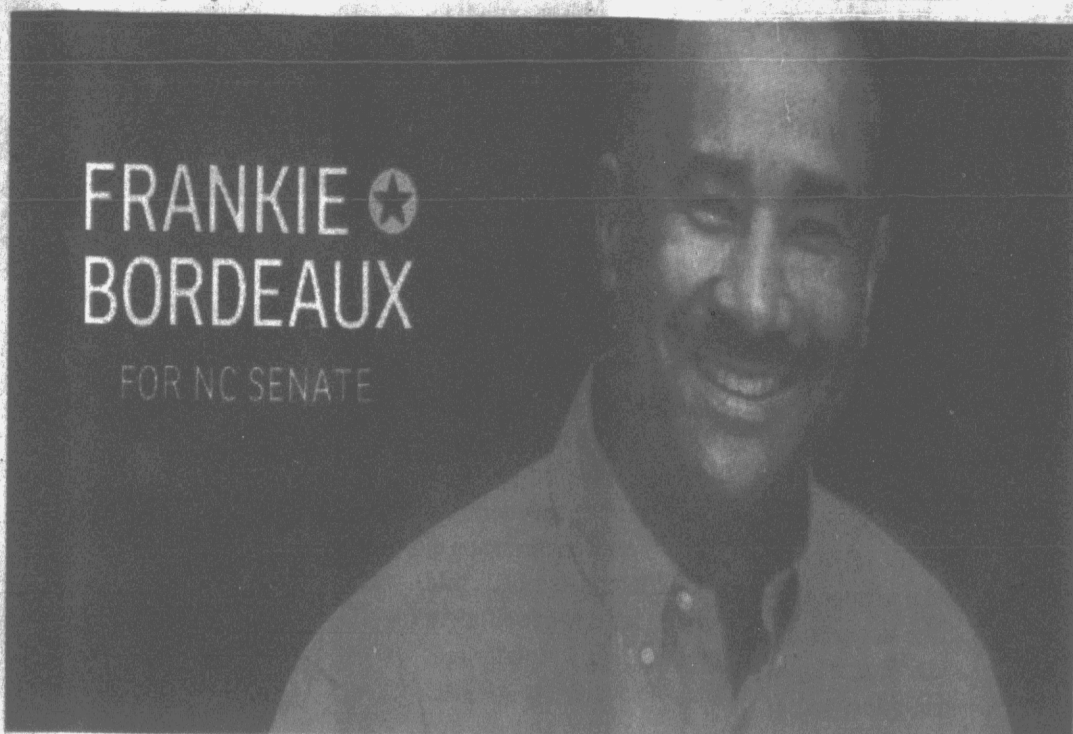
According to sources of The Minority Voice newspaper as described this incident does not follow any typical procedures when trying to secure a gun in a person residence. In addition, we were informed that any officer must be invited into a home without a prior warrant being issued. The Jenkins are still very frightened and concerned for their safety. They are even hesitant to call the Sheriff Dept. in case of future break-ins.

Unfortunately, the Jenkins family is no stranger to trouble. Living in Vanceboro for over 79 years, a town with a long history of racial tension Mr. Jenkins has seen his fair share of racist behavior by local law enforcement. He recalls Like many African-Americans growing up in the segregated South, he has learned to accept many things and walk away from many others. At one time the Jenkins Family lived on one of the largest

farms in Vanceboro, a place where he still resides. At one point after being told by someone wishing to buy his property he was asked have you ever seen a Black man with this much property. Shortly after refusing to sell the original family home had been destroyed a fire set by suspected Klu Klux Klan members. Years after rebuilding crops were set a blaze

shortly after harvest. He has awoken to the sight of several burning crosses in his front yard even as recent as 1982. His home has been shot upon countless times while racial slurs rang out from the car. Unbelievably, in all these cases no charges were ever filed. The Jenkins remained silent they are a living example of Black History a true

picture of what perseverance and hard work can accomplish. It is Mr. Jenkins belief that all these attacks that he and his family have endured over the years stems from one thing, to get him to sell his property, a long time request from other local farmers.



