## Seminar on preservation

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of the sad state of education among African Americans in the rural South, according to the office's website. He established a fund that provided architectural plans and matching grants that helped build more than 5,300 schools from Maryland to Texas between the late 1910s and 1932. More than 800 were built in North Carolina, more than in any other state.

other state.

JCSU President Dorothy
C. Yancy also attended a
Rosenwald school, said

"It is important to preserve these schools," she said. "Rosenwald schools don't exist anymore, we have to get involved to save these schools."

In Charlotte, Billingsville

School was added to the National Registry of Historic places in 1999. However, other Rosenwald schools, like McClintock Rosenwald School, located on Erwin Road, west of Highway 49 in Southern Mecklenburg County and the Newell Rosenwald School, located on Torrence Grove Church Road in the Newell community are registered with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmark Commission.

Public schools attended by African Americans before desegregation, including the long-closed Second Ward and Plato Price high schools, will also be part of the seminar.

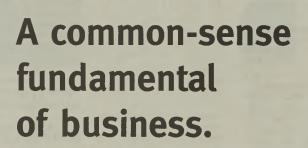
According to a report written by the commission in 1987, the McClintock

Rosenwald School and the Newell Rosenwald School are the best-preserved of the 21 former Rosenwald buildings that survive in Mecklenburg County. The former Rosenwald buildings are the earliest black school buildings known to survive in Mecklenburg County.

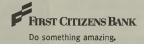
Rhue said the university plans to hold more seminars in the future to preserve the legacy of black schools and black families.

The seminar runs from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The first 50 people to register will have a chance to have their family artifacts evaluated and preserved, Rhue said.

To register, log on to J.C. Smith University's website at http://archives.jcsu.edu/schools/ to download a form, then fax it to (704) 378-3524.



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PHOTO/JOYCE WADDELL

The Charlotte Section of the National Council of Negro Women held its 12th annual Brotherhood/Sisterhood Banquet at the United House of Prayer For All People last month. Rosa Robinson was presented the sisterhood award and Ronald Leeper the brotherhood award. Manderline Scales, state convener of NCNW, was the featured speaker.

## America's getting darker by the day

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ethnicity rather than a race, so they can be of any race, including white.

Between 2040 and 2050, the Census Bureau expects the non-Hispanic white population actually will decline slightly because of a large number of expected deaths of baby boomers, who by 2040 will be at least 76.

Meantime, the Hispanic and Asian populations are expected to continue their explosive growth.

The Asian population is expected to more than triple to 33 million by 2050. Hispanics will increase their ranks by 188 percent to 102.6 million, or roughly one-quarter of the population.

"Historically, we've been a black-and-white country. That's not true any longer, and even less true in the future," said Roderick Harrison, a demographer with the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies in Washington, which studies issues of concern to minorities.

"A good deal of social history in the next several decades will be reflected in how we sort that out, whether we achieve greater degrees of equality in these populations," he said.

The projections - the first released by the bureau since the 2000 head count - also show a burgeoning older population as healthier lifestyles and better medical treatment increase longevity. By 2050, 5 percent of the country will be 85 or older, compared with 1.5 percent now.

"This poses very interest-

ing challenges. Institutions are going to be transformed and Social Security is the obvious one," said demographer Martha Farnsworth Riche, a former Census Bureau director. She pointed to education and health care as other affected areas.

Factors such as how multiracial Americans are counted could drastically alter these predictions, Riche and Harrison said.

Prior census data show that most Hispanics choose white as their race. Riche said that could be a sign that future generations of U.S.-born Latinos would select white and rather than Hispanic as their background as they move further from the generation that first immigrated to the United States.

"When you look at 2050 and possibly see a large Hispanic population that doesn't speak Spanish anymore, being Hispanic might be something very different from today," Harrison said.

The bureau expects the black population will rise 71 percent to over 61 million, or about 15 percent of the population, compared with nearly 13 percent now. Blacks would remain the second-largest minority.

Asians would comprise 8 percent of the population in 2050, compared with 4 percent now.

"This means more of a mix of cultures and ethnic backgrounds, said Edward Kwanhun Rim, president of the Pacific Rim Cultural Foundation, Inc. in Barrington, Ill., and a member of a citizen advisory panel to the Census Bureau

on the Asian population. "It will be a more colorful and bright future - we can hope." *On the Net:* 

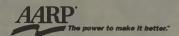
Census Bureau: www.census.gov

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AARP and the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights are working together to collect firsthand accounts of the Civil Rights Movement. Voices of Civil Rights will not only preserve these stories for generations to come, but will also serve as a memorial to those who lived through the era. The project will commemorate the 50th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education* in May 2004. From activists to observers, individual testimonies are crucial in documenting this important time in our nation's history. The stories gathered will be kept in a historical archive, housed on the Voices of Civil Rights Web site and may also appear in other media outlets. To participate visit www.voicesofcivilrights.org or send your 500-word account to Voices of Civil Rights, 601 E St. NW, Washington, DC 20049.





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