

'Distinguished Citizens' named

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dream because I have eight. But this affair tonight gave me an opportunity to see a lot of young men who were my children when I was in Happy Hill Gardens -- and I am so proud of them."

In addition to Eaton, Gaines and Graves, other honorees included, among the Up and Coming Distinguished Citizens, author and poet Maya Angelou, attorney Billy D. Friende Jr., attorney Michael Grace and singer Curtis Hairston.

Receiving Distinguished Citizens awards were R.J. Reynolds Vice President Marshall Bass; contractor George H. Black (deceased); Tiny Tois Kindergarten owner and operator Ernestine Cathcart; dairy products

distributor James Ford; contractor James Grace; businessman Buster Green; local NAACP President Patrick Hairston; former commissioner of the state Department of Corrections Hampton Haith; former head football coach at Livingstone College and North Forsyth Senior High School Baxter Holman (deceased); Black Political Awareness League Chairman Naomi Jones; former teacher and volunteer tutor Cupid Kellum; Chronicle Publisher Ernest Pitt; Winston-Salem State University Director of Student Activities Dr. Manderline Scales; Lincoln Grill owner Helen Thompson; former WSSU player and coach Cleo "Tiny" Wallace (deceased); Community Shoe Shop owner Walter

Washington; Experiment in Self-Reliance Inc. Executive Director Louise Wilson, and County Commissioner Mazie Woodruff.

"The certificates of appreciation that are being given to you can in no way pay for the pleasures you have brought to other lives," said Rip Wilkins, chairman of the Gents' board of directors. "It is just a way of our saying that you are loved and appreciated for stopping by and touching our lives."

Each of the honorees received an engraved plaque, and bouquets of flowers were presented to the mistress of ceremonies, Muttie Evans, owner and general manager of radio station WAAA-AM, and Francis Wright, who

kicked off the evening with "Lift Every Voice and Sing," the black national anthem.

Since the Gents' inception two years ago, the organization has donated \$1200 to the Sickle Cell Clinic at North Carolina Baptist Hospital, presented flowers to elderly residents of Crystal Towers, planned and executed Kids' Day 1983, which attracted more than 1,000 children, and collected and distributed food to needy families during Thanksgiving.

In their own words, "The Sophisticated Gents have initiated a tradition in the community ... to promote brotherhood, achieve self-improvement and provide services to the community."

Chronicle named best weekly in state again

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photos, high-quality reproduction."

In the "Use of Photographs" category, Judge Bill Rail of the *Independent-Appel* in Selmer, Tenn., lauded the *Chronicle* for its "great use of photographs. By far the best effort in the weekly group. James Parker has done an outstanding job with personality photos -- each photo throughout the paper tells the story of what that person is noted (for). Picture usage serves your readers well. Sports

shots are also well used. Parker's pictures in sports are quite outstanding."

Parker won the second-place award in the sports photography category for his picture, "Learning to Lose," which depicted an adult consoling a youngster after a youth football loss. Wrote Judge Bailey Leopard of the *Williamson Leader* in Franklin, Tenn.: "This is an excellent shot made by a photographer who knows there are picture possibilities after the final whistle has blown."

Chronicle Publisher Ernest H. Pitt said that winning the "General Excellence" award twice makes him especially proud.

"Winning it the second time just solidifies that we are on the right track. Our reporting is good, our layout is good, what we are doing is right," Pitt said.

"I'm extremely flattered about the awards," Pitt added. "They represent all I have been working for for the last 10 years. We made a commitment to quality and ex-

cellence when we started this paper. Even though we started as a tabloid and made errors and people laughed at us, the commitment was there. These awards mean that to some extent we have reached those goals."

Because of the paper's statewide recognition, Pitt said, advertising sales should increase. "It says to advertisers, Corporate America, that we are a quality newspaper and that we serve our community well," he said.

Noted *Chronicle* Executive Editor Allen H. Johnson: "We are very pleased and we think it is a testimony to how hard our staff works and that we are committed to doing the best job we possibly can."