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# 1st African-American Saint ?

By Carol Glatz *Catholic News Service* VATICAN CITY -

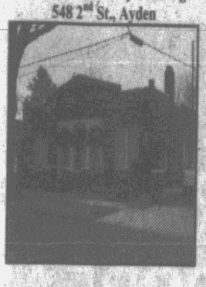
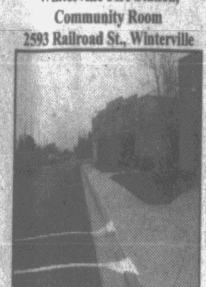
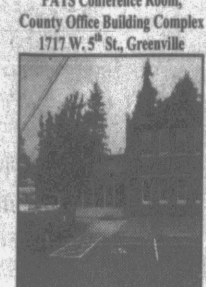
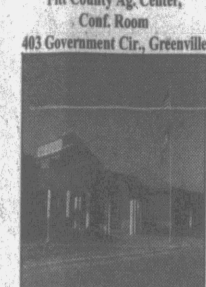
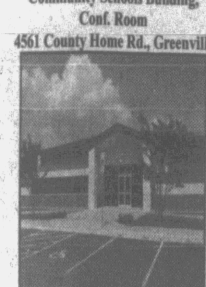
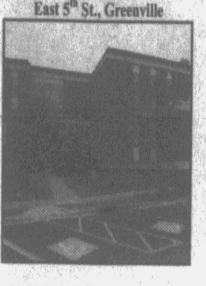


Pope Benedict XVI advanced the sainthood cause of Mother Henriette Delille, a freeborn woman of African descent in 19th-century New Orleans, declaring that she had lived a life of "heroic virtues." By signing the decree March 27, the pope confirmed the recommendations of Vatican authorities who have studied the cause for several years. She can be beatified once a miracle is attributed to her intercession. If her cause advances, she could become the first African-American saint. Pope Benedict also approved the decrees of three martyrs: a Romanian bishop, a German priest and a Slovenian lay member of Catholic Action who were killed for their faith in the last century. In 1842 Mother Henriette founded the Sisters of the Holy Family, a congregation of black sisters that cared for the poor and disadvantaged and taught slaves and free blacks. This was during a time under Louisiana law when doing anything to "disturb" black people - in other words, educate them - could be punished by death or life imprisonment. Today, the congregation's more than 200 members operate schools for the poor and homes for the elderly in Louisiana and several other states. They also have a mission in Belize. Mother Henriette's sainthood cause was opened in 1988 and the New Orleans archdiocesan investigation was completed in 2005. Her cause was endorsed unanimously by the U.S. bishops in 1997. Mother Henriette was born in 1812 and died in 1862. Her only recorded writing was penned in the inside cover of an 1836 prayer book: "I believe in God. I hope in God. I love God. I want to live and die for God." Documentation for her sainthood cause included records from the 1820s that suggested that as a teenager, she may have given birth to two sons, each named Henry Bocno. Both boys died at a young age. One death record from the St. Louis Cathedral sacramental register listed Henry Bocno as the son of Henriette Delille. Other

