



Bishop and Mother Davis

## Sixty Years of Divine Sweet Love

by John Raye

[continued from page 1]

"One of my best four-letter words to describe the world and work of this visionary leader is a word we all know so very well,-- I-o-v-e, and that's what he is all about", Howard said.

The work and mission of Bishop and wife, sister Betty Davis is reflected in and outside of the church, located at 1500 N. Dunleith in Winston-Salem. As teachers, preachers and caretakers of the Christian faith, the Davis family, friends and church members have completely revitalized a once neglected part of East Winston-Salem., a place once notorious for drugs and other assorted criminal activity.

The Bishop, however, has done some serious house cleaning, by establishing multiple business operations and new residential facilities in the area surrounding his church.

Under such spirited leadership, the Davis influence is felt far and wide. Few churches, public or private clubs or organizations have been able to match or duplicate the mind-boggling achievements that this close kit family has set in motion over the last three decades.

A soul-stirring prophet and preacher, Davis has extended his ministry into the world of work as an enterprising business entrepreneur. He provides employment opportunities for many church members by creating multiple businesses including a 150 capacity day and child care center, a 40 bed assisted living facility, newly constructed, multiple apartment complexes for seniors, single and married couples, a first class transportation system which includes a fleet of stretched limousines, a fleet of 50-plus luxury passenger buses, several vans and autos and a 53 acre working farm, which has overnight accommodations for business meetings, workshops, retreats and seminar presentations.

Much of the food grown on CRT's working farm is used to offset expenses incurred by other CRT business enterprises such as the church's weekly food program for families and homeless individuals. In addition, the church operates a food and clothing pantry.

Though he has received numerous honors, awards, certificates, trophies, plaques and recognition including a street that bears his name, this humble,

gentle spirit has never sought the spotlight or even honors for himself. In fact, he prefers to move quickly and quietly with the work he has been called to do, showing by deed and example that Black people, armed with self-love, faith in God and a determination to succeed, can overcome any obstacle or adversity.

"Growing up, we never had very much, in the way of material things. So, mostly we did farm work. Didn't have no cars or trucks, so we had to walk just about everywhere we went, the Bishop said. But we didn't let what we didn't have, stop us", he said.

Today, in a marriage that has produced six children and some 25 grandchildren, Bishop Willie and Betty Davis, after 60 years of holy matrimony, are proof positive of a great spiritual truth—"a family that prays together, stays together."

So just what is the one great secret that has kept this heavenly-bound couple together for 60 years? In that down home, warm style, that has endeared him to so many, for so many years, he says there really is no secret. "We love, trust and respect each other. The Lord put us together to do something worthwhile, and we're just doing the Lord's work", he said.

At the top of the Bishop's work list, Elder Howard's four letter word clearly points to the real secret behind their successful 60 year marriage—L-O-V-E!

It does not get much better than that.



**ANNOUNCING  
HAPPY ADS**

**BIRTHDAYS  
ANNIVERSARIES  
SPECIAL OCCASIONS**

**Share Your  
Happiness**

**Call 336.635.4096**

**And Ask For An Ad Taker Who  
Will Be Happy To Help You.**

*What you can  
be is more impor-  
tant than what you  
have been*

## AARP Set To Take Over Atlanta

WASHINGTON - AARP, one of the world's largest member organizations with more than 37 million members, and the leading organization for people 50+, will host its bi-annual Life@50+ National Event & Expo in Atlanta, Georgia, at the Georgia World Congress Center, from October 3-5, 2013. This national event for AARP members and their families will give the community access to some of today's most renowned celebrities including lifestyle, health, travel and financial experts. Attendees will discover new possibilities for their lives through community service activities, innovative exhibits, seminars and an exciting line-up of entertainment.

