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THE PEOPLE'S VOICE

The Black Voice Of East Alabama & West Georgia: Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Lee, Randolph, Tallapoosa, Alabama; Heard & Troup, Georgia

FOUNDED FEBRUARY, 2005

POST OFFICE BOX 514, ROANOKE, ALABAMA 367274

JULY 22nd -29th, 2005

THIS WEEKS VOICE



Malone, Peoples Choice For the People's Voice



Brown, Phenomenal Woman



People's Voice Pays Tribute To Reverend R. L. Heflin



Bishop 9th District A.M.E. Church Visit Randolph's Only A.M.E. Church

A VOICE FOR THE PEOPLE!

People's Voice dedicates inaugural edition to "Renaissance Black Men and Women of East Alabama and West Georgia"



Not Pictured: J.A. Terry, Velma Terry, H. T. Rosser, Reverend J.S. Nettles,

After considerable prayer, struggle, deliberation, research, and intellectual discourse, the Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation, Incorporated proudly presents its inaugural edition of *The People's Voice*, which we believe is destined to become the Black Voice of East Alabama and West Georgia. The publication has designated its circulation area to include Randolph County, and the seven counties on its perimeter. They are: Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Lee, Tallapoosa, Heard and Troup.

With the same passion and spirit that characterized Edwin Harleston, a security guard and aspiring writer, to launch *The Pittsburgh Courier* in 1907, we proudly inaugurate *The People's Voice*. Likewise, here almost a century after the publication of one of the largest black weekly newspapers in the history of this nation, it too, is born out of an earnest desire to free and empower

those who will become its readers and patrons. We, too, seek to empower African Americans economically and politically, a mission that can never be accomplished without an instrument such as "*The People's Voice*" to break the strongholds that have for decades dis-empowered so many African-Americans and held them captive.

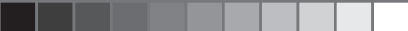
It is the belief of its founders, parents and birthing partners that this issue of *the People's Voice* comes not a moment too soon and to be more precise, about 100 years late. It is the belief of its founders that African Americans in these eight rural communities need a voice. That we can not continue to depend on those who know nothing about us, to write about our issues and concerns. We can no longer afford to have our history distorted, our report slanted, or our voice muted. But, rather with one melodious song uttered in perfect harmony, our voices will be heard! *The People's Voice* is predicated on the belief that African Americans cannot prosper as long as we are separated from our history, culture, and connection to each other. We can not thrive in the rural south as long as we are spoon feed daily doses of propaganda that politely ignores our presence. It is predicated on the belief that African Americans must own and control our own media, so that we can tell our own stories, write our own histories, and ensure that the record is set straight, once and for all!! We express a deep and abiding faith in the words, "Truth crushed to earth will rise again."

And so, we rise!! Up and out from the bondage of silence that has for so long, held us prisoner of social darkness and economic despair.

We humbly dedicate this inaugural edition of *The People's Voice*, to the numerous pioneering African Americans throughout East Alabama and West Georgia, some known, some unknown; some who are still with us, and some who have passed off the scene of time. Yet their message remains strong in our hearts. It is for them, and all they grappled with, fought for and believed in, that we seek to continue the struggle to empower ourselves through this diligent quest for knowledge and truth.

The people have spoken.....

INSIDE: Mary Jackson Succumbs, Communities Mourn Death Of Beloved Pastors Wife



FRIDAY, JULY 22 - 29, 2005



Malone The People's Choice for the People's Voice

The People's Voice has spoken. Mr. Tony D. Malone of Lanett, Alabama has accepted the awesome task of serving as the Editor-In-Chief of the People's Voice. Mr. Malone brings with him, an impressive set of credentials that lead us to believe that he is up to the task.

Mr. Malone, a native of Lanett, Alabama has been a political and civil rights activist in Chambers County for several years. He is the President of the Chambers County Branch, NAACP; moreover he is an elected member of the Lanett City Council, and automotive sales representative at LaGrange Toyota, LaGrange, Georgia.

The Clark Memorial Foundation believes that Mr. Malone will be a tremendous asset to the foundation and to the People's Voice..



Tony Malone meets with foundation to discuss his vision for the People's Voice over lunch at Café LaTaste in LaGrange, Georgia.

Editor's Note.....

For many years, the People's voice has been in a "Mute" state of being and it's about time for the voices of the people to be heard! The People's Voice Newspaper will cover positive issues that are happening within black communities, while at the same time bring more balanced news that would be beneficial to the readers. Our intentions are to KEEP THE PEOPLE INFORMED. Silence crying out loud. That is the people's voice!

Knowledge is power and if you do not have the right information, you cannot obtain the knowledge. Despite what critics say about black on black crimes, and other negatives, the people's voices still rise. We need to rethink the mind into positive things. There are bad things all around us. Bad things happen to all races. It is up to you to focus on the positive because nobody else will do it. The People's Voice Newspaper will bring a new perspective to news information to help you focus on the positive things of the people, and especially black people.

Unfortunately, the people's voices cannot be heard if you, the good people do not help carry the good message on. Please let the staff at the People's Voice know if you have any news information of interest. As you know, we are still in the growing stages, so please pray for us and have patience with us while we try to keep you informed.

Working Class America!

You should be outraged over the fact that a few national black leaders and the Democratic Party have decided that President Bush's Social Security overhaul plan is not in your bet interest. At least the President is making an attempt to give citizens more control over their monies. Under the present set up, the government gets a big "hunk" out of every working class paycheck. President Bush wants to make social security better so that you can keep your money. He wants you, the wage earner to have **MORE** of the money you earn. What's wrong with that? In addition, who is telling Congress how to spend their retirement money? They are not debating over their current set-up. Why?

Let's face it, in so many years projections indicate that the fund will go broke if we don't change the way we handle the social security taxes that are taken out of our paychecks. What a good way to start with the plan President Bush has introduced. . . He's trying to give you a chance to control your own future and money so you won't have to be totally dependent on the government when you retire. The plan leaves those seniors already getting benefits under the old plan alone. Unfortunately, the seniors are some of the worst critics of the new social security opportunity plan that has been put forth by the President. The proposal will in no way affect them.

Working class Americans, please take a good look at the President Social Security proposed changes. It will affect you, the working class the most. Those who earn pay checks weekly/BI-weekly would have the opportunity to bring more money into your household. If you want to use it for investing in your future retirement years, so be it; if you want to spend it on you and your family, that's your business as well. Some say that it would lead many to poverty. Maybe so, but there are many who are already getting social security benefits who are now in poverty.

If you choose the option of getting your money off the top, when you reach retirement age, you would still get a check from social security, but it wouldn't be as much if you choose to stay in the current system. Think about all the monies you have put into social security since you have been working. Every now and then, the SSA sends out notices showing the approximate income you could expect to receive when you reach retirement age. Have you checked out how small the benefits are? And to think, the government based it on the amount you have paid in from your payroll taxes.

Well, there are two sides to each coin. Some say it is about big business, without a doubt! But business benefits so do working class Americans! The Democrats in Congress are all united in stopping any changes to Social Security. What's wrong with them? Who are they speaking for? Ask yourself the question, do you want to bring home more money?

The people should have a choice to decide how they will spend their own hard earned paycheck. The more taxes sent to Washington, the more Congress spends on themselves. It is time for you, the working class citizens to start spending your own money and stop sending it to the Senators and Representatives to spend.

A Fresh Word From The Democrats

The Democrats need to come to the table and put up a better plan or shut up! The fact of the matter is the way we do and know Social Security needs to be changed. A family of four living on minimum wages in some areas is near poverty. If they had the opportunity to bring more of the money they earn home, it would indeed be a big help to them. It is time for the Democrats to stop stalling any efforts that would bring about a change in Social Security and work with the President to resolve the matter.

The democrats need to put the rhetoric aside and deal with the real substance issues, that is going to have a difference in people's lives. It is time to give the American people a choice on how they want their money to be spent. What will the democrats do about Social Security? The President has laid his plan out and it seems that he is ready to move forward in enhancing the way Social Security operates. Are you ready, then tell your congress member to stop stalling and playing with your livelihood and move on with positive changes in Social Security.

FRIDAY, JULY 22 - 29, 2005

DVD Documentary and Scholarly Manuscript Inject New Life into the Historic Randolph County Training School

Alvin, Lonnie, Gene and Earnestine
Thornton
July 14, 2005



When the Randolph County Training School's graduates, teachers, parents and friends meet in LaGrange, Georgia for their bi-annual reunion on July 28-31, 2005, they will have available to them historical information about their school that was not previously available to them. A two-hour narrated DVD-documentary, with more than 300 classic photographs, and a manuscript will be featured at the reunion and sold as a source of funds to develop a RCTS Scholarship Fund for deserving students in Randolph County. The goal of the

The state of Alabama chartered the Randolph County Training School (RCTS) in 1919 and it opened in the autumn of 1920 with 73 students. It closed in the spring of 1970 with a final graduating class of 38 students after the County and State finally agreed to comply with the Supreme Court's 1954 *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision ending segregated public schools in America. In between RCTS' initial principal, James Russell, and its last principal, L.R. Hoggs, more than 2,500 students graduated from RCTS (initially named the Roanoke African American School) and went forward to make their diverse contributions to our society. Although the maroon and gold of RCTS was a mainstay on the County's educational landscape for 51 years, its rich legacy was not properly preserved and had begun to fade from the annals of history.

The Phoenix is a mystical African bird which, after years of dormancy, rises from the flames of fire and ascends to regain its place of prominence and

relevancy. The Phoenix legend applies to RCTS, which had occupied a place of prominence for the African American community and its children in Roanoke and Randolph County before becoming invisible and being lost to those for whom it had done so much. Thanks to the efforts of the extended "RCTS Family," the School's rich tradition and legacy have been recovered as a foundation upon which it can regain its rightful place in the historical annals of Roanoke, Randolph County and Alabama.

With the unselfish contributions of RCTS graduates, former teachers, principals, and parents, the history of RCTS has been captured in a two-hour narrated DVD documentary (*Behind These Silent Walls: The Tradition and Legacy of the Randolph County Training School-- 1919-1970*) and a manuscript that carries the same title. The DVD and manuscript capture the 51 year history of the School and places it in the historical context in which it was created, developed and was closed. Although the DVD and manuscript carry our names, they are community projects in every sense.

The need had long been evident and older graduates of RCTS, holding on to their precious memories, newspaper articles and pictures, frequently admonished younger graduates to document the history of the Randolph County Training School before it was too late. They feared that with death, lost memories, invidious neglect and destroyed official documents, the glorious history of RCTS would be lost. Most prominent among them were Velma Terry and the School's teachers whose early lives were, in part, centered on their school -- RCTS. Responding to the call of the elders to uncover and preserve the illustrious history of RCTS, those who loved it rallied to uncover the historical information that will help restore the lost legacy and tradition of the Randolph County Training School.

In producing the DVD documentary and writing the manuscript, we observed those who loved RCTS and understood the educational and cultural lessons that can be learned from it. We considered the short essays that they wrote about the school and noticed their pride they had in displaying historic pictures and sharing stories about their unique school experiences. The occasional newspaper stories about RCTS also drew our attention. A powerful motivating factor that led to our commitment to complete the projects was our discovery that only scant information about RCTS, a major educational institution in Roanoke, Randolph County and Alabama, was available in local, regional and state libraries. It was as if the school never existed. The historical void had to be filled. The project became a "sibling effort" and gave us an opportunity to pool our various academic, research, technological, and multi-media interests to produce "*Behind These Silent Walls*." What began as a brief PowerPoint presentation at the RCTS 2003 Reunion became a labor of deep renewed love for a school and its students and respect for its teachers and principals.

In completing the projects, we benefited from the initial pioneering research that Velma Terry completed. She was a RCTS oracle and early on insisted on the need to preserve the school's legacy. She shared her research with us an urged us to build upon it to rediscover her beloved RCTS and make it available to the children as a source of cultural pride and dignity in the face of cultural alienation, inequality and discrimination. With her work as a foundation, we: (1) examined each edition of the *Roanoke Leader* between 1919 and 1970, finding

valuable information about the school in articles written by its teachers and principals; (2) interviewed older RCTS graduates, former teachers, parents and local and regional librarians; (3) researched archival documents; and (4) examined scholarly documents for information about the approach that was used to educate African American children in the rural South during the period of the school's existence. Interviews with individuals such as James Coleman, Countess Chapman, Alfred Hill, Ceroy Pate, Rev. Robert Heflin, Rev. Myris Bell, Tavie Heflin, Ben A. Outland, John Hendricks, and Clarence Jarrells were especially useful to our effort to capture the school's early history (1919 to 1936).