records that were found gave conflicting information, such as one record referring to Henry as the son of "Marie." Another record named the mother as "Henriette Sarpy." There is also a possibility that the teenaged Henriette brought in an abandoned child and the priest mistook her for the mother, according to the archdiocesan archivist Charles Nolan. In a 2005 interview, Nolan said the newly uncovered funeral records would not affect the cause, because even if she had given birth to two children out of wedlock, it happened two years before her confirmation in 1834. "When the second child died, she took a whole different course in life," Nolan said, noting she decided to dedicate herself "to live and die for God." Benedictine Father Cyprian Davis, who wrote a definitive biography of Mother Henriette, said in 2005 that "there was this change in her life, there was this turning completely to God. That's really what counted - her life from that point on." Among the other decrees Pope Benedict signed March 27 was the recognition of the second miracle needed for canonization of Spanish Sister Bonifacia Rodriguez de Castro, 1837-1905, founder of the Sister Servants of St. Joseph, a congregation originally dedicated to providing a religious and technical education to poor women. There were decrees approving the beatification of eight men and women, including three martyrs who are: - Bishop Szilard Bogdanffy of Oradea Mare, Romania, an anti-Communist dissident who was born in 1911 and died in prison in 1953. - Father Gerhard Hirschfelder, born in 1907 in Glatz, Germany, who died in the Nazi death camp of Dachau in Germany in 1942. - Lojze Grozde of Ljubljana, Slovenia, a lay member of Catholic Action born in 1923 who was tortured and killed out of hatred of the faith in 1943. Martyrs do not need a miracle attributed to their intercession in order to be beatified. However, miracles must be recognized by the Vatican in order for them to become saints.

# PittCounty Board of Elections

## One-Stop Voting


There will be eight One-Stop sites for the 2010 Primary. Locations, dates, and times are as follows:

<p><b>Ayden Community Building</b> 548 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Ayden</p>  <p>Tuesday - Friday, April 20 - 23 Hours: 11:00 am - 7:00 pm Saturday, April 24 Hours: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm</p>	<p><b>Winterville Fire Station, Community Room</b> 2593 Railroad St., Winterville</p>  <p>Tuesday - Friday, April 27 - 30 Hours: 11:00 am - 7:00 pm Saturday, May 1 Hours: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm</p>	<p><b>PATS Conference Room, County Office Building Complex</b> 1717 W. 5<sup>th</sup> St., Greenville</p>  <p>Tuesday - Friday, April 27 - 30 Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday, May 1 Hours: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm</p>	<p><b>Pitt County Ag. Center, Conf. Room</b> 403 Government Cir., Greenville</p>  <p>Thursday - Friday, April 15 - 16 Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday - Friday, April 19 - 23 Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday, April 24 Hours: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm Monday - Friday, April 26 - 30 Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday, May 1 Hours: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm</p>	<p><b>Community Schools Building, Conf. Room</b> 4561 County Home Rd., Greenville</p>  <p>Thursday - Friday, April 15 - 16 Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday - Friday, April 19 - 23 Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday, April 24 Hours: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm Monday - Friday, April 26 - 30 Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday, May 1 Hours: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm</p>
<p><b>Rivers Building, ECU Room 160</b> East 5<sup>th</sup> St., Greenville</p>  <p>Tuesday and Wednesday, April 27 - 28 Hours: 11:00 am - 7:00 pm</p>	<p><b>Farmville Community Center</b> 417 S. Main St., Farmville</p>  <p>Tuesday - Friday, April 27 - 30 Hours: 11:00 am - 7:00 pm Saturday, May 1 Hours: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm</p>	<p><b>Teen Center</b> 1703 E. 14<sup>th</sup> St., Greenville</p>  <p>Tuesday - Friday, April 27 - 30 Hours: 11:00 am - 7:00 pm Saturday, May 1 Hours: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm</p>	<p><b>SAME DAY REGISTRATION DURING ONE-STOP VOTING</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fill out a voter registration application in person at a One-Stop site and meet all regular requirements for voting: be a U.S. citizen, be 18 years old by the date of the election, have lived for 30 days at current address.</li> <li>Provide appropriate identification with <u>current name and address</u>. The following documents will serve as acceptable identification: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A North Carolina driver's license</li> <li>A utility bill (phone, electric, cable television, or water bill)</li> <li>A document from a local, state, or U.S. government agency (passport, government-issued photo ID, property tax bill, automotive registration, certified documentation of naturalization, public housing or Social Service Agency document)</li> <li>A student photo ID along with a document from the school showing the student's name and address</li> <li>A paycheck or paycheck stub from an employer or a W-2 statement</li> <li>A bank statement or bank-issued credit card statement</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	

