

# The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIDLED

VOLUME 88 - NUMBER 37

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2009

TELEPHONE (919) 682-2913 PRICE: 30¢



**BLACK CAUCUS DONATION TO NCCU** - Accepting a donation from Rep Alma Adams from left to right are: John D. White, member, and Jim Harrell, III, chair, of the Fundraising Committee, NCCU Chancellor Charlie Nelms and Rep. Alma Adams, chair of the N.C. Legislative Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.

## The North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus Foundation Pays a Call to NCCU

State Representative Alma Adams, chair of the North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus Foundation, Inc., paid a visit to North Carolina Central University Chancellor Charlie Nelms to present a check for the first installment of the promised \$10,000 in scholarship funds.

NCCU and the other nine HBCUs in the state are the beneficiaries of the Foundation's very successful fundraiser in June in which they collected \$100,000, double the receipts from the previous year.

During this time, people value education and the need for

"young people to get a college degree," said Adams. "They reached down and helped us meet our goal."

NCCU students who are African-American residents of North Carolina with GPAs of 3.0 are eligible to apply.

"The legislators who established the Black Caucus Foundation possess an unwavering commitment to higher education," said LaTanya Afolayan, NCCU's vice chancellor for institutional advancement. "Even in the midst of these challenging economic times, this organization continues to help us to provide access for students in need and we're grateful."

## Holder tells DC kids to start thinking of future

By Jessica Gresko

WASHINGTON (AP) - Attorney General Eric Holder told students at a Washington elementary school Sept. 8 they need to work hard and listen to their teachers and that it's not too early to start thinking about their futures.

The speech was in advance of President Barack Obama's national address to schoolchildren on the importance of taking responsibility for their success in school.

Obama spoke at a school in a D.C. suburb; Holder spoke at Amidon-Bowen Elementary School in southwest Washington. Amidon, built in 1960, has about 300 students in pre-K through fifth grade, most of them black.

Holder walked through some classrooms before speaking briefly in the school's auditorium. One second-grade student asked Holder, "Do you get along with the president?" which Holder answered by saying that the president was a "good guy." He was also asked "Do you get to go to (the president's) house?" Holder asked the students if they knew what the president's house was called.

In the auditorium, which doubles as a cafeteria and was decorated with construction paper apples and butterflies, Holder asked students how many wanted to be president, and hands shot up. He went on to ask about doctors, lawyers and teachers, but the profession that got the most hands was professional basketball player.

"We need you all to work hard, right? I need you to do your homework all the time, right? I need you to listen to your teachers, yes?" Holder said, his questions punctuated by a chorus of yes from students. "What is it you want to be when you grow up? It's not too early to start thinking about that ... Our future in this country really depends on what you all do."

Holder then sat down to watch Obama's speech with students, who sat on red, maroon and tan folding chairs.

Obama's speech, which was posted in advance on the

White House Web site, has been controversial, with some conservatives saying he was using it to promote a political agenda. His talk at Wakefield High School in Arlington, Va., was broadcast live on C-SPAN and on the White House Web site.

Holder, who grew up in New York City and went to public school there before attending Columbia University, was among a number of administration officials talking to school children Sept. 8.

Iman Hyatt, who watched Obama's speech with Holder and her classmates, said this is what she learned: "Be good so you can get a good job," said the 10-year-old, who wants to be a singer and dancer, and if that doesn't work out a veterinarian, designer or chef. "Listen to your teachers...Do your homework."

## Accused Holocaust museum shooter appears in court

WASHINGTON (AP) - A white supremacist charged with killing a security guard at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum appeared in court Sept. 2, the first time he has been seen publicly since the June shooting.

Police say the suspected shooter, James von Brunn, 89, was shot in the face after killing the guard. He survived and has been hospitalized since the June 10 shooting. He was finally well enough to be in U.S. District Court in Washington on Sept. 2, though he was in a wheelchair.

Von Brunn was indicted in July on charges including first-degree murder for the death of museum guard Stephen T. Johns, who was black. Four of the charges make him eligible for the death penalty if he's convicted.

Court appearances for von Brunn have been delayed several times as he recovered from his injuries.

