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The PEOPLE'S Voice

Weekly News

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THE NEW BLACK VOICE OF EAST ALABAMA AND WEST GEORGIA

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November 4, 2005 - November 11, 2005

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POWER STRIPS

© Charlotte A. Clark-Frieson

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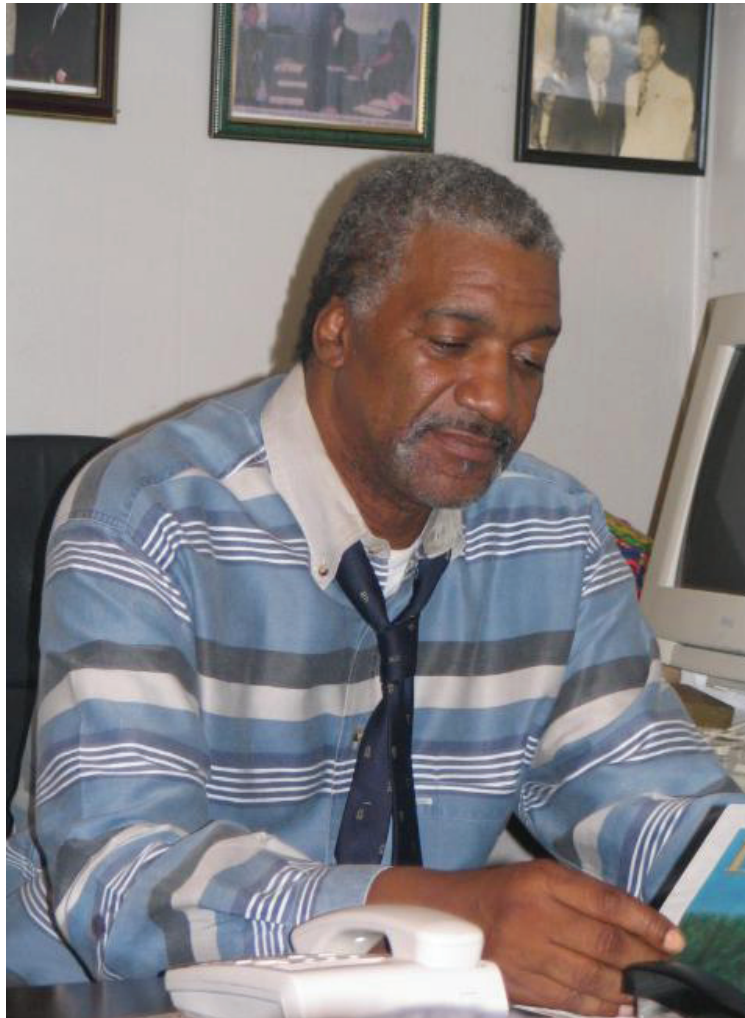
"My People Are Destroyed For Lack Of Knowledge...."
Hosea 4:6

DAVID B. BAKER... Just a Few Miles Down The Road A Black Warrior For Environmental Justice

David Baker
African-American
Giant-Slayer

By: Charlotte A. Clark-Frieson,
Associate Eitor
caclarkfrieson@msn.com
If you just happened to walk onto the front porch of 1521 Cobb Avenue, you'd probably assume you were about to enter just another bungalow occupied by an African-American family. But, to your surprise, once inside, you would find a busy office, manned by African-Americans, filled with all the latest office equipment and technology, brimming with brochures and publications. You'd see black men young and old, darting in and out, just dropping by to acknowledge David Baker, who probably doesn't have an enemy in the whole city of Anniston, and is probably regarded as the best friend of most African-Americans in Calhoun County. The modest structure, located in the heart of West Anniston, where many blacks reside is a house turned office, where David Baker runs his non-profit org known as CAP, the acronym for Community Against Pollution, which he founded in 1998.

David's organization is largely



responsible for many of the accomplishments related to the industrial giant formerly known as "Monsanto," now known as Solutia, which the communities ultimately ended up suing because of a plethora of health problems

heaped upon them as a result of the company's dumping PCB's into the environment, poisoning the systems of most of the Anniston residents.

Although David Baker has deep roots in Randolph County, Alabama, he has

become a modern-day "giant slayer," in Anniston, Alabama, the city where he grew up. He is the grandson of the late Reverend Elcainer R. and Lucille Dunson, of Roanoke; he is also the grandson of the late Morgan and Bethenia Baker. Both grandparents are Randolph County natives. David is the son of the late Grover Baker, Sr., and the recently deceased Ms. Imogene Dunson Baker.

While growing up in Anniston, David's brother, Terry passed away at the age of 17, suffering from a striking array of illnesses including: brain tumor, lung cancer and hardening of the arteries. Although at the time of Terry's passing, no one made the connection between Terry's death, and the pollution of the environment; he still recalls how they used to play in the drainage ditches that carried run-off from the nearby Monsanto plant. David recalled getting boils on his head and rash called core acne under his feet due to PCB pollution. David stated, "We use to throw rocks, shoot bows and arrows, tie a tree from a tree and cross over the water." He said, "But I always promised my mama that one day, I would find out what happened to Terry."

Resolving issues and troubleshooting

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Saying "GOODBYE" To Rosa Parks



Saying "Goodbye" to Sister Rosa Parks
By: Reverend Cornelius Reese, Jr.

The weather was beautiful on Saturday, October 25th when we journeyed to the capital city, Montgomery, Alabama. It was a very special day and weekend in our state and in Montgomery. Earlier during the week, our state, our country and our world had lost one of its most courageous citizens, "Mrs. Rosa Parks." Governor Bob. Riley had declared Friday, October 28, as the day for our state to mourn the loss of Mrs. Parks. A memorial service was held on Friday, October 28, at the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church where the Mayor, a representative of the Governor, the Lt. Governor, members of the state government and former Ambassador to the United Nations, Andrew Young were to speak. Flags above the state capital were lowered to half-staff for the three-day period when Mrs. Parks would be honored in our state.

There was a march to the church where the body of Mrs. Rosa Parks was carried by a horse-driven hearse. Mrs. Parks was carried to St. Paul A.M.E. Church where she had served as an usher for a number of years before moving to Detroit. The crowd was large with mass media and personalities from every area

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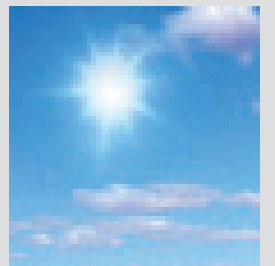
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POWERFUL
PAGES
Where You
Can Get
YOUR
"READ"
On!

.....
Challenge Your Mind...
Get The Facts...
Form an Opinion...
Share It With Others...
Pass It On!....
Take A Stand....

7 - DAY FORECAST



Tonight: Clear early; then becoming partly cloudy; low near 48. Calm wind.
Tuesday: Scattered showers & thunderstorms. Cloudy; high around 73. Calm wind. 30% Chance of precipitation.
Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy; low around 42. Calm wind becoming north around 5 mph.
Wednesday: Partly cloudy; high near 72. North wind around 5 mph.
Wednesday Night: Mostly clear; low around 43. Calm wind becoming east around 5 mph.
Thursday: Mostly sunny; high near 72.
Thursday Night: Clear; low near 47.
Friday: Mostly sunny; high around 80.
Friday Night: Clear; low around 54.
Saturday: Partly cloudy; high around 77.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy; low around 57.
Sunday: A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy; high around 75.
Sunday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy; low near 53.
Monday: Mostly sunny; high around 71.

HAVE A GREAT WEEK!!

EDITORIALS & OPINIONS

Accounting for Black Progress, Part I

GUEST EDITORIAL

By: The Thora Institute
Social Science
Serving Black
America

No one would have called John H. Johnson, the publisher of Ebony and other magazines, a failure because his publishing company was not as big as Time Warner, Inc. No one would consider Oprah Winfrey a failure because she is not as wealthy as Bill Gates. While people do not make this type of assessment of individual blacks, many people make exactly this type of assessment of blacks collectively.

“I basically want to figure out where blacks went wrong,” stated the black, Harvard economist, Roland G. Fryer, Jr. for an article in the New York Times Magazine (March 20, 2005). He continued, “One could rattle off all the statistics about blacks not doing so well. You can look at the black-white differential in out-of-wedlock births or infant mortality

or life expectancy. Blacks are the worst-performing ethnic group on SAT’s. Blacks earn less than whites. They are still just not doing well, period.”

The black, Yale child psychiatrist and educational reformer, James Comer stated that blacks are “worse off than we were before Brown v. Board. And a large part of the reason for this is that we have abandoned our own black traditional core values, values that sustained us through slavery and Jim Crow segregation.” Comer was quoted positively by the black, Harvard, African-American Studies professor, Henry Louis Gates, Jr. for a New York Times editorial (August 1, 2004) about how blacks were basically “going wrong.” One could easily find a dozen other similar statements made about blacks recently by black intellectuals. Bill Cosby’s statements last year are only the most notorious.

What I will show on over the next few weeks is that in

general blacks are not “going wrong,” but many black leaders and intellectuals are getting it wrong in their assessments of black America. They are assessing blacks based on misleading comparisons with whites. If blacks are not achieving at the same level as whites they then conclude that something is wrong with blacks.

There are three flaws in doing this type of assessment of blacks: (1) it does not examine where blacks are today in comparison with where blacks were in the past; (2) it makes incorrect assumptions about the causes of gaps between blacks and whites; and (3) it assumes that America is a racially equal, color-blind society. This week I will address the first flaw. It subsequent weeks I will address the second and third.

A fair way to assess blacks is to compare where blacks are today with where they were in the past. This is the type of accounting an accountant would

do for a business. A business is not assessed based on what is its income in comparison with Microsoft’s, but on what is its income today in comparison with its income last year. A business that shows greater income year after year would receive a positive assessment even if its income was no where near as large as Microsoft’s.

How do blacks look when we compare where blacks are today with where they were in the past? In most areas blacks are doing significantly better. Next week, we will bring you some interesting data of facts to know. What is the Thora Institue?

About the Thora Institute:

Mission Statement

The Thora Institute disseminates facts and analyses about black Americans for the purpose of improving the socioeconomic standing of black Americans. Thora Institute publications are geared toward refuting popular misconceptions about

blacks and toward educating the public about the benefits of progressive public policy for blacks. The ultimate goal of the Thora Institute is a just, equitable and integrated society.

Founder and Director Algernon Austin Mr. Austin received his Ph.D. in Sociology from Northwestern University in 2001 and he was on the faculty of Wesleyan University from 2001 to 2005. His book Achieving Blackness: Race, Black Nationalism and Afrocentrism will be published by New York University Press in 2006. He has published articles in Ethnic and Racial Studies, Qualitative Sociology, the Journal of African American Studies, and Race, Gender and Class.

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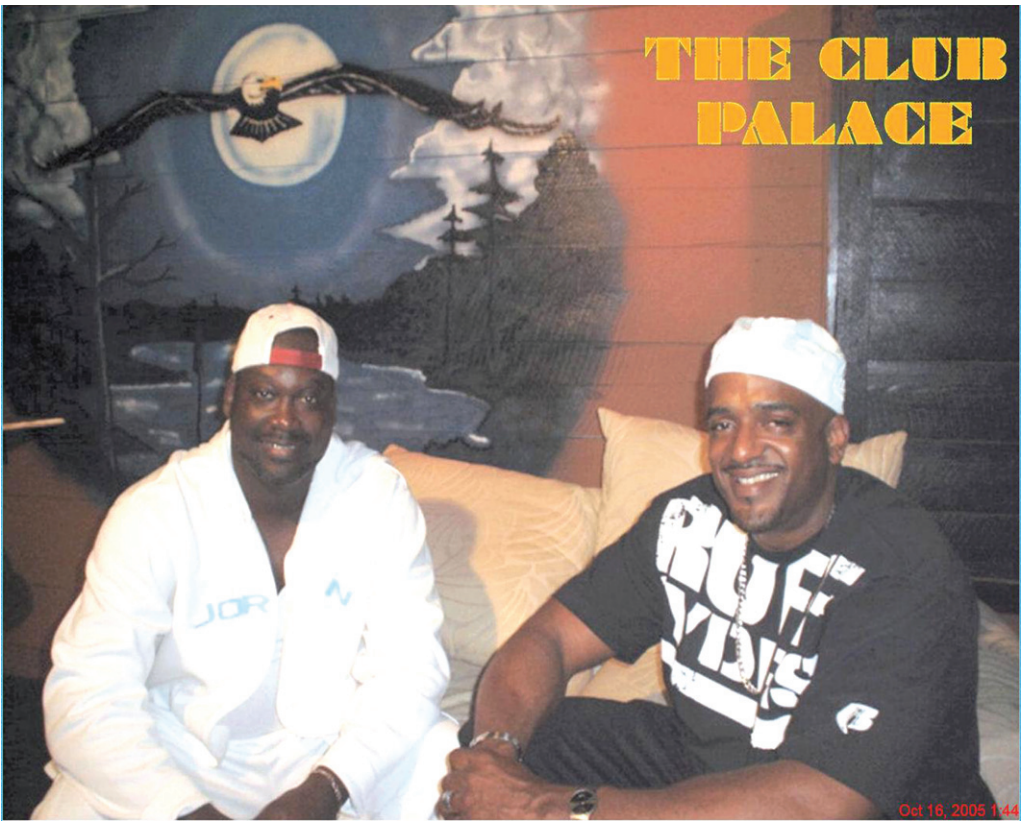
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COME ON OUT AND HAVE A GREAT TIME...

Drink, shoot pool, and dance!!

Weekends With The One And Only “D.J. Nard”

Rosa Parks Memorialized In Washington, D.C.