# Vote for KAY ROUSE

## Pitt County School Board District 2A

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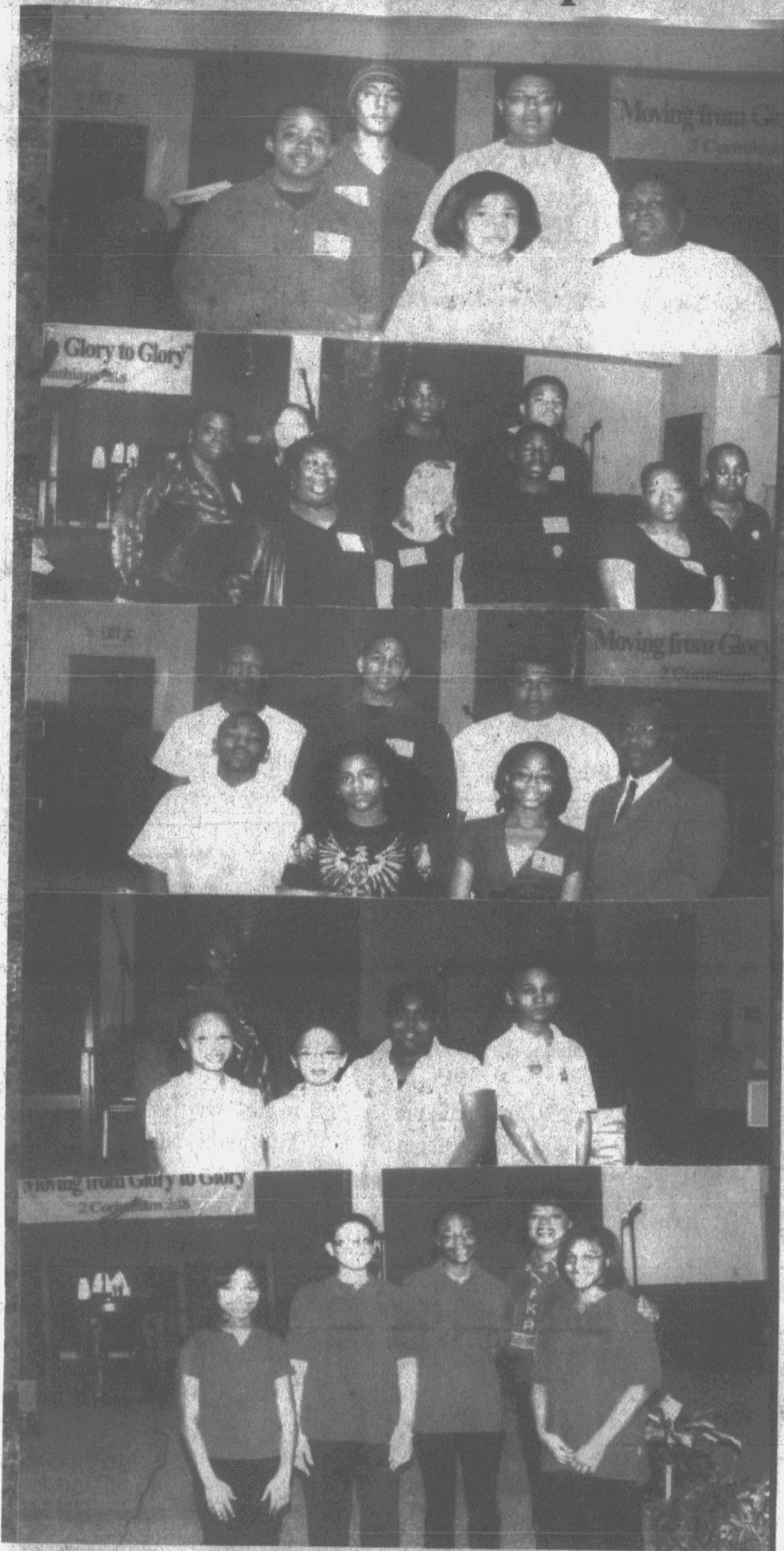
**2 Hot Dogs  
French Fries & Drink  
\$5.50**

**Downtown Location Only!  
Expires 7-31-10**



# Cubbie's

# 2010 Annual Black History Quiz Bowl Participants



Pictured above are some of the 2010 annual Black History Quiz Bowl participants presented by Iota Kappa Omega Chapter Alpha Kappa Sorority Incorporated along with George Washington Carver library and 100 Black Men of Eastern NC.....photo by Jim Rouse

## 2010 CDBG WEEK CELEBRATION

### Schedule of Events

The Week of April 5 - 10, 2010 has been designated as National Community Development Block Grant Week by the National Community Development Association.