Still, Johnson said, there is always room for improvement.

"We don't measure ourselves simply against the awards," he said. "We know there are other areas where

we need to improve. I'm excited about what I think we can do in the future."

Said Parker, the paper's only full-time staff photographer, concerning his award: "I am thankful that God allowed me to make a contribution here and I think it's a testimony to our entire staff, especially our reporters. A lot of times they give me the best photo ideas."

Said Johnson concerning Parker: "I am especially happy for James Parker because he is our only photographer and has to shoot everything under the sun. For him to handle that volume and turn in such high-quality results says a lot about him. In fact, that's the philosophy of our whole staff.... Everybody played a role in getting these awards."

The *Chronicle* is the first and only black weekly to win awards in the contest.

Bill Tatum From Page A1

black and white folk.

I just don't believe I was put on this earth just to sit here and be a dummy. I have some knowledge and I feel a personal need to pass it on.

Chronicle: As manager of Skyline Village Apartments, what steps do you think the city needs to take to make more affordable, decent housing available?

Tatum: Low-income housing has gotten away from its purpose of dealing with fixed-income people. The landlords just decided they couldn't make it. And if the government cuts back on the Section 8 subsidized housing program, black people will have no place to live. They will have to pitch tents outdoors.

What the city needs to do is identify first of all where they want to put housing and to identify if housing is a priority among all other city functions. The city also needs to work against slum landlords. There are plenty of neighborhoods in the black community where housing could be placed, but the money for it has not been identified. That's one of the reasons we fought so hard against the bond referendum.

Chronicle: Was the lack of affordable housing the only thing that prompted you to go against the bonds?

Tatum: That was one of the three things that prompted me to go against the bonds. The industrial park (to be located near Winston-Salem State University) and the construction at the Convention Center are the other two. The industrial park would displace a number of homeowners and the city has not indicated if the companies there would do co-ops with Winston-Salem State University students.

As for the Convention Center, it would not employ, after construction, any more Black top administrators (than it does now). We would probably get more blacks in custodial and non-skilled jobs, but that's not what our black college students are going to school for. I could not see pouring \$15 million into a convention center at the expense of the taxpayers just to make it competitive.

Chronicle: Despite the dislikes you have for the \$35 million bond package, its proponents say it was needed for progress in Forsyth County. How can you make a decision to be against progress?

Tatum: It wasn't difficult to do. First, I have compassion for people and I felt that we, as black people, were being stepped on. And I chose to speak out against what I saw as wrong.

Some black people feel that, when we speak out, we will lose a job. But when you can take a stand for what's right, you will reach the glory in the end. We showed young people that you can go out and take a stand. So many times we talk but have very little action.

Chronicle: You are only 33. Why are people your age and younger getting so deeply involved in the political and economic struggle?

Tatum: People are waking up and feeling what they haven't in the past. People are more educated. The NAACP and the Roundtable have set a precedent in the community, in that we have shown that we are not a group trying to be militant or radical.... But we want our people respected for their intelligence. The young people fighting for the struggle now are not about being leaders. I don't profess to be a leader. I profess to be an advisor.

Chronicle: What impact does a group like the Roundtable have on the black community?

Tatum: The Roundtable and the NAACP are two viable groups. We present the facts to people and get them involved in the reality of thought. In the future, we will be pulling together and banding to form other coalitions.