Thousands attend memorial service at the historic Metropolitan A.M.E. Church

October 31, 2005
Julian Bond, Chairman, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and Bruce S. Gordon, NAACP President & CEO, joined thousands of mourners who paid their respects to Rosa Parks during a memorial service today at Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C.

During a tribute to Mrs. Parks, Bond said:“Her actions produced a movement and introduced America to a new leader. She wasn’t the first to refuse to surrender to Montgomery apartheid. There had

been Claudette Colvin. There had been Mary Louise Smith and countless others before her. Those who believed they had rights like any other citizen. But Rosa Parks was the first person to plead not guilty. For her, breaking Alabama law was obeying the Constitution. It was defending justice.”

When Mrs. Parks refused to give up her seat to a white man on December 1, 1955, it sparked the Montgomery bus boycott and the modern day civil rights movement. The Rev. Martin

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Bernard McGhee, Barber

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FEATURES



David Baker
Continued From Front Page
problems has long been his forte. After graduating from high school in Anniston, he joined the Navy, and upon his discharge from the Navy, he moved to New York, where he worked in the medical field. In the 27 years, prior to his move “back home,” David was an organizer for the Local 420 Union in New York, New York. His last role was serving as administrative assistant to the president. David organized hospital and social workers, processed grievances, and supervised office operations. His last role in the union was serving as administrative assistant to the president.

After his return home, David worked for several months as an assistant to the Russell Williams, the Director at Anniston Funeral Service. Later, while seeking other employment, the Alabama Employment Service offered him the opportunity to work for an Environmental Company. After expressing an interest in the job, Russell Williams paid the \$975.00 for David to take the class at the Hampton Inn Hotel in Oxford, Alabama.

Subsequently, after David went to work for the environmental company, many unanswered questions began to surface. People began planting their vegetables in buckets after buying their fertilizer from Lowe's. Children were afraid to play out side because of the pollution.

Ironically, two years earlier, in 1993, a fisherman had found a severely deformed fish about 5 miles from the location of the Monsanto Plant.

Two years later (In 1995), the Monsanto Plant began informing home-owners their land was contaminated by the PCB. Monsanto Plant began buying up houses from private homeowners. Tall chain links and warning signs, due to the pollution from the PCB, surround various areas around the plant. Many families had been affected by the presence of the PCBs for years without knowing. David found letters down in the archive dating all the way back to 1937, stating “read and destroy”. These letters contained references to the PCBs.

So on accident, Mr. Baker had discovered that there had been 50 years of covering up the presence of PCB's.

It all began in 1931, when the Monsanto plant manufactured polychlorinated biphenyls in a neighborhood in western Anniston. The population was mostly poor Blacks living in low standard housing that they could afford. In 1935, Monsanto bought the Anniston plant, which six years earlier had gotten into the business of manufacturing PCBs, short for polychlorinated biphenyls. Many of the citizens worked at the Monsanto plant. Not aware of what was being dumped on their properties, families continued to eat crops grown in

the contaminated soil of their back yards. Monsanto manufactured PCB chemicals from 1931 to 1971. In 1938, Monsanto received a report from Dr. Cecil K. Drinkard, a professor of physiology at the Harvard School of Public Health, showing that PCBs were toxic to animals. In 1944, the company published safety guidelines for the workers who handled the chemicals to follow. They were to have one for work clothes and one for street wear in order to prevent contamination. Employees had to take a supervised shower after every shift. In 1979 the U.S. government banned the manufacture of the chemical on the grounds that it is a

Streams yards, parks and private properties have been polluted by the PCB.

During production, the company was dumping waste chemicals into landfills located on company property. Six years after Monsanto stopped making PCBs in Anniston, the Environmental Protection Agency banned PCB production, citing the chemicals as “probable human carcinogens,' though no studies had proved that PCBs cause cancer.

In 1995, two years later, the Monsanto Plant began informing home- owners their land was



“probable” cancer-causing agent in humans. Monsanto stopped making PCB in 1971, but did not warn the community of the untreated wastes they had been dumping in the steams and landfills. It had been stated in 1935, Monsanto could have installed a simple filtration device called an oil-water separator that would have largely solved the problem for only \$3,000.

From 1956 to 1971 alone, PCB had produced close to 500 million pounds of PCB on the land fills of Monsanto's property. At that time, it was legal for them to dump the waste in their own landfill. But, it had seeped out on other lands, and no one really knew for a fact that there were health hazards associated with it.

contaminated by the PCB. Monsanto Plant began buying up houses from private homeowners. Tall chain links and warning signs, due to the pollution from the PCB, surround Franklin Towers. Many families had been affected the pollution of the PCB for years without knowing. In March 1996, a former U.S. Senator Donald Stewart began filing lawsuits against the Monsanto in behalf of the Anniston community. Many families were given physicals that proved they were affected by the PCB contaminations. As Stewart prepared for trial, which didn't go before a jury until 2002, many plant residents weren't happy about being shut out of the lawsuit filed by Mr. Stuart.

As the issue began to gain exposure, the number of victims grew. People

were eating fish from the Chocoloco River, not knowing that the water was contaminated with PCB. They were affected because they didn't know the vegetables grown on their land were polluted; some people were affected by the pollution more severely than others because of their immune systems. Others developed skin rashes, tumors, and problems in their respiratory, nervous systems, lymph nodes and cancer. The pollution affected children. People began planting their vegetables in buckets after buying their fertilizer from Lowe's. Children were afraid to play out side because of the pollution.

David Baker, a former plant employee and a client of Stewart, set out to find more attorneys and as many people as he could to sue the chemical company. Baker felt that everyone affected by the pollution should be paid.

As the issues evolved, David was prompted to really get involved. So, he was led to contact the now deceased, Mr. Johnny Cochran, a Lawyer in California to seek his expertise with the law suits involving family victims.

So, CAP was organized as a result David's desire to see that everyone (particularly African-American residents, and other low-income families) would be included in any litigation against Monsanto.

David Baker contacted Johnny Cochran in California. At this time David worked at Anniston Funeral Home part-time. In August 2001, Mr. Cochran flew to Birmingham and was met by Mr. Baker in the funeral home limousine. They proceeded back to Anniston and were received by 5000 people. People began to have hope! The case became known as, Tolbert et al. v. Monsanto et al., which was originally filed in May 2001 in U.W. Clemon's Federal Court. In 1997, one year after Stewart filed his big state case, Monsanto spun

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Saying “GOODBYE” To Sister Rosa Parks

Saying Goodbye
Continued
From Front Page

of life. A replica of the bus where Mrs. Parks made her famous stance was parked in from of the St. Paul A.M.E. Church. The crowd was allowed to enter the bus and walk through. “Mrs. Park's seat was draped in black and it held a picture of Mrs. Parks.

After waiting in line for a period of time, we were able to enter the church to view the body of beautiful and courageous “Mrs. Rosa Parks.” Choosing this outfit many years before her death, “Sister Rosa” was dressed in her last white usher's uniform at St. Paul. Her head was adorned with a small blue and white knitted hat, which was a part of her usher's uniform. Then entire view of this great lady was both beautiful and majestic! Being a part of this historic occasion was indeed awesome. Sister Rosa Parks, who realized her calling and had the courage to answer, was “one of a kind”, and a true servant of the “Most High God.”



Governor Riley Comments on the Death of Rosa Parks

MONTGOMERY - Governor Bob Riley made the following comments Monday evening after learning of the death of Rosa Parks:

“Rosa Parks will always be remembered as a courageous woman who quietly confronted injustice, and in so doing, she changed a nation.”

THE MONTGOMERY MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR ROSA PARKS

newssource via blacknews



Masses of people were all going to one common place, and that is the St. Paul AME Church. On last Sunday morning as hundreds of people attended a memorial service for Rosa Parks, mother of the civil rights movement.

Colorful flowers surrounded the closed casket of Parks and an honor guard stood close by as a select group of family members and friends packed the pews of the church on East Patton Avenue. Some of those who did not make it into the church watched from a separate wing, while hundreds more waited outside.

Among the many people who spoke during the two-and-a-half-hour ceremony was U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who said that if it

weren't for Parks, she would not be in her current position.

“Her single act of courage set off a revolution,” said Rice, who grew up in Birmingham. “I can honestly say that without Mrs. Parks, I would not be standing here today as secretary of state.”



During the service, Rice sat in the front row next to Johnnie Carr, president of the Montgomery Improvement Association and a friend of Parks, and Elaine Eason Steele,

another close friend and co-founder of the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development in Detroit.

Rice and Steele later helped escort Carr to the altar and stood behind her as she spoke about growing up with Parks and how the two became close friends.

“We have accomplished a lot and we've come a long way but we still have a long way to go,” Carr said. “When you leave this service, think of this beautiful woman and don't ever forget her.”

Other dignitaries joining Rice in honoring Parks were Gov. Bob Riley, U.S. Rep. Artur Davis, D-Birmingham, Montgomery Mayor Bobby Bright, Martin Luther King III, the

POWER STRIP

Acts of Faith... Daily Meditations for People of Color

If we never faced adversity, our well-being would not be as sweet.

-- Terry Kellog

Is there a persistent problem plaguing you? Does it seem to just loom over your head waiting to swoop down and devour you? Is it a money problem? A relationship? A choice or decision you can't seem to make? Do you feel as if you have been backed into a corner with no way out? Good! That is exactly where you need to be! Now take your mind off the problem and laugh. That's right, laugh. Stare adversity in the face. Stop trying to figure out what to do. You are probably thinking this is your punishment for something you did in the past. Or maybe you think it's some more of your “bad luck.” Well, just throw those thoughts out of your brain and replace them with “I know there is a power for good in the universe and I call that power forth right now to perfect every condition in my life.” But of course this sounds too easy, too good to be true. You want it to be hard, right? Well, here's something hard for you to work on, “Be ye transformed by the renewal of your mind!”

Photos: LEFT
Johnnie Carr, 94, president of the Montgomery Improvement Association that organized the 381-day bus boycott that followed Mrs. Parks' arrest, talks about her great friend.

Former Mayor of Atlanta, Ga., Andrew Young speaks during the Montgomery Improvement Association Memorial Service for Rosa Parks, attended by about 500 people.

Women On The Front Line....

Jeanetta Stevens... Randolph County Woman On The Front Line

The People’s Voice Weekly News proudly features one of our own progressive young black women, in the person of Ms. T. Jeanetta Minnifield Stevens. How has she merited this coveted place in *The People’s Voice*?

The answer comes quite easily when one considers that she has devoted her entire lifetime to making her mark on our world, by lending her presence, her warm and magnetic smile, her charming demeanor, and her remarkable intelligence to it...thus making it a much more wonderful place for the rest of us who cross her path.

Jeanetta is the daughter of the late Reverend Dr. Warren and Thelma Stephens Minnifield of Roanoke, Alabama. Many often ask her, “What does the “T” stand for? Jeanetta says, the “T” will always be there. She appends the initial for her first name in front of her “called” name in memory of her lovely mother, Thelma, for whom Jeanetta was named, and to whom she bears a striking physical resemblance. Not only does she wear her mother’s name, but she also bears her mother’s loving ways and personality. The late Mrs. Thelma Minnifield is remembered throughout East Alabama and West Georgia as an attractive, intelligent and loving wife, mother and educator.

She is a lady on the front line, a great educator, friend and a believer in God. She never loses her faith. She has worked to apply her influence in numerous areas of life



throughout this world, with a major emphasis on public education and the Christian faith. Her life reflects a great respect and love for education and the arts. In addition, her current activities and involvements reflect love and pride in her African-American heritage and history. As a Career Educator, she consistently demonstrated an outstanding ability to love, nurture and teach little ones during their early years.

Our community has been enriched by Jeanetta’s life-long presence. East Alabama and West Georgia knows and recognizes her as a friend, co-laborer in the community vineyard, and a very talented lady. On any occasion she is

encountered she is the same sweet person with a smile.

As a youngster traveling with her parents who were also respected educators, Jeanetta attended 10th Street Elementary School in West Point, Georgia during her kindergarten, 1st, 3rd and 4th grade years; 2nd grade was completed at Randolph County Training School, Roanoke, Alabama; 5th – 7th grades at Mary Johnson High School, Franklin, Georgia, where her father, Warren Minnifield was serving as Principal. After integration, she spent her junior and senior year at Heard County High School, Franklin, Georgia.

In 1974, she was recognized in Who’s Who among

American High School Students. Her many activities included: band, chorus, Glee Club, Trio, Jazz Band Singer, Future Business Leaders of America, Student Government, Y-Club, Future Teachers of America, Future Homemakers of America, and One Act Plays. Jeanetta attended a Christian Youth Conference at Berry College, Honor Band, which produced a record featuring her performances. She was also voted Best All Around in her senior year; voted Miss Senior Prom Queen, and received the Alpha Kappa Alpha Book Scholarship.

After graduation from high school in 1974, Jeanetta continued her education at Alabama State University

in Montgomery where she received a B.S. in Early Childhood Education in 1977. During her years at Alabama State, she was recognized in Who’s Who Among Universities and Colleges in 1976-1977. Her many activities included: Student Government Association Representative and Executive Staff, University Center Governing Board Committee Secretary, Service Award, Academic Affairs Board Student Representative, NAACP, Honor Roll, Student National Education Association, Young Hearts Gospel Choir Treasurer, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in 1975- Episteleus (Secretary), Miss Freshman Attendant, Miss Alpha Phi Alpha-Black. During her Senior year at

Alabama State, she was voted Miss Senior Alabama State University. She interned at the Zelia Stevens Early Childhood Center, and Clinton Chapel Early Childhood Center, Montgomery, Alabama.

She received her Masters Degree in Early Childhood Education at Alabama State University with Honors in 1979.