Linnie Dora Pinkard was its first graduate and Dennis Ware was its last graduate in May of 1970. Between them are many good and not so good memories, and academic, athletic and other achievements that defined the RCTS landscape. The memories of students and members of the community about RCTS will vary greatly. Indeed, each individual will recall people and events differently and they will assign different levels of significance to them. All who graced the halls of RCTS will recall the halls lined with precious pictures of graduating classes, trophy cases filled with symbols of athletic triumphs against local and regional foes, and the friendships of schoolmates who

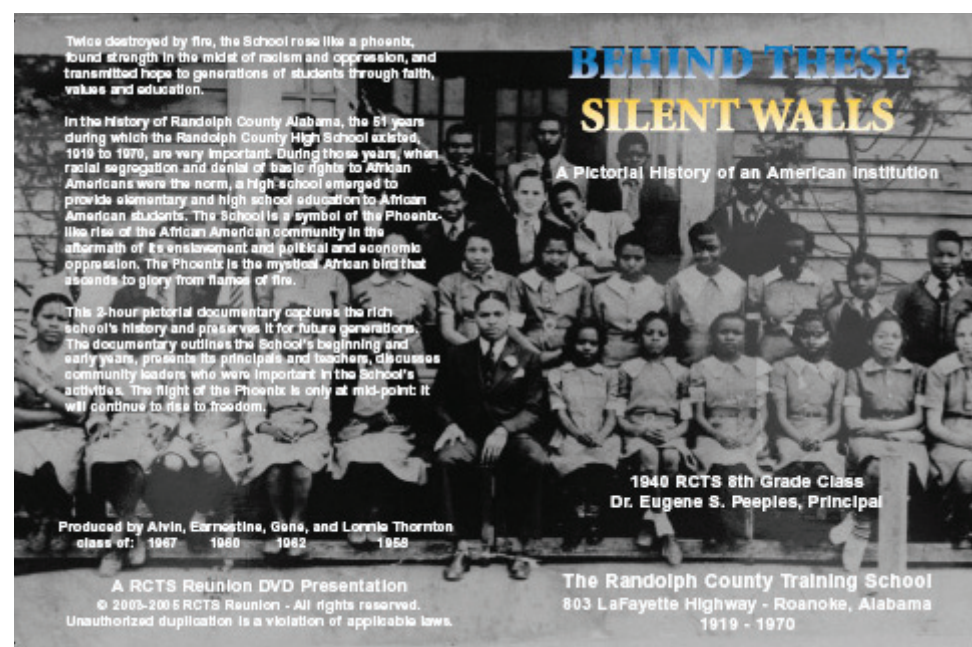
thrilled the junior and senior classes year after year. Behind the walls of this building remain the silent memories of the sound of the huge drum of the RCTS Marching Band. Behind the walls, linger the memories of the many cold, chilly winter days when the boiler wouldn't work, and the hot smoldering spring and fall days. Gone are the walks up and down the aisles on the cement floors, causing calluses and blisters on our feet. Gone are the dreams of little folk who saw the health nurse coming down the hall. Gone are the dedicated teachers who sat behind the desks and tried to help the slow child and make him or her a part of the class. Gone, gone, gone; and with it go the memories of generations of students who passed through the Randolph County Training School."

In writing the easy, Hattie P. Clark was reminding her readers of the efforts of caring teachers and support staff, the many good times that students had and the significance of the school to the African American community. She was also alerting the community to the uncertain future of African American children that was just over the horizon as the school closed. We adopted the phrase "Behind These Silent Walls" as the title of the DVD documentary and manuscript because it speaks to the RCTS walls, which housed the intellectual and cultural development of generations of African American

students, being allowed to become silent while pregnant with the rich culture and tradition of a people and their children.

An unfortunate consequence of school desegregation and the closing of rural county schools that had served the educational needs of African American students was that the history of the

schools was largely neglected as if they had no historical or contemporary importance. We understood that there is much to be learned from the manner in which students were educated at



shared the RCTS experience and the faces of caring and supportive teachers and principals.

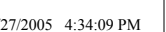
Hattie P. Clark, one of RCTS' long-serving teachers, pinned an essay for the *Randolph Leader* on the eve of the closing of RCTS in 1970 that summarized the history of the school with the phrase "*Behind These Silent Walls*." Two months after the official closing of RCTS, Hattie P. Clark wrote: "I would like to take this opportunity to say farewell to Old Randolph -- the Randolph County Training School." She said, "... it has become one of the greatest assets within this community as far as African American people are concerned. It is all we ever had to call our own. It is the only building in Roanoke or Randolph County where we as a people felt the warmth of welcome. Our parents, fore-parents and other members of the African American community helped raise money to buy the land upon which the building now stands. Many donated hard-earned cash, when a dollar was really a dollar. Many never lived to see the fruit of their labor. Now behind the walls of Old Randolph linger only the memories of the many years which we devoted to -- silent memories of pleasure, silent memories not so pleasant. *Behind the silent walls* linger the memories of beautiful proms, which



RCTS when resources were limited and many civil and economic rights were unavailable. The core elements of the educational paradigm at RCTS were: (1) an unbroken authority structure that included the home, community and school; (2) strict school discipline administered by teachers whose authority was not questioned; (3) a keen collective community awareness of the importance of education to social advancement and overcoming oppression; (4) recognition of the central role of religion and positive values; and (5) a willingness to work hard to achieve employment and educational objectives. Hopefully, the DVD documentary and associated manuscript will highlight the need for more research on these schools and the importance of the instructional and student development approach that was used in them to produce generations of successful students.



The NEW Black Voice of East Alabama and West Georgia: Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Lee, Randolph, Tallapoosa, Heard & Troup Counties



“August 6: A Time To Celebrate”

by: Jerome A. Gray
State Field Director
Alabama Democratic Conference

Forty years ago, President Lyndon Baines Johnson signed the 1965 Voting Rights Act into law on August 6. That was a great day and it should go down in history as n important date to remember in American history. Why? Because the landmark Congressional Act that was signed on that date has changed the face and character of America throughout the world.

From the late 1800s (after Reconstruction) up until August 6, of 1965, millions of black Americans were denied the right to vote. Devices such as poll taxes, literacy tests, grandfather clauses and white primaries, coupled with violence and intimidation, were used to prevent blacks from voting in many localities.

Consider this. The Civil War ended in 1865. In 1870, the 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified. And here is what it said: Section 1. “The rights of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the united States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.” And Section 2. “the Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.”

Well, after the Reconstruction ended in the late 1970’s, and the federal troops were withdrawn from the South, the 15th Amendment, in reality wasn’t worth the paper it was written on. As the record shows, it took Congress 95 years before they decided to enforce Section 2 of the 15th Amendment “by appropriate legislation.” It is regrettable that before Congress was moved to draft some “appropriate legislation” in 1965 to enforce black voting rights, many blacks in the interim were killed, beaten and jailed.

Fortunately, it took violence or a brutal, bloody Sunday incident in Selma, Alabama, back in March of 1965, to move Congress to prepare legislation to enforce voting rights for blacks. When the nation saw mounted state troopers and other law enforcement officials using tear gas and billy clubs to beat back a group of marchers demonstrating for voting rights on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, that became the catalyst for the national leaders to use their legislative authority to enforce change, which the 15th Amendment had given them the power to do since 1870. “Lawd,” today, as Richard Wright might say.

Although we owe President Johnson and the Congress a debt of gratitude for having the fortitude to enact the 1965 Voting Rights Act, we the peop0le or black Alabamians must never forget the role that we played in helping to achieve the constitutional mandates of forming “a more perfect union” and to “establish justice” as a result of agitating for our voting rights. Therefore, as we celebrate and recall the gains that we’ve made politically during the past forty years,

we need to remain vigilant and not assume that the enforcement authority of all sections of the Voting Rights Act will be with us forever. In fact, one of the most important Sections of the Act, Section 5, expires in 2007, and comes up for reauthorization. Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act is often referred to as the review and preclearance section. Under Section 5, any change affecting voter registration, elections, and voting must first be submitted to the Department of Justice for review and preclearance before it can be implemented. Moreover, any proposed change that’s reviewed must not discriminate against blacks or dilute the black vote. As the Act is written, the burden of proof is placed on the submitting authority to demonstrate racial fairness. Of course, one of the best features of Section 5 is the ability of local citizens to contact the Justice Department and to object to changes in registration or elections procedures. If we think that they are discriminatory or dilute the black vote. The proposed changes may include such things as moving a polling place, annexations, or unfairly assigning white poll officials to black precincts. Without Section 5 and the enforcement powers of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, we would have little to celebrate on August 6. However, as we celebrate, we should continue to organize and mobilize. Throughout August, we should celebrate by signing up new voters, by helping ex-felons to get their voting rights restored, and to host a reception, prayer breakfast or exhibit of some kind to showcase and document our gains as we monitor new barriers to voter participation.

Jessie Jackson Wants Police To End Profiling

Associated Press

The Rev. Jesse Jackson is urging Chicago police to crack down on racial profiling, one week after the release of a report that showed minority drivers are stopped in disproportionate numbers.

Jackson and leaders of several civil rights groups discussed the issue with Police Superintendent Philip Cline during a closed-door meeting at police headquarters.

Jackson said afterward that officers who stop minority drivers without cause should be suspended and that officers who do it more than once should be kicked off the force. “It is a source of great pain for the state to use its police powers to stop a citizen for no good cause based upon perception,” Jackson said.

A survey conducted last year found that Chicago police stopped minority drivers at a rate of 15 percent greater than their proportion of the city’s overall driving population. It also found minority drivers were three times more likely to consent to a vehicle search than non-minority drivers.

Police have said the disparity could stem from a beefed up police presence in high crime areas, most of which have large minority populations.

“Now what we need to look into further is, ‘Is that disparity because we’re putting more cops in minority neighborhoods to bring down the violent crime that’s occurring in minority neighborhoods?’” Cline said after Friday’s meeting.

Cline called the meeting with Jackson and representatives from the American Civil Liberties Union, Amnesty International and other groups “productive,” and said the department will work with community groups as it reviews it policies and procedures.

Jackson said too much of a focus on city neighborhoods can lead to the perception that “blacks and Latinos have some genetic inclination to violence and drugs.” He said police must focus more attention on suburban and interstate drug and gun pipelines.

An internal memo Cline sent to officers Monday included a reminder that “bias-based policing and racial profiling are not effective or legitimate crime-fighting strategies.”

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Dedication ...The Pittsburgh Courier

The People’s Voice is proud to dedicate its inaugural edition to the founders of the Pittsburgh Courier, now The New Pittsburgh Courier.

Publisher Robert Lee Vann

The Pittsburgh Courier was once the country’s most widely circulated black newspaper with a national circulation of almost 200,000.

Established in 1907 by Edwin Harleston, a security guard and aspiring writer, the newspaper gained national prominence after attorney Robert Lee Vann took over as the newspaper’s editor-publisher, treasurer, and legal counsel in 1910.

By the 1930’s it was one of the top selling black newspapers in the country--as widely read as The Chicago Defender and The Afro-American.

From the beginning, The Courier called for improvements in housing, health and education, and protested the slum conditions in which black people were forced to live in Pittsburgh and elsewhere throughout the nation.

In one campaign it pressed for an increase of black physicians in the Pittsburgh area and the opening of an African American hospital to serve the community’s health needs as white facilities were unwilling to treat African Americans.

The Courier sought to empower African Americans economically and politically.

In one instance, it featured a front-page column entitled “The Camera,” which counseled African Americans on financial matters.

The Courier encouraged the black community to support black organizations such as The National Urban League and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In an editorial entitled “The Penalty of Unconcern,” The Courier stressed the importance of African Americans taking an active role in their political destinies.

The Courier protested misrepresentations of African Americans in the mainstream media.

In the early 1930’s, the paper began a nationwide protest against the Amos n’Andy daily radio serial.

In 1932, Vann helped influence black voters to shift their political allegiance away from the Republican Party, which was often still thought of as the party of Lincoln, and to support the Democratic candidate Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The Pittsburgh Courier was one of the first black newspapers to publish both national and local editions.

At its height there was as many as 14 editions circulated in states including Texas, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and New York.

Many of the 20th century’s most well known and influential black journalists and intellectuals contributed articles, columns, and editorials to The Pittsburgh Courier. George Schuyler joined the staff in 1925 and had a weekly column entitled “Views and Reviews.”

Self taught historian Joel A. Rogers’ column “Your History” was a constant source of information concerning the buried or forgotten historical black past.

Marcus Garvey, W.E.B DuBois and James Weldon Johnson contributed columns at various times. In later years, Elijah

Muhammed wrote a column for The Courier. Zora Neale Hurston was hired to cover the sensational murder trial of Ruby J. McCollum.

The Courier protested misrepresentations of African Americans in the mainstream media. In the early 1930’s, the paper began a nationwide protest against the Amos n’ Andy daily radio serial.

It petitioned to remove the program from the air and published scathing editorials denouncing the program’s negative portrayals of black people.

Following Robert L. Vann’s death on October 24, 1940, Ira Lewis, who had worked at the paper since 1914 as a sports writer and eventually managing editor, and whom Vann had hand-picked as his successor, became editor. Under his leadership The Courier reached its highest circulation, and gained even greater popularity and scope.

This was due in part to the successful “Double V” campaign spearheaded by The Courier. Beginning in the paper’s February 7, 1942 edition and continuing weekly until 1943, the Double V campaign demanded that African Americans who were risking their lives abroad receive full citizenship rights at home.

The newspaper printed articles, editorials, letters, Double V photographs, and drawings, and even designed a recognizable Double V sign to promote the campaign. Many other black newspapers endorsed the campaign as well, making it a nationwide effort.

Another major battle fought by The Courier was against segregation in professional sports. Wendell Smith, who became the paper’s sportswriter in 1938, used his column to denounce segregation in the major leagues. His efforts contributed to Jackie Robinson’s signing with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947. In the early years of Robinson’s baseball career, Smith traveled and roomed with Robinson on several Dodger trips, and arranged his travel and housing itinerary, because in some cities Robinson could not stay with the rest of the team in segregated hotels.

The Courier was one of the few black newspapers to provide coverage of news in Africa as the continent moved towards independence.

In 1948 Ira Lewis died. The Courier’s circulation began to decline during the 1950s and ‘60s, and in 1965, it was sold to John Sengstacke, the owner and publisher of The Chicago Defender. Today The Pittsburgh Courier is published under the name “The New Pittsburgh Courier.”

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James Baldwin (1924-1987)
Nobody Knows My Name (1961)

If we accept and acquiesce in the face of discrimination, we accept the responsibility ourselves and allow those responsible to salve their conscience by believing that they have our acceptance and concurrence. We should, therefore, protest openly everything . . . that smacks of discrimination or slander.





