

# The Carolina Times

THE TRUTH UNBRIDED

VOLUME 88 - NUMBER 48

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2009

TELEPHONE (919) 682-2913 PRICE: 30

## Sit-in at Royal ice cream parlor honored with marker



The Durham Branch of the NAACP honored three Durham citizens for work in the community. From left to right are: John Schelp; Mrs. Chester Jenkins who accepted for her late husband; and W.A. Marsh, Jr. See story and pictures on page 3.

(AP) - More than 100 people turned out Sunday to help dedicate a state highway marker commemorating a sit-in held against a segregated ice cream parlor three years before the famous lunch counter sit-in at Woolworth's in Greensboro.

The June 23, 1957, event at Royal Ice Cream preceded the 1960 protest in Greensboro, which receives credit for sparking similar actions across the South.

Duke University historian William Chafe, author of "Civilities and Civil Rights: Greensboro, North Carolina and the Black Struggle for Freedom," argues that by 1960, "the ground was more ready for this kind of event to trigger a far-reaching movement."

Longtime Durham resident R. Kelly Bryant started the effort to win recognition from the North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Program with a January 2000 letter to the state Department of Cultural Resources.

Bryant followed up with unsuccessful requests in 2001 and 2003 before mounting a successful campaign with widespread community support two years ago. The marker was scheduled to be dedicated Sunday afternoon.

"We are very proud of what happened here and very proud of having been designated as one of the historical events in the city of Durham," Bryant said.

The Durham sit-in occurred when the Rev. Douglas Moore led seven men and women into Royal Ice Cream through the back door, the one regularly used by black people. They walked to the front and sat down in booths reserved exclusively for white people.

The group declined requests to leave and was arrested. The seven were convicted of trespassing the next day, and each was fined \$10 plus court costs.

The convictions were appealed, in vain, up the chain all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which declined to hear the case.

Mary Elizabeth Clyburn, one of the three living participants in the Royal Ice Cream sit-in, said she remains proud of her role in the Durham sit-in.

"It's extremely important for me that they finally recognized or gave us some credit for getting involved when we did in trying to do something about the terrible conditions that (were) going on then in 1957," said Clyburn, a Newark, N.J., substitute elementary-school teacher who now goes by her married surname of Hooks.

She called the indignities

## N.C. NAACP Files Suit in Wayne County

The N.C. NAACP has filed suit in *NAACP vs Board of Education, Wayne County, N.C.* in opposition of its policy of school assignment. It was filed Dec. 1, on the 54th anniversary of the Montgomery, Alabama Bus boycott.

forced upon blacks in Durham in the 1950s "extremely hurtful," citing the segregated seating at the Carolina Theatre and the lack of seating at local eateries for black people.

Eddie Davis, organizer of the ceremony and a former president of the North Carolina Association of Educators, said the significance of the 1957 event goes beyond its being the state's first. He said that's because the legal appeals showed the

potential for using courts to promote social change.

"Some people think that even though they were unsuccessful and ... were found guilty along the way and did not have the guilty verdict overturned at any stage, it still raised the national consciousness within civil rights organizations," Davis said. "So I think people recognize that even though they were unsuccessful, it still indeed helped to dismantle segregation."



Rev. Douglas Moore hugs Ms. Virginia Williams at the installation of the marker for the Royal Ice Cream Sit-In. See more pictures next week. (Photo by Lawson)

## Psychologists Debunk Judge's Theory About Bi-Racial Children

By Crystal Cranmore  
NNPA Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA) - After he was blistered with criticism for not marrying an interracial couple, Justice Keith Bardwell of Tangipahoa Parish, La. made a statement that he is not a racist, but that he knows biracial children suffer through hardships in life.

Bardwell's theory that being mixed with black and white races can cause a child to suffer emotionally and mentally has brought national speculation over whether such a statement is true.

"They end up being president of the United States," said Dr. James Salvage, a psychologist in Northwest Washington, D.C. "Or the mayor of Washington, D.C.," he said, referring to President Obama and Mayor Adrian Fenty.

According to Dr. Salvage, biracial children do not go through any more hardships than people who are white or black.

"If mixed race is going to account for hardships, how do you explain why you have extreme poverty among White people? He can see that there are Whites that are in Louisiana that are dirt poor and that are uneducated," said Salvage.

According to the National Center for Health and Statistics, biracial children represent a growing number of America's diverse population. Between 1978 and 1992, the number of biracial children born in the United States increased more than 50 percent and has continued to increase since then. However, based on a 2000 census, the number of biracial children was estimated between two and four million. The current statistics remain underestimated because many biracial children identify with the parent of color which skews the actual results.

Dr. Daniel Williams, a psychologist from East Orange, N.J., said Bardwell had no right to assume hardships for the couple's future children - in part because, "Race is defined sociologically and not biologically."

Also, Williams explained, "It has always been said that if you have one parent that is black, then you are black."