Jeanetta was employed with the Roanoke City Schools System from 1977 – 2002. While there, she taught 1st grade from 9 years, Kindergarten-One Program 1 year; Kindergarten for 11 years, Handley High School Chorus, 1 year; Kindergarten, 3 years; Teacher and Lead Teacher of the After School Program. She served as President of the Roanoke Education Association for three years, and Vice-President for 2 Years. She attended almost every Alabama Education Association Convention during her 25 year career. She is a member of the Alabama Reading Association and Alabama Classroom Teachers. Moreover, she is the recipient of several P.I.E. grants for Knight Enloe Elementary.

Throughout her teaching career, she continued to study at Jacksonville State University, Auburn University and University of Alabama.

Please see Women On The Front Line.....Page 16

L. C. Thornton....Commentary

THERE’S A SUCKING SOUND IN THE COMMUNITY

By L.C. Thornton
email: mrzeke0@aol.com

There is a weird sucking sound that is prevalent in most Black communities. What is that sound? It is the sound of life being sucked out of it. How can that be? The very things that are the backbone of a community are being sucked out. What are those things? Education takes the forefront. One can argue that education is not being sucked out, but rather being pushed out from within. Next comes wealth. Wealth is being siphoned out at an astonishing pace. Again it can be argued that it too is being pushed out. Closely following education and wealth comes values. Values too are being manipulated out of the community from within and without. Discipline cannot be ignored. It too is being sucked out and pushed out of the community. What are replacing the above-mentioned attribute

of the community? I would be remiss if I didn’t address violence. Lives are being snuffed out needlessly with regularity. This put an additional needless burden on the community. After all, it cost money to bury people. Drug usage and the fallout out from it take a terrible toll on the Black community. Lives are lost, families destroyed and community resources are drained as they try to eradicate the drug problem. Think about how many additional resources could be directed to the health and welfare needs of the community if so much of it did not have to be utilized fighting drugs. The physical and mental health of mothers is being sucked out as they grieve over the loss of young children who have died needlessly. Children are being



killed before they have a chance to experience many of the joys that life has to offer. Their little lives are being sucked out at an alarming pace. Who and what have cheapened the lives of our children? Why do they have to continue to be sucked out of the community at such an early age, due to violence, crime and other unacceptable behavior? Young men and women are being sucked out of the community and placed in the penal system at an alarming pace. Again, some young folks seem to be deliberately living a life that usually

leads to one or two options-**Hell or Jail!** Whites must not get too comfortable with the situation in this community. Good paying jobs that they once held are being sucked out and sent overseas. They are being forced out of the middle class and into a lower standard of living. They are without insurance just like Blacks. They no longer have a private retirement plan. Adequate medical care on a local level is just as rare for them as it is for Blacks. Most of the Mom and Pop businesses in this area have been sucked up and

put out of business by your local Super Store. What are these former small business owners suppose to do, since many are senior citizens and are probably too old to start anew? The Textile industry that once provided decent paying jobs for many people in this community for many years has been almost completely sucked out. When it went, so did the jobs of Whites and Blacks. When We had kee Yarn Mill shut its doors, people of more than one race jobs got sucked out of the community and are now overseas in China and other eastern nations. Many of these same folks have to reduce their expectations as far as wages and lifestyles are concerns. Too many are carrying heavy debt loads. Some White as well as Black families cannot afford to put gasoline in their vehicles, heat their homes,

health insurance or buy medicine. Many are working two jobs just to make ends meet. After all, debt makes very little effort to discriminate. Master Card, Visa and other credit card companies just want the debt paid. They do not care what color you are. . . Your children are vulnerable to the trappings of mass media the same as children. They want the things they see advertised; they want to dress like Brittany. I guess what I am saying to the Whites in this community, do not spend too much time looking at how bad Blacks are having it, lest you let the sucking sound begins to resonate louder and louder in your homes and in your lives.

Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, it’s at the end of your arm, as you get older, remember you have another hand: The first is to help yourself, the second is to help others.
Author: Audrey Hepburn

Understanding PCB’S

PCB's are a class of chemicals known as polychlorinated biphenyls. They are entirely man-made and do not occur naturally. They were first manufactured commercially in 1929 by Monsanto, their sole U.S. manufacturer. They were used in many different types of products including hydraulic fluid, casting wax, pigments, carbonless copy paper, plasticizer,vacuum pumps, compressors,heat transfer systems and others.

Their main use, however, was as a dielectric fluid in electrical equipment. Because their stability and resistance to thermal breakdown as well as their insulating properties they were the fluid of choice for transformers and capacitors. As a matter of fact,because of their fire resistance, they were required by some fire codes.

During the 1970's, the health risks associated with PCB's became a major consideration due to several well publicized incidents.The most noted of these is known as the Yusho Incident. It took place in Japan when a rice oil plant had an equipment leak of PCB fluid into the product.

The rice oil was sold and consumed resulting in many people being adversely affected.

Among the health affects of PCB's are skin ailments called chloracne, reproductive disorders, liver disease and neurological problems in children. PCB's are a suspected human carcinogen and a known animal carcinogen. They are resistant to degradation and therefore persist for many years in the environment.

Furthermore, they bioaccumulate in the foodchain and are stored in the body fat of animals and humans. Because of the health and environmental risks associated with PCB's, an Act of Congress, the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976, directed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to ban the manufacture of PCB's and regulated their use and disposal. EPA accomplished this by the issuance of regulation in 1978. The State of Connecticut, however, banned the manufacture of PCB's and began regulating them effective July 1, 1976. Both EPA and Connecticut, although banning their

manufacture, allowed equipment containing PCB's to continue in use for the remainder of their useful lives.

PCB contamination from historic uses and dumping is widespread throughout the U.S. and the world. Disposal into waterways has caused PCB contamination of rivers, oceans, soils and even the polar ice cap. As a result, many forms of wildlife have become contaminated with PCB's. There have been bans on fishing in various locations.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration, as well as the Connecticut Department of Public Health, have issued advisories against eating certain fish. In addition, the U.S. EPA and the State of Connecticut have established maximum contaminant levels for PCB's in drinking water.

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Common Uses of PCBs

- Adhesives
- Asphalt Roofing Materials
- Carbonless Copy Paper
- Compressor Oil
- De-dusting Agents
- Dielectric Fluid
- Dyes
- Electromagnets
- Fluorescent Light Ballasts
- Heat Transfer Fluid
- Inks
- Insulating Coatings
- Military Applications
- Mixed with Asbestos
- Lubricants
- Natural Gas Pipeline
- Paints
- Pesticides
- Plasticizers
- Rubberizers
- Space Heaters
- Submersible Well Pumps
- Tar Paper
- Wax Extenders

David Baker Continued From Page 3

off it's chemical division, named it Solutia, and dumped the worst of it's financial and legal liabilities on the newly formed company. In March 2000 Monsanto merged with pharmaceutical giant Pharmacia, which in turn, was gobbled up by Pfizer for \$56 billion in 2003. The Monsanto plant today is very different from the Monsanto named in the lawsuits.

David who has a 341 ppm blood level of PCBs in his own blood, continues to serve as a voice in

the community, David mobilizes volunteers and concerned citizens to ensure that their opinions are heard.

As founder and CEO of CAP, he now works with local, state and federal agency officials to address the Superfund-caliber environmental and health issues, which originate in West Anniston and now plague a large area downstream encompassing at least Snow Creek, Chocologo River and Lake Logan Martin.

In this capacity, David organized the CAP Special Need Individuals Identification Project granted by FEMA to identify those individuals that would need special assistance should an accident/incident occur during the destruction of the chemical weapons stockpile at the Anniston Army Depot.

David speaks to a variety of civic, government, environmental and health-related organizations. In 2002, he testified before the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee at a special hearing on PCB Contamination in Anniston, Alabama.

As the Community Actions and Response Against Toxics (CARAT) team director for Anniston, David is a certified Train-the-Trainer for Chemical Hazmat Class by the International Chemical Workers Union, Council Center for Worker Health and Safety Education, as a member of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists.

In May 2003, Mr. Baker was given the First Coalition of Black Trade Makers Award. Mr. Baker was on the front page of the Washington Post. He received death threats from people in the community. They felt that David and his wife Shirley had become prosperous. Out of the 10,000 awardees, Mr. Baker was of the top 100 to be selected. In 1993, Mr. David Baker organized 30,000 workers in the State of Ohio. He received an award for doing so. He organized a strike and was threatened with his life. Three people were killed during that strike.

David and Shirley Baker realized the importance of studying the health

Please See David Baker Page 6

POWER STRIP

Jewel Diamond Taylor



Motivational Expert

“Unexpected events and people can disappoint and crush your spirit. You and I have seen people who have never recovered from a setback or a broken heart. And there are people who bounce back even stronger and wiser after enduring pain and pressure.

Think about this. Health studies show when a bone in your body cannot sustain pressure, it will break either because the bone is weak or because the pressure on the bone is too great. But get this --- when healthy bones heal from a break, they are strongest in the place where they were once broken. Because of their unique structure, bones can bear large amounts of weight. The moment bone breaks, the healing process begins. New bone, called callus is formed between the bone ends and over the fracture; and dense, stronger bone gradually forms over the callus layer. Over a period of weeks, bone returns to its original shape.

There are some pressures in life we can live with and endure. However, there are times in our lives when we break because of the pressure. When we acknowledge our brokenness and bring it to God (the master physician), we can be healed and made stronger in the place where we were once broken.

Bones are rigid, but they do bend, or “give” somewhat when an outside force is applied to them. When this force stops, bone returns to its original shape. When outside forces beyond your control cause you stress, you will not break if you have; inner strength, emotional fitness, a sense of humor and strong faith. Don’t give up. Be unbreakable! Bones also act as a protective armor, shielding the body's vital organs. So let your faith and positive mindset be your protective armor.

Alicia Keyes song “Unbreakable” is a life metaphor. Allow me to remind you today to be strong and if you are broken --- know that you can be made stronger. Don’t try to hide or be ashamed of your brokenness. Everyone has vulnerabilities and some place of weakness.

The good news is that you can be restored and your life can be mended. You are stronger than you think.” ~ by Jewel Diamond Taylor

Health And Well-ness

High Blood Pressure

Your Health Information

- What is high blood pressure?
- How do you know if you have high blood pressure?
- Why does high blood pressure occur?
- How can you lower your blood pressure?

What is high blood pressure?

When blood is pumped out of the heart and into the arteries, it pushes against the artery walls. Narrowed blood vessels or an increased volume of blood in them increase the pressure of blood on the vessel walls. The added pressure makes the vessel walls grow thicker, harder and less elastic.

This can damage the blood vessels and the organs which depend on these channels for their blood supply. Because the vessel passages become smaller, the heart has to work harder and needs more oxygen to pump the same amount of blood as it did before the condition existed.

Fright, emotional stress or exercise can cause occasional fluctuations of blood pressure. These temporary elevations are normal and do not harm the body. But sustained high blood pressure is extremely serious because of its long-term effect on important

body organs. Over time, hypertension can lead to a heart attack, stroke, kidney disease and heart failure by damaging blood vessels and restricting blood flow to vital organs.

Early detection and treatment of hypertension can prevent serious complications later on. On the average, individuals with uncontrolled hypertension are three times as likely to develop heart disease, six times as likely to suffer heart failure and seven times as likely to have a stroke as individuals with controlled high blood pressure.

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How do you know if you have high blood pressure?

Most health problems have symptoms.You feel sick, tired, weak, uncomfortable or even in pain. But you can have high blood pressure and feel perfectly fine, even though it is damaging your body. A few people may have headaches, shortness of breath, chest pains, heart palpitations or dizziness because of high blood pressure. But these symptoms can occur unrelated to hypertension. Most people experience no symptoms at all. The only sure way to detect high blood pressure is to have it checked.

Adults should have their blood pressure checked at

least once a year. This can be done at hospitals, clinics, employee health departments and health fairs, as well as during routine physical examinations.

Why does high blood pressure occur?

Many people think hypertension results from anxiety or emotional tension and that it afflicts only people who are high-strung, have high pressure jobs or face many problems. But statistics do not support this idea. Many calm individuals have high blood pressure.

Definite causes are unknown for most hypertensives. Certain groups seem to be at special risk, however. People who are older, overweight, diabetic or have a family history of high blood pressure are most likely candidates for the condition.

High blood pressure most often affects individuals over age 35, but it can occur at any age. Up to age 50, men are more likely than women to develop high blood pressure, although statistics for women increase after menopause.

Pregnant women can develop high blood pressure, particularly during the last three months of pregnancy. This condition, called pre-eclampsia, can be dangerous to both mother and child, so expectant mothers should have their blood pressure

checked at least once a month.

Birth control pills have also been linked to hypertension. Women taking oral contraceptives should have their blood pressure checked regularly. Blood pressure usually returns to normal within six months after a woman stops taking the Pill.

Doctors don’t know why, but high blood pressure is a particularly serious problem among blacks. It has been called the number one killer of blacks. One out of every four black persons has high blood pressure, a rate more than 8 percent higher than the general American population.

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How can you lower your blood pressure?

If you have high blood pressure, your doctor can give you instructions for controlling it. These may include diet, exercise and other lifestyle changes, as well as prescription medication.

Losing weight, quitting smoking, reducing alcohol consumption, exercising and decreasing the amount of stress in your life can help lower your blood pressure.

Your doctor will probably tell you to cut back on salt. Medical researchers aren't sure why, but salt increases blood pressure in some people. Excessive salt causes

National And International Scene

Critics Cite Problems with Carter-Baker Commission National Voter I.D. Proposal

BY: LCCR
Civil rights advocates have heavily criticized a proposal to implement a national voter I.D. system, issued September 19 by the Carter-Baker Commission on Election Reform.

