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"The Voice Of The Black Community"

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LOVELY TONYA TAYLOR
...Surprised "Beauty of week"

Grandfather Walter Taylor Is Proud Of Tonya Taylor's Academic Success

By JAYNE STRONG
POST STAFF WRITER

When a young lady has two gentlemen wishing to publicize her good points, she is a fortunate girl. So surprise, surprise, Tonya Taylor, your father and grandfather insist that you make a perfect beauty of the week.

Unknown to Tonya, her grandfathers, Walter B. Taylor, Sr., supplied initial information about his granddaughter. Tonya is a 15-year-old junior at Independence High School, he informs. At school, she participates as a Letter Girl and is also the statistician (record-keeper) for Independence's Patriot track team.

Her grandfather is proud of Tonya's academic progress. She maintains a B average in her studies. Her favorite subjects are said to be Spanish and Algebra.

Tonya attends Friendship Baptist

Church, sings with the Youth Choir and is active in other youth activities. She's the daughter of Walter B. Taylor, Jr. and Gloria Taylor and she has one older sister, Wanda.

Then, her father offered a few finer points about Tonya. He describes, "She plays the piano and the flute. She loves music. Her favorite listening music is probably, Prince, Michael Jackson and stuff like that," he laughs.

"Her grandfather says her favorite hobbies are talking on the telephone and watching television. She loves to travel," her father assures. Tonya has visited New York City, San Francisco, California, Bermuda and Hawaii. She travels with her mother, who works with Delta Airlines.

"She's a typical teenager," her father describes. "She's multi-talented. She can listen to the T.V., talk on the phone and listen to the stereo, all at the same time!"

About his daughter's aspirations, her father informs "She's talking about a career in fashion and interior design." Then he adds with humor, "But if you saw her room, you'd never believe it."

He continues, "She definitely considering college. Her sister, Wanda, a senior at the University of Georgia, is trying to help her understand and prepare for college life."

"She's a true Taurus," Tonya's father attests. "She's just beginning to come out of her quiet and moody stage and becoming more outgoing. Though, she still enjoys reading and doing other activities by herself."

Tonya's father concludes, "She's a real good girl." And he admits that raising a teenage daughter is "an experience." It's an experience he enjoys but has its ups and downs, he suggests when he reveals that his daughter is spoiled. But who spoiled her? "You know, I did," he laughs.

With All-Day Celebration

Mayfield Memorial To Observe Its 16th Church Anniversary

The Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church, located at 700 Sugar Creek Rd. West, will observe its 16th church anniversary Sunday, March 17. The all day celebration will begin with Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.; corporate worship services at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; and with a Baptist Training Union at 5 p.m.

Guest minister for this celebration will be Rev. Dr. Joy J. Johnson, pastor of First Baptist of Fairmont, NC. He will speak during the 11 a.m. worship service.

Dr. Johnson is a native of Scotland County, NC. He attended high school at Laurinburg Institute. Because of his ardent work in the Bayesville Baptist Church and the St. John Missionary Baptist Association, the association considered assisting him in his attempt to enroll at Shaw University at Raleigh. With the prayers, financial aid and determination he enrolled and matriculated at Shaw. He received the bachelor of Arts Degree in Religious Education. The same institution honored him by conferring upon him the L.L.D. Degree.

Dr. Johnson, in a successful bid for the NC Legislature, formed a coalition of Blacks and Indians in Robeson County and became the first black to represent that county. He also was the first black City Councilman of Fairmount and the first black to chair a major committee in the NC General Assembly in the year 1973.

Former president of the 350,000

Black Elected Officials Set First Town Meeting

By AUDREY C. LODATO
Post Staff Writer

What is expected to be the first of a series of quarterly town meetings held by the Black Elected Officials of Charlotte-Mecklenburg will be held on Sunday evening, March 17, at 5 p.m. at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 3201 Tuckaseegee Road.

The Rev. Bob Walton, County Commissioner and chairman of Black Elected Officials, urged all citizens to attend. The purpose of the meeting will be to hear citizen concerns, discuss problems and solutions, and stimulate community interest in the political process.

"This will be an opportunity to share with people, to give a report to the people about the various offices we serve in," explained Walton.

The town meetings are being held for two reasons, he continued. "This is in response to concerns we've heard from citizens in the community. Citizens say, 'The only time we see you is when you're running for office, and then we don't see you any more.'"

The second reason, said Walton, is to demonstrate black elected officials' willingness to report to the people what is happening in their respective offices.

With the possible exception of Mayor Harvey Gantt, Walton expects all black elected officials in the County to attend the town meeting. He explained that Gantt had a previous commitment, but noted the Mayor "will do everything he can to be there."

Elected black office holders who will participate in the meeting are State Senator Melvin Watt; Representative Jim Richardson, NC House; Rep. Howard Barnhill, NC House; Rev. Bob Walton, County Commissioner; City Councilman Ron Leeper; Councilman Charlie Dannelly; School Board members, Sarah Stevenson, Rev. George Battle, and Arthur Griffin; Nanny Potts, Town Commissioner in Cornelius; Dr. Mildred Baxter Davis, Soil and Water District Supervisor; and Judge Terry Sherrill.

Walton reported that all of the



Arthur Griffin
School board member



Bob Walton
Town meeting leader

churches had been sent notices requesting the meeting be announced to congregations. Although he is expecting the community to be responsive to the town meeting concept, Walton remarked that even if only one person shows up, the meetings will continue.