THE PEOPLE'S VOICE

NEWS FEATURES

The NEW Black Voice of East Alabama and West Georgia: Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Lee, Randolph, Tallapoosa, Heard & Troup Counties

DAY, JULY 22- 29, 2005

FORMER PRESIDENT CLINTON TOURS AFRICA

Former President Bill Clinton began a six-nation tour of Africa, which started July 17. President Clinton is to focus on the Aids crisis in Africa and the fact that many nations are in peril, unless the epidemic can be reversed.

Each day about 6000 Africans die from Aids, and another 11000 are infected, according to the United Nations.

The Clinton Foundation is working in several African nations to stop the spread of Aids. Did you know that in Lesotho, 1 in 3 adults between the ages 15 & 49 are affected with the virus:

Rwanda---Approximately 250,000 people live with HIV/Aids:

Kenya---An estimated 1.2 million adults and children

are infected with Aids, but the prevalence rate is on the decline from 13.6% in 1997 to 7% in 2004.

Tanzania---1.6 million people are HIV positive. Under current care HIV/Aids will cause a decline in life expectancy from 61 years to 46 years.

Mozambique---1.3 million are infected with HIV, with the majority of new infectees occuring at an early age.

South Africa---Republic of South Africa has the largest number of people living with HIV in the world. An estimated 4.5 million to 6.2 million is affected.

Clinton, through his foundation is trying to help get rid of HIV/Aids.

MORE... African-American Quotations From Muhammad Ali to Andrew Young

Compiled by Ann Marie Imbornoni

“Don’t settle for average. Bring your best to the moment. Then, whether it fails or succeeds, at least you know you gave all you had. We need to live the best that’s in us.”

Angela Bassett

“In anything I do, I want to be the best.” Will Smith

“You can’t sway someone’s opinion by argument, you have to do it by example.” Cuba Gooding Jr.

“Living your best life is your most important journey in life.” Oprah Winfrey

“We have to create a vision, make choices based on what moves us most swiftly toward our goals, and go after them with determination and single - mindedness. And whenever you encounter a problem, no matter how insurmountable it might seem, there is one simple response that should be ingrained in your behavior: Never give up.” Stedman Graham

“You must be willing to give total unconditional love to everyone, under all circumstances. That means being willing to be totally responsible for what you do and how you do it.” Iyanla Vanzant

Troup County, Georgia

Vince Sutton, Black Life Contributor



Mr. Vince Sutton will be a Black Life contributor to the People’s Voice. Vince Sutton hails from LaGrange, Georgia, where he has found his niche in the sports arena.

A once renowned Alabama athlete, he boasts three generatios of athletic giftedness in his family, that spans more than 40 years.

Vince is the coach for Dawson Street Christian Academy in LaGrange, Georiga. You name it, he can play it. But his real forte is the game of football!!

We will look forward to more contributions from Vince as we get more acquainted with our West Georgia neighbors.

In future issues of the People’s Voice, Vince will acquaint you with his strong family’s tradition in athletics.

“A problem is a chance for you to do your best.” Duke Ellington

“When I get a contract with a network I have paid my dues and I have worked to get it, and they know that they’re going to get for their dollar, the best that I have to offer. I’ll give it the best. No ‘Catch your

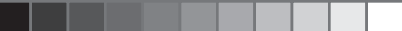
later.” Sammy Davis Jr.

“I promised him, and I promised my wife and son, that I would try my best, and I’m trying my best.” Quincy Jones

“All these guys who are very competitive... They’re going to draw the best talent out of you each and every night, every time you face them. That’s what I thrive on. That’s what I look forward to.” Michael Jordan

“I’m just going to take time off and just hang out with my children, just chill out, go out, meet all the best foot doctors in the world, then I’ll make the best decision possible.” Shaquille O’Neil

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THE PEOPLE'S VOICE

CHAMBERS COUNTY NEWS & VIEWS

The NEW Black Voice of East Alabama and West Georgia: Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Lee, Randolph, Tallapoosa, Heard & Troup Counties

FRIDAY, JULY 22- 29,

2005

Five Points News

Geneva Bledsoe, Correspondent

Allen-Varner Family Reunion

Sunday, June 19, 2005 was the celebration of the 55th Family Reunion of the Allen-Varner descendants.

This unique celebration was held under sunny skies and a pleasant breeze at the estate the late Mr. Jimmy Lee and the late Mrs. Flora Varner-Allen. On Saturday night, June 18 family members gathered to renew old acquaintances and reflecting on meeting relatives for the first time, and rekindled friendship.

Around 2:30 on Sunday it was time to be quiet and give to our Heavenly Father with songs and prayer. Marcia Shealey said a spiritual and a cordial welcome.

All joined in the song service singing the theme song “When All God’s Children Get Together.” Minister Thomas Morgan prayed the prayer and gave thanks for our togetherness and our lives as we journey through this life. There were four generations present, namely Lucille Johnson, Marilyn Monroe, Caishla Holloway and Anya Holloway. Recognition to first timers, graduates, youngest and oldest members present, the ones traveling the farthest and all fathers since it was Father’s Day.

Family members traveled as far as Germany, Texas, Washington, DC; New Jersey and Colorado.

Fun for the children included riding the choo-choo train. When all was said and done it was time for the meal. Rev. Sanford Johnson blessed the food. It was a delicious dinner with all types of foods served.

At the end of the day everyone gave hugs, kisses and goodbyes. All family members had a safe trip home. Truthfully this was one of the most joyous reunion celebrations.

Ward Reunion

Descendants of Bud and Lila Ward and John Wesley and Harriett Ward held their annual family reunion July 8-10 at the Double Tree, Hotel in the Buckhead section of Atlanta, GA with Kia

Smith serving as hostess. Black reunions date back to the Civil War, when families torn apart by slavery and scattered by war emancipation struggled to find their kin.

For black families particularly who have gone through the pain of slavery and racism, it’s a way of encouraging each other and a way to look at the progress of how far we have come. It also serves as a reminder that we didn’t do it by ourselves.

This year 77 relatives from Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, South Carolina and Missouri gathered at the Double Tree Motel, Atlanta, GA.

Friday afternoon, July 8, greeting the relatives with goody bags, guides to area attractions and Blue T-shirts quickly began getting acquainted. The young in age and young at heart enjoyed meeting family and old friends.

Saturday morning breakfast was served at the hotel. Then everyone was on their own, to sight see, go shopping or touring the Martin Luther King Center and other sights of interest.

Food is an important part of every reunion. The highlight of the reunion was the formal banquet dinner served and a program of family history and entertainment was presented.

Kia Smith presented the awards. Cameron Bothwell Smith extended words of welcome. Frank Reynolds prayed the prayer and Minister Kathy Ward of Atlanta said the grace. April Winston lit the memorial candle while Marion Brown from Kansas City, Missouri gave the family charge.

Marie Ward extended thanks and appreciation to Kia Smith for hosting such a well planned reunion and closing remarks.

Everyone had a safe trip home with anticipation of attending Reunion 2006 in Newnan, GA, which will be hosted by Michael and Denise Winston.

Rev. Sanford and Mrs. Lucille Johnson attended their grandson Antwan Thompson’s graduation from Boot Camp in Fort Knox, KY recently.

Mrs. Mae Ola Allen Thompson and husband P.T. of Boston, Mass. Visited relatives and friends recently.

Five Points News

By: Geneva Bledsoe, Correspondent

Annual summer revival is now in session at the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, Five Points, July 20-22. The Rev. Jamal Oliver of Northport, AL has returned to us as guest evangelist. Everyone is cordially invited to share the services with us. The Rev. Sanford Johnson is pastor.

The 54th annual session of the East Alabama congress of Christian Education was held July 13-14 at the Rehope Missionary Baptist Church entertained the congress royally.

The events theme was focused on a challenge to the comfortable; possess the Land.

The congress opened with a devotional message by Rev. Joe Cofield, followed by the welcome program.

Sis. Janice Slaughter presented the “Youth on Parade”. Their performance was excellent. Sis. Anita Higgins provided the congregation with a lecture entitled “Our challenge determines our provision.” Numbers 13:1-25. Rev. Jones preached the introductory sermon. Everyone was truly blessed by the message.

Thursday morning the session opened with classes assembling for class. There were ten classes being held. Students were provided with spiritual knowledge of the work. Students took part in discussion and sharing questions and answers.

The Rev. Jeffery Rosser pastor of St. Paul Baptist Church, Roanoke, presented Dean M.E. Lett. Dean Lett’s keynote address was very uplifting, as he spoke from experiences.

The Rev. Terry L. Magby, pastor of the New Mt. Sellus Baptist Church preached the annual sermon. The congregation was spiritually blessed by the word. Bro. Whit Allen gave a lecture on “Our Faith Determines Our Vision.” Numbers 13:26-33. His message was spiritually fulfilling.

Rev. Justin Freeman, pastor of the Pine Hill Baptist Church preached the educational sermon which was anointing.

The youth combined choirs sang, songs of

praise with a variety of selections. Delina Kyles served as musician.

The youth dramatized skits as well.

Dea. George Rampey presented a lecture with emphasis on “Our obedience determines our blessings”. Numbers 14:1-45, which was spiritually fulfilling. The highlight of the session was when President Rev. Melvin Owens delivered his annual address.

His message was inspiring, as well as of great encouragement to the congregation. The message was Bible based and Holy Ghost filled as well.

The next session in 2006 will be held at the Antioch Baptist Church, LaFayette, Rev. Calvin Marshall, pastor.

Appreciation and gratitude was extended to the Rehope Baptist Church family for their hospitality, which included hard work, prayers and support in making this a great success.

“BE THE BEST OF WHATEVER YOU ARE”

If you can’t be a pine on the top of the hill,
Be a shrub in the valley—but be
The Best little Shrub by the side of the hill;
Be a bush if you can’t be a tree.
If you can’t be a bush be a bit of the grass,
And some highway happier make;
If you can’t be a muskie then just be a bass—
But the liveliest bass in the lake!
We can’t all be captains, we’ve got to be crew,
There’s something for all of us here,
There’s big work to do, and there’s lesser to do,

And the talk you must do is the near.

The 4th of July Celebration was at the home of Mattie and Marvin Perry, honoring Catherine Billingslea on here birthday.

Family and friends gathered around 2 p.m. for a big barbecue. The ladies first admired Mattie’s beautiful flower garden. She definitely has green thumb.

The Children played games and made pictures and danced just having fun. Then dinner was

served. Blessing was said. Everyone enjoyed delicious barbecue with all the trimmings ending with ice cream cones.

Catherine thanked everyone for all the beautiful gifts and cake and ice cream. Birthday wishes were said and hope God will give her many, many more wonderful years.

About 30 members enjoyed the day with the Perrys. The children enjoyed the fireworks after dark. Everyone missed Bandit (the dog) who always enjoyed the fireworks.

The children rode the train from the Perry’s next door. Everyone thanked the Perrys for a lovely day.

Everyone was saddened when the Perry’s received a phone call from the hospital about the death of their father.

After a time of silence and prayer everyone went home for the night but was back the next day to help out. We will all miss Mr. O.D. Perry. He was a comical person and very well loved.

Mrs. Catherine Billingslea is really enjoying her children this week from Detroit, MI.

Happy Birthday Gretel Sutton of Valley. She celebrated her birthday at the Valley Skate Center. He was blessed to have her cousins to join her and her new little sister Camille.

She is the daughter of Rev. Gregory Sutton and Cindy Sutton, and the granddaughter of Emma Boyd and Johnnie Sutton and the great granddaughter of Catherine Billingslea and Lurlene Boyd.





FRIDAY, JULY 22 - 29 2005

Editor’s Note: We regret that our inaugural edition of The People’s Voice was unable to make contact with every funeral home in our circulation area to obtain accurate obituary information. However, in the future, we encourage all area funeral home directors to submit your obituary information to us by faxing to 334-863-6062, or email to editor@peoplesvoiceonline.com. Preference will be given to information submitted in digital format, preferably msword.

CHAMBERS COUNTY , ALABAMA

Foreman Funeral Home, Lanett, Alabama

Morgan’s Funeral Home, Lanett, Alabama

Silmon-Seroyer Funeral Home, LaFayette, Alabama

Unity Mortuary, Valley, Alabama

Vines Funeral Home, LaFayette, Alabama

CLAY COUNTY, ALABAMA

CLEBURNE COUNTY, ALABAMA

LEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

Harris Funeral Home, Opelika, Alabama

Peterson & Williams Funeral Home, Opelika, Alabama

RANDOLPH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Clark Memorial Funeral Service, Roanoke, Alabama

Willis Pittman, 65
Willis Pittman, having attained 65 years of life and its wisdom, passed away on Tuesday, July 5, 2005 at his home located on Stanley Avenue in Roanoke, Alabama.

Willis was born December 4, 1939 to the parentage of the late Elnora Smith in Middletown, Ohio. He met the love of his life, “Liz,” and moved to Roanoke Alabama, where he resided for 43 years.

He was preceded in death by his sister, JoAnne Chanault Adams and his brother, Clarence Pittman and his beloved companion, Elizabeth Potts-Pittman.

He graduated from high school in Cincinnati, Ohio and was a faithful employee of Snyder Plastic Plant, where he retired in 2000. Willis also served our grateful nation in the United States Armed Forces, for three years, after which he was honorably discharged.

He was a devoted and loving father, uncle and brother-in-law. His spirit of caring and love for his family was evident by his support in his family members’ endeavors. He loved to laugh and make us smile. His humor could brighten up a day. He loved his daughter “Denise” very deeply and his love for his niece, Valerie and his nephews was evident in the way he spoke of them almost daily. Willis loved to tease. He was very caring and giving. His laughter would evoke laughter among all who knew him. He was a true hero.