Because of this assumption, some bi-racial children have difficulty with self-identification, says Dr. Clifford Greene. They may have problems being accepted while figuring out which race they want to identify with the most, he said. These problems start in the mid teens when they are trying harder to fit in with peers. If caught in this identity crisis, some biracial children may get criticized from Blacks about not being "Black enough," while Whites may still consider them to not be "pure," Greene says.

A psychologist from the University of Los Angeles, Gail Wyatt said that there is no empirical evidence that biracial children have a problem adjusting to society.

"They have to identify who they are the same way that blacks and whites go through a process of self-identification. It is about how the parents raise the child that eliminates any confusion," she said. Dr. Wyatt said that Justice Bardwell's comments are absurd because it "flies against the history of this country where over 400 years ago, our women were raped."

Co-founder of The Black Think Tank, an organization aimed at promoting better Black female/male relationships and several other black-related issues, Dr. Nathan Hare believes that biracial children do not suffer that much, rather, they have the best of both worlds.

"Mixed kids don't suffer as much, but they have more of a dilemma," he said. Dr. Hare did his own college dissertation on Black male and female relationships.

"When Barack Obama lived in Hawaii, he realized for the first time that he was alone when he heard his grandmother complain about a black man," said Dr. Hare. "He's not black, he's not White, but he still loved his grandmother. His mother would have him listen to speeches by Martin Luther King, Jr. so that he could learn about how beautiful black was," Erica Robinson, a senior at Howard University who is racially mixed says that people who are mixed or biracial do sometimes have identification problems. However, she urges that people who are feeling left out or confused to do research on their family history.

"It is okay to accept both cultures," she said. "Society makes us choose, but you have to be happy with who you are and there is nothing wrong with sitting with your parents and asking them to teach you more about who you are."

Dr. Julia Hare, a San Francisco-based psychologist, who co-founded the Black Think Tank with her husband, Nathan, also gives strong advice: "Please do not let terms and names and labels define you. The only person that can define you is you. It isn't what people call you, it's what you answer to. You're going to have haters out there [who] will prevent you from getting on, but you're the captain of your own ship."

## AIDS Project L.A. to Sue California Governor

Special to the NNPA from the Los Angeles Sentinel

LOS ANGELES (NNPA) - AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA), one of the largest non-profit AIDS service organizations in the United States, says it intends to file a law suit against California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, on the ground that his line-item vetoes of the state Legislature's July budget revision bill are unconstitutional. The governor "blue penciled" state funding for a range of safety-net programs, including more than \$80 million from California's HIV/AIDS portfolio. Leading international law firm Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP will represent APLA on a pro bono basis.

"The governor has placed at risk the lives of many thousands of Californians who depend on these vital HIV/AIDS prevention and care programs," said APLA executive director Craig E. Thompson. "In doing so, he has overstepped his constitutional authority and left no other option."

APLA's programs-including those that provide in-home care to seriously ill, HIV-positive L.A. County residents and those that offer HIV prevention education to Angelenos at highest risk of HIV infection-stand to lose a total of more than \$1.8 million as a result of Schwarzenegger's cuts. The agency is the hardest hit statewide.

In late July, Schwarzenegger "blue lined" state general fund support for all HIV/AIDS programs except HIV epidemiology and the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), leaving the state's Office of AIDS with only 20 percent of its funding for programs like HIV education and prevention, HIV counseling and testing, home health and early intervention. These were among more than \$485 million in cuts made to the state's health and human services portfolio.

"In exceeding his power, the governor has single-handedly dismantled a critical array of programs that protect the health of all Californians -- programs that ultimately save the state from far more catastrophic spending," Thompson said. "The effects will be nothing short of devastating."

In a written opinion commissioned by state legislative leaders, the California Legislative Counsel Bureau agreed with advocates, finding that the cuts "did not constitute a valid exercise of [Schwarzenegger's] line-item veto authority granted by... the California Constitution." Advocates and the Counsel argue that the governor only has "blue pencil" authority over original budget appropriations. Schwarzenegger, however, made the latest cuts to Assembly Bill 1, which only "reduced the amount of an existing appropriation previously authorized" by the Legislature in February, the Counsel contends.

The governor is "not granted new expenditure authority, nor is a state officer's expenditure authority extended in any way by an item or section of a bill that solely makes a reduction of an existing appropriation," the Counsel's memo notes. Assembly Bill 1 was passed by a simple majority in the Legislature-not a two-thirds vote mandated for original appropriations that are subject to the blue pencil.

"The California Constitution provides important safeguards to prevent a single elected official from circumventing the entire legislative process," Thompson added. "We're confident that the courts will agree."

Community leaders will gather at an evening rally and march tonight in downtown Los Angeles to protest the illegal cuts and to discuss the suit. AIDS Project Los Angeles provides bilingual direct services, prevention education and leadership on HIV/AIDS-related policy and legislation. Marking 25 years of service in 2008, APLA is a community-based, volunteer-supported organization with local, national and global reach.

For more information, visit [www.apla.org](http://www.apla.org)