

Dropout mothers who dropped back in are very grateful they did

By RUDY ANDERSON
Chronicle Managing Editor

Once you drop out of high school, it's tough to go back. But some people, who have the will, the motivation, and support, do go back and are glad they did. And for a couple of mothers who have done it, this is especially true. And for their children, their success makes the Mother's Day experience even more meaningful.

There are a lot of stories like that coming from the people who complete the General Educational Development (GED) program at Forsyth Technical Community



Teresa Graham flashes a big smile as she is congratulated by the Rev. William Falls during graduation ceremonies.

College to obtain their high school equivalency certificate. And as this is the season for graduations, so it was for the graduates of the GED program last week.



Xochiquetzal Banks, age 20, waits for her chance to walk across the stage at GED graduation.

For 59-year-old Ruby Ogburn it was a proud moment and the fulfillment of a dream come true. Ogburn dropped out of high school in the 10th grade, 43 years ago. Six grown children, 10 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild later, Ogburn walked across the crowded auditorium of more than 500 friends, family, and guests at the Bolton Street campus to get her certificate.

"I'm proud of myself and what I have accomplished," Ogburn said. She recalled that the reason it was so difficult for her to go back is the same for a lot of people in her situation. She dropped out, got married, went to work and had children. She never really found the time until last year. "It was just something in my soul to do," she said.

"I really dreamed about going back to school and getting my diploma," she said, "one day I saw this ad on television about this DeVry Technical School and had just made up my mind to pay the money, a lot of money I really didn't have, to take the course."

"Then I saw this poster on the bulletin board where I work, where Forsyth Tech was offering a free GED



Ruby Ogburn gets well-deserved congratulations from Forsyth Tech's Glen Fleeman.

class for two hours, twice a week, after work at the job site. I wasn't going to let that opportunity pass by."

Ogburn has been employed with Burns Aereosat, a manufacturer of airline seats, for 19 years. It is one of several companies where GED classes are being offered to their workers.

Ogburn said she is now thinking about taking some other courses, saying if she could do this, she can go farther.

Going farther is on 25-year-old Teresa Graham's mind too. She dropped out high school in her senior year. "I needed four units to graduate, but at that time in 1984, I thought I needed to devote my time to taking care of my daughter who was two years old at that time," Graham said.

Getting her diploma, she said, makes her feel a lot better about herself and about her future. "I feel halfway complete now. Every year, after I dropped out, I tried to go back to school and would get discouraged. The only job I could get was doing housework and there was no place for me to go," she said.

"I couldn't apply for other jobs that were available where I work because I didn't have a diploma. So I decided to go back and stick with it. I prayed real hard," she said, "and I passed. I guess God wanted me to pass and I feel whole lot better about myself."

Graham, who works as a housekeeper for a local private hospital, said she sees young people coming in all the time who have dropped out of school. She said she tells them to take a look at her and see what their future is likely to be without an education, a dead-end job and no prospects.

But Graham now has other plans to continue her education. "I want to enroll in Wake Forest Law School in the next four years. But first I'm going to Forsyth Tech and take two paralegal courses. That will give me some idea if law is something I really want to do," she said.

In the last six months more than 250 people have completed the GED course. Approximately 80 graduates took part in the graduation ceremony last week. County Commission chair, John Holleman, was the keynote speaker.

GED and Adult Basic Education Classes are being offered in 16 East Winston and downtown locations around the city this summer starting May 28 and 29.

The following is a list of those locations: Fifth Street Library, East Winston Library

- Cleveland Community Center
- M.L. King Recreation Center
- Union Chapel Baptist Church
- Paisley Middle School
- Happy Hills Recreation Center
- Winston-Salem University
- Shilohian-St. Peters Center
- First Baptist Church
- Experiment in Self-Reliance
- Union Baptist Church
- Goodwill Industries
- Headstart
- Waughtown Baptist Church
- Carver High School

All the classes are free. For more information about registration or sponsoring a literacy class, you are asked to call Forsyth Tech at (919) 760-3273.

Mother of 13 honored by family

The Coleman Family will be honoring Annie A. Carthron on Mother's Day, with a special appearance of the Detroit rap group QTMC, Saturday, May 11. There will be a dinner and Mother's Day program on Sunday, May 12, at True Victory Center, 1400 N. Liberty St. The program speaker will be Pastor Sarah Hauser of True Revelations of Faith Church. Mrs. Carthron's son, the Rev. Daniel Coleman, is the pastor of True Victory Center.

Mrs. Carthron is the mother of 13 children. She has approximately 50 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. She is noted for singing and preaching at the bus stop at Fourth and Liberty Streets, dressed in white with tambourine and cymbals in hand. She is also known for taking children in off the streets to feed or clothe them. Her generosity included visiting the sick at the Katie B. Memorial Hospital. She and her late husband, Elder James Coleman, would often send their children out to the homes of the needy with gifts of food. Mrs. Carthron is married to Robert Carthron.

QTMC, a popular Detroit rap group, is headed by Mrs. Carthron's son, David Coleman. QTMC has been performing for 5 years and have been featured in many newspaper and magazine articles. The message of their music is "Say No To Drugs" and "Don't Drive Drunk."



Evangelist Annie Carthron

They will perform at the Cleveland Ave. Public Housing Project at 4 p.m.

What's on your mind?

Can you buy it, if you can't recycle it?

"Hats" Off to Mother's Day

TES Fashions

Sizes to 24

Location: Corner of 5th & Liberty (Across from Downtown Post Office)
Hours: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Terms: Cash, Visa, Mastercard, Discover, Check, TES Open Acct.
724-1580

TIME TO REDECORATE

Tired of winter weary carpet, boring wallcovering, dull vinyl flooring?

Let Precision Interior Designers & Sales Staff Assist with Redecorating for Spring.

Hundreds of new colors & styles with prices for any budget.



Hardwood Floors
Bruce 3/4"
Urethane Finish
Compare at 15.00 sq. ft.
Sale \$3.25 sq. ft.

Carpet
Textured (trackless) or Saxony (Plush) Any Color, Any Price
Sale \$5.99 sq. yd. & up

Vinyl Flooring
Armstrong Designer Solarian II
Roll Balance —
1/2 Price 16.50 sq. yd.
Sizes 6x20 to 6x44
Remnants — 11.00 sq. yd.
Sizes 6x5 to 6x20

PRECISION
Decorating Center

2701 Peters Creek Pkwy • 785-3625

Mon., Thurs. 8 to 8; Tues., Wed. 8 to 6; Fri. 8 to 6; Sat. 9 to 5

EAST WINSTON

1. Model Pharmacy
2. Pic'N'Pay (Claremont)
3. Laundry Center (Claremont)
4. Brown's Beauty
5. Etna Gas
6. Great American Foods
7. Smith Cleaners
8. Reynolds Health Center
9. Sunrise Towers

NORTHEAST

10. Merita Breadbox
11. Record Boutique
12. Minit Market (27th & Liberty)
13. Salem Seafood
14. Fairview Cleaners
15. Silver Front Cleaners

OGBURN STATION

34. Laundry Center (Old Rural Hall Rd.)
35. Paragon Food Center

NORTHWEST