Willis leaves to cherish a lifetime of loving memories, his beloved daughter, Sharon Denise Brown of Union City, Georgia; his loving nieces. Valarie Adams and Cynthia Adams Crosby (Ben) of Dayton, Ohio and his nephews Frank Adams of Dayton, Ohio and Jeffery Adams of College Park, Georgia; his loving sisters-in-law, Mary Gouch (Johnny) of Atlanta, Georgia, Linda Holloway and Brenda Dukes (Joe) of Roanoke, Alabama; thirteen loving nieces and nephews, five great nieces and nephews and a host of other loving relatives and dear friends.

Roanoke Funeral Home, Roanoke, Alabama

TALLAPOOSA COUNTY, ALABAMA

HEARD COUNTY, GEORGIA

TROUP COUNTY, GEORGIA

Lakes-Dunson-Robertson Funeral Home,
LaGrange, Georgia

Annie Belle Ware
Mrs. Annie Belle Turner Ware of Twin Fountains Home died Monday at Twin Fountains.
Mrs. Ware, daughter of the late Mrs. Stella B. Smith and Mr. Buddy J. Turner, was born July 23, 1918, in Troup County. She united in marriage with the late Mr. William Maseo Ware of Rome.

She leaves to cherish her memories, two daughters, Mrs. Helen Hunter and Ms. Evelyn Ware, both of LaGrange; a son, Mr. Von ware of Rome; a special grandson, Kevin Mayes of Rome;

a special great-grandson, Rodriquez Hairston of LaGrange; other grandchildren, Shenice Lovelace of LaGrange; Latisha and her husband, Marc Bigham of Jonesboro, Shelicia Ware of Roswell, Clarence A. Hunter Jr. and Corliss Ware, both of LaGrange; 12 other great-grandchildren; a special niece, Neshania Banks of Grayson; a sister-in-law Mrs. Eunice Johnson of LaGrange; five other nieces, three nephews, a special friend, Mrs. Gloria Clifton of Rome and number of other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by a sister, Mrs. Laura Dale Worle and two brothers, Albert Lee Worle and Charlie Turner.
Funeral services will be Friday at 11 a.m. in the chapel of Lakes-Dunson-Robertson Funeral Home with the Rev. W.T. Edmondson officiating. Burial will be in southview Cemetery.
The family will be at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Helen Hunter at 215 Kings Park Lane.

M. W. Lee’s Mortuary, West Point, Georgia

Many communities throughout East Alabama-West Georgia were deeply saddened by the recent passing of Mary Jackson, wife of Reverend Elijah Jackson, Jr., of Lanett, Alabama.

Mary lost the battle to cancer and succumbed on July 14, 2005. Funeral Services were held at the Mount Hermon Family Life Center, 1601 Magnolia Road, Lanett, Alabama. Reverend Louis Upshaw, Reverend Jackie D. Banks, Reverend Eugene Cooks, Reverend Frank Kennedy, Jr., and Reverend Michel Stiggers so-presided over the services which drew an over-flow crowd of mourners from various communities. Mrs. Jackson was well known throughout the faith communities as an active Ministers’ wife, traveling near and far with her husband, who has pastured and preached extensively throughout the Valley area, Randolph County, and beyond.

Obituary

“And I saw heaven opened and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called faithful and true and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.” Rev 19:11

April 9, 1945 in Troup County, Georgia marked a joyous occasion for Brady Tom and Ollie Lee (Atkinson) Hairston. A bouncing baby girl was born and they named her Mary.

Mary, one of 12 children, was predeceased by a twin sister, Martha; three brothers, Brady T., John Willie and Charlie and a great grandchildren, JayQuan.

Mary confessed Christ at an early age and joined the Bethlehem Baptist Church, West Point, Georgia, where she served faithfully in many areas. In later years, she united with the New Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Lanett, Alabama, where she served faithfully as a Matron and a member of the Missionary Society. Mary served and worked faithfully beside her husband, whom pastured in the Wehadkee Baptist Church (Roanoke) and Evening Spring Baptist Churches (Lanett).

Mary was joined in Holy Matrimony to Reverend Elijah Jackson, Jr. on January 20, 1963 and to this union, three beautiful children were born, Funcelo, Christopher, and Rohn.

To her dedicated and devoted husband and family, Mary leaves a legacy of precious memories. She is also survived by a devoted daughter, Funcello Lee Bagley (Normal) of LaGrange, Georgia; two loving sons: Christopher Brady Louis Jackson (Phylliss) of Montgomery, Alabama; Lace Yahrohn Jackson (Ta-Tanisha) of Charlotte, North Carolina; nine sisters, Rosie Lee Dardy of West Point, Georgia, Nancy L. Varner of Lanett, Alabama, Lizzie M. Hubbard of LaGrange, Georgia, Enna R. Hubbard (Joseph) of Ypislanti, Michigan, Mattie R. Johnson (Henry) OF Atlanta, Georgia, Annie R. Johnson (Frank) of West Point, Georgia, Evelyn Davis (Wyman), Margaret Faulk (Cornell) both of Newark, New Jersey, Dorothy Jackson (Hamp) of Lanett, Alabama, Evelyn Wilson of Boston, Massachusetts;

two brothers, Arthur L. Hairston (Lana) of Boston, Massachusetts, Jesse R. Hurston (Olympia) of Ypsilanta, Michigan; five sisters-in-law, Mary E. King (Robert) of Stockbridge, Georgia, Marion Jackson of Atlanta, Georgia, Mary Hairston of Roanoke, Alabama, Everlyna Hairston of Atlanta, Georgia, Earnestine Hurston of New York City, New York; two brothers-in-law: David Tucker of Birmingham, Alabama and Eddie Holloway of Charlotte, North Carolina; five grandchildren: Carlnesia M. Jackson, Erica T. Boyd, Chariss A. T. Jackson, Marquiste X. L. Jackson, Romel T. J. Jackson, several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, other relatives, New Zion, Wehadkee and Evening Springs Church Families and a host of other relatives and friends.

Mackey-Wilson-Jennings Funeral Home,
LaGrange, Georgia

Thrash Funeral Home, Hogansville, Georgia

West Georgia Mortuary, LaGrange, Georgia



FRIDAY, JULY 22 - 29, 2005



The Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation

A New Movement for Improvement

By Charlotte A. Clark-Frieson, Foundation Writer

The Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation, Incorporated, is a non-profit corporation owned and operated by a large group of black individuals dedicated to the cause of improving black economics throughout East Alabama and West Georgia. How and why did this Foundation come into being?

Here’s the story.....

Nearly two years ago, Ms. Charlotte Clark-Frieson of Roanoke, Alabama was inspired with the desire to tell her father’s story to the world because he was a great black civil rights leader who was unselfish and caring.

Around October, 2003, she started to write about his life. Her writing eventually turned into a biography, which was released on February 19th 2005. It is entitled “*Chief Cook & Bottle-Washer, The Unconquerable Soul Of Wilkie Clark.*”

The more she wrote, the deeper her desire to not only establish him as a historical figure in Randolph County, but to build something lasting that would serve as “an earthly monument” or living documentation of the many other black giants who walked along this way; those who established themselves in a grand and glorious way by the things they said, the deeds they did, and the lives they lived.

Many of them were businessmen; they were educators and academicians; they were builders (builders of schools, builders of churches, business builders); they were ministers of the gospel; and some of them were mere farmers, gifted land-owners who knew how to take a little and make a lot; but they were nevertheless giants because they are the reason that WE are here.

Thus out of the awareness of the grand accomplishments of those old sojourners, grew her desire to establish the Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation.

There is an interesting and entertaining story behind the Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation, that you can access by reading Charlotte’s book about her fathers life. It can be purchased directly from her, and in the future, can be found at many of the independent book stores.

Suffice it to say that in the 1980’s black people all over Randolph County, Alabama pooled their meager resources, and purchased the land formerly known as the old Roanoke Beauty Lodge Hall; which was later the “Blue Bird Café,” located at the corner of Longshore and Riley Street. At that time this property was purchased and dedicated as the “Wilkie Clark Community Center.”

However, with the passage of time, those who contributed to this cause passed off the scene of time. Having come into possession of the title and deed(s) to this property, then, it became Charlotte’s goal to set up an entity which could proudly serve as the fiduciary of this property, and ensure that it’s intended purpose would be fulfilled. With the help and support of her many family members and friends, The Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation was organized.

All were in agreement that this organization bear the name of the late Wilkie Clark, as a memorial to the great civil rights work he did in this area; but moreover, we also felt that it would embrace the commendable efforts and accomplishments of every black achiever throughout Randolph county and the areas that surround it.

With that purpose in mind, we set about to establish this foundation; and at this point, we are beginning to see some of the fruit of our labor, the publication of this newspaper, *The People’s Voice*, being only one of many. Individuals were sought serve as board members and trustees of this entity, first because of their knowledge of and belief in the late Wilkie Clark, and understanding of his basic nature, make-up, and the concerns he expressed throughout his life.

Thus, our desire was to make and establish these issues as our forte.

The first meeting was held at the home of Deacon John Ceroy Bell on Wednesday, February 16, 2005, and we have been meeting and growing ever since. The board unanimously elected Ms. Charlotte Clark-Frieson to fill the position of Board Chairman, insisting that she was the best individual to lead the Foundation toward the fulfillment of the vision that God had dropped into her spirit. Regardless of who leads, we all believe in the vision, and we want you to “Catch The Vision.”

Thus, we consider it a pleasure and a blessing to have you take an interest in what we are trying to do. I personally encourage you to support us and get involved in this foundation. Support the “*People’s Voice.*” Let’s all take ownership in it and make it our voice.

Those of us who have “caught the vision” have a very keen awareness that unless our generation stops and takes the time to pay attention, we are going to lose on-coming generations of black youngsters to a system that cares precious little about them.

I want to publicly thank all of my friends, colleagues, associates and fellow board members for embracing this vision, and working so diligently to bring our vision into being. As we continue to work, I encourage others who understand what we are trying to accomplish to join us; there’s plenty good room.

Our prayer is that God will be ever present as our pilot, as we deliberate, and strive to make this foundation a beacon in our community and be all that God would have it to be.

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FRIDAY, JULY 22 - 29, 2005

Who Is The Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation?



SHOWN IN PHOTOGRAPH: Reverend R. L. Heflin C.A. Clark-Frieson
Je'Lynn Frieson Wilkie Frieson Dr. Alvin Thornton, Ms. Earnestine
Thornton, Mrs. Belle Saxon Clark, Beotis Clark, Gene A. Thornton, Mary
Turner, Reverend Jeffery Rosser, Ms. Lola Wright, Mr. John C. Bell, Ms.
Jeanetta Stevens, Rev. W.A. Dean, Ms. Frances Drake.

OTHER MEMBERS (not pictured)

Ms. Veronica W. O'Neal, Anniston Alabama
Reverend W. A. Dean, Roanoke, Ambassador, Religious Editor, People's Voice
Ms. Lola Mae Wright, Wedowee, Alabama, Secretary
David B. Baker, Anniston, Alabama, Southeast Region Director
Mr. Jerome A. Gray, Montgomery, Alabama, Southern Area Representative
Ms. Jeanetta Stevens, Associate Editor, The People's Voice
Ms. Frances Drake, Welch, Alabama, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Christopher Daniel, Roanoke, Alabama, Financial Officer
Mr. Gene A. Thornton, Springfield, Virginia, Northeast Region Director
Mrs. Doris Baker, Roanoke, Alabama, Interim Business Manager, The
People's Voice
John Ceroy Bell, Roanoke, Alabama, Advisory Board
Mrs. Bell Bennie Saxon Clark, Augusta, Georgia, Advisory

Beotis M. Clark, Augusta, Georgia, Advisory
Mrs. Betty Woody, Five Points, Alabama, The People's Voice Task Force
Mrs. Mary Turner, Five Points, Alabama, The
Alabama State Representative, Dr. Barbara B. Boyd, Anniston, Alabama
(Contributor)
Reverend R. L. Heflin, Roanoke, Alabama, Honorary Board Member
Ms. Earnestine Thornton, Atlanta Georgia
Ms. Lillie Mae Thornton, Atlanta, Georgia, Honorary Board Member
Reverend Jeffery D. Rosser, Trustee and Custodian of Documents
Mr. L. C. Thornton, Stone Mountain, Georgia
Ms. Julia Minnefield, Wedowee, Alabama, Advertising Manager The People's
Voice
Attorney. Valerie Murray Smedley, Montgomery, Alabama Board Attorney
Mr. Sidney Johnson, Roanoke, Alabama, Accountant and Photographer for
People's Voice

And you, too are welcome to join by paying dues in the amount of \$10.00 per
month, which can also be paid bi-annually or yearly.

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FRIDAY, JULY 22 - 29, 2005



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Phone: (334) 863-4885 Fax: (334) 863-6062
website: www.clarkmemorial.biz



Clark Memorial Funeral Service, a historic institution founded in 1969 by the late great Wilkie Clark, has been serving Randolph County and surrounding communities for over 36 years. Not only has Clark Memorial provided Funeral services to this community, but it has also acted as a life management resource center for the people in our community, providing faxing services, notary services, printing services and Last Will & Testament Services.



Clark Memorial Funeral Services is a family owned and operated establishment consisting of the descendants of the late Mr. Wilkie Clark, under the mentorship and supervision of Ms. Charlotte A. Clark-Frieson, Clark Memorial Funeral Service is a third generation establishment now managed by Ms. Je'Lynn Frieson alongside Mr. Gabriel S. Carr.



Clark Memorial Funeral Services offers an outstanding advance-planning program, in addition to headstone monument service, limousine service and the finest line of caskets and funeral programs in this area at a very competitive and affordable price.

Our doors are ALWAYS open for service. Feel free to call on us for service any time. Our team consists of 4 licensed funeral directors, three licensed embalmers, two chaplains, and administrative assistants, ready to serve you.

Clark Memorial Funeral Services, an establishment "Where Courtesy Dwells and Service Excels!"