The proposed voter I.D. system would require voters to obtain and present a new I.D. that will soon be required under a recently-enacted federal law, the “REAL ID Act.” Critics say that while several of the commission’s proposals are reasonable and needed, the I.D. proposal would be ineffective, deter voter turnout, and discriminate against older and minority voters. Critics also assailed the process used by the Carter-Baker Commission. “The Carter-Baker Commission report is the result of a flawed process, so it is not surprising that its results are so underwhelming,” said [Ralph G. Neas](#), president of the People For the American Way. “The most troubling of the commission’s conclusions is that citizens should be required to present a national identification

card, known as the ‘REAL ID’ card, in order to vote. This would make it much harder for many Americans to vote.” Co-chaired by former President Jimmy Carter and former Secretary of State James A. Baker III, the commission was formed to propose changes to the federal election system. Calls for election reform have come in the wake of accusations of widespread discrimination and fraud in Florida in 2000 and in Ohio in 2004. Other proposals in the commission’s report include a universal voter registration system, requirements that states make voter registration more convenient, enhancements to electronic voting machines, and rules to prevent partisan leaders from overseeing elections. In criticizing the proposed voter I.D. requirement, AARP noted that 36% of residents older than 75 do not have a driver’s license. The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights pointed out that blacks are five times less likely than whites to have access to a vehicle, and therefore are less likely to need

a drivers’ license. The voter I.D. proposal would also undermine a citizen’s fundamental right to privacy because the database of registrants could become a target for illegal activities, such as identity theft, critics say. “We need stricter enforcement of existing election laws, not a hodge-podge of old proposals. We certainly don’t need proposals that will make it harder for eligible citizens to vote,” said Kay J. Maxwell, president of the League of Women Voters in a September 19 statement on the commission’s findings.

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Bush Names Samuel Alito to Supreme Court

By LCCR
Judge Samuel Alito was President Bush’s choice Monday to replace retiring Supreme Court justice Sandra Day O’Connor.

Alito has been given the nickname “Scalito” because of the striking similarities between his judicial philosophy and that of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. Alito currently sits on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Civil rights groups said that Alito was a choice resulting from right wing pressure, not from what the nation wants or needs.

“America wants a mainstream nominee, not one who will turn back the clock on civil rights progress, worker protections, environmental safeguards, and our health and safety. With the nomination of Alito, all of those rights are now at risk,” Wade Henderson, executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights said.

“We had hoped President Bush would nominate someone with a commitment to protecting Americans’ rights and

freedoms,” said People For the American Way Ralph Neas. “That’s what the American people want, and it’s what they deserve. Unfortunately, with Judge Alito, that’s not what President Bush has given us. He has chosen to divide Americans with a nominee guaranteed to cause a bitter fight.”

Bush had first named John Roberts to succeed O’Connor, but upon the death of Chief Justice William Rehnquist, Bush elevated his nomination to chief.

Harriet Miers, President Bush’s next choice to replace Justice O’Connor, withdrew her nomination October 27 in the face of growing opposition from many of the president’s own supporters, who had questioned her qualifications and ideology.

In this case, however, the right wing is “giddy,” said the Alliance for Justice (AFJ). “With Judge Alito, President Bush has sought to appease the radical right and fuel a revolution on the Supreme Court,” said AFJ President Nan Aron. “The National Law Journal reported that lawyers believe that Judge

Alito is “much more of an ideologue than most of his colleagues.”

President Ronald Reagan nominated O’Connor in 1981 to be the first woman on the Court. While the O’Connor nomination generated criticism from both the political left and right, during her time on the Court she proved to be a pivotal swing vote in decisions affecting civil rights, environmental protection, personal privacy, voting rights, protection against discrimination, and more.

Civil rights organizations have identified a number of 5-4 decisions in danger of being overturned if O’Connor is replaced by someone who is not a mainstream nominee, including Grutter v. Bollinger (2003) (affirmative action); Tennessee v. Lane (2004) (rights of individuals with disabilities); Zadvydas v. Davis (2001) (human rights/due process) and Jackson v. Birmingham Bd. of Educ. (2005) (Title IX).

Rev. Jesse Jackson Opposes Supreme Court Nominee Samuel Alito Nomination is An Insult to the Memory of Rosa Parks

Jerry Thomas
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Butch Wing
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CHICAGO — (Oct. 30, 2005) — The Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr., founder and president of the RainbowPUSH Coalition, issued the following statement concerning President Bush’s nomination of Samuel Alito to the Supreme Court:

“While they are honoring Rosa Parks today at the Rotunda, the same morning President Bush recommends the appointment of Samuel Alito, a state’s rights conservative judge, to the Supreme Court. Alito is considered a favorite of the conservative rightwing in the nation that has stood on the opposite side of history from Rosa Parks. His legal foundation is clearly adverse to civil rights, women’s right to self-determination, labor — and it has even earned him the nickname, “Scalito,” after the court’s most conservative member.

Rosa Parks was arrested
David Baker

Continued From Page 5
effects of PCBs in the community. Their motivation and impact started the beginning of the Anniston/Calhoun PCB Health Study, which came about with JSU identified as the lead institution. Team experts from several universities across the country as well as representatives from the Anniston community joined forces. This team formed the Anniston Environmental Health Research Consortium. The community members were also involved in the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and provided input on many areas of the project. People began planting their vegetables in buckets after buying their fertilizer from Lowe’s. Children were afraid to play outside because of the pollution.

In Conclusion
As a result of the work done by David B. Baker, and his former wife, the late Mrs. Betty, who was

for challenging states’ rights and segregation, and the denial of civil rights to all Americans. She defied the supreme laws of the land, challenging the state’s policies of segregation. She changed the law and sparked a movement that brought us the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Our nation, and today’s Supreme Court, cannot turn its back on these landmark accomplishments.

We want three things to happen:

1. We support Congressman Jesse Jackson’s (D — IL) bill to place a permanent statue of Rosa Parks in the Great Hall of Congress;
2. In Rosa Parks’ honor, Congress must approve and President Bush must sign legislation to extend the key enforcement provisions (Sections 5 and 203) of the Voting Rights Act which are set to expire in 2007;
3. We need a national conference on civil rights to address the key civil and constitutional rights battles of our

time. We must address the lack of access to this Department of Justice and the likelihood of a Supreme Court hostile to the fundamental legal gains we have made in advancing civil rights for all Americans.

Finally, we cannot honor the legacy of Rosa Parks and at the same time appoint supreme court justices with strict constructionists’ state rights legal philosophy.

The RainbowPUSH Coalition is a progressive organization, which seeks to protect, defend and gain civil rights, even the economic and educational playing fields in all aspects of American life and bring peace to the world. The organization is headquartered at 930 E. 50th St. in Chicago. For more information about the RainbowPUSH Coalition, please visit the organization’s website, [www.rainbowpush.org](#), or telephone (773) 373-3366. To interview Rev. Jackson about this topic, please call the numbers listed above.

tragically killed in an automobile mishap, and his current spouse, Shirley Baker, many residents of the Anniston/Calhoun community filed AND WON lawsuits due to the contamination of the PCB. The lawsuit covered lead, arsenic, foundry and mercury contaminations. Many families lost loved ones as a result of the negligence of Monsanto Plant. Because of the aid of David and Shirley Baker, along with many others who began lending a hand to rectify the damages that were

put upon the Anniston and Calhoun communities, people were able to get justice.

Many accomplishments have been made in Anniston, Alabama, however, there is much more work to be done. Mr. Baker continues to work toward making the needed changes to make Anniston a safer environment for the residence. Baker was recently elected Vice President of the Calhoun County NAACP.

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The People’s Voice and The Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation, Inc. look forward to joining CAP (Community Against Pollution), an Anniston based Non-Profit Organization, in its

4th ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

when 275 people from all over the country will gather to celebrate and support CAP. Charlotte A. Clark-Frieson and The People’s Voice, will be honorary guests on November 4, 2005 beginning at 6:00 P.M. at the Anniston Meeting Center, Anniston, Alabama

Mr. David B. Baker, FOUNDER AND Executive Director of CAP (Community Against Pollution), and Southeast Regional Director Of the Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation, Incorporated

a kool page... for kids and youth



POWER
STRIP

Jewel Diamond Taylor



Award-Winning Superstar Usher Talks About His Upcoming Movie, His Life, Faith and Family In TV One On One Interview With Catherine Hughes Premiering Nov. 7 at 8 pm

Interview with Usher will air again Nov. 22 at 8 PM and midnight, the night before his new movie, In the Mix premieres in theaters



Host Catherine Hughes talks with superstar Usher during TV One on One interview premiering Monday, Nov. 7 at 8 PM on TV One

Silver Spring, MD (BlackNews) - Three-time Grammy Award-winning artist, producer, actor, businessman and philanthropist Usher talks to host Catherine Hughes about his childhood, family, faith, future aspirations and new Thanksgiving-release movie, In the Mix, in an exclusive TV One on One interview debuting Monday, Nov.

7 at 8 PM and repeating at midnight (ET). This wide-ranging interview with one of America's hottest superstars offers a glimpse at what

drives the 27-year-old superstar, how he stays grounded and what his aspirations are for the future. The episode is scheduled to repeat on Saturday, Nov. 12 at 7 PM, Saturday, Nov. 19 at 11 PM, and Saturday, Nov. 26 at 11 PM. The interview will also air Nov. 22 at 8 PM and midnight, the night before his new movie, In the Mix premieres.

Usher talks to Hughes about his increasingly busy acting career and unique involvement with In the Mix, a romantic comedy scheduled to premiere November

23. Usher not only stars in the Lions Gate film about a successful D.J. who saves a gangster's life and ends up as a bodyguard for the gangsters daughter, but he also serves as an executive producer and has produced the soundtrack.

"I think for us as entertainers to take that step from music to acting [is] an evolution," Usher says. "You know, we spend so much time in front of cameras, you kind of get accustomed to it." Usher, born Usher Raymond IV in Chattanooga, TN, was raised with his younger brother by a single mother, Jonnetta Patton, who has served as his manager and closest confidant throughout his career. She moved the family to Atlanta when Usher was 12 and brought up her sons within the foundations of faith and family afforded by St. Elmo's Missionary Baptist Church, for which she served as choir director. "With my mother, we listened to gospel, and we studied," he said. "I

watched her to study music. I think that is what gave me an idea of how to become better at what I did as a vocalist, watching her study the songs to get herself together to teach the youth choir." Usher got his first record contract at 13, through famed producer L.A. Reid, and Babyface Edmonds, Sean Diddy Combs and Jermaine Dupri also all played important roles early in his career. When Hughes asks if he feels an obligation to always be associated with them, Usher says, "If its not broken, don't fix it...If I have a great connection with my producer, why not continue?" Usher talks about some of his other business ventures, including part-ownership in the Cleveland Cavaliers; the new record label he has founded, Us Records; and a new clothing line that he says is a work in progress. During the interview, Usher also talks about the importance in his life of his charitable endeavors, Camp New Look in Atlanta,

which offers kids an opportunity to learn about the business side of entertainment and sports; and Project Restart, to provide housing for Hurricane Katrina victims. Hughes concludes the interview by asking the superstar about his fantasies, and also asking him to help fulfill one of hers. Usher teachers Hughes some dance moves, helping her fulfill a lifelong fantasy to dance with the stars. Launched in January 2004, TV One (www.tvoneonline.com) serves 22.7 million households, offering a broad range of lifestyle and entertainment-oriented original programming, classic series, movies, fashion and music designed to entertain, inform and inspire a diverse audience of adult African American viewers. TV Ones investors include Radio One [NASDAQ: ROIA and ROIAK; www.radio-one.com], the largest radio company that primarily targets African American and urban listeners;

Motivational Expert

You don't need anyone's help to be a failure in life. You can do that all by yourself. But you cannot be a success in life without the help of others.

One of the greatest lessons I've learned about success is to remain teachable. My business grew from the negative and the positive feedback from customers. Remembering words of wisdom from my elders that I didn't listen to --- taught me in later years the importance of being teachable. I can recall people speaking into life telling me that I was qualified and destined to accomplish certain things, but my fear wouldn't allow me to believe it. When other people hold up a mirror for you to see your strengths and your flaws, it can be painful but it is also an opportunity for growth. I choose to remain teachable. A diamond cannot sparkle without being polished. So I am open to see my flaws and open to learn from others that can see what I cannot see for myself. Ego, pride, fear, resistance, procrastination and holding on to past hurts are destroyers of success.

If you seek praise more than you seek growth, then you'll be out of balance. Learn from the input and insights of others. A rose bush has to be pruned in order to grow more beautiful roses. The pruning may not feel good but the gardener knows it must be done or the rose bush never realizes its potential.

Have you ever heard an idea that caused you to feel uncomfortable because it challenged you to think or do something different? Or have you ever felt the move of God on your life to do something that didn't seem to make sense?

You may hear ideas that seem unattainable or beyond your cultural conditioning, age, faith, gender, race, finances or capabilities.

The charge and challenge for all of us is to remain teachable and open to what our parents, teachers, mentors and life are trying to teach us. Can you remain teachable and not resist how God is ordering your steps? Can you remain teachable by those who care for you and offer their wisdom and experience to you? Don't stunt your growth because of resistance. Don't continue losing time and repeating unnecessary mistakes. Once you are willing to be teachable and walk by faith --- not by sight --- you will grow.

A life of abundance, peace and joy awaits you. Ephesians 5:14 warns us to --- "WAKE UP, climb out of our coffins and to live in the light of our Lord".