#### KICKOFF EVENT

Monday, April 5, 2010  
10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon  
604 Ford Street

#### PUBLIC EDUCATION FORUM

Opportunity to learn about our various housing programs  
Tuesday, April 6, 2010  
10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon  
Greenville City Hall, Gallery  
200 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Greenville NC

#### TOUR OF HOUSING DIVISION ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, April 7, 2010  
10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

*For Elected Officials and City Board Members Only*

#### HOUSING PARTNERS RECEPTION

Friday, April 9, 2010  
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
City Hall Gallery Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
201 West Fifth Street, Greenville, NC

To RSVP call the Housing Division at (252) 329-4481

#### CLEAN UP IN WEST GREENVILLE

Saturday, April 10, 2010  
10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon  
Corner of Contentnea & West Fifth Street  
Corner of 14<sup>th</sup> Street & West Fifth Street

*For more information, contact the Housing Division at (252) 329-4481*

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### NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

The City of Greenville Community Development Department, Housing Division is requesting proposals for demolition of the following single family dwellings located in the 45 Block West Greenville Revitalization area:

702 Douglas Avenue

1108 Douglas Avenue

The firm bidding will provide unit costs for all of the mentioned bid specification requirements for each individual unit.

Instructions and complete specifications for contractors will be available at the mandatory pre-bid meeting located at 702 Douglas Avenue, Greenville 9:30 AM Thursday, April 8, 2010. Contractors are required to attend the pre-bid meeting in order to submit a bid.

The Contractor must provide copies of all landfill and recycle disposal receipts, trip tickets and manifests to the Housing Rehabilitation Specialist of Community Development, Housing Division.

Bid proposals are due by 9:00 AM EST on Tuesday, April 13, 2010. Submit bids to Housing Division, Community Development Department, 201 West Fifth Street, third floor, Greenville, North Carolina, ATTN: Linda Mims. Bid proposals will be opened and read promptly at 9:15 AM EST on Tuesday, April 13, 2010, at the Municipal Building, 201 West Fifth Street, third floor, Greenville, North Carolina. The City of Greenville reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted. Minorities and female owned businesses are encouraged to participate. For further information, you may contact Virgil Smith, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist at (252) 329-4503.

# From The Desk Of Mrs. Beatrice Maye



The editor-

Americans take less vacation time than any other people in the world. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 25% of Americans receive no paid vacation time. Many people feel so pressured by the everyday demands of life that they are exhausted, struggling to keep pace, and dreading the work that plies up when they choose to take a break.

To determine if you are working too much, consider your responses to these statements.

1. You talk about work more than any other topic.
2. Your work often replaces time with friends and social outings.
3. Your home is a second office.
4. You consistently work overtime whether there is a pressing deadline or not.
5. You take work, laptops or palm pilots on trips (such as family reunions, vacations, and weekend getaways).
6. Work provides more joy in your life than anything else.
7. You feel that sleep and personal time cut into your work time.
8. The last time you took a vacation was more than six months ago.

The Challenge: Healthy relationships and self-care are a higher priority to me than overworking.

Beatrice Maye

WITH  
EVERYDAY EXERCISE

## The M'Voice Wishes Everyone A Wonderful And Blessed Easter



Take the stairs instead of the escalator even when you're tired.

Rake your own leaves instead of paying the kids next door.

Wash your car by hand and follow up with a triceps-toning wax.

Try grocery bag curls as you carry them inside.