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FAITH COMMUNITY

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FRIDAY, JULY 22 - 29, 2005



Many unsung heroes in civil-rights war

The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. is rightfully known as the leading figure and greatest martyr in the civil- rights struggle.

But the foot soldiers in the battle for equality deserve to be remembered, too, as Civil Rights Martyrs:

the murder of Emmett Till, whose barely recognizable corpse created an international uproar.

It concludes with the testimony of former Ku Klux Klan terrorist Billy Roy Pitts, who says today that he prayed on his knees for decades to obtain forgiveness for his actions.

In the bombing of a church in Birmingham, Ala., which took the lives of four girls playing in the basement, justice was delayed 14 years. In other cases, convictions took 25 years and even longer.

Few will ever forget the heartbreaking moment when Medgar Evers' widow tells how her small children, seeing their father dying in the driveway from an assassin's bullet, pleaded, "Please get up. Get up, Daddy."

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NEW SCHOOL PRAYER

This was written by a teen in Bagdad, Arizona.

Now I sit me down at school,
Where praying is against the rule.
For this great nation under God,
Finds mention of Him very odd.

If Scripture now the class recites,
It violates the Bill of Rights.
And anytime my head I bow
Becomes a Federal matter now.

Our hair can be purple, orange, or green,
That's no offense; it's a freedom scene.
The law is specific, the law is precise.
Prayers spoken aloud are a serious vice.

For praying in a public hall
Might offend someone with no faith at all.
In silence alone we must meditate,

God's name is prohibited by the state.

We're allowed to cuss and dress like freaks,
And pierce our noses, tongues and cheeks.

They've outlawed guns, but FIRST the Bible.
To quote the Good book makes me liable.
We can elect a pregnant Senior Queen,
And the 'unwed daddy,' our Senior King.

It's "inappropriate" to teach right from wrong,
We're taught that such "judgments" do not belong.
We can get our condoms and birth controls,
Study witchcraft, vampires and totem poles.

But the Ten Commandments are not allowed,
No word of God must reach this crowd.
It's scary here I must confess,
When chaos reigns the school's a mess.

So, Lord, this silent plea I make:
Should I be shot; My soul please take!
Amen

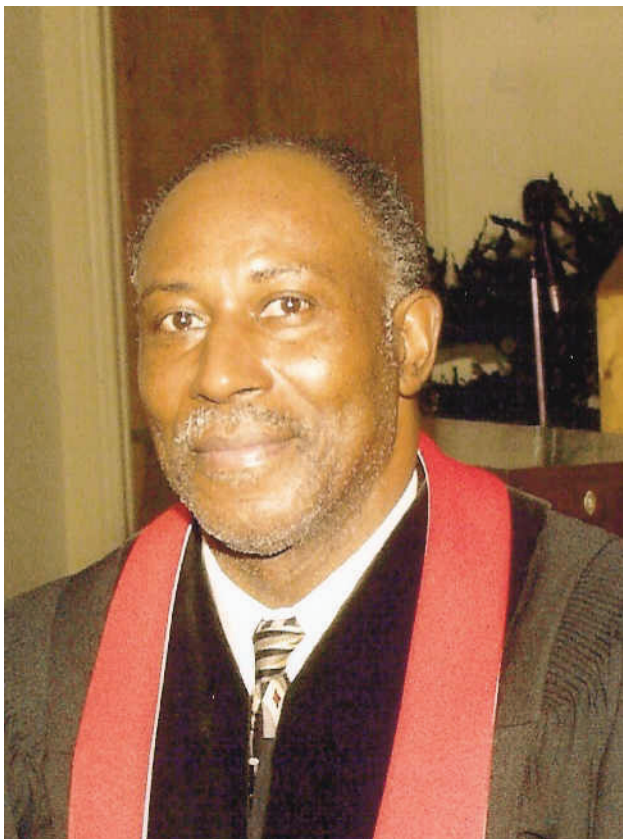
FRIDAY, JULY 22 - 29, 2005

Dean to serve as Religious Editor for Voice

Reverend William A. Dean serves as the Religious Editor for the People's Voice. Rev. Dean is a life-long inhabitant of the East Alabama-West Georgia area, and has touched the lives of numerous individuals throughout this area, with his powerful preaching style, and his compassionate disposition.

He has been an activist within the confines of his own community, Roanoke, Alabama, making known his every concern for the well-being of the community at large. He has served as Vice-President of the Randolph County NAACP, he serves as Ambassador of the Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation, but above all, he is an ordained minister of the Gospel, carrying the word of God near and far that all might hear and benefit from it's powerful message.

Reverend Dean is the full-time pastor of the Saint James Missionary Baptist Church in Lanett, Alabama, where he has been stationed for a number of years. He also is the Moderator of the Southwestern Union District Association of East Alabama and West Georgia.



Jacquelyn Cumberlander, People's Voice Religious Writer

Jacquelyn Cumberlander is a member of West Point Presbyterian Church. She is a graduate of Bennett College, Greensboro, North Carolina, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio, and Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. She has enjoyed careers as a teacher, and a lawyer. Currently, she is employed at Twin Cedars Youth Services, Inc., in LaGrange, Georgia. She also serves as an evangelist in her home congregation and in Troup County, Georgia, and Chambers County, Alabama area.



MELVIN BROWN

Mr. Melvin Brown will serve as one of the religious writers for the People's Voice. Melvin is a member of World Changers Church in College Park, Georgia, where Dr. Creflo A. Dollar is pastor. He is married to Lois Brown, also a minister, and they both are born-again Christians of the Spirit of Christ.

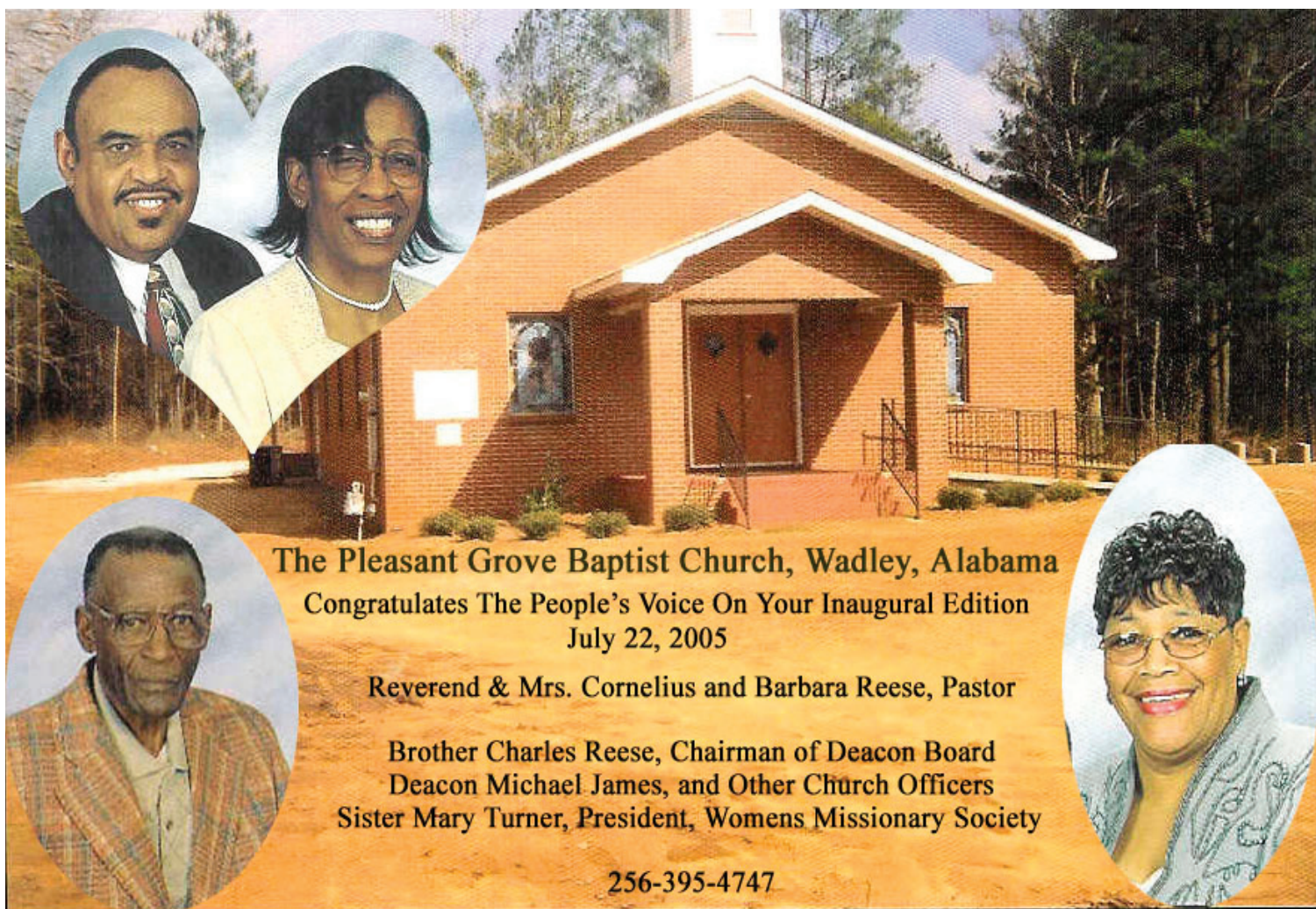
Melvin is a graduate of East Depot High School and LaGrange, College. After 25 years of loyal service, he retired from Milliken, and now works in the Education Department at Ault Academy, which is the Education Unit of Twin Cedars Youth Services, Inc., in LaGrange.

He resides with his wife in LaGrange, Georgia. In future editions of the People's Voice, Melvin will be sharing with readers, his love and appreciation for the Apostle Paul, who was the most influential writer in the New Testament. Paul was called to teach the Gentiles rather than Jews because, he could answer the questions of those unfamiliar with Jewish traditions.

"The workings of the human heart are the profoundest mystery of the universe. One moment they make us despair of our kind, and the next we see in them the reflection of the divine image".

Charles W. Chesnutt (1858-1932)

The Marrow of Tradition (1901)



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FAITH COMMUNITY

The NEW Black Voice of East Alabama and West Georgia: Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Lee, Randolph, Tallapoosa, Heard & Troup Counties

FRIDAY, JULY 22 - 29 , 2005

“REVEREND ROBERT
LEE HEFLIN, A
RENAISSANCE MAN”
By Rev. W. A. Dean, Religious Editor



It is always good to know what others think of us. Jesus asked Peter, “Whom do men say that I the son of man am? (Matthew 6:13)

I recently attended the 54th Annual Session Of the East Alabama Congress of Christian Education over which Reverend Melvin Owens, Presides. The Convention was hosted by the Rehope Baptist Church, LaFayette, Alabama, Reverend Dr. H. L. Jones, Pastor on July 13 & 14, 2005. It was a pleasure to be graced by the presence of one of our most distinguished pastors, the Reverend R. L. Heflin.

After listening to the Annual Sermon by Reverend Terry Magby as he talked about “A Wayside Faith” (Mark 10:32), I knew Reverend Magby had something to say. Let’s Listen:

Reverend Terry Magby
New Mount Sellers Baptist Church
LaFayette, Alabama

“Reverend Heflin is a man of distinction. He has touched so many lives and so many preachers. He is truly a man of wisdom. He lives what he preaches about. He has laid a foundation for all believers and I say to Reverend Heflin, may God bless you and keep you is our prayer.”

Reverend R. L. Heflin (Robert Lee) was born to the late Jim Heflin and Dora Fuller Heflin in Randolph County, Alabama. When asked where in Randolph County was he born? Reverend Heflin stated that he was born in the Shining Light Community north of Roanoke, Alabama, and South of Wedowee, Alabama, County Road 33.

Pastor Heflin said that his mother gave birth to nine children, and four are alive at this time. He attended school in the Randolph County School system.

Military Service

Reverend Heflin said very proudly that he served his country by enlisting in the United States Coast Guard, where he served active duty. While serving active duty, Reverend Heflin expressed the fact that many things happened, that he did not wish to talk about. He was honorably discharged from the Coast Guard in 1946.

Reverend Heflin at a young age, dedicated his life to Christ at Peace and Good Will Missionary Baptist Church, Roanoke, Alabama under the pastorship of the late Reverend C. L. Magby. While serving at Peace and Good will, Reverend Heflin met the love of his lifetime, Miss Tavie Lee Clark, whom he wed at the age of twenty. To this union, five children were born. One child preceded them in death (Robert Jr.)

Divine Calling

At the age of thirty two, still a very young man, Robert Heflin answered the call to become a fisherman of men. He was licensed to preach and ordained at Peace and Goodwill Baptist Church under Reverend C. L. Magby’s leadership.

First Days on the Job

After serving as an evangelist for twelve months, Pastor Heflin reflected back on accepting the call to Pastor.

Prayer

“Prayer is the key,” said Reverend Heflin, “much Prayer.” Assured that it was the Lord’s will he agreed to serve Mount Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church as pastor. When asked to describe his service at Mount Pisgah, Reverend Heflin used one word. “Blessed, truly blessed,” says Reverend Heflin, “to serve one church for more than forty-six years just blessed.”

Pastor Heflin expressed gratitude to Friendship Baptist Church, Wadley, Alabama and Rose Line Baptist Church, Goodwater, Alabama, for allowing him to serve as their pastor. Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, Wedowee, Alabama. Reverend Heflin used the word “blessed” again. “We have service at Antioch on First and Third Sundays, and at Mount Pisgah, second and fourth---- Great people! And I am blessed to be able to serve them!”

East Alabama Union District

“Blessed....I have been blessed to serve East Alabama Union District as Moderator for many years, served on the publishing board of the Alabama Baptist State Convention for a number of years; Chairman of Moderator’s Department North East District State convention and served in the Ministerial Conference of Randolph County.”