Below: The Anniston Quality Healthcare Center



ANNISTON/CALHOUN PCB HEALTH STUDY

David and Shirley Baker realized the importance of studying the health effects of PCBs in the community. Their motivation and impact started the beginning of the Anniston/Calhoun PCB Health Study, which came about with JSU identified as the lead institution. Team experts from several universities across the country as well as representatives from the Anniston community joined forces. This team formed the Anniston Environmental Health Research Consortium. The community members were also involved in the Community Advisory Committee (CAC and provided input on many areas of the project.

Healthy Life Project – A Healthier Life For The Community Goals

- To determine the

relationship of PCB exposure and adverse health effects specific to Anniston residents.

- To provide residents in Anniston and surrounding Calhoun County with information about numerous health issues and concerns.
- To improve the health and quality of life of residents in Anniston and surrounding Calhoun County.
- To increase the knowledge of how PCBs affect the health of residents in the Anniston community.
- To educate the youth in Anniston and surrounding Calhoun County about environmental health issues.

The Anniston Community Health Survey randomly selected 1600 households to use in their study. The purpose of this study was to examine the health, quality of life, and potential exposure to PCBs of the residents in the Anniston and Calhoun County. Their interest was ranging from health status, social and health concerns reported by men/women in a detailed questionnaire

Below: David Baker poses with Health Center Personnel



provided by the Anniston Community Health Survey team. Families were able to complete the surveys at the Health Study office. In doing so, their weight, height and blood pressure would be recorded and well as blood work to be analyzed in the lab. This would give the Health Study office a better idea of the health of various ones in the community of Anniston.

A neurocognitive and neurobehavior study was done on 6th, 7th and 8th graders to determine the exposure of the PCB in their systems. The study was approved by the Calhoun County and Oxford Boards of Education, and was under review at the Anniston Board of Education. The study was conducted at some of the middle schools. The studies involved blood work from student and one parent. Parent and child were given psychometric tests that measured intelligence, memory and behavior. The mother was asked to give a short questionnaire regarding his/her general health. After

getting pregnancy history from the mother, studies could be done to find out the relationship between PCB and lead exposure, thus allowing new medical care to better help the victim or victims exposed by the PCBs. PCBs have also been linked to the increase of diabetes. As a result, person with and without diabetes were included in the study. This would include the resident of Anniston for at least 10 years, 18 years or older, Physician diagnosed diabetes (1/2 of participants) and the participant must have competent mental status. Many health issues would be considered to complete this study.

Exposure Assessment Program: Geo-Spatial Modeling

This program was designed to do the following. Coordinate all available PCB exposure data from ATSDR, EPA, and law firms. Model point sources and map exposure and health data of PCBs. Consortium members would have access to all

human and environmental samples in the PCB data. The maps and databases were created to support the research activity of the Consortium in the area of exposure and health assessment. The research products were also used to assist outreach to the community and government agencies.

The Focus Group Study

The focus group study was a way for community members to be heard. There were 300 key community and opinion leaders invited to participate and be assisted in an hour discussion on the state of health and the impact of PCB contamination on the Anniston community and Calhoun County. Important key leaders were: grass roots activists, teachers, ministers, business owners, medical professionals, political leaders, and concerned citizens. The purpose of the meeting was to get others opinions on current knowledge, beliefs, and attitudes concerning the contamination in the community. There were 10 focus groups consisting of 10 participants in each group. At the end of each study information was collected from the recordings of each group. This information was used: to better help the needs of the citizens in the Anniston area, to from and revise community outreach plans, develop new programs/resources, inform community leaders and assist with planning future research.

In Conclusion

Since this program began in 2003, more than 33 universities and health related facilities comprise the Consortium. The members are working hand in hand with the local community, government officials, educators, and others to rebuild Anniston. The purpose is to turn Anniston into a more healthier, safer and positive community.

Other News Of Interest

Thora Institute Says Many Black Intellectuals Are Getting It Wrong

New Haven, CT (BlackNews) - The Thora Institute was formed to conduct research and education to improve the socioeconomic standing of black Americans. The Institute is particularly focused on combating false negative stereotypes about blacks.

“Sadly, today, black intellectuals are among the loudest voices spreading false stereotypes about blacks,” says Algernon Austin, director of the Thora Institute. Austin names Bill Cosby, Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and other prominent blacks among those who are getting it wrong.

They are making a simple mistake in their analysis,” Austin states. “For illustration, let’s

say that whites are ten steps ahead of blacks and for every step forward that blacks take whites also take a step forward. In this situation, even if blacks advance a million steps whites will still be ten steps ahead of blacks because they also will have taken a million steps.”

He continues, “Many people are saying that blacks are failing because there are persistent achievement gaps with whites. But blacks are advancing in many areas. The problem is that whites are also advancing in these same areas. This situation makes it very difficult for blacks to close the gap.”

Imogene Dunson Baker

Anniston, Alabama
Funeral services were held for Mrs. Imogene Dunson Baker on Thursday October 27, 2005, at 12’Oclock in the afternoon at The Greater Thankful Baptist Church, Anniston, Alabama. The Rev. P.Q. English, Officiated. Mrs. Imogene Dunson Baker was born on October 22, 1919 in Roanoke, Alabama. She was the first of seven children to the late Rev. Elcainer and Lucille Dunson, who both preceded her in death. As a young woman, Mrs. Dunson joined the Thankful Baptist Church and was a very devoted member until her health began to fail. On June 19, 1941, Imogene married Grover Cleveland Baker who preceded her in death.Their union was blessed with seven children, whom she loved very much. Imogene worked for Dr.Tom King for 20 years and was head cook at The Downtowner Motel for 15 years. Her hobbies included: fishing, baking and bingo. She was also the president of the Best Yet Social and Saving Club for many years. Imogene passed away on Thursday, October 20, 2005 at her daughter's Cynthia Williams (Raymond) residence. She’s “home” now with her parents Elcainer and Lucille: beloved husband, Grover, her sons: Alfred and Terry, brothers: Virgil, Howard and John L.; one grandson EG Baker Jr. (Baker Jr.) 10/18/2004. They’re having a “Family Reunion” as only they can have. Imogene leaves behind shared joys and memories: three daughters: baby, Cynthia Williams, knee-baby, Sandra Edwards of Anniston, Alabama and oldest daughter Janice Jenkins of Brooklyn, NY. Two sons: baby boy Davis Baker Sr. and oldest son El Grover (EG) Baker of Anniston, AL daughter-in-laws: Geneva Baker, Shirley Baker and Juanita Nail of Anniston, Alabama; son-in-laws: Raymond Williams and Johnny Edwards of Anniston, Alabama. She also leaves behind: siblings: two sisters, Ann (Robert) Finch and Maggie Dunson of Detroit, Michigan; a brother Willie (Corine) Dunson of Chattanooga, Tennessee; sister-in-law by marriage: Annie Dunson, and Emma Baker of Anniston, Alabama, Gussie (Thomas) Chatman of Chicago, Illinois and Eva Mae Payne of Chattanooga, Tennessee. 13 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren; a god daughter: Willie Mall Brooks of Union Town, Alabama; a god son: Roger Clark of Boston, Massachusetts; a “guardian angel,” Sharon Spanner of Enterprise, Alabama; a special niece: Willie Lee Arnold of Atlanta, Georgia and many more nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, long time neighbors and friends. Anniston Funeral Service, Anniston, Alabama was in charge of arrangements.

MARY J. MOORE

Auburn, Alabama
Beloved mother, Mary J. Moore, 90, passed away peacefully at the East Alabama Medical Center on Tuesday, October 25, 2005. Funeral services were held Sunday, October 30, 2005 at 2:00 P.M. from Auburn A.M.E. Zion Church with interment in Westview Cemetery. Rev. Stephen Faulk will officiate. Ms. Moore was a member of Auburn A.M.E. Zion Church. Ms Mary's memories far surpassed her immediate family; she will definitely be remembered for her neighborhood sharing of home cooked meals. For many years she cooked seven days a week for Kappa Alpha Fraternity House in Auburn. One son and one daughter preceded her in death. Three sons survive her: Willie L Echols and Horace Echols of Auburn, AL, Arthur J. Echols of Cleveland. OH; 4 daughters: Mary Echols, Cleveland, OH, Gloria Echols of Lanett, AL, Katherine (Joseph) Beavers and Norma J. Moore both of Auburn, AL.; 14 grandchildren; 22 great grandchildren; 2 great-great grandchildren; a brother-in-law: Rev. Carl Flanagan of Mobile, AL; an abundance of nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Peterson and Williams Funeral Homes

Area Deaths

Directors: Thomas E. Peterson, Jr., Birdie P. Peterson, Thomas E. Peterson, III
1016 McCoy Street, P.O. Box 442, Opelika, AL 36806-0442
517 North White St. , P.O. Box 1675, Auburn, AL 36831-1675
Phones: Auburn: 334-887-5485 Opelika: 334-745-6473

Mrs. Lillian Kate Ware

Funeral services for Mrs. Lillian Kate Ware, 92, a resident of the Marvyn community, were held at 1:00 P.M. Saturday, October 29, 2005 at New Life Baptist Church with interment in Union Grove Church Cemetery. Pastor Elijah Lamar will officiate. Mrs. Ware passed away Sunday, October 23, 2005 at the East Alabama Medical Center. She was born in Lafayette, AL. Mrs. Ware was a member of New Life Baptist Church. A family hour will be held Friday at 7:00 P.M. Her remains will lie in state at the church one-hour prior to the service. She is survived by six daughters, Joyce (Pless C.) Holloway of Lanett, AL; Juanita (Adolphus) Smith and Mary Nell Jones both of Opelika, AL. Flossie (James) King of Orlando, FL; Helen (Earnest) Isaac and Mary Jo (Amos, Sr.) Benefield of Ft. Lauderdale, FL. One sister, Mary Julia (Prince) West of Atlanta, GA; one sister-in-law, Louella Dowdell of Ft. Lauderad, FL. Thirty-seven grandchildren, seventy-five great grandchildren, forty-three great-great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Peterson and Williams Funeral Homes,
Directors: Thomas E. Peterson, Jr., Birdie P. Peterson, Thomas E. Peterson, III
1016 McCoy Street, P.O. Box 442, Opelika, AL 36806-0442
517 North White St. , P.O. Box 1675, Auburn, AL 36831-1675
Phones: Auburn: 334-887-5485 Opelika: 334-745-6473

Mrs. Gladys Grubbs

Alexander City, Alabama
Funeral services for Mrs. Gladys Grubbs, age 82, of Miami Gardens, FL, formerly of Alex City, AL. will be held Tuesday, November 1, 2005 at 12:00 noon at the Early Rose Baptist Church. Interments will follow in the Armour Memorial Gardens with the Rev. Eddie L. Hunter officiating. Mrs. Grubbs was born August 18, 1923 to the late Anna Tuck and Richard Grubbs. She passed away October 22, 2005 at the Kindred Hospital. She is survived by one son: Michael G. (Naedyne) Grubbs of Miami Gardens, FL; two aunts: Aleane Battle, Jeanette Boddie both of Alex City, AL; a daughter-in-law: Irene Grubbs of Alex City, AL; one uncle: Donald Tuck of Alex City, AL; four grandchildren, two great grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Wright's Funeral Home, Alex City, AL
Gregory Wright, Owner: Notary Public, Corzetta Wright
Ph: 256-234-6355 Fax: 256-329-8317

Mrs. Era B. Darby

Opelika, Alabama
Mrs. Era B. Darby was born May 12, 1928 in Chambers County, AL. She was the daughter of the late Mr. P. Q. Boazman and Mrs. Odell Allen Boazman.

At an early age, she confessed Christ and joined the Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in Cusseta, AL. Later, she moved her church membership to the Bethel #2 Baptist where she remained a dedicated, faithful and active member serving

Please See Area Deaths On Page 10

Valley Area News

Black Youth Attacked By Dog, Mother Alleges Racism In Seeking Justice



Lanett, Al.....During the summer of 2005, which just passed, Lanett Alabama citizen Rhonda Michelle Fears’ eight year old son was attacked by a dog. The boy ended up with several stitches due to the dog bite. The mother said it has also caused him many sleepless nights and nightmares about being attacked by the dog and that her son hasn’t gotten justice yet.

The City of Lanett just recently passed a “vicious dog ordinance,” which in detail gives out the instructions on how dog owners in the city and its police jurisdictions should handle their dogs.

There are many citizens who feel that the dog ordinance is not fair and balanced and are presently challenging the constitutionality of the law in court. Many blacks feel that the ordinance is targeting them.

Ms. Fears has a problem with the current ordinance. She states that Lanett’s dog ordinance “does not apply if you’re white and affluent” and that her son’s situation is a prime example of justice not being served.” She went on to say that she was arrested and charged with breaking the windows out of a car that belonged to the owner, whose dog attacked her son. She

sates there where “NO EYEWITNESSES,” but she was still charged by the Lanett Police Department. She also had to serve 10 days in the Chambers County jail. The dog owners were never cited for the dog bite of her son, but Mrs. Fears was charged for breaking the dog owner’s window.

“The dog owner is white and affluent,” says Ms. Fears. She says all her son wants is to get” justice and some closure” to what has happen to him” She filed a complaint with the Lanett Police Department and it wasn’t given any attention and she tried to get a warrant signed against the dog owner and the Chief refused to let her do it.”

A strange thing that the Voice learned about this case is that the Chief Of Police, instead of charging the dog owner for violating the Vicious dog ordinance, which he should have done from the beginning, the chief sent the dog bite case to a Grand

Jury. The Grand Jury did not see fit to indict the dog owner based on the charged that the Chief had submitted. The chief knew by submitting the case to the Grand Jury that based on the circumstances, it wasn’t going to get indicted. That gave the dog-owner a good way out as well as avoiding any charges.

Jason’s mother was charged based on assumptions, no witnesses, why didn’t the chief submit the mother’s case to a Grand Jury before he charged her and took her away from her school age children for 10 days? Is it because she’s black? Brandon’s mother think so. She feels that if she had a dog and it had attacked a little white kid, she would have been charged!