In addition to electrifying concerts by Grammy Award-winning artists, including Latin sensation, Gloria Estefan, gospel a capella group Sweet Honey in the Rock and R&B singer Regina Belle,

Life@50+ attendees also will experience wide-ranging informational workshops led by various celebrities and lifestyle experts. Highlights include Life Reimagined sessions with television anchor and journalist Jane Pauley, motivational speaker Richard Leider and Fast Company founder Alan Webber; hands-on technology training in the AARP TEK pavilion; brain health exercises with board-certified neurologist Dr. Adam Gazzaley; the AARP Movies for Grownups® film festival highlighting pre-release and newly released films; and travel seminars. Special guests include actress Whoopi Goldberg, media mogul Tyler Perry, actor Andy Garcia, actor Ed Begley, Jr., music producer Emilio Estefan, football legend Dan Marino and Emmy award winning broadcaster James "JB" Brown, tennis legend Martina Navratilova, entrepreneur Chris Gardner, travel television personality Samantha Brown, NBC Today Show financial correspondent Jean Chatzky and relationship expert Dr. Pepper Schwartz.

"Life@50+ is a touchstone event that gives our members the unique opportunity to discover all that AARP and information they need to build the life they want. We look forward to connecting with our community in a dynamic way and fostering our continued success and presence in their lives."

Also, AARP will host a special feature session in honor of the 50th Anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech on Saturday, October 5th. This celebration, beginning at 9:15 AM, will bring together visionaries, notable speakers and those instrumental to the landmark occasion. Dr. Janet Taylor will moderate the panel that includes former NAACP Chairman Julian Bond, comedian/social activist Dick Gregory, and former Atlanta Mayor and UN Ambassador Andrew Young.

AARP will kick off with a Community Day of Service within and around the City of Atlanta. Beginning bright and early Thursday morning, NFL Hall of Fame

Quarterback Dan Marino, CBS Sports and Newscaster James "JB" Brown and relationship expert Dr. Pepper Schwartz will engage the community in various activities to herald the beginning of Life@50+ through community building events. James "JB" Brown will host hands-on AARP TEK workshops to provide free technology and social media training for older community residents. Later that afternoon, Marino will host a clinic for young aspiring football players at the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club at Peachcrest to coach and mentor the next generation of future Hall-of-Famers. The evening will close with an inspirational concert featuring a star-studded bill of entertainers, including Regina Belle, Dottie Peoples, Kathy Taylor and the Atlanta Praise.

### Friday, October 4th

To officially open the conference, actress and personality Whoopi Goldberg will be in conversation with Atlanta luminary and media mogul, Tyler Perry. That afternoon, AARP Financial Ambassador Jean Chatzky will be on hand to share The 5 Big Things You Need to Know About Your Money Right Now. The AARP Movies for Grownups® Film Festival will offer an advanced screening of the highly anticipated film "At Middleton," with a special appearance by actor Andy Garcia and writer/director Adam Rodgers. Grammy-award winning producer Emilio Estefan will then lead a session on finding one's own rhythm through Life Reimagined and the evening will close with a dance party featuring The Happy Together Tour, with The Turtles featuring Flo & Eddie, Chuck Negron formerly of Three Dog Night and more.

### Saturday, October 5th

A morning fitness session with tennis champion Martina Navratilova will start the final day, followed by "Celebrate 50 Years of a Dream" a feature session with Grammy-award-winning a cappella ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock, former NAACP Chairman Julian Bond, comedian/activist Dick Gregory and former Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young. Entrepreneur, motivational speaker and real-life inspiration for Will Smith's character in the film "The Pursuit of Happyness," Chris Gardner will impart his life lessons in a motivational seminar and Travel Channel personality Samantha Brown will inspire members with tales from her perpetual life on the road. The AARP Movies for Grownups® Film Festival will continue with screenings of "My Father and the Man in Black," a documentary directed by Jonathan Holiff, the son of Johnny Cash's former manager, and "Muhammad Ali's Greatest Fight," starring Ed Begley, Jr. Both Holiff and Begley will make special appearances at the screenings. To end things on a high note, seven-time Grammy award-winning singer, Gloria Estefan will take the stage to celebrate the weekend and close out the event.

*Don't do just enough  
to get by; do enough  
to get ahead*