Human and Civil Rights

Pastor Heflin stated that while serving as a trustee for Randolph Training School, that experience allowed him to serve people. Something he enjoys doing (serving.)

Civil Rights

“Hum! Civil Rights is something that I believe in very strongly! The work of the NAACP, SCLC and ADC has had a positive impact in Randolph County! Voter Registration, candidate screening and getting people to the poll to vote.”

It was getting late in the evening and Pastor Heflin had another meeting, but he took time for two more questions:

Question 1: What advice would you give a young preacher and pastor?

His Answer: “Pray! Prayer is the key, systematic prayer.” Pastor Heflin said he prays three times a day: morning, noon, and night. “Prayer is definitely the key. Second, be faithful, whatever the job. Maybe large or small, but be faithful. Third, stay cool, and preach the word. Whenever the Lord gives you a message, give it to the people, regardless of whether they accept the message or reject it.”

Final Question: When “Reverend Heflin” is not in the pulpit, what does “Robert Heflin” enjoy doing? He leaned back in his chair and laughed, “Hummm!” Then he spoke, “I guess you could call me a Jack of All Trades. I love gardening, I just love to see things grow; carpentry and wood-working and auto mechanics are things I enjoy,” says Reverend Heflin, “I just enjoy those things.”

Thank you Reverend Heflin for your time, I don’t want you to be late for your meeting.

Tributes To Reverend R. L. Heflin

“Humble yourselves, therefore under the mighty hand of God that he may exalt you in due time” (I Peter 5:6)

From the Rehope Baptist Church, LaFayette, Alabama

We the members and Pastor of the Rehope Baptist Church, extend our most gracious appreciation and thanks to Moderator R. L. Heflin for his dedicated service in Kingdom building as the Moderator of East Alabama Associated Churches.

May you continue to be blessed and highly favored by God and men.

*Rehope Missionary Baptist Church, LaFayette Alabama
Reverend Dr. H. L. Jones, Pastor*

From The East Alabama District Ministers’ Wives

Reverend Heflin:

You have been an inspiration to us as we endeavor to be a help meet for our husbands on this Christian journey. Your wisdom, understanding and faithfulness has enriched our lives with

*patience and endurance.
May God continue to bless you. We love you!!
East Alabama District Ministers’ Wives*

From Reverend Jeffery Rosser, Pastor
St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Roanoke, Alabama

“I believe he is the most humble man I have ever come in contact with.”

From Charlotte A. Clark-Frieson
Chairman, Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation, Inc .

“Reverend R. L. Heflin has been one of the busiest little men I know.” He has been like the unofficial father of everyone throughout East Alabama. He has been the community’s pastor. He knows no strangers. He has been the calming force in the midst of controversy. When one enters his presence, it is as if one has entered “holy ground.” It is my honor to exalt such a man as the Reverend R. L. Heflin. May you continue to experience all the goodness that God has in store for you.”

From Reverend Gilbert Staples,
First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Alabama

Tribute to Moderator Heflin

As Moderator of the East Alabama Union District, you have the rare quality of being able to unite all who work with you into a cohesive unit. This is because you have taken the time to know personally and work closely with whom you are associated. Thank you for being a great spiritual advisor. May God continue to bless you!!

Pastor Gilbert Staples

A Tribute to Reverend R.L. Heflin

May the work I’ve done speak for me. May the life I’ve lived speak for me. And may the service I’ve given speak for me.

Rev. Sanford Johnson, officers and members of the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church would like to pay a special tribute to Rev. R.L. Heflin. Rev. Heflin, your behavior has always been positive, and we thank God for men like yourself. We are sure that your work, your life, and your service will speak for you. Good people are to be rewarded. Those who are faithful and place others above themselves, as you do, deserve to be uplifted and held in high esteem.

We thank you for using your God-given gifts in service to the East Alabama Union District as an instructor, advisor, teacher, and gospel preacher. We are thankful to God for the faithfulness and humbleness you have exemplified. It is your example of Christian living that keeps our fire burning so brightly that we are able to lead others to Christ. We can truly say you have been telling the Good News in an effective way. May God continue to bless and keep you.

--Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. Sanford Johnson, Pastor
Rev. William Patterson, Assistant Pastor

Rev. Heflin:

When I was young, and serving as a sunbeam in the Rehope Baptist Church, I thought that my Pastor, the late O.P. Paige and you were the only preachers that God had sent to us. Now that I am old, and having been called by God, along with many preachers that I know to be true men of God, I still think of you today as I thought of you then.

Moderator Heflin, you stand alone among many preachers as you continue to do the will of God. Your humble nature, patience, understanding, caring, steadfastness, and love that is revealed in the countenance of your person, are evident to all. May the Lord bless and keep you, now and forever.

Rev. Sanford Johnson
Pastor, Macedonia Missionary Church
Five Points, AL 36855

The NEW Black Voice of East Alabama and West Georgia: Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Lee, Randolph, Tallapoosa, Heard & Troup Counties

FRIDAY, JULY 22-29, 2005



Give Me My Flowers

Jeanetta Stevens Religious Feature Writer
T. Jeanetta Minnifield Stevens 22.JUL.05

Today's edition contains mostly MY flowers, now it is your turn to give flowers to others. Fees: \$2.00 per 100 words and under, and 5 cents per word over 100 words. Please have entries and money turned in by Monday at 5:00P.M. to Jeanetta Stevens at 619 LaFayette Hwy. Roanoke, Alabama 36274. You may also email them to me at

jminnifield56@yahoo.com
(Letters subject to editing.)

To all those who have passed away and I did not get the chance
to say
How much I loved you or how much I cared.
And without you I wouldn't have dared
to be the person that you evoked me to be
Look at me now, and you will see.
Your smile, your wisdom and your laughter too
Made me appreciate how much I admired you.
And now these flowers are just for you.
By Jeanetta Stevens

Mrs. Cora Autry,
Thank you for being special to me all the years of driving back
and forth to West Point Ga. and giving me a best friend-Earscell.
Jeanetta Minnifield Stevens

Gertie Hill,
I remember driving a van on a trip and you sang songs to keep
me awake. Those songs still stay with me now. Thank you for
sharing God's special talent that he gave you with me.
Jeanetta

Mrs. Gertie Hill,
Thank you for being there when I needed you . At the last
minute I needed a ride to the prom and you provided a fantastic
ride for me and my date. I will never forget you for that.
T. David Stevens,III.

Clara Jane Poole,
Thank you for your laughter. You always knew how to keep us
going. Life would not have been the same without you. Have a
blessed day.
Jeanetta

Sandra O'Neal,
I don't know how I would have done some of the things that
were accomplished without your support.
Jeanetta

Ebony Civic Club,
You are truly a wonderful group of ladies to work with and your contributions to the boys and girls of Randolph County through your scholarship program is greatly appreciated. Thanks for being there.
Club member

First Baptist Church, Riley Street,
Thank you for guiding me through my early religious years.
So many of the values that I have now were formed through
the guidance of the many teachers, deacons, preachers and
messages through songs. I would like to honor you all today by
telling you how much I appreciate you. May God Bless you and
keep you in His care.
Jeanetta Minnifield Stevens

Mrs. Cecile Stevens,
They say mother- in- laws can sometimes be a little overbearing
but I would like to say thank you for being the wonderful person
that you are. I appreciate all that you have done for our family,
the love, that caring and the prayers. I love you.
Your daughter-in law

The Stevens Family,
Thank you for hanging in there with me through thick and thin.
I love you all. Always remember that you can deal with any
situation as long as you keep God in the equation.
Love, MOM

Earnest Hill,
Thank you for being so good to my sister.
Sis-in-law

Angela Minnifield Hill,
Thank you for being such a sweet sister. I am very proud of
you. You are carrying on the educational torch in our family
that will continue to touch the lives of the children in our
community. I love you.
Jeanetta Stevens

Miss Lois Kyles, Annette and family,
Thank you for being so good to TaMarion. His life has been
enriched by your love and caring. Thank you again and again.
Tierra

Lena Demand,
When I needed you, you were there. Our family will never
forget you.
The Stevens family

Charlotte Clark-Frieson,
Friendship, comradery, inspiration. These are qualities that you
bring out in me. Thank you.
Jeanetta

Dr. Janice Winston,
FRIEND...every meaning of that word applies to you. I love you
and I am extremely proud of you.
Jeanetta

Mrs. Rebecca Patterson,
What a wonderful person you have been to me all my life. Just
to see your face makes the world seem a better place to live. I
love you and I appreciate you.
Jeanetta

Derrick Minnefield,
You are so special to me. Only God could have planted such a
special seed inside you. May God continue to bless and keep
you is my prayer.
Jeanetta

Dr. Fred Williams,
Your friendship is so very special to our family and we wanted
to let you know that you are appreciated.
The Stevens Family

Mrs. Johnnie Springer,
Thank you for being a wonderful mother by encouraging you
children to do the right thing. God has blessed you to live over
90 years and that is a blessing in itself!! We love you.
J.C. and family

Dr. Oshinowo and staff,
Thank you for your professionalism. We are so proud that you
are in our community.
Stevens Family

Rev. Craig Holloway,
To one who sticks closer than a brother and always knows the
right time to call for a bit of inspiration, laughter, and prayer, I
thank you and I am proud to call you my friend.
Jeanetta Stevens

To the man that put the fire out on my car one day,
Thank you. I truly appreciate you being at the right place at the
right time!!!
Jeanetta Stevens

Hubbert Patterson and John Frank Houston,
I know you were family friends a long time ago and I appreciate
you watching out for me and my family down through the years.
Jeanetta

Sandra McCloud,
You have been an angel in disguise. Thank you and Bobby for
all your help over and beyond the call of duty. I appreciate you.
Jeanetta

Mrs. Evelyn Marable,
When I think of your smell, I think of all the wonderful things
in life. You are so precious to me.
Jeanetta

Jacob Springer,

Thank you for being strong and supportive. You have been there through trials, tribulations and lots of joy. I know sometimes the family doesn't act like it, but we really do appreciate all you do now and for our future development. We love you.
The Stevens Family

Uncle Arthur and Aunt Agnes,
Thank you for being there when I needed you. I couldn't have
made it through the past three years without you. I love you.
Jeanetta

Warner and Cynthia Patterson and family,
Life without you would not have been as interesting! Thank
you for the good times. We love you.
The Stevens Family

Ruso,
I appreciate all you have done for me all my life! I love you.
Others may come and go but sisters are forever.
Jeanetta

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FRIDAY, JULY 22-29, 2005



Modern Day Miracles

T. Jeanetta Minnifield Stevens

Miracles happened in the past as are chronicled in the Bible. But what about Today? God is **still** in the Miracle Working Business. This section is dedicated to all the miracles, large and small, that are happening in your life in **this** century. What miracles can we leave for our future generations to look back on? They are happening here and now. Let's show the world that even **now** we have **MODERN DAY MIRACLES!!!**

1. I was waiting at a stop sign and another person turned in and scraped my car. To most folk that seems like a disaster but to me it was a modern day miracle because I was broke and there was a bill to paid immediately and the money from the wreck was more than enough to help me out until pay day.

2. My father preached in South Carolina for 10 years and he never missed a Sunday but on this Saturday night my father did not have enough money for the plane ticket and we just prayed. We went to bed not knowing what he was going to do. But early on Sunday morning just before dawn a pulp wooder came by and said that he had cut down some wood and he wanted to pay him before he went to work. Daddy made it to church that day on time. I will never forget that miracle. From that moment on my faith was increased tremendously.

3. My kids and I were moving some things out of an apartment and some how I locked us out of the door. We waited for the Landlord to come but it took so long and we were getting so hungry and of course my purse was inside the apartment. The kids were getting restless so we scrounged up about \$3.00 and some change from the floor and ashtray of the car. We went to a local fast food store but we didn't have enough money so I told the kids that God said that He would always provide, not only enough but more than enough. So we prayed. I eased up to order, knowing that we were a few pennies off. Then we eased up a little more and I spotted something shiny outside on the ground. It was a dime! Not only did we have enough to pay for the food but we had money left over!!! God is good -All the time and right on time!

4. I went to a store to look for a dress for a special occasion and found the right one on sale and there was not another one anywhere. It was if that dress was waiting just for me ...Miracle? I believe so!

Crowd Bustin'

Jacquelyn J. Cunberlander, Master Of Divinity
Religious Feature Writer



Rushing around at a frenetic pace, I have begun to wonder if the 21st century has not become the largest obstacle for Christians. What with work where competition and real and imagined threats of lay-off ever hover around us like packs of wolves lying in wait to devour us at any moment. What with the constant demands of family and commitments to friends and interest groups screaming for time and attention, sometimes I feel that I have no time to even breathe. Strangely enough though, during these times, it seems that there is always enough time to worry. Fear and anxieties have a way of embedding themselves and thriving most flourishingly during the most stressful times.

Perhaps it is because I know I won't survive unless I maintain strict disciplines regarding daily prayer, scripture reading, tithes and Sunday morning worship services, but I never have to go too deep within to see the real truth. I know I am not spending enough time with my creator. Not enough time simply sitting in silence waiting on the sweet Holy Spirit to breathe "Fear not, my peace, my love goes with you all the time in all places, and my 'grace is sufficient.'"

A couple of days ago, I found myself reading the fourth chapter of Mark. I was drawn to the woman with the issue of blood (verses 25-34). This woman had spent twelve years and all her money seeking freedom from her medical problems. She was also seeking relief from the mental agony of twelve years of being a social outcast out cast, for she lived in a culture where a woman bleeding was considered unclean_

_untouchable. The culture also held women in low regard, period. Second class citizen status would be far too elevated to describe female standing in the Rome or Palestine of 30-31A.D. Taking a good look at the woman in this scene, watching her push through a crowd primarily composed of males nurtured in ideologies of male supremacy, we see a lioness propelled by sheer need and uncommon faith. When we put all the characters and their interaction together, we can see that not only does Jesus know when we shove through the crowds to get to him, but he rewards our faith and our un-timid quests to touch him.