She went on to say that she hadn’t done anything and was charged based on several whites citizen’s word, but the white man who’s dog attack her son, the Chief of Police refused to charge him.” She was asked if there had been any type of apology from anyone, she says no. She went

on to say that the dog could have killed her son. “We were all screaming at the dog owner to call his dog off of Brandon, but he didn’t. The dog owner after seeing his dog attack Brandon, went back into the house.” The Fears lives around the block from where the dog attacked Brandon.

The mother says to this day, she still can’t understand why she was arrested and charged and spent time in jail for something she allegedly did. She pled Not Guilty all the way through the process. According to Ms. Fears, there were many conflicting statements coming from the dog owners. She said she asked each witness the question “Did you see me break the windows.? Their reply, NO! Fears still was found guilty and spent time in the county jail, and as of this date, no charges have been brought against the dog owners for the attack on eight years old Brandon Fears. Why? Was it because the dog owner is white and the child is black? That’s what Brandon’s mother believe and



Actual photograph of wounds sustained by 8-year-old Brandon Fears when bitten by dog.

she still wants justice.”

Editor’s note: While the state of Alabama has a “one bite” dog law, which entitled dogs to at least one bite. Lanett has an ordinance that also charges dog owners for neglect on behalf of their digs. Why wasn’t the dog owner charged? He was ready to turn himself in for his dog biting Brandon. The Chief of police made a decision not to charged him and the case went unattended. This is not fair and Ms. fears deserves to have her son’s voice heard.

Clark Memorial Foundation

The Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation...Proud Of Our Family’s Heritage

God raised up a standard, when He raised up David B. Baker!

The Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation, Incorporated is proud to have Mr. David B. Baker serving on our Board of Directors as our Southeastern Regional Director, as we seek to establish a national presence.

In addition to serving as our Southeastern Regional Director, David is the Founder and CEO of CAP (Community Against Pollution) an Anniston-based agency organized to assist those interested in seeking environmental justice related to the health hazards once introduced into their

physical surroundings as a result of PCB pollution caused by Monsanto/ Solutia. He has recently been elected to serve the Calhoun County Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. as it’s Vice President, yet another challenge.

On this evening, (November 4), we will join all of David’s friends, colleagues, contacts, and comrades from across the nation, in honoring him for all the hard work that has been done, to win the on-going battles against environmental injustice and discrimination not only in Anniston, Alabama, but, throughout our nation as he broadens his outreach..

We hold him up before our communities and our youth as the standard for young black men in their communities. We raise him up before the Lord, in prayer for him, that God will strengthen him and continue to prepare him meet the challenges that he has undertaken.

We, the blood relatives of the late Wilkie Clark, are especially proud to say David Baker is our blood kinsman, being a direct descendent of the Baker lineage that originated in Randolph County, Alabama. Much like late Wilkie Clark (the grandson of the late Ben and Lizzie Baker), he is yet another warrior, a dragon-slayer, a giant-killer.



David, we pray God’s richest blessings upon you as we continue to wage war against all the ills that threaten the progress and well-being of our black sisters and brothers

throughout the land.

Your “other” family at The Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation, Incorporated. Charlotte A. Clark-Frieson, Founder/Chairman Of The Board

Robert Watkins Appointed People’s Voice Distribution Manager

In an effort to improve and upgrade the weekly distribution of The People’s Voice, Mr. Robert Watkins has been appointed distribution manager for the People’s Voice Weekly News. The Clark Memorial Foundation, and People’s Voice, is very proud to have Mr.

Watkins associated with this newspaper. He will be assisted by Mr. Charlie Daniel.

Mr. Watkins is a life-long resident of Roanoke, Alabama, residing in the Country Club Road community. He is a life-long

member of the Mount Carrie Misisonary Baptist Church where Reverend Harold Winters serves as pastor, and where he serves on the Board of Deacons and Trustees.

Many individuals have expressed an interest or

made inquiries about how to get The People’s Voice newspaper delivered to your communities. Individuals are needed at this time, to serve as primary distribution “centers,” that will serve clusters within the various communities.

Any individual who is interested in serving as a distribution center for your community, is encouraged to contact Mr. Watkins at 334-863-6701, to make arrangements to have The People’s Voice delivered to your community.

The Peoples Voice invites all businesses to **GET LISTED** in the East Alabama/West Georgia African American Business Directory (Yellow Pages) on www.peoplesvoiceonline.com. If you own or operate ANY kind of business, you’ll want your ting edge of building an organized East Alabama and West Georgia, dynamic machine. It’s our time bama and West Gerogia’s global card, and one photo, to The People’s Voice, online business directory listing; Post Office Box 514, Roanoke, Ala-bama 36274. Visit the Directory by going to www.peoplesvoiceonline.com. Scroll down the index on the left of the page, and click “Yellow Pages, to shee who’s **already** there!!

GET LISTED!

Lambda Zeta Omega Chapter Of Alpha Kappa Alpha to host annual AKAdemia Scholarship Ball

The Lambda Zeta Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. will be hosting their annual AKAdemia Scholarship Ball on Saturday, December 10, 2005, at the L.B. Sykes-Lanett Jr. High School. The event is a major fundraiser for the Sorority,which enable them to award over \$2500.00 in scholarships and cash prizes to many local girls and students.

They also give donations to Chattahoochee Hospice, Interfaith Food Closet, Valley Haven, Literacy Volunteers of America and other

charitable agencies on both a local and national level.

They are asking for the public support and inviting all to come and join them on December 10.

Mrs. Christine Simpson, Basileus President

Ms. Majorie King, Chairperson 2005 AKAdemia Scholarship Ball

Power is the ability to do good things for others.
Author:
Brooke Astor



There are programs for nearly any kind of credit.

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The Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation, Inc. Is

A Commuity Based Ministry Of Inspiration and Empowerment

We would love to have you be a part of ths dynamic foundation. You may join by contacting any board member. We pay monthly dues in the amoung of \$10.00 which can be paid monthly, quarterly or annually

POWER STRIP

Bananas!

This is interesting. After Reading this, you'll never look at a banana in the same way again.

Bananas. Containing three natural sugars - sucrose, fructose and glucose combined with fiber, a banana gives an instant, sustained and substantial boost of energy. Research has proven that just two bananas provide enough energy for a strenuous 90-minute workout. No wonder the banana is the number one fruit with the world's leading athletes. But energy isn't the only way a banana can help us keep fit. It can also help overcome or prevent a substantial number of illnesses and conditions, making it a must to add to our daily diet.

Depression: According to a recent survey undertaken by MIND amongst people suffering from depression, many felt much better after eating a banana. This is because bananas contain tryptophan, a type of protein that the body converts into serotonin, known to make you relax, improve your mood and generally make you feel happier.

PMS: Forget the pills - eat a banana. The vitamin B6 it contains regulates blood glucose levels, which can affect your mood.

Anemia: High in iron, bananas can stimulate the production of hemoglobin in the blood and so helps in cases of anemia.

Blood Pressure: This unique tropical fruit is extremely high in potassium yet low in salt, making it the perfect to beat blood pressure. So much so, the US Food and Drug Administration has just allowed the banana industry to make official claims for the fruit's ability to reduce the risk of blood pressure and stroke

Brain Power: 200 students at a Twickenham (Middlesex) school were helped through their exams this year by eating bananas at breakfast, break, and lunch in a bid to boost their brain power. Research has shown that the potassium-packed fruit can assist learning by making pupils more alert.

Constipation: High in fiber, including bananas in the diet can help restore normal bowel action, helping to overcome the problem without resorting to laxatives.

Hangovers: One of the quickest ways of curing a hangover is to make a banana milkshake, sweetened with honey. The banana calms the stomach and, with the help of the honey, builds up depleted blood sugar levels, while the milk soothes and re-hydrates your system.

Heartburn: Bananas have a natural antacid effect in the body, so if you suffer from heartburn, try eating a banana for soothing relief.

Morning Sickness: Snacking on bananas between meals helps to keep blood sugar levels up and avoid morning sickness.

Mosquito bites: Before reaching for the insect bite cream, try rubbing the affected area with the inside of a banana skin. Many people find it amazingly successful at reducing swelling and irritation.

Nerves: Bananas are high in B vitamins that help calm the nervous system. Overweight and at work? Studies at the Institute of Psychology in Austria found pressure at work leads to gorging on comfort food like chocolate and crisps. Looking at 5,000 hospital patients, researchers found the most

CONTINUE TO THE NEXT STRIP ON PAGE 11...

Franklin - Heard County



Mrs. Sarah Almond Brings You The News From Franklin/Heard County, Georgia...

To have your news and items of interest to appear in The People’s Voice, Please contact Ms. Sarah Almond in Franklin, Georgia email Mrs. Almond at: Cullie@charter.net

Let The People’s Voice Weekly News, help to build your business. The Smart Money is on Advertising. It works. Contact Ms. Brenda Poole to discuss your Advertising Needs at (706) 675-0031; email: bpooles4@bellsouth.net. Watch your business



GROW, GROW, GROW

Revs. Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson and actress Cicely Tyson.

Riley said the things Parks accomplished proved to the world that an ordinary person can do extraordinary things.

“I believe God puts different people in different parts of history so great things can happen,” Riley said. “I think Rosa Parks is one of those people.”

Bright said he brought with him a proclamation in honor of Parks.

“But a proclamation doesn’t seem efficient,” he said. “I thought about issuing a pardon but then I thought, you cannot pardon someone who hasn’t done anything wrong.”

Bright was interrupted by a standing ovation.

“I am asking Rosa Parks to pardon us and to pardon our city for how we treated her before she left our city,” he continued. “Please pardon us and the people who lived here then.”

Jackson called Parks a freedom fighter.

“She chose to go forward with faith and not backwards with fear,” he said.



Former President Bill Clinton speaks at Rosa Parks funeral on Wednesday. The body of the 92-year-old Parks,



Louis Farrakhan, head of the Nation of Islam speaks of several hours Saturday.

After the memorial service, a motorcade consisting of

limousines, two Montgomery Area Transit System buses and the hearse containing Parks’ body were escorted by police to Montgomery Regional Airport. From there, she was taken to Washington, where

she will continue to lie in honor in the Capitol Rotunda through today. She is the second black and the first woman to ever lie in honor in the Capitol Rotunda. Her funeral was Wednesday in Detroit.

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Rutledge Cafe, Mary Johnson Drive, Franklin, GA
Troup County Distributor 706-883-6933

Area Deaths Continued From Page 8

in various capacities.

Mrs. Darby received her education at the Chambers County training school. She was an employee of West Pepperrell (West Point Stevens) for over thirty-five years.

She was preceded in death by: her parents, three sisters, two brothers, a granddaughter, and her husband of 49 years, Lonnie Darby.

On Saturday, October 22, 2005, she departed this life at the East Alabama Medical Center.

She leaves to celebrate her home going: two sons, Larry J. (Mamie) Bozeman of Rockledge, FL and Charles A. (Stephanie) Darby of Huntsville, AL; four sisters: Hattie P. Shell of Detroit, MI, Etharee (Eugene) McCants of Warrenville Heights, OH, Dorothy (Curtis) White of Cleveland, OH, and Eleanor Lemons of Shaker Heights, OH; three brothers: Franklin D. Boazman of Minneapolis, MN, P. Q. (Dora) Boazman of Opelika, AL and Chester C. Boazman of Cleveland, OH; two aunts: Esther Allen and Hattie Floyd both of Opelika, AL; one sister-in-law, Mary Allen of Opelika, AL; one brother-in-law: Henry Smith Darby of Reddick, FL; six grandchildren, six great grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Peterson and Williams Funeral Homes
Directors: Thomas E. Peterson, Jr., Birdie P. Peterson, Thomas E. Peterson, III
1016 McCoy Street, P.O. Box 442, Opelika, AL 36806-0442
517 North White St., P.O. Box 1675, Auburn, AL 36831-1675
Phones: Auburn: 334-887-5485 Opelika: 334-745-6473

MRS. CATHERINE MCQUEEN Alexander City, Alabama

Funeral service for Mrs. Catherine McQueen, 52, of Alex City, AL, will be held Thursday, October 27, 2005 at 2:00 P.M. at Darian Baptist Church with the Rev. Larry Shealey officiating. Interments will follow in the Darian Cemetery.

Mrs. McQueen was born January 2, 1953 to the late Sammie Lee and Mary Alice Kendrick. She passed away October 23, 2005 at the BMC-Montclair Birmingham, AL.

Mrs. McQueen is survived by a stepdaughter: Loretta (Hilma) Young of Alex City, AL; four sisters: Rachel (Lewis) Kendrick, Juanita (Brook) Kendrick both of Kellyton, AL, Mary (Oran) Glenn of Newsite, AL, Rosa Mae (Calvin) Whetstone of Alex City, AL; four brothers: Earnest (Laura) Kendrick, Bobby Lewis Kendrick, Jimmy Lee Kendrick, a very special brother Sammie James Kendrick all of Alex City, AL; two uncles: Steve (Annie Jean) Kendrick, Willie B. Hutchins both of Alex City, AL, a special friend Robert Davis of Alex City, AL; three step grandchildren, two step great grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

Wright’s Funeral Home, Alex City, AL
Gregory Wright, Owner: Notary Public, Corzetta Wright
Ph#: 256-234-6355 Fax#: 256-329-8317

MRS. CARRIE LEE HILL Opelika, Alabama

Funeral services for Carrie Lee Hill, 83, of Opelika, will be held Saturday, October 22, 2005 at 2:00 P.M. from Bethel No. 1 Baptist Church with Rev. J.D. Darden officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery. A family hour will be

held Friday at 6:00 P.M. at the funeral home.

