

News at a glance

James Orange dies

ATLANTA (AP) — The Rev. James E. Orange, a lieutenant of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference who worked alongside the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. during the civil rights movement, has died. He was 65.

Orange died Saturday at Crawford Long Hospital. He had suffered complications from gallbladder surgery, his daughter, Jamida Orange, told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Orange marched in his hometown in 1963 alongside King and the Rev. Ralph David Abernathy to help integrate facilities and transportation. He lived in southwest Atlanta for more than four decades.

He was project coordinator with the SCLC from 1965 to 1970. Later he became a regional coordinator with the AFL-CIO in Atlanta, where he incorporated King's nonviolence philosophy and promoted unity between national labor leaders and King's "beloved community." He retired in 2005.

Since 1995, Orange served as the general coordinator of the Martin Luther King Jr. March Committee-Africa/African-American Renaissance Committee. The organization coordinates the country's most watched and attended events of the King national holiday. It also promoted trade between Atlanta and the U.S. with South Africa.

Survivors include his wife, Cleo, five children and two grandchildren.

Kansas African-American Museum struggling to raise funds

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — The city gave it a prime location for a new building, but the Kansas African American Museum is struggling.

The museum has had trouble raising funds. In three years, it has raised a little more than \$12,000 toward a \$12 million capital campaign project and has failed to find any lead donors.

It also has lost its assistant director and curator, Anita Knox, who will serve until Feb. 26. She is moving out of state.

And it recently lost the bid for the collection of personal papers of legendary photographer, filmmaker and author Gordon Parks. Wichita State University is getting the collection, which includes private papers, manuscripts and other personal items.

"It was a tool we would have used to recruit donors," said Mayor Carl Brewer, who led efforts to give land to the museum.

The museum is turning to the community to help redefine its mission. Its board is holding a town hall meeting on Tuesday.

"The board has been going through changes to make themselves stronger," said state Sen. Carolyn McGinn, an ex officio board member.

The museum is currently in a leaky, 91-year-old building, but the city has given the museum a plot along the Arkansas River next to other museums. The city paid Westar Energy Inc. \$1.5 million for the land for the museum, which has until 2015 to start construction. Otherwise, the land could go back to the city.

Sharpton says race a factor in baseball steroids scandals

NEW YORK (AP) — The Rev. Al Sharpton said Saturday that he believes the U.S. government has been pursuing black athletes more aggressively than white athletes in scandals over performance enhancing drugs.

In his weekly address to followers in Harlem, Sharpton compared the treatment of Barry Bonds, baseball's all-time home run king, to the treatment of Roger Clemens, one of the game's greatest pitchers.

Bonds was indicted last year on a charge that he perjured himself while testifying before a grand jury investigating criminal steroids distribution by the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative.

Clemens has been accused by a former trainer of taking steroids and human growth hormone — a charge he denied during sworn testimony before Congress.

Sharpton said the members of Congress who were there for the hearing, "treated Roger Clemens like they were at a fan club meeting." He questioned why a steroids scandal had landed Bonds in trouble, but no white athlete of a similar standing.

"You've got to understand that the fight has always been about the criminalization of black men," Sharpton said.

Clark Atlanta president to retire in July

ATLANTA (AP) — Clark Atlanta University has announced that its president will retire in July.

Walter Broadnax has led the school for six years.

In June he told The Associated Press that he wanted to lead the historically black college for years to come.

Some faculty members previously criticized him for making program and faculty cuts to reduce a \$25 million deficit at the historically black college.

He previously said the deficit had been reduced to \$4 million and he planned to launch a \$104 million fundraising campaign that would be carried out over the next decade.

Carlton E. Brown will take on the duties of interim president on August first.

Brown is the former president of Savannah State University.



Broadnax

Dispute erupts over icon's care

BY TERRY KINNEY
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — A family dispute over the health and finances of the Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth would be a great embarrassment to the civil rights pioneer if he were aware that it has spilled into the public arena, his wife said last Friday.

"Fred Shuttlesworth would be livid, and his children know that, too," Sephira Shuttlesworth said.

Fred Shuttlesworth, 85, who had a benign tumor removed from his brain in August 2005, suffered a mild stroke last September. He was in extended care until January, and a nursing home since then.

Sephira Shuttlesworth, 51, a retired Cincinnati Public School principal, married Fred in 2006. She says she has no ill will toward his children, who are older than she.