I wonder how much more health and well-being we'd all enjoy if we would push and shove our ways around the crowds that surround our daily existence, crowds of tasks and taskmasters, crowds of obligations, crowds of TV shows, and other time wasting activities? I wonder what would happen to our spirituality, our sense of peace and tranquility, if we could just clear the way through our "crowds" and secure abundant time and space to touch the Master's garment. I am convinced that he's still aware of every individual touch though millions reach out and touch him every moment of every day.

My goal for the next month is to do some crowd "busting." Some unnecessary ones will be cast aside. Others will be cut down to size. I'm going to get very selfish about the time I spend __just Jesus and me time. What greater cause for selfishness?

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FRIDAY, JULY 22 - 29, 2005

Caught In The Act....



Shown here is Reverend James Carter, Pastor Oak Grove A.M.E. Church, Newell, Alabama



During a recent visit to the Oak Grove A.M.E. Church, Newell, Alabama, Bishop T. Larry Kirkland paused to conduct bible study with local church members. Kirkland is the Presiding Bishop of the 9th Episcopal District Of The A.M.E. Church



Reverend T.A. Roynolds, Reverend James Carter, Elder Ralph Neal, Bishop T. Larry Kirkland Presiding Elder W. G. Treadwell, Reverend Herschel McGhee

Caught in a rare moment, while visiting Oak Grove A.M.E. Church, Newell

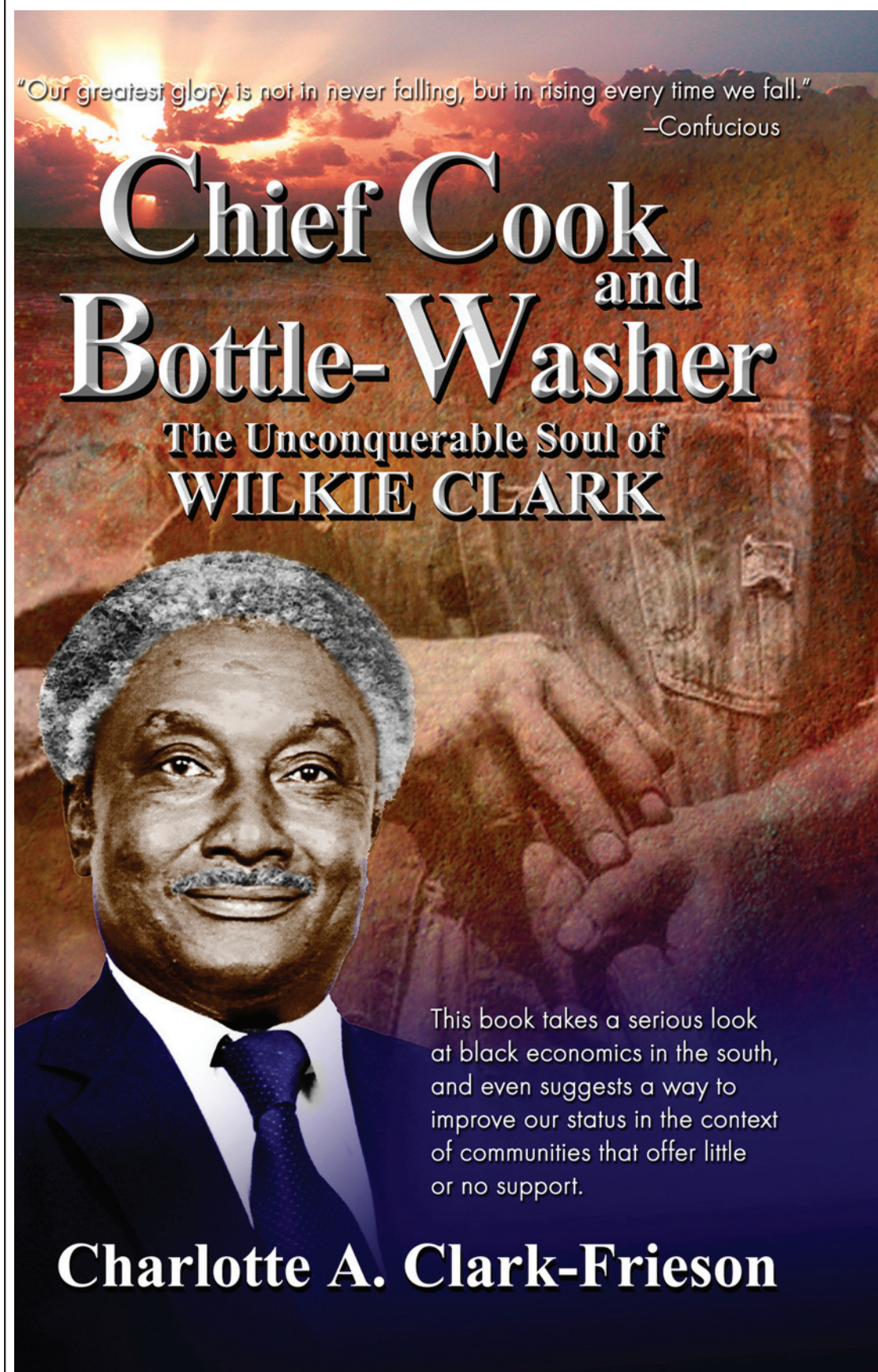


THE PEOPLE'S VOICE

BOOK REVIEWS

The NEW Black Voice of East Alabama and West Georgia: Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Lee, Randolph, Tallapoosa, Heard & Troup Counties

FRIDAY, JULY 22 - 29, 2005



BOOK REVIEW

It is an innate element of the nature and character of African-Americans to be helpful; to desire to “do our part.” We are natural-born givers and contributors. Yet shamefully, American History has NEVER properly credited African Americans with the vital role they played in shaping America. African-Americans have never been properly credited or lauded for the inordinate struggles and sacrifices that were willingly undertaken; the risks that were voluntarily assumed to bring their posterity to this present day. The half has not been told, as far as the vigor with which black families —whole neighborhoods and communities— had to fight to secure educational opportunities for their children. The half has not been told as far as the effort to end the economic disparity that held so many African Americans back and caused them to have to bridle their tongues and conceal their true convictions for fear of losing the very source of their livelihoods.

In “Chief Cook & Bottle-Washer,” The Unconquerable Soul of Wilkie Clark, the writer, Charlotte A. Clark-Frieson claims her father’s rightful place in Alabama’s sordid history stemming from it’s legalized mistreatment of the Negro. We find it dotted with innumerable episodes of emotional lynchings and spiritual hangings.

For any audience interested in adding to their repertoire of black historical figures, Charlotte A. Clark-Frieson now offers her book nationally as the lyric for yet another un-sung hero. Here is yet another episode of black heroism; another historical truth— crushed to earth— yet arising in the pages of this biographical masterpiece.

“Chief Cook & Bottle-Washer,” The Unconquerable Soul Of Wilkie Clark is a biography written by a daughter who loves and misses her father, a product of the 20th century, a time when manhood for a black man was defined in a much more powerful way in comparison to the way it is defined today. So, she writes with the objective of achieving for him the historical distinction that she believes he deserves.

In this book, his only child, Charlotte A. Clark-Frieson, lovingly pens the poignant and powerful life story of Wilkie Clark. It celebrates a man who stretched and enlarged himself to unimaginable dimensions, as he struggled to serve humanity and liberate an entire community of oppressed people. He stood tall, even in Alabama, under the unbelievable weight of Jim Crow. As Clark-Frieson carefully and meticulously unveils the many and varied twists and turns of her father’s heroic life, she also weaves throughout the book, a broad examination of the economic trials and tribulations of African-Americans that resulted from racism as it was practiced in the south. As no one else could, the author translates her love, reverence and respect for her father into a moving statement of his life, works, trials, tribulations, victories & triumphs.

The story is set in Randolph County, Alabama, at the height of “Jim Crow.” Alabama is a state that was once notorious for its “legalized” mistreatment of blacks during the early and middle decades of the 20th century. Despite the gradual dismantling of those laws that made it alright to oppress blacks, “Jim Crow” was alive and well in the hearts of most Alabamians. But, Wilkie Clark was a man on a mission, the first of which was to gain respectability (a luxury no black man had), despite the disdainful and lowly way blacks were regarded. He was bound and determined to be “the man.” In order to gain the respectability he sought, he set about to do everything in his power to improve and perfect himself. Eventually he set out to fulfill his life-long dream to establish himself as a business owner—a funeral director— but was met with every kind of resistance imaginable—not only from the oppressive machinery of racism, but even from his own community (the African-American community) as well! Throughout the book, the reader is lured through the peaks, valleys and ripples of his turbulent quest for economic and social liberation. Although he succeeds in accomplishing his mission, it proves to be a far more complex task than he expects.

Clark-Frieson goes on to express the deep and profound impact this legendary black man has made on her life; which ultimately leads her to establish a Foundation in his honor. In the book, she devotes one chapter to setting forth the noble missions and purposes of this organization, which is aimed at lessening the continuing economic struggles of African Americans.

Told from his daughter’s point of view, it’s a “must-read” for anyone facing the question of how to turn your dream into reality, despite life’s unending adversities. Charlotte says: “Telling daddy’s story literally became the “healing balm” that’s helped me come to terms with the continuing battle for spiritual, social, and human affirmation that have persisted throughout my life despite the apparent racial progress that has been observed during my own lifetime.”

After the story is told, there is a section of the book that she titles the “Anthology Of Praise,” which is merely a collection of “testimonials” contributed by others who knew her father intimately. These testimonials are both informative and entertaining, and reveal alternate perspectives on the various aspects of Clark’s character that the author herself does not delve as deeply into in the book. They are all suggestive of such virtues and attributes as generosity, kindness, compassion, humanity.

This book will minister to the spirits of numerous individuals of all races. It will minister to other African-Americans, who are still caught up in their own personal struggles to liberate themselves economically; moreover it will minister to the spirits of non-African-Americans seeking to understand the still-perplexing struggles blacks face in closing that final chapter of the civil rights movement—that of economic empowerment.

The uniqueness of the book lies in the fact that:

1. It examines the life and struggles of a black man who practiced a profession that has come to be recognized as “a respected cornerstone of black businesses” in almost every black neighborhood in America, namely the Funeral Director. Although this is silently understood throughout black communities, it is rarely discussed.
2. It reveals the heroism of an ordinary man in a typical southern community, doing extraordinary things. When one considers the Civil Rights struggles of African-Americans in the United States, the overwhelming majority of individuals restrict their thinking to such figures as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Frederick Douglas, Malcolm X, or perhaps to such contemporary leaders as Reverend Jesse Jackson, or Reverend Al Sharpton, or Minister Louis Farrakan. But, the often neglected fact must be emphasized that within every community across America, in every little hamlet and village, there had to arise, leaders from within those remote areas, to champion the cause of civil rights on the local front. Dr. King couldn’t be everywhere. Thus, there were numerous local black heroes, who are yet unsung. Wilkie Clark was one such unsung hero.
3. It expresses the colorful character of the central figure of the book himself; his personality traits; his idiosyncrasies. The things that made him a unique and extraordinary man.
4. The fact that he wasn’t famous. He was not a celebrity; rather an ordinary working man who emerged out of the crowd to take up the torch an unforgettable and legendary Alabama Civil Rights Hero he’s no Martin Luther King, Jr., but nevertheless a hero in his own unique right. Clark-Frieson declares her book to be her “official statement” of her father’s historical significance in Randolph County, Alabama. “If I don’t tell his story, WHO WILL? How will History record us?”

“Chief Cook & Bottle-Washer,” The Unconquerable Soul Of Wilkie Clark will make you angry; it will make you laugh; it will make you cry. Some parts of it are very sad. It will provoke your thinking, and hopefully change your attitudes across a broad spectrum of real life issues affected by one’s race.

READ IT FOR YOURSELF! “Chief Cook & Bottle-Washer,” The Unconquerable Soul Of Wilkie Clark will make you angry; you will laugh; you will cry. Some parts of it are very sad. It will provoke your thinking, and hopefully change your attitudes across a broad spectrum of real life issues affected by one’s race. But Above all, IT WILL GIVE YOU HOPE!!



FRIDAY, JULY 22- 29, 2005

EVENTS

The Southwestern Building Aid Convention of Georgia will meet with the Mount Carrie Baptist Church Sunday July 31, 2005 at 10:00 A.M. E.S. T.

Mount Carrie Baptist Church Missionary Society will be having a Weight Rally Saturday July 23, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. E.S.T. There will be a skit also

presented. Everyone is invited to attend.

Sonlight Ministries Bible College Class

If anyone is interested in attending Sonlight Ministries Bible College, please contact the Dean of the College, Deric C. Minnefield or visit us on the web at www.sonlightministries.net. Open Enrollment NOW!!! Discounts available for those in

Full-Time Ministry & Couples or contact Dean Minnefield at 256-591-0674.

Classes meet Every Tuesday Evening in the Fellowship Hall of Christian Memorial 1644 Hwy 431 S. Roanoke, Al. Remember “This was the Lord’s doing and it is marvelous in our Eyes”-Mark 12:11

Event Location:
Sonlight Christian Fellowship(Christian Memorial) fellowshiphp Hall

Event Timings: 7:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. Every Tuesday

Event Contact Person: Dean Deric C. Minnefield
Event Contact Phone: 256-591-0674

EDUCATION

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FROM TALLADEGA COLLEGE

Charlotte A. Clark-Frieson, Foundation Writer

There is no excuse for ANY black high school graduate who wants to continue their education not to do it, according to Monroe Thornton, Talladega College Director Of Admissions. Talladega College is looking for at least 12 recent high school graduates who want an education. According to Thornton, there is scholarship money available for students with a 3.0 grade point averages. The People’s Voice is assisting in the effort to find students interested in pursuing their education. If you are interested in attending Talledega College, or know someone who is interested in attending, please get in touch with the People’sVoice newspaper staff.