Rent a bike instead of a car on your next vacation.

Walk the terminal when your plane is late

Before you know it, being active will become second nature.

The editor -

Do you want to be happy? Try these tools

Appreciation is the purest, strongest form of love. It is the outward-bound kind of love that ask for nothing and gives everything.

Choice is the father of freedom and the voice of the heart. Having no choices or options feels like being in jail. It leads to depression, anxiety, and learned helplessness. Anyone can

choose the courses of their lives, but only happy people do it.

Personal power guides your power over your feelings and power over your fate. Personal power has two components: taking responsibility and taking action.

Leading with your strengths. Leading with your strengths feels good and will never be complete until you learn to lead with your strengths every day.

The power of language. We don't describe the world we see, we see the world we describe. We think in words, and these words, and these words have the power to limit us or to set us free.

Multi-faceted living. There are three components of life: relationships, health and purpose. Happiness comes from a full life instead of putting all our energy into just one area

Happiness has no expiration date. Therefore, practice positivity, gratitude and generosity daily.

Beatrice Maye

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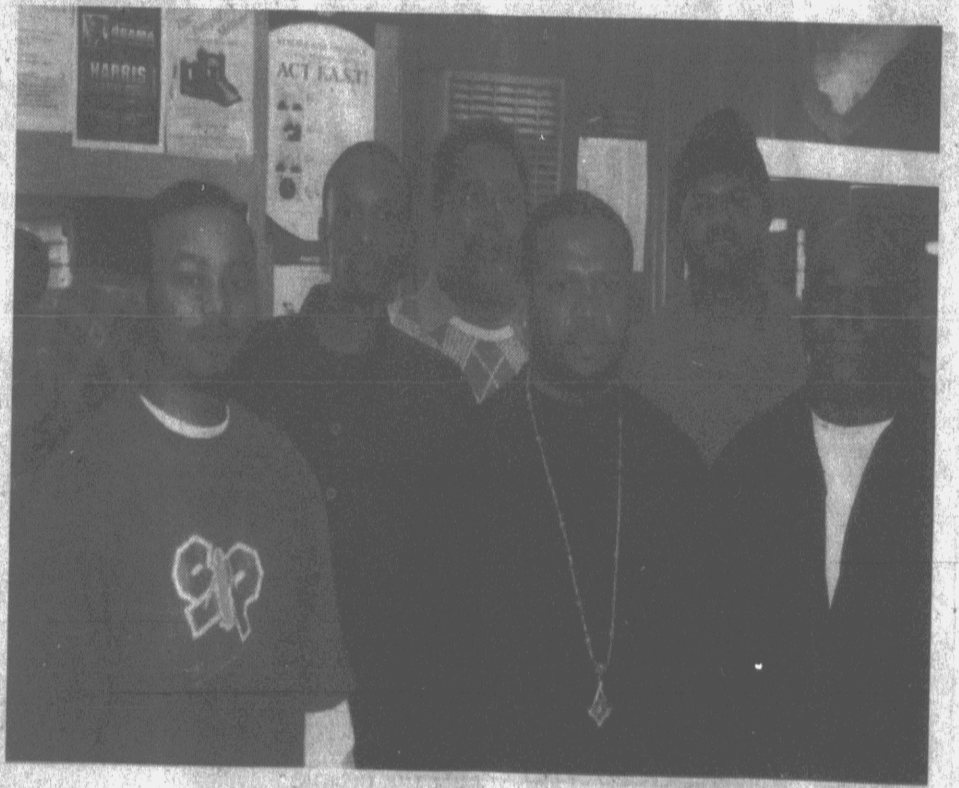
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Tarry Barnes, James Spruil



# Vote for



## KAY ROUSE Pitt County School Board District 2A

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Kay Rouse \* Pitt County School Board

# How to Gauge Your Middle-Class Status

by Rick Newman

Tuesday, March 23, 2010 provided by

## Assessing Your Middle-Class Status

Despite the so-called recovery, many families continue to struggle, with income and other living

standards slipping below thresholds that typically represent middle-class quality of life. We've assembled a variety of metrics to help determine whether you're getting ahead, holding steady, or slipping further than most.