Increased grass roots political action is one of the hoped-for results of the meetings. "Hopefully, they will generate positive political action on the part of black people in the community," Walton declared. There will be a voter registration booth at each meeting, and the Black Elected Officials chairman expressed the hope that citizens will realize the need to be politically active year round, not just at election time. The town meetings, he said, will give people the opportunity to be a continuous part of the political process by having input to elected officials.

Walton advised that those having special concerns write them out ahead of time so that they can be read at the meeting. Also, if time does not permit all concerns to be aired, they can be passed in with their name, address, and phone number so that the appropriate official can later respond.

Walton stressed that, although one of the primary reasons for the meetings is to hear community con-

cerns, the town meetings are "not just gripe sessions." He hopes citizens will join in discussion of possible solutions with their suggestions. "We have a wealth of information out there," he noted of the potential for citizen involvement.

Other members of Black Elected Officials who will not be on the panel giving reports include previously elected officials who are no longer in office, and non-elected officials. These are Judge Michael Todd; former County Commissioner and State Senator, Rowe Motley; Phyllis Lynch, former chairman of the Board of Elections; Bob Davis, former chairman of the Democratic Party; Ella Talley, who is serving as a member of the Board of Elections; and Jim Polk, chairman of the Black Political Caucus.

Republicans Deny Voting Rights

WASHINGTON — All 163 Republican members of the U. S. House of Representatives voted Monday to deny voting rights to thousands of American citizens, including 1,000 blacks, despite two recent Federal court rulings that the House has the Constitutional obligation to uphold these rights.

In a partisan motion on the House Floor, the Republicans voted to throw out 5,000 ballots and award a disputed Indiana House seat to a fellow Republican who did not win on Election Day, November 6, 1984. They were not successful, however, as a majority voted to defeat their motion.

At issue was the principle of one-man, one-vote involving the election last November in Indiana's Eight Congressional District, the closest in the country. When 100% of the ballots were first certified, Democratic Congressman Frank McCloskey was judged the winner over Republican Richard McIntyre by 72 votes out of 234,000 cast.

Several recounts then began, and the lead changed hands many times. However, the recounts did not settle the question of who really won, because several thousand legitimate ballots were thrown out on technicalities. Candidate McIntyre is narrowly ahead on the latest count, but only because so many ballots were thrown out. In some predominantly black precincts, every single vote was disallowed, even though voter intent was not in question and there were no allegations of vote fraud.

This led to lawsuits and strong local criticism. On January 3, the House decided the charges were serious enough to warrant a special Task Force investigation before allowing either candidate to assume office. That investigation will be completed within a few weeks.

Nevertheless, the House GOP voted today to disenfranchise these 5,000 voters and give the seat to another Republican before the investigation is completed.

Public Hearing Scheduled For Charlotte Area Fund

The annual public hearing for the Charlotte Area Fund, Inc. will be held during an "open house" on Friday, March 22 at the Double Oaks Community Service Center.

From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., members of the Board of Directors and staff will meet with the public concerning the agency's work plan for the program year July 1 thru June 30.

Copies will be available for review and comment. An additional public hearing will be conducted at the Double Oaks Center on Tuesday, March 26 at 5 p.m. to receive additional comments.

The 1985-86 plan of work of the Charlotte Area Fund focuses on the first year of a three year effort to address community problems in the areas of personal income management (budget counseling and con-

sumer education); employment and educational opportunities. During the next year the agency expects to work with a total of 3,000 low-income citizens of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County through these programs.

Funding for these services, totaling \$436,985, is provided through the Community Services Block Grant and approved by the Division of Economic Opportunity under the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development. This represents a \$2,421 increase over the current program year.

As part of the annual planning process, the Board of Directors and the Planning and Evaluation Committee invites any interested citizens to review the plan and discuss proposed objectives with the staff.

The Charlotte Area Fund is located in the Double Oaks Community Service Center at 1326 Woodward Avenue. Comments and support of residents of the city and county are welcome.

Tax Penalty Waived

Some people should have paid estimated tax in 1984 due to taxable Social Security benefits. According to Assistant District Director Lee Monks in Greensboro, "Since 1984 is the first year for taxing Social Security benefits and many recipients were unaware that the taxable portion had to be considered in making estimated tax payments, the IRS has decided not to impose the portion of any estimated tax penalty attributable to the taxable Social Security benefits."



Rev. Joy J. Johnson
Mayfield speaker

member General Baptist State Convention of NC he also served as chairman of the Board of two black Robeson County Corporations. He is a member of the NC Parole Commission, Moderator of St. John Association, listed in Who's Who in Politics and Religion and a life member of the NAACP.

Not forgetting what the St. John Association and the Baptist of NC did for him by way of assisting him in his educational pursuits, Dr. Johnson has always served in key

positions in the St. John Association and for more than a decade has led that association as its moderator.

Dr. Johnson, his wife Omega and his daughter Debra donated 50 acres of land to the Women's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention where a General Baptist Assembly and Bible Camp have now been erected.

As Mayfield looks back over its 16 years as an official Church Fellowship, they can thank God and take courage. With pride over their accomplishments, the Fellowship can remember its meager beginnings and great spiritual fortitude and determination. From that small beginning, Mayfield has taken its rightful place among the spiritual stars of this nation. The church holds membership in the Mt. Peace Association, Mecklenburg Baptist Association, General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, North Carolina Council of Churches, National Council of Churches of Christ, Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention and The World Baptist Alliance.

Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church members and pastor, Rev. H. S. Diggs cordially invite the public to these services.

Mayfield is in the final stages of building 60 units of housing for the elderly and handicapped citizens of Mecklenburg County.



Every cloud has its silver lining, but it is sometimes a little difficult to get it to the mind.