African-American Quotations

From Muhammad Ali to Andrew Young
Compiled by Ann Marie Imbornoni

I never thought of losing, but now that it’s happened, the only thing is to do it right. That’s my obligation to all the people who believe in me. We all have to take defeats in life.

Muhammad Ali (1942-) statement after losing his first fight to Ken Norton, March 31, 1973

I am America. I am the part you won’t recognize. But get used to me. Black, confident, cocky; my name, not yours; my religion, not yours; my goals, my own; get used to me.

Muhammad Ali (1942-)
The Greatest (1975)

Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,
I am the dream and the hope of the slave.
I rise
I rise
I rise.

Maya Angelou (1928-)
“Still I rise,” And Still I Rise (1978)

Man, if you gotta ask you’ll never know.

Louis (Satchmo) Armstrong (1900-1971)
reply when asked what jazz is

Racism is not an excuse to not do the best you can.

Arthur Ashe (1943-1993)
quoted in Sports Illustrated, July 1991
People pay for what they do, and still more for what they have allowed themselves to become. And they pay for it very simply; by the lives they lead.

James Baldwin (1924-1987)
Nobody Knows My Name (1961)

If we accept and acquiesce in the face of discrimination, we accept the responsibility ourselves and allow those responsible to save their conscience by believing that they have our acceptance and concurrence. We should, therefore, protest openly everything . . . that smacks of discrimination or slander.

Mary McLeod Bethune (1875-1955)
“Certain Unalienable Rights,” What the Negro Wants, edited by Rayford W. Logan (1944)

You’re either part of the solution or part of the problem.

(Leroy) Eldridge Cleaver (1935-1998)
speech given in San Francisco in 1968

children
when they ask you
why your mama so funny
say
she is a poet
she don’t have no sense

Lucille Clifton (1936-)
“Admonitions,” Good Times (1969)
Life is short, and it’s up to you to make it sweet.

Sadie Delany (1889-1999)
Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters’ First 100 Years, written with sister Bessie Delany (1993)

You have seen how a man was made a slave; you shall see how a slave was made a man.
Frederick Douglass (1818?-1895)
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (1845)

It is a peculiar sensation, this double-consciousness, this sense of always looking at one’s self through the eyes of others. . . . One ever feels his twoness,—an American, a Negro; two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings; two

warrings ideals in one dark body, whose dogged strength alone keeps it from being torn asunder.

W.E.B. Du Bois (1868-1963)
The Souls of Black Folk (1903)

I used to want the words “She tried” on my tombstone. Now I want “She did it.”

Katherine Dunham (1910-)
quoted in Black Pearls by Eric V. Copage (1993)

The question is not whether we can afford to invest in every child; it is whether we can afford not to.

Marian Wright Edelman ((1939-)
The Measure of Our Success (1992)

There will always be men struggling to change, and there will always be those who are controlled by the past.
Ernest J. Gaines (1933-)
interview with John O’Brien in African American Writers (1991)

What happens to a dream deferred?
Does it dry up
like a raisin in the sun?

Langston Hughes (1902-1967)
“Harlem” (1951)

I am not tragically colored. There is no great sorrow dammed up in my soul, nor lurking behind my eyes. . . . Even in the helter-skelter skirmish that is my life, I have seen that the world is to the strong regardless of a little pigmentation more or less. No, I do not weep at the world—I am too busy sharpening my oyster knife.

Zora Neale Hurston (1901?-1960)
“How It Feels to Be Colored Me” (1928)

Our nation is a rainbow—red, yellow, brown,

black, and white—and we’re all precious in God’s sight.

Jesse Jackson (1941)
speech given at the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco on July 17, 1984

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered.

James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938) Lift Every Voice and Sing, stanza 2 (1900)

When I read great literature, great drama, speeches, or sermons, I feel that the human mind has not achieved anything greater than the ability to share feelings and thoughts through language.

James Earl Jones (1931-)
Voices and Silences (1993)

“We, the people.” It is a very eloquent beginning. But when that document [the Preamble to the US Constitution] was completed on the seventeenth of September in 1787 I was not included in that “We, the people.” I felt somehow for many years that George Washington and Alexander Hamilton, just left me out by mistake. But through the process of amendment, interpretation and court decision I have finally been included in “We, the people.”

Barbara C. Jordan (1936-1996)
statement made before the House Committee on the Judiciary, July 25, 1974

I can accept failure. Everyone fails at something. But I can’t accept not trying.

Michael Jordan (1963-)
I Can’t Accept Not Trying (1994)



FRIDAY, JULY 22- 29, 2005

WHO’S IN THE HOUSE??

African Americans In The Alabama Legislature

Representative Locy Baker was elected in 1994. He was born on November 19, 1945, and received his B.S., M.A., and A.A. from Alabama State University. He and his wife, Idena, are the parents of three children: Paul, Brandon, and Corey. Representative Baker is a Deacon for Mary Magdalene Baptist Church. He is a member of the Kiwanis Club, the Free and Accepted Masonry, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, and the Alabama Education Association.

Committees: Vice Chair, Health; Ways and Means General Fund

State House: Room 522-D
11 S. Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 242-7693 District: 115 Bryant Street
Abbeville, AL 36310
Work Phone: Home Phone: (334) 585-5076
Email: locy@gte.net

Representative George Bandy was elected in 1994. He was born on February 7, 1945, and received his B.A. Degree from Morehouse College in Atlanta. He is the father of two children, George Bandy, Jr. and Jennifer Mitchell. Representative Bandy serves as Pastor for the Saint James Missionary Baptist Church. The Chairman of the Alabama Democratic Conference and President of the Lee County Alliance, Representative Bandy has also served as President of the Lee County Concerned Citizens, as a member of the Lee County Commission, and President Pro-Tem of the Opelika City Council. Additionally, Representative Bandy is a member of the Lee County Voters League and the NAACP.

State House: Room 529
11 S. Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 242-7721 District: 1307-A Glenn Circle
Opelika, AL 36801
Home Phone: (334) 749-0051

Representative Barbara Boyd was elected in 1994. She was born on January 31, 1937, received her B.A. in French and English from Miles College in Birmingham, her M.A. in Supervision and Curriculum Development from the University of Alabama, and her Ed.D. in Instructional Leadership and Reading from the University of Alabama. She is the mother of two children, Frank, Jr. and Reginald M. A retired educator of over 35 years, Representative Boyd currently serves as Chairperson of the Trustee Board and Director of Christian Education at Murray Temple Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, the NAACP, the Alabama Democratic Conference, and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Representative Boyd is also a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc. Sorority and Phi Delta Kappa.

State House: Room 530
11 S. Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 242-7692 District: 2222 McDaniel Avenue
Anniston, AL 36202
Work Phone: (256) 236-3521 Ext. 39
Home Phone: (256) 236-7423

Representative Lucius Black was elected in 1983. He was born on October 4, 1925, received his B.S. Degree from Alabama State University and his M.A. from Columbia University. He and his wife, Mildred, are the parents of three children: Urey Rufus, Lucius, Jr., and Don Keith. Representative Black, a retired teacher from the Sumter County School System, currently serves as Manager for the York Citizens Federal Credit Union, and as Recording Steward for the Grants Chapel C.M.E. Church. Representative Black is also a Navy Veteran of World War II and a member of the Retired Teachers Association.

Committees: Commerce; Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources; Local Legislation

State House: Room 537-F
11 S. Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 242-7775 District: Post Office Box 284

York, AL 36925
Work Phone: (205) 652-6531 Home Phone: (205) 392-5713
Email: LBlack284@aol.com

Representative James Buskey was elected in 1976. He was born April 10, 1937, received his B.S. in Secondary Education from Alabama State University, MAT degree in Teaching Mathematics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and his Ed.S. from the University of Colorado in Boulder. He is married to Virginia Buskey. A retired School Administrator from E.S. Chastang Middle School, Representative Buskey serves as Director of the Franklin Memorial Clinic and an organizer of the Commonwealth National Bank. He is also a member of the Aimwell Baptist Church, the Local, State, and National Education Associations, the Alabama Democratic Conference, and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

State House: Room 540-C
11 S. Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 242-7757 District: 2207 Barretts Lane
Mobile, AL 36617
Home Phone: (251) 457-7928

Representative William Clark was elected in 1980. He was born on May 16, 1937, received his B.A. from Dillard University, M.S. from Tuskegee Institute, Ed.S. from Alabama State University, and further studies from the University of Alabama. He and his wife, Hattie, have two children, William H. and Reginald. Representative Clark serves as President of Property Real Estate Company, Inc. and as Principal of Citronelle Middle School. He is a member of the Holmes Street Baptist Church, Omega Psi Phi, Phi Delta Kappa, the National Education Association, the National Association of Secondary Principals, and the Elks Lodge. Representative Clark also is a member of the Citronelle Kiwanis Club, the Whistler Civic Club, and Gulf City Golfers’ Association.

State House: Room 540-A
11 S. Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 242-7756 District: 711 South Atmore Avenue
Prichard, AL 36612
Work Phone: (334) 438-1533 Home Phone: (251) 456-4281

Representative Linda Coleman represents parts of western Birmingham, Forestdale, Westwood, Graysville, Brookside, Cardiff, Republic and part of Fultondale. Representative Coleman is a former Birmingham City Council member and is a licensed realtor. She is a full-time marketing and community relations coordinator. Representative Coleman holds a BS from Alabama A&M University and a MA from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Committees: Judiciary; County and Municipal Government; Jefferson County Legislation

State House: Room 539-A
11 South Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 242-7684 District: 926 Chinchona Drive
Birmingham, AL 35214

Email:
Web Page:
lindacoleman60@bellsouth.net
lindaw@bjcta.org
www.freewebs.com/lcoleman District Phone: (205) 798-1045

Representative Merika Coleman was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives in 2002. She and her husband, Edward Coleman III, are the parents of two children: Elexia and Xavier. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mass Communication and her Master of Public Administration Degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She currently works as an Economic Justice Strategist for Greater Birmingham Ministries. She also serves as an Adjunct Instructor of Government, Executive Board Member of the Midfield Neighborhood Association, and Board Member of the Christian Women’s Leadership Center. Representative Coleman is also a member of the steering committee for the Mayor’s Roundtable on Housing (City of Birmingham), the advisory committee for Wider Opportunities for Women-Self Sufficiency Standards, the Alabama Citizens Policy Project, and the Center on Policy Alternatives - Women’s Caucus and Southern Caucus.

State House: Room 539-B
11 South Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 242 - 7755 District: Post Office Box 28888
Birmingham, AL 35228

Work Phone: (205) 326-6821 Home Phone: (205) 428-4535

Representative Priscilla Dunn was elected in 1998. She was born on October 8, 1943, received her B.S. from Alabama State University, and M.A. from the University of Montevallo. She and her husband, Grover, are the parents of a daughter, Karen. Representative Dunn works as the Homeless Education Coordinator for the Bessemer City Schools. A Trustee and Sunday School teacher for the Shady Grove Baptist Church, Representative Dunn also serves on the Board of Directors for the Bessemer Civic Center, as President of the Humanistic Challengers Federated Club, Secretary of Girls, Inc. of Central Alabama, and as an instructor for the Jefferson County Congress of Christian Education. Additionally, she is President of the Concerned Citizens of Bessemer Cut-Off, and is the coordinator for the Jefferson County Democratic Conference. Representative Dunn is also a member of the Jefferson/Shelby Counties American Cancer Society Advisory Board and serves on the Board for the State Democratic Executive Committee.

State House: Room 540-B
11 S. Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 242-7702 District: 460 Carriage Hills Drive
Bessemer, AL 35022
Home Phone: (205) 426-3795

State House: Room 525-A
11 S. Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 242-7706 District: Post Office Box 6064
Montgomery, AL 36106
Work Phone: (334) 264-7807 Home Phone: (334) 281-8637

Representative Alvin Holmes was elected in 1974.

Schools Attended:
Rochester Business Institute
Alabama State University
Atlanta University
University of Pennsylvania
University of Alabama
Jones School of Law

Degrees Held:
B.S. Degree
M. Ed Degree
M.A. Degree
Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree

He is the father of a daughter, Veronica. Representative Holmes’ professions consist of working as a Real Estate broker and college educator. He is also a member of the Hutchinson Missionary Baptist Church, the State Democratic Executive Committee, the Democratic National Committee, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Board Member of the Alabama Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and NAACP.

Committees: Chair, Montgomery County Legislation
Contract Review Committee
Joint Budget Committee
Legislative Council

State House: Room 518
11 S. Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 242-7688 Home:

District: P.O. Box 3367
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MORE IN NEXT WEEK’S ISSUE.....

FRIDAY, JULY 22 - 29, 2005

Now that you have had the opportunity to read and enjoy The People's Voice won't you pledge to support it by subscribing and sharing your news from your community?

The Board of Directors of the Wilkie Clark Memorial Foundation understand one thing. That is African-Americans will never be free without the benefit of some form of media that is owned and controlled by the African-American communities.

FREEDOM begins with being informed.

KNOWLEDGE is power. And one of the best ways to get knowledge is through the act of READING.

We pledge to bring you culturally relevant news every week, news

that will truly enlighten, entertain, and empower you. Feel free to write in to The People's Voice and share your likes and dislikes. Write to us about the things you enjoyed, and those that you didn't enjoy. It is YOUR responses that will make us better.

We pray that you will embrace our effort, and TAKE FULL OWNERSHIP of this paper. And let the truth make us free.

Anyone interested in joining our team, and assisting us in producing this publication is welcome to contact us.

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