### Income

For the 50 percent of families in the middle of the scale, household income ranges from \$51,000 to \$123,000 for a typical four-person, two-parent family. The median is about \$81,000. Those numbers are from 2008, and have probably fallen 5 to 7 percent since then, on account of the recession.

Median income for a single-parent, two-child family is about \$25,000.

### Housing Costs

For two-parent families, the typical home is worth about \$231,000, accounting for \$17,600 in mortgage payments and other costs per year. Housing costs have risen by more than twice as much as income since 1990, a trend that may finally be reversing thanks to the housing bust.

### Home Size

The housing bubble was one factor that boosted housing costs, but the typical family also lives in a much bigger home. The median size of a new, single-family home jumped by 40 percent between 1979 and 2007, to about 2,300 square feet. That may now be declining, as families downsize and some get booted from homes they can't afford.

### Medical Expenses

You've probably heard — healthcare costs are going through the roof. A study by the middle-class task force headed by Vice President Joe Biden says the median two-parent family spends \$5,100 per year on health insurance and non-covered expenses—assuming an employer provides health insurance. Healthcare costs have risen far more than any other aspect of the family budget since 1990, with no end in sight.

### Cars

They provide mobility and represent freedom, one reason the typical family spends about \$12,400 per year on two medium-sized sedans or the equivalent, with a new-car value of \$45,000. The recession

may have dampened our love of the road, however: Americans are driving less and car sales are off about 40 percent.

### College Savings

The typical family puts aside \$4,100 for college expenses for two kids, estimated to cover about 75 percent of expenses at a state university. Financial aid helps with the rest. But if possible, toss more into the college fund: As states face budget crunches, tuition and fees are going up.

### Vacations

One week at the beach or another destination is standard, at a cost of \$3,000 or so for four. More affluent families can afford two weeks, at a typical cost of \$6,100.

### Retirement Savings

A median-income family that saved 3.2 percent of its income—roughly equivalent to the national saving rate—would sock away nearly \$2,600 per year for retirement. Of course many families don't hit even that modest goal, and stock-market losses over the last several years have further shrunk the national nest egg.

### Everyday Spending

Clothes, food, utilities, entertainment and other living expenses amount to \$14,200 a year for a median-income family. Not surprisingly, this is one set expenses many families are trying to reduce, by buying more discount brands, using less or doing without.

### Number of Earners

In 76 percent of two-parent families, both parents work. The higher the household income, the more likely it is that both parents are contributing.

### Hours Worked

Few parents will be surprised to hear that Moms and Dads are working more than they used to. The total number of hours worked in a two-parent family is 3,747 per year, up 5 percent since 1990. The increased hours add up to more than four 40-hour weeks of additional work per family.

### Education

The typical household head has a high school degree plus about two years of college education, up by more than a full year of college since 1990. Good thing—education is a key factor in lifetime earnings, and high school dropouts face a dim future by nearly every measure.

### Free Time

What's your top priority? In a 2008 poll by the Pew Research Center, it wasn't healthy kids, a strong marriage or a great career; 68 percent of respondents said it was free time. (And just 12 percent said it was being wealthy.)

### Household Net Worth

The typical household has a net worth of about \$84,000, according to the Federal Reserve. That's down 30 percent since 2007, thanks to losses in stock portfolios and home values.

### Debt

About 18 percent of disposable income, on average, goes toward mortgage payments, auto loans, credit cards and other forms of household debt. That's a bit higher than it was in the '70s and '80s. But since debt payments peaked at the beginning of 2008, at 18.9 percent of income, they've been steadily falling.

## All's Barber Shop

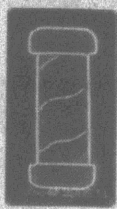
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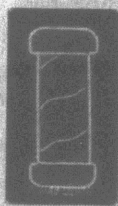
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Donnie

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