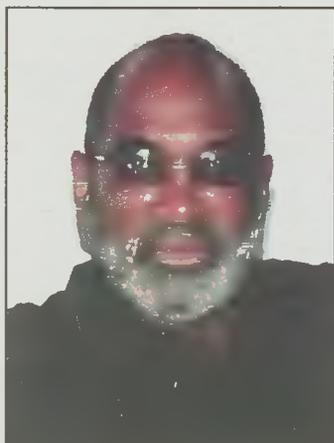


## WILLIAM BRANDON "THE THREE P'S"



William Brandon

By: Mütter D. Evans

William Brandon says that the key to being successful are the "3 Ps: Pray, Plan, and Persevere, and in that order." As a former employee of the City of Winston-Salem for 17 1/2 years with responsibilities that included being a Program Development Specialist in Community Development, he envisioned going into business for himself and expanding economic development in East Winston.

Brandon spent the years of 1989 to 1994 working on his business plan and securing finances for his project. He purchased Chick's Drive-In on Liberty Street and operated it from 1989 to 1991. With the support and encouragement of his wife, Andrais, he quit his job with the city and pursued his dream full-time, networking, and trying to secure capital from within and out-of-state. Ultimately, there would be two failed

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## CHOICES — LESSONS FROM KATRINA

By: Mütter D. Evans

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," has never been truer than when it was forecast that Hurricane Katrina could be a category 5 storm by the time it reached the Gulf coast states. It had already done serious damage on the coast of Florida and was gaining in intensity. By the last weekend of August, residents along Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana were told they should evac-



Mütter D. Evans

uate. Tens of thousands did but tens of thousands remained behind. Why? Many had nowhere to go, others were without automobiles, and many simply could not afford to go. Some were sick and elderly and did not want to leave and family members stayed with them. They had ridden out Camille in 1969 and Andrew in 1992, both category 5 hurricanes. So they feared not the worst, for they felt they had faced it in the past and survived it...The first choice, to stay or go.

Knowing that this area of the country was particularly vulnerable, that New Orleans is already below sea level, and that the levees were only designed to withstand a category 3 hurricane, who should have had the responsibility not only to declare the evacuation but to mandate and organize it — Mayor Ray C. Nagin, Louisiana Governor Blanco, Federal Emergency management Director (FEMA) Michael Brown, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff, Coast Guard Vice Adm. Thad W. Allen,

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## PHARMACIST BEVERLY D. GRAHAM

By: Mütter D. Evans

East Winston can finally claim another black owned and community pharmacy. Medicap Pharmacy #380 opened September 2nd at the corner of Liberty and 14th Streets. Beverly Diane Graham, who has 30 years experience dispensing medicine at various Eckerd Drugs located in Winston-Salem, is the owner, pharmacist, and manager.

Born in Winston-Salem and a graduate of Bishop McGuinness High School, Graham claims Lexington and Winston-Salem as home having attended school in both cities. She excelled in chemistry and mathematics; and graduated from the professional program of Howard University's College of Pharmacy & Pharmacology in December of 1974. "I didn't want to teach and it was my Aunt Fannie Jones Lee of Newport News, VA, a pharmacist, who first suggested the idea of my becoming a pharmacist, too."



Beverly D. Graham, R. Ph.  
Pharmacist & Owner

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### NAACP State Convention Gears Up in Greensboro:

## A LOOK AT THE WOMAN WHO MAKES IT ALL HAPPEN

By Samantha Muhammad

Many people in Greensboro know Gladys Shipman. Her



Gladys Shipman

name ring bells in business circles. Her savvy style open doors in the city's political arena.

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It's Time to Come Together!