She will lie in state at the church one hour prior to the service. Mrs. Hill was born May 10, 1922 in Lee County, AL. She passed away on Monday, October 18, 2005 at Wilder Health Care Center in Dadeville, AL.

She is survived by a son, Howard Hill of Opelika; two daughters: Mrs. Diane (Lamar) Taylor of Camp Hill, AL and Mrs. Cheryl Johnson (Michael) Hammonds of Atlanta, GA; 8 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren; sister: Mrs. Sarah Taylor of Opelika; a special friend: Wallace Hughes; daughter-in-law: Mrs. Dorothy Hill; brother-in-law: Joe (Annie) Farris, both of Opelika, AL; sister-in-law: Mrs. Alice Pope of Columbus, GA and her extended family, God’s House of Prayer Church Family. Several nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends.

Peterson and Williams Funeral Homes
Directors: Thomas E. Peterson, Jr., Birdie P. Peterson, Thomas E. Peterson, III
1016 McCoy Street, P.O. Box 442, Opelika, AL 36806-0442
517 North White St., P.O. Box 1675, Auburn, AL 36831-1675
Phones: Auburn: 334-887-5485 Opelika: 334-745-6473

MR. JOHNNIE PAUL WALKER Alexander City, Alabama

Funeral services for Johnnie Paul Walker, 69, Alex City AL, will be held Friday, October 28, 2005 at 1:00 P.M. from Wright’s Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Emerson Ware Jr. officiating. Interment will follow in the Newstyle Cemetery.

Mr. Johnnie Paul Walker was born August 22, 1936 to the late James D. and Pauline Royal Walker. He passed away October 24, 2005 at Goodwater Healthcare.

Mr. Walker is survived by one son: John Walker of Roanoke, AL; one brother: Curley (Atha) Walker of Alex City, AL; two sister-in-law: Inez Walker of Greensboro, NC, Leola Walker of Selma, AL, a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

Wright’s Funeral Home, Alex City, Alabama
Gregory Wright, Owner Notary Public, Corzetta Wright
Phone: 256-234-6355 Fax: 256-329-8317

Card Of Thanks

The family of the late Ms. Lillie Mae Thornton wishes to use this means to express our sincere appreciation to all of our kindred and beloved friends, who during the time of our bereavement, demonstrated your sympathy and concern in so many ways that touched our hearts. Your thoughtfulness will long be remembered. We solicit your continued prayers as our hearts endure the difficult journey toward healing.

The Family Of Lillie Thornton



Aretha Franklin sang “Impossible Dream” at the Funeral Of the late Rosa Parks



Alabama State Rep. Alvin Holmes reminded the sometimes raucous, sometimes somber crowd that numerous blacks suffered indignities from bus drivers

LaGrange, Georgia

ELECT NORMA TUCKER

LaGrange City Council Place #2

A Positive Voice for Positive Change in LaGrange!!

With the many issues that we deal with in our community, it is imperative to have a good leader, someone who really cares about the welfare of all! We need someone who is experienced with teens, as well as adults in all facets of everyday living. Allow me to offer myself to the citizens of LaGrange as a person of that caliber.

My name is Norma Tucker. I am employed as a program coordinator at Twin Cedars Youth Services. I strongly believe my personal accomplishments to be a reflection of my ability to be an effective leader and decision-maker. After graduating from LaGrange High School in 1979, I joined the Navy and spent six years in active duty. After 21 years with the U.S. Reserve, I retired. I completed the Licensed Practical Nursing

program at Opelika (Ala) Tech in 1993 and earned an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice from College a year later. In 1995, I earned a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice and Social Work from the college. I live with my 10-year-old son, Jacob



which has strengthened my experience and understanding of the importance of keeping our neighborhoods safe.

I became interested in local politics after

attending meetings held by DASH for LaGrange Inc. I wanted to help make a difference so I decided to run for the District 2 seat in LaGrange. I enjoy working with people of all age groups and have done so in the past. Some of my achievements are: lobbied for more state funding in behalf of teenage parents to pay for child care which allowed the teen parents an opportunity to go to school; assisted others in reducing the loitering problems at a park near my home in southwest LaGrange, resulting in a safer environment for children to play in the park.

A vote for me, is a vote for: safer neighborhoods; affordable housing; change in dealing with family issues and cooperation between churches, home, school and community to work

I urge you to go to the polls and vote on election day, and Vote for Norma Tucker, City Council Place #2.

*Anyone interested in contributing to my campaign is encouraged to mail campaign contributions to:
Campaign for Norma Tucker, P.O. Box 93, LaGrange, Georgia 30241*

Juicy Squirt

The owner of a drug store walks in to find a guy leaning heavily against a wall. The owner asks the clerk, “What’s with that guy over there by the wall?”

The clerk says, “Well, he came in here this morning to get something for his cough. I couldn’t find the cough syrup, so I gave him an entire bottle of laxative.” The owner says, “You idiot! You can’t treat a cough with laxatives!”

The clerk says, “Oh yeah? Look at him, he’s afraid to cough!”

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NAACP JOINS THOUSANDS

Continued From Page 2

Luther King first came to national prominence as the boycott leader. For many years, it was a common belief that Mrs. Parks, who was on her way home from work, refused to move simply because she was tired. Bond said, “She was tired all right. She was tired of mistreatment.” Parks, who was secretary of the Montgomery NAACP Branch, had a long history of working for civil rights before that fateful day nearly 50 years ago.

Gordon said: “This is not the magnificent celebration that a woman of such humble background and personality as Rosa Parks would really seek. If we really are to honor her, it is what we chose to do with our lives that will provide the opportunity to extend her life for years and years.”

Today’s memorial service followed the historic honor of lying in state at the Rotunda of the Capitol. Her body will be flown to Detroit on a special Southwest Airlines charter flight where she will lie in state Tuesday at the African American His-

tory Museum. The final funeral and burial will take place Wednesday in Detroit. Parks, 92, died last week in her Detroit home. She was a life member of the NAACP and was awarded the Spingarn Medal in 1979. She received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1996 and the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999.

Founded in 1909, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is the nation’s oldest and largest civil rights organization. Its half-million adult and youth members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities and monitor equal opportunity in the public and private sectors.

A good lawyer knows the law a great lawyer ...

A good lawyer knows the law; a great lawyer knows the judge.

Big Trouble

A husband was in big trouble when he forgot his wedding anniversary. His wife told him “Tomorrow there better be something in the driveway for me that goes zero to 200 in 2 seconds flat.” The next morning the wife found a small package in the driveway. She opened it and found a brand new bathroom scale.

Funeral arrangements for the husband have been set for Saturday.

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LaGrange City Council District 2

November 8th, 2005

“It’s a New Day”

ELECT NORMA TUCKER

A positive voice for positive change.

POWER STRIP

CONTINUED FROM THE PREVIOUS STRIP ON PAGE 9

obese were more likely to be in high-pressure jobs The report concluded that, to avoid panic-induced food cravings, we

need to control our blood sugar levels by snacking on high carbohydrate foods every two hours to keep levels steady

Ulcers: The banana is used as the dietary food against intestinal disorders because of its soft texture and smoothness. It is the only raw fruit that can be eaten without distress in over-chronicler cases. It also neutralizes over-acidity and reduces irritation by coating the lining of the stomach.

Temperature control: Many other cultures see bananas as a “cooling” fruit that can lower both the physical and emotional temperature of expectant mothers. In Thailand, for example, pregnant women eat bananas to ensure their baby is born with a cool temperature.

Seasonal = Affective Disorder (SAD): Bananas can help SAD sufferers because they contain the natural mood enhancer tryptophan.

Smoking: Bananas can also help people trying to give up smoking. The B6, B12 they contain, as well as the potassium and magnesium found in them, help the body recover from the effects of nicotine withdrawal.

Stress: Potassium is a vital mineral, which helps normalize the heartbeat, sends oxygen to the brain and regulates your body’s water balance. When we are stressed, our metabolic rate rises, thereby reducing our potassium levels. These can be balanced with the help of a high-potassium banana snack.

Strokes: According to research in “The New England Journal of Medicine,” eating bananas as part of a regular diet can cut the risk of death by strokes by as much as 40%!

Warts: Those keen on natural alternatives swear that if you want to kill off a wart, take a piece of banana skin and place it on the wart, with the yellow side out. Carefully hold the skin in place with a plaster or surgical tape!

So, a banana really is a natural remedy for many ills. When you compare it to an apple, it has four times the protein, twice the carbohydrate, three times the phosphorus, five times the vitamin A and iron, and twice the other vitamins and minerals. It is also rich in potassium and is one of the best value foods around. So maybe its time to change that well-known phrase so that we say, “A banana a day keeps the doctor away!”

Faith Community



Reverend W.A. Dean, Faith Editor

We welcome all news from the faith communities of East Alabama and West Georgia. You are encouraged

to submit your church news to me by emailing the editor@peoplesvoiceonline.com. You may telephone me at

334-863-6810. Or get in touch with any member of the People’s Voice news staff. We will gladly publish your articles of interest to the faith community, reserving the right to edit material for spelling, or grammatical errors, and appropriateness for this section of the paper. We

eagerly look forward to reading about your upcoming church events or special programs.

If you have special events that you feel are newsworthy, you are welcome to submit a written summary of your event along with photographs of your event, and to the greatest extent possible, we will gladly publish your news item.

The People’s Voice Weekly News Encourages All Our Readers In THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH TO EXERCISE YOUR SELECTIVE BUYING POWER BY SUPPORTING Our Advertisers And Venders

A Prayer for the Legacy of Rosa Parks By Dr. Billy Ingram

A Prayer for the Legacy of Rosa Parks By Dr. Billy Ingram

Dear Lord:

Today, as we sadly mourn the loss of our beloved sister, and warrior, Rosa Parks, we celebrate her life and legacy. We ask for comfort for her family and friends and the global community that her life impacted.

We thank you for the awesome example of what it really means to be great: by allowing us to watch a woman of God for over 50-years, who was simple, sensitive, sharp and a true servant.

We thank you for the legacy of Rosa Parks: that even though she never set out to do anything to change history, she changed it forever and became the focal point of the powerful civil rights movement, by standing up to sickening people, the shamefulness of our society and the sin of segregation.

We thank you for her lifetime of humility and her sincere message and desire for peace among all men and women on this planet. We thank you Lord, that in a world of extravagance and excessiveness, she remained true to the elegance of simplicity.

We thank you for the mantle and torch that she has passed on to us - the society of civilized people. May we accept the challenge to press forward, toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God, in Christ Jesus.

May a new generation rise up and take its rightful place in a world of hate and confusion. May we follow the example of the gentle giant, Rosa Parks, by walking in humility and serving one another.

May we constantly remind this prejudiced and narrow-minded world, that all men are created equal and are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights: the right to pursue and live the good life, the right to liberty and the right to happiness.

May the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development become stronger and more successful than ever; and may Rosa’s reward be great and may her crown be large, and may her Master, the Lord Jesus Christ, now say unto her: well done, thou good and faithful servant, well done! In Jesus’ name, Amen!

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Testament men and women did not have. God’s Kingdom and eternal life.

I challenge all Christians to embrace and accept Jesus ministry. This is your opportunity because you have repented and been redeemed. God Bless Love, Melvin Brown

When you accept Jesus’ ministry you are not “joining a religion, rituals or traditions.” People of God, you have inherited

Giving Thanks

(Author Unknown)

For the hay and the corn and the wheat that is reaped, For the labor well done, and the barns that are heaped, For the sun and the dew and the sweet honeycomb, For the rose and the song and the harvest brought home -- Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving!

For the trade and the skill and the wealth in our land, For the cunning and strength of the workingman’s hand, For the good that our artists and poets have taught, For the friendship that hope and affection have brought -- Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving!

For the homes that with purest affection are blest, For the season of plenty and well-deserved rest, For our country extending from sea unto sea; The land that is known as the “Land of the Free” -- Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving!

““When You’re down to nothing, God is Up To Something....”

“Work like you don’t need the money,” “dance like no one is watching” and “love like you’ve never been hurt.”

Mark Twain

Jesus’ Ministry By Melvin Brown

When Jesus was on earth, His first public address was for us to change our way of thinking and acting.

After Jesus was baptized by John in the Jordan River, His earthly mission was for us to repent (Matthew 4:17) meaning to change. To some people, these words of Jesus may sound insulting. Actually, it means our thought process was wrong.

Since the beginning of time, both ancient and modern society has debated and interjected issues with their own thoughts, and opinions. The modern world

has been overwrought with compromises by trying to keep everyone happy instead of recognizing that God’s word is law.

Jesus’ 12 disciples’ first priority was to change their own way of thinking. This is a very good indication that we who desire to change, must also be willing to submit only to God’s thoughts and ways, because God’s thoughts and ways are higher than man’s.

As we know, God’s word does not change. Jesus

said, “I do the will of my Father (God) the one that sent me.”

The way you change is by repenting and obeying God’s law. Jesus’ ministry was about changing mankind’s whole perspective in life to repenting and eternal life.



So, when you don’t understand the word of God, there is probable cause to ask God a question. However, when you begin to questioning God’ that’s when God will remind you of your place and His and your relationship read (Job 38:1-7). Jesus never questioned God.

Several prophets throughout the Bible had to be reminded of who God is and His awesome power.

When you began to do Kingdom principles you

must change your midset and that changes everything else. Jesus’ disciples were always asking Him questions.

Notice, He never had a problem answering them simply because He had the Spirit of his father (God) and His every thought as well as His ways came from God. Even though He was tempted in every way, he never got out of God’s will (Matthew 6:31-34).