They say they, too, are not at odds with their father's wife. But neither party is willing to be the first to reach out to the other.

"If she wanted to talk to us, all she had to do was say so," said Shuttlesworth's oldest daughter, Patricia Massengill. "There's no war going on. But we will not be run over. If Daddy needed money, we would be the first ones coming to his aid."

"If she wants us to know she cannot pay Daddy's bills, we would be glad to step up and help. I just don't want people to be misled thinking my Daddy's destitute."

Things started to go haywire when word got out that a gospel music concert to benefit Shuttlesworth was being staged next week in Birmingham, Ala. It was mischaracterized from the start and was never meant to be a benefit, Sephira Shuttlesworth said.

She said a Chicago promoter, Nona Farrar, had contacted her husband long ago and had invited him to a series of concerts to give him an award for his public service. Fred had asked only that



Fred Shuttlesworth is one of the architects of the Civil Rights Movement.

transportation and hotel for himself and his wife be covered, but Farrar insisted that Shuttlesworth should get \$5 for each ticket sold, Sephira (pronounced SEH-FEYE'-ruh) said.

She said she wrote a letter commending Farrar's concert, and that got construed as a plea for donations for Shuttlesworth's care, which costs about \$6,300 a month.

"When he got sick, this young lady said to me, 'I'm going to keep my word. I'm still going to give him \$5 a ticket, even though Rev. Shuttlesworth can't

show up.'" Sephira said she agreed because it is during these winter months when her husband would have made the bulk of his income for the year, making civil rights speeches, and the concert fee would have replaced that.

But his children were incensed and released a statement Monday disavowing any association with the concert.

"Our father, a visionary, not only helped organize the Civil Rights Movement but established the Fred

See Shuttlesworth on A4

Houston DA finally resigns over racist e-mail

BY JUAN A. LOZANO
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — Harris County District Attorney Chuck Rosenthal resigned last Friday under the weight of a scandal involving the release of dozens of pornographic, racist and political e-mails on his office computer.

Rosenthal, considered Texas's most powerful prosecutor, blamed the bizarre inbox contents, which included love notes to his secretary and campaign strategizing, on a combination of drugs he had been prescribed that affected his judgment, the Houston Chronicle reported.

Rosenthal has endured a public outcry for his head, including a street demonstration by hundreds of people as well as his own Republican Party officials, since a federal judge mistakenly released the e-mails as part of a lawsuit against the Harris County Sheriff's Department.

On Friday, the lawyer who brought the suit against the Sheriff's Department, Lloyd Kelley, filed a lawsuit to have Rosenthal removed from office on grounds of misconduct, incompetence and drinking on the job.

Rosenthal did not immediately return a telephone call seeking comment on Friday, but he was expected to hold a news conference later in the day.

Rosenthal was forced off the March 4 GOP primary ballot by the scandal but steadfastly refused to resign, saying "stupidity" was not grounds for quitting.

But the pressure built as hundreds of demonstrators protested outside his office and as his own assistant district attorney, Kelley Siegler, now a candidate for district attorney, said publicly he should resign. Her husband, Sam, had sent Rosenthal several of the offensive e-mails.

Rosenthal also was under the threat of a federal contempt of court citation for the deletion of 2,500 other e-mails demanded as part of the civil rights lawsuit against the Sheriff's Department.

Rosenthal, 62, spent his entire career in the district attorney's office after attending night law school. The scandal brought out allega-

tions of racist judgment within the district attorney's office — black jurors were struck because, some defense attorneys and former prosecutors said, they were seen as soft on crime; code names for blacks were bandied about in e-mails, and black leaders believed that prosecutors

under Rosenthal worked to punish blacks more harshly than whites.

Rosenthal was caught up in an unrelated but simultaneous scandal when he successfully asked a judge to dismiss a grand jury's indictment of a state Supreme Court justice and his wife on charges they

torched their house because of financial problems. Grand jurors took the unusual step of suing to get a judge to allow them to reveal the evidence that they believe implicated Justice David Medina.

Medina and his wife have denied the charges.



Rosenthal

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The Chronicle (USPS 067-910) was established by Ernest H. Pitt and Ndubisi Egemonye in 1974 and is published every Thursday by Winston-Salem Chronicle Publishing Co. Inc., 617 N. Liberty Street, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101. Periodicals postage paid at Winston-Salem, N.C. Annual subscription price is \$30.72.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
The Chronicle, P.O. Box 1636
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-1636