



# Winston-Salem Chronicle

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# Is White Bank's Money Any Greener?

We believe in ourselves...  
And we are still trying  
to convince the unbelievers  
that this is the right thing  
to do...

Mel White  
City Executive  
Mechanics & Farmers Bank

Like my daughter, Mechanics and Farmers has had to endure the initial-year, embryonic pains of growth and development. Likewise, just as Thema is forced to depend on her parents and grandparents for physical support and material needs, Mechanics and Farmers has had to rely on its "collective family" to nourish, sustain

Winston, very serious concerns come to the fore. The basic issue is that we as black folk are still immersed in the quagmire of self-hate and self-deprecation. We are still — in 1982 — caught up in the mistaken belief that white folks' ice is colder than black folks' ice; that white doctors' medication is more soothing than black doctors'; that white lawyers are smarter than their Afro-American counterparts, and that white banks' money is greener and more valuable than black banks'...

Needless to say, all of the above is hogwash (and a few more spicy invectives that good taste and editorial discretion will not allow me to print). But the misperceptions are real, and must be addressed.

Sadly, the most tragic and disgusting fact is that it is the "middle-class," "intelligent-sia," "white-collar," "suburban," "made in the shade" NEGROES who are most guilty of this moral and economic crime against our people!!

Yes, I realize that Winston-Salem is basically a blue-collar, working-class town, and that many of the bank's customers would naturally be a part of that population. However, the bank's records reflect that very few of the growing number of professional folk, those with the "good" jobs in Reynolds, Hanes, Wachovia, NCNB, the City, Winston-Salem State, etc., have chosen to bank with Mechanics and Farmers!

I mean, what is the problem?!? Does Mel White's breath stink?!? Is it that you don't like Bank Manager Betty Hanes' shoes?!? Or is it that you do not want to take or

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## CLIFTON GRAVES



and support the planting of its roots in our community.

Unfortunately (and unlike Thema), Mechanics and Farmers has not received the "love," support and sustenance from our community that it is due. Yes, I realize that all "babies" must crawl before they walk. But, given Mechanics and Farmers' beautiful facility, solid history of solvency and firm reputation in other North Carolina communities, it would seem that the Winston branch's "crawling" stage could have been drastically shortened — with the proper support.

Now please do not misunderstand...The bank is doing quite well, thank you. According to City Executive Mel White, the financial institution is ahead of its projected planning schedule, and has recorded more customers to date than it had anticipated.

However, when we consider that the bank's coffers contain less than 10 percent of the estimated \$30-\$40 million in commercial bank deposits emanating from East

# In Defense Of Jackson

The Rev. Jesse Jackson of Operation PUSH has developed an approach to dealing with Corporate America: give back some of the billions of dollars you have taken out of our community or we will withhold our enthusiasm in purchasing your products.

This is a sensible approach to a serious problem. Why, then, are some blacks criticizing Jackson for his efforts?

The criticism concerns Jackson's recent visit to St. Louis where he met with local black businessmen to discuss his "withdrawal of enthusiasm" campaign against Anheuser-Busch. According to published reports, the businessmen became upset because Jackson requested that they make a donation to Operation PUSH. Some, reports say, called the request a demand and felt it bordered on coercion.

Furthermore, the businessmen questioned Jackson's choice of Anheuser-Busch as a legitimate target.

Both criticisms point to a problem whose roots run deep in the thinking of black America.

First, we live in a free-enterprise democratic society where money basically is the ruler of all things. This is reality. We must understand the role that money plays in our society. It takes money for anything to operate effectively.

As such, Operation PUSH could not operate without funds. The most logical place for these funds to come from is the people who will benefit the most from Jackson's efforts. This is common sense, not coercion.

Secondly, we have been discriminated against, lynched, lied to, deceived, cheated and trampled on for so long that we don't know a

friend when we see one.

Because some giant corporation donates a few tax-exempt dollars to one black organization does not make that corporation a messiah. If Jesse Jackson jumped on 10 corporations and three were innocent, we'd still say hurrah. A corporation that takes \$10 billion out of the black community and puts \$1 million back...is that good? No!

This is a problem that exists locally. We see companies like Food World, Eckerd Drugs, K-Mart and others operating in the very heart of the black community with absolutely no commitment to it other than making as much money as possible.

The sad thing about it is that we allow it to persist. We put no pressure on these businesses to commit some of those profits to our community. We don't mean by way of donations, but simply by doing business with bona fide black businessmen.

Money is the only real weapon black people have. If we would stop spending money with people who do not support us, we would find those same people would soon come knocking — no, begging — us for our business. Then we could tell them how we wanted them to act and they would be glad to oblige.

This is all Jesse Jackson is trying to do. We support him in this effort. We also support Pat Hairston and the NAACP. That's all he is trying to do. "Give us parity or we will stop making you rich" should be our slogan in the 80s. And we should support those who have courage enough to lead the charge.

Jesse Jackson is trying to do that. And to those who are against him, we say lead or get the hell out of the way!

## Crosswinds

# Frye Will Be Missed

From The Carolina Times

The North Carolina Senate is losing a good man. Henry Frye is retiring at the end of his current term.

While we understand his reasons for leaving, we nevertheless bemoan his going. He will be hard to replace.

A man of outstanding intelligence, and uncommon patience, Frye went into the legislative battles clearly committed to championing the ideal of just and even-handed government.

In all his years of public service, we cannot recall any charges against Frye that he was linked to any particular special interest group. That is unless, of course, one considers a special interest that group of fair-minded and clear thinking North Carolinians who think this state and nation should

stand up and live out its creed of liberty and justice for all.

This Saturday past (Aug. 29), many of Frye's colleagues in state government, and many of his comrades-in-arms in this never-ending battle for equal justice, gathered in Raleigh to say good-bye to Sen. Frye and to congratulate him for a job well done.

We take this opportunity to add our voice to the chorus of congratulations, and urge the citizens of North Carolina to set their hearts now to send a strong, staunch replacement to the Senate this November.

North Carolina cannot afford to be long without leaders like Sen. Frye in the halls of government, leaders who, rather than complain about what the situation is, roll up their sleeves and pitch in to make it better.

## Chronicle Letters

# A Victory In Fight Against Sickle Cell

Editor's Note: The following note was addressed to Chronicle Community News Editor Sandra Jackson.

Dear Ms. Jackson:

Thank you very much for the article written this past week in the Winston-Salem Chronicle concerning "Sickle Cell Anemia." You did an excellent job writing it. I wish to thank you for your coverage of the event.

By the way, the events sponsored by the Sophisticated Gents were very successful. Again, thanks! May God bless you!

Dr. Gertrude Brown  
Winston-Salem

## More Gratitude

This letter also was addressed to Ms. Jackson...

Dear Ms. Jackson:

I want to personally thank you for the very insightful, informative and sympathetic article which you wrote for the Pediatric Sickle Cell Program at Bowman Gray School of Medicine. As you may have heard, the Sophisticated Gents and their Women's Auxiliary raised almost \$600 for us with their car wash and fish fry. We feel

## Guest Column

# The Myth Of America's 'Free Society'

By Manning Marable

American politicians and businessmen often refer to this country as "a free society." Corporate power and exploitation is called "free enterprise;" elected officials applaud the "free institutions" of the Congress and the courts. The Soviet Union is attacked as "totalitarian" when it restricts critical commentary about the regime. But from the vantagepoint of grassroots America, the dream of freedom has become a cruel hoax.

How "free" are working people, blacks, Hispanics, the unemployed and the poor in America? For every advance in legislation providing job security, health care and social service benefits, we have witnessed public policy assaults that will increase poverty, disease and unemployment. Well before Reaganism, this country has been moving steadily toward greater inequality, fewer democratic rights and less real "freedom," especially in regards to the criminal justice system.

Let these recent events speak for themselves:

•In December 1981, two million American adults were behind bars or on probation or parole. That amounts to one out of every 83 persons over the age of 18.



that the program is really well underway now.

We thank you for your interest in us, and your article, which surely helped to increase public interest in what we are trying to achieve.

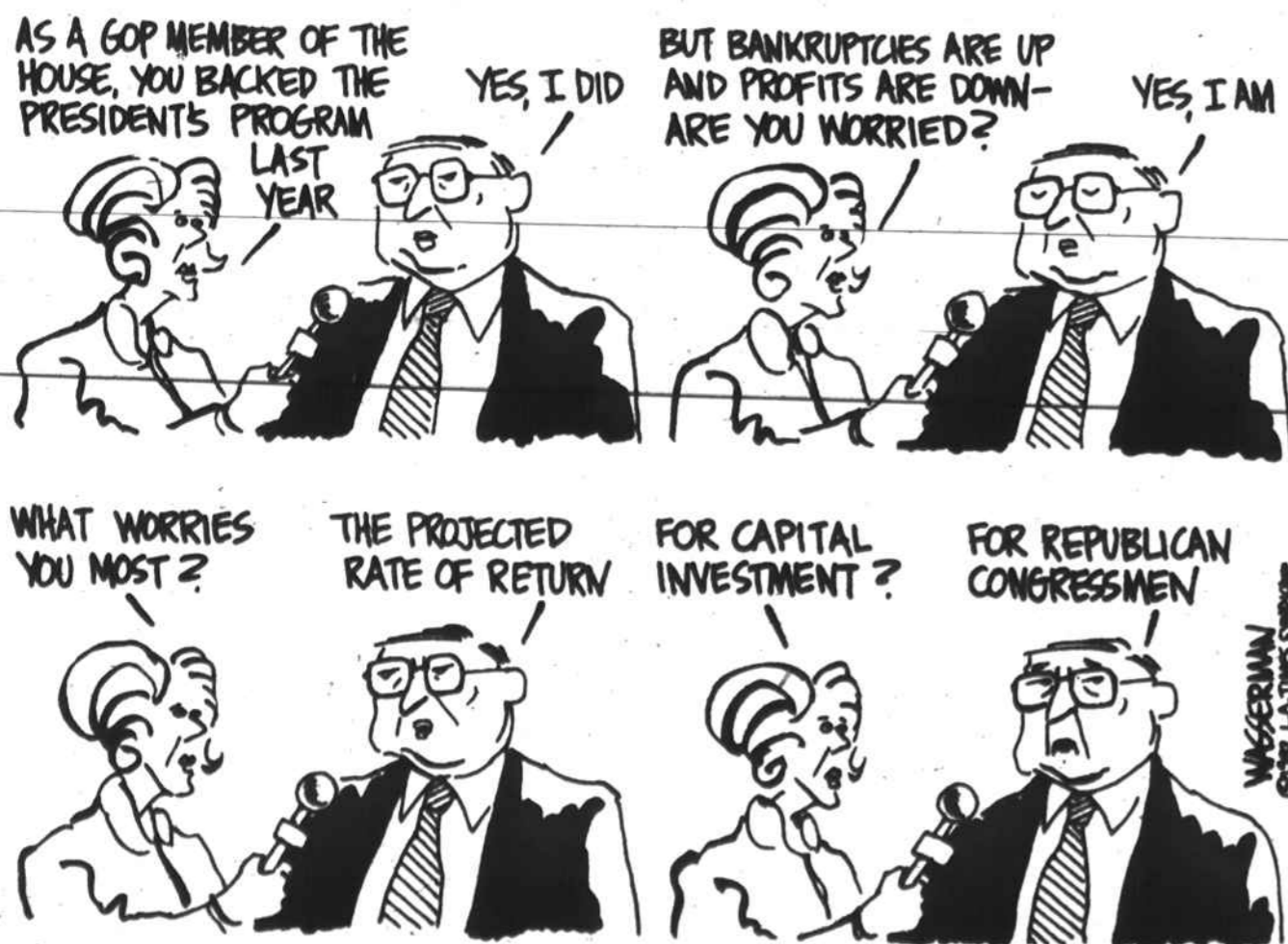
Christine A. Johnson, M.D.  
Director,  
Pediatric Sickle Cell Program  
Bowman Gray School of  
Medicine

## Fun And Fellowship

To The Editor:

The Sunrise Towers Bingo Club and the Winston-Salem Recreation Department wish to extend a hearty thank-you for your generous contributions to our Senior Citizens' Summer Bingo Party. Attached is a copy of our recent affair.

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"There is a direct relationship between racism and punishment. The Southern states have had a long tradition of racist lynchings and legal injustices toward blacks."

history, 1,038 persons. About one-half of these men and women are black. Only 13 percent of the death row prisoners had black victims — while blacks comprise 54 percent of all homicide victims in the U.S.

•There is a direct relationship between racism and punishment. The Southern states have had a long historical tradition of racist lynchings and legal injustices toward blacks. Thus, in our times, it comes as no surprise that 693 of the death row prisoners are currently held in the South. Southern politicians have turned the penitentiaries and criminal justice system

into a virtual "political football" in order to get re-elected. Since January 1979, Florida Governor Bob Graham has signed 32 death warrants, and his state's death row total of 181 is the highest in the country. This May, the Georgia State Senate passed a bill to create a "mobile death wagon." Georgia's electric chair will now be placed literally on wheels, "so condemned criminals can be executed near the scene" of their alleged crimes!

•Mandatory life sentences without the possibility of parole are now ordered with greater frequency. This June, for instance, a 32-year-old black man, Vernon Chapman, was convicted for raping a Louisiana white woman. Chapman took a voluntary lie detector test, which he passed; three witnesses at the trial swore that he was 10 miles away from the scene of the crime when it occurred. An all-white jury gave Chapman "life without parole."

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