Adam lost the Kingdom but Jesus restored it by His blood. If we focus ourselves on God’s business he’ll take care of our earthly business by empowering us to handle every situation we face.

Focus yourself on Jesus’ Ministry by being born again, the first step of the gospel. Jesus ultimatum was to give us the Holy Spirit because we are spiritual citizens of the new order, not of any merit on our own. It’s because of the Holy Spirit and the old

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Faith Community (Continued)

Oh, You Holier Than Thou!!!

By T. Jeanetta Minnifield Stevens, People’s Voice Associate Editor
jminnifield56@yahoo.com



I recently had a conversation with a person who said that he didn’t go to church because he was so disgusted with *some* of the “so called” preachers who were worse than any of the other devils and hell-raisers in and out of the church. He felt that they were pretending to be holier than everybody else and trying to tell the congregation how bad they were and what they did wrong.

After letting him express his feelings, in my mind I was asking God “How should *I* handle this situation” since he seemed so upset and I didn’t want to have anything to do with a church.

Then, I remembered how my father sat me down one day and explained to me that preachers are human, too. They are just mortal human beings who are not perfect. They *should* strive to be as God wants them to be as examples for their flocks to follow. But, sometimes even they make mistakes even if it is only in their minds. No one...absolutely NO ONE was perfect on this earth except Jesus Christ. He was the Perfect example for humans to try to follow. But since we are born of man, we are not perfect...but if we are Christians...just *available* to be forgiven. We go to a church building to fellowship with kindred souls and strengthen our faith that God has blessed us with. Because **we** (our hearts, souls and minds and spirits) inside the vessel of our bodies are **the** church!

I explained that we cannot focus on what we hear about what others do because we really don’t have (nor do we need) a magic mirror to find out about other folks business. We need to focus on

cleaning up our own hearts and minds. And when you go to church your main focus should be that your Shepherd is preaching the gospel as written in the Bible. That’s why you should have your own bible so you can read for yourself and ask God to bless you with discernment and understanding and most of all for a personal relationship with God The Father, The Son and the Holy Spirit. That is the **only** thing that you should put your trust in. (Hu)Man *will* let you down, but God will never, never, never, leave you. Even at your lowest moment He is there. When we get down so low, that may be the time when you finally reach out to Him and ask for His help and He is faithful to be there for you.

But **stop** and think about it. Why wait until you are down and out? He is there NOW just waiting for you to open the door. He has always been there, but he is such a good God that He is not going to force himself on you. You have a thing called “Free Will.” You may think that “Well, I have never sinned and I always do good. I pay my tithes, I don’t wear revealing clothes, I don’t swear. I treat everybody right, I built a church, and I have never done anything wrong to anybody. I Know I’m going to heaven because I have never sinned.” But by virtue of being born into this world after the first sin of Adam and Eve of disobeying God’s command in the Garden of Eden, our humanly consequence was that we are all born in sin. But God loves us so much that He sent himself down in the form of the 2nd part of His Trinity to give us a chance to get back into His

favor in Heaven and the only way we can be saved is to ask Jesus to come into our hearts and forgive us of our sins through His saving Grace and Mercy, believe that Jesus is the son of God; He died to save us from our sins, rose again, ascended into Heaven and sent the 3rd part of His Trinity- The Holy Spirit (also known as The Holy Ghost) to abide within you to guide you and keep you in times when you are spiritually weakened by the forces of evil and temptation of this world...And the 1st part of the Trinity???...In the beginning God created the Heavens and the Earth.

Look at the news on any given day and we hear about a fallen Priest, Evangelist, President or any person in a high position. We hold them up to standards that only Jesus could live up to, and when they fall we, with our holier than thou attitudes (especially the media), put them down in disgrace and shame all over the broadcasts as if we are so much better than they. I fear that “everybody talkin’

‘bout heaven ain’t goin’ da heaven.” We had all better take a look at ourselves before we condemn others.

Well, O.K. Ms. Jeanetta, what then gives you the right to even write this article? I akin this message to what I eluded to at the beginning of this article. I’m only Human. I’m certainly not perfect! I’m just plain ole Jeanetta. But as I write, it is as if “Jeanetta” has faded into the background and the Holy Spirit takes over my body and spirit and uses me as a vessel to carry out God’s message. I suppose that is what some preachers do when they are preaching the Word of God...but, they are still infallible, still human. “Ye, without any sin throw the first stone.” Let us take the **MESSAGE** and not the **MAN**.

I know that there is a problem in some churches about “the collection plate.” We get upset when the preacher goes out and buys himself a new cadallic or other luxury items. All they want is

money, money, money! Well, that is not our concern when we give our money because we are giving our money to the Lord when we drop it into the collection plate. We have intrusted the man of God to be a good steward over these gifts. Sometimes they do...sometimes they don’t. But, once we drop it into the plate, we have done our duty of giving back to God what is God’s. God will bless us for our obedience. What happens next is between the stewards and God. At judgement, they will have to account to God for what they have done. And remember, God does not require that the preacher be a pauper! God *will* take care of His own...Our Father in Heaven is a King and we are His children. I think it is time we started claiming our heritage!

My mother and father used to make us sit and watch

POWER STRIP

“Kept” Women

Watch out there now!!!!
I Am a “Kept” Woman .
You see, there were a few times when I thought I would lose my mind, but GOD kept me sane. (Isa. 26:3)

There were times when I thought I could go no longer, but the LORD kept me moving. (Gen 28:15)

At times, I’ve wanted to lash out at those whom I felt had done me wrong, but the LORD kept my mouth shut. (Psalm 13)

Sometimes, I think the money just isn’t enough, but GOD has helped me to keep the lights on, the water on, the car paid, the house paid, etc., (Matt. 6:25-34)

When I thought I would fall, HE kept me up. When I thought I was weak, HE kept me strong!
(I Peter 5:7, Matt. 11:28-30)

I could go on and on and on, but I’m sure you hear me! Praise the Lord and pass the filet mignon! I’m blessed to be “KEPT.”

Are you...or do you know a “kept” woman?

If so pass it on to her to let her know she is “Kept”

FOOD FOR THOUGHT!

The average consumer never thinks about death until it hits home, and the reality of that is when faced with a death of a loved one you must be financially prepared to take on this task. Grief alone is a crisis, not to mention the overwhelming phone calls and visitors, the last thing you want to be faced with is a financial crisis. Someone asked, “Why are we having this discussion?” I’m glad you asked. In case you didn’t know, the national average for funeral expenses in 2005, according to the National Funeral Directors Association is presently \$5,800. My professional opinion, advance planning is the way to go being that funeral costs increase about 5% annually. Most life insurance markets whole life insurance that you pay a set rate over your entire lifetime, but the catch to that is as funeral costs rise annually, the face value on your insurance policy remains the same. In a nut shell, if you pre-arrange your funeral services today, you get a funeral service for a later date for today’s prices, which eliminates inflation. For example, the average costs of funerals today is \$5,800 and 20 years from now it will be approximately \$10,000-\$12,000. Think about it. Contact your local funeral service provider for more information and remember don’t wait until death becomes personal to prepare for it.



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In all thy ways acknowledge Him,
and He shall direct thy paths.
PROVERBS 3:6



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THE PEOPLE’S VOICES

Jeanetta Stevens: Women On The Front Line..... Continued From Page 4

After 25 years of loyal service to the Roanoke City Schools, she retired, and continued to pursue her career at Heard County Elementary School, Franklin, Georgia where she taught 1st Grade for one year.

Jeanetta was a member of the Bangorian Civic Club, serving as its Treasurer and President; the Ebony Civic Club, serving as its Vice President; NAACP, Outstanding Young Woman of America of 1982.

She is the financial benefactor, moral supporter and Secretary-Treasurer of the Christian Memorial Baptist Church, which was founded, established and built by her father, the late Reverend Dr. Warren Minnifield, Sr. She established the first black-owned Early Childhood Early Education Day and Night Care Center in Roanoke, Alabama. During the Summer of 1989, she was instrumental in helping to facilitate the Wilkie Clark Community Center Summer Camp, which was organized by a large group of young black mothers, who were concerned about their children’s lack of education about African-American History.

Jeanetta has been actively involved in United Way of Randolph County, serving as it’s Treasurer in 1981; The Alabama Democratic Conference (ADC) 1980-1981 having served as treasurer; the Randolph Energy Management Action Program and the Roanoke Energy Board, 1981.

Jeanetta was the first African American woman to run for City Council in Roanoke,

Alabama (Randolph County) in 1980, and was instrumental in getting sidewalks in the Black community for children to walk to school safely. She was recognized as Outstanding Young Woman of America 1982; and was featured on the National Dateline NBC on the 100% orange juice scam.

She is a Lifetime Member of the Alabama Education Association; Lifetime Member of the Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation, Inc.; Associate Editor and Feature Writer of “*The People’s Voice*,” a new weekly publication, owned, operated and produced by African-Americans for the advancement and elevation of all people.

Jeanetta is a world traveler having visited over 27 United States, (including Hawaii) The Bahamas, Paris, France, Lausanne, Switzerland, Heidelberg, Germany, London, England. She won \$2,000.00 as the “Tuesday Morning Mom of the Week” on the Nationally Syndicated Tom Joyner Morning Show, recommended to the show by her former husband.

She is a member of Sonlight Ministries under the direction of Dr. Tommy Smith and pastor-elect Dean Deric C. Minnifield.

Jeanetta was formerly married to Thomas David Stevens, Jr., of Anniston, Alabama. They have five children; JeQuetta Chillon Stevens Canady, (son-in-law, Marine Corporal Gabriel Canady), Jacqueline Tierra Stevens, Thomas

David Stevens, III, Quianna Jarnee’ Stevens, and Tianna Charnee’ Stevens. They have four grandchildren, Caston Xavier Canady, Creston X’ian Canady, Cathy GaBrianna Canady, and TaMarion Jacquez Abner.

Yes, Ms. T. Jeanetta Minnifield Stevens is a “Woman On The Front Line.” She puts her all into everything she does. There will be even more opportunities coming her way. She will keep on working, believing in God, and she will never lose her faith.

Nominate Your Unsung Heros...

Yes, there are enormous gaps in America’s history, because history has frequently overlooked the notable achievements of African Americans, disregarding or often minimizing their contributions. But, the *People’s Voice* wants to change the course of history and bring honor and distinction to African-Americans by recognizing our un-sung heroes.

Is there an unsung hero in your community? This could

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If you believe you know someone worthy of this distinction, by all means, The People’s Voice invites you to let their voice be heard, by nominating them to be featured.

In order to nominate someone, you will need to write us a summary of their life or work; send up to three photographs,

to: Unsung Heroes
The People’s Voice Black Weekly News
Post Office Box 514
Roanoke, Alabama 36274

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Photo Of Landfill at Monsanto (Now Solutia)

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CAP Original billboard Sign



Below: Reverend Reginald Rowser meets with Anniston resident Jerry Batts.

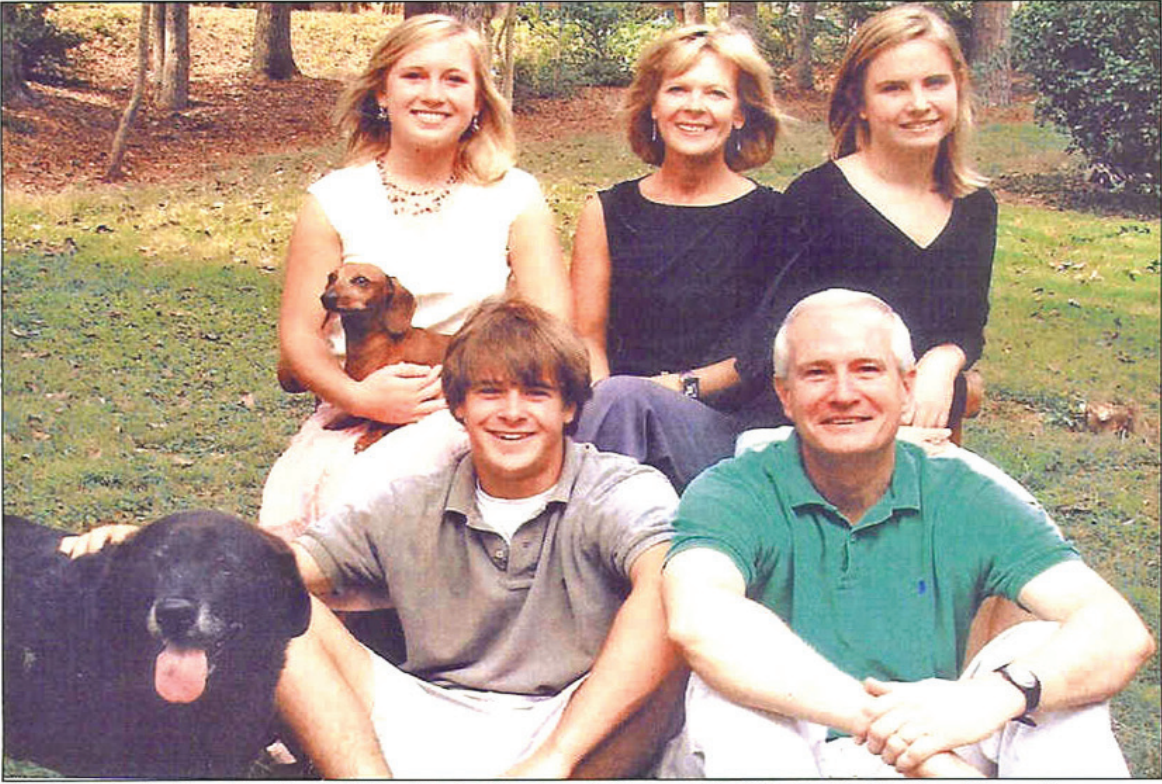


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