Von Brunn once tried to kidnap members of the Federal Reserve board, a "caper" thwarted when a guard captured him outside a board meeting carrying a bag stuffed with weapons. He describes his attempt with apparent pride on his hate-filled Web site.

Von Brunn was sentenced in 1983 to more than four years in prison for attempted armed kidnapping and other charges in his Fed assault. He was released in 1989.

Public records show that in 2004 and 2005 he lived briefly in Hayden Lake, Idaho, which for years was home to the Aryan Nations, a racist group run by neo-Nazi Richard Butler.

## Convicted Pastor Vies for National Baptist Presidency

By Zenitha Prince

Special to the NNPA from the Afro American Newspapers

(NNPA) - Rev. Henry Lyons, who on March 17, 1999, plead guilty to five counts of tax evasion, fraud, and other charges, is running for his old position as president of the National Baptist Convention USA. Members of the National Baptist Convention USA seem determined to practice what they preach.

In what would be an ultimate act of forgiveness, the denomination seems poised to re-elect Lyons as their president, who bilked them of millions when he was last entrusted to lead the church.

Lyons is the presumed frontrunner among those vying to head the denomination - one of the largest black organizations in the United States. The Sept. 10 runoff will be held during the denomination's 20th annual convention in Memphis, Tenn. His competition is the Rev. Julius R. Scruggs, of First Missionary Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala. Now pastor of the New Salem Baptist Church in Tampa, Fla., Lyons was convicted in 1999 on charges of grand theft and racketeering after he stole \$5.2 million from the church's corporate partners, including donations to rebuild burnt black churches. The minister used the pilfered monies to fund a lavish lifestyle that included travel, cars, luxurious dwellings and mistresses.

Lyons' sins came to light after his then-wife, Deborah, ignited a \$700,000 waterfront house he co-owned with another woman, according to news reports, and he spent almost five years in prison.

"It stinks in God's nostrils, and I know it stinks in the law's nostrils, and it stinks to me," he said of his crimes, according to they20Tulsa World.

Now having declared himself repentant, the disgraced minister is campaigning for his former job under the theme: "Restore the love, and repair the breach."

Many within the denomination say they are willing to forgive Lyons but not all are willing to forget - or to re-elect him as president. The Rev. Dr. L.B. West, pastor of Mount Airy Baptist Church in Northeast Washington, D.C., said many still hold the charismatic Lyons in "high esteem."

"He is still well-respected. Having gone through what he's gone through, and now that he's on his feet, people are showing him love and forgiveness - we all make mistakes," West told the AFRO. "However, when it comes to his being elected to lead this august body, I don't know that people are going to be ready to re-elect him."

Venerable Baltimore minister, the Rev. Dr. A.C.D. Vaughn of Sharon Baptist Church, said if Lyons is chosen he could taint the image of the denomination.

"He has paid his debt to society, going to prison and all, but I'm still not sure that it would send out a good image," said the much respected minister. "When you are in a high position - you ought to be someone with high ethical and moral standards - you [should] be there without raising questions."

Lyons has said publicly that his candidacy was mandated by a God-given call to leadership.

But West, who plans to support Rev. Scruggs, said the time for Lyons' leadership has passed.

"It's a new day; the convention has moved forward and we need to continue moving forward," the District minister said. If Dr. Lyons is elected, "he would do what any other person elected would do, which is to lead according to his own direction and vision - but the convention is well beyond the vision Dr. Lyons brought years ago."

## 'Persecuted' White South African wins Refugee Status in Canada

(GIN) - A South African who claimed he was persecuted because he is white has been granted refugee status by Canada's immigration board. William Davis, chair of the Canadian immigration board panel, said that evidence presented by the white exile Brandon Huntley showed "a picture of indifference and inability or unwillingness" of the South African government to protect "white South Africans from persecution by African South Africans."

The white Huntley would stand out like a "sore thumb" due to his color in any part of South Africa, Davis said. Huntley, who grew up in Mowbray, Cape Town, said he had been attacked seven times by black South Africans and was called a "white dog" and a "settler."

"There's a hatred of what we did to them and it's all about the color of your skin," Huntley reportedly said.

In South Africa, the African National Congress condemned the decision as "racist," "sensationalist" and "alarming."

"We should reject these ridiculous allegations that have been leveled against our people and the country," said Home Affairs spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa.

Register to Vote