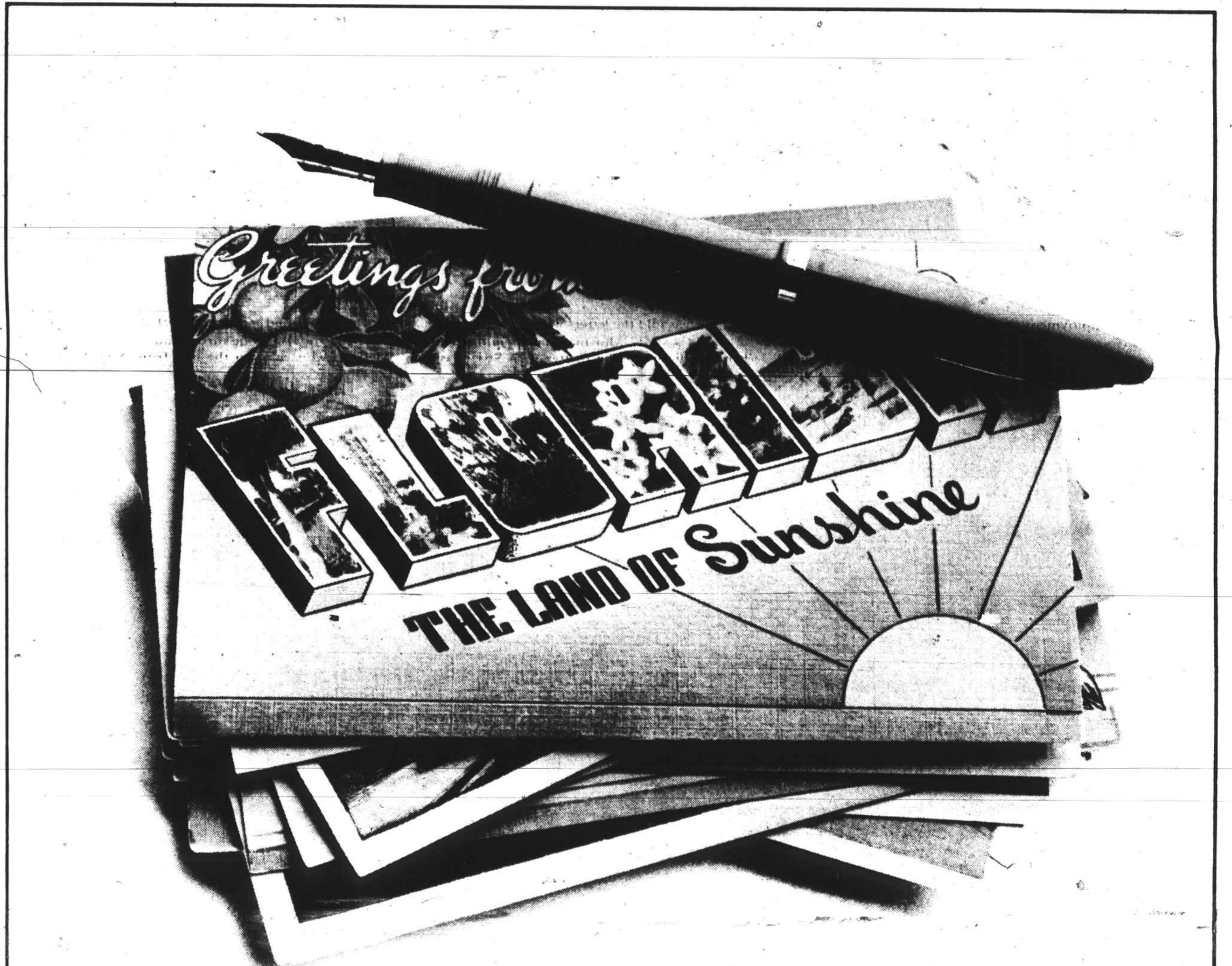
Chronicle: You have said that there is a more educated voter in the black community. What signals is he or she sending to the white power structure?

Tatum: We are telling the white community to quit going to black so-called leaders and using them to pass along inaccurate information and saying that we can be bought off like guinea pigs. We are people who are not afraid and will challenge you. We will stand up against what we feel is not right. We don't want later answers or promises; we want the answers now.

Chronicle: What does the future hold for Bill Tatum?

Tatum: I would like to run for office -- either state House, county commissioner or school board (Tatum later said he would run for school board).

As for community activism, I'll be getting into the Black Leadership Roundtable and holding forums for political candidates. We are presently attending forums, but we need to have those people in the black community and put them on the spot. As it is now, some (elected officials) haven't done anything. They haven't been back to the black community since they were elected and, as a result, we need to bring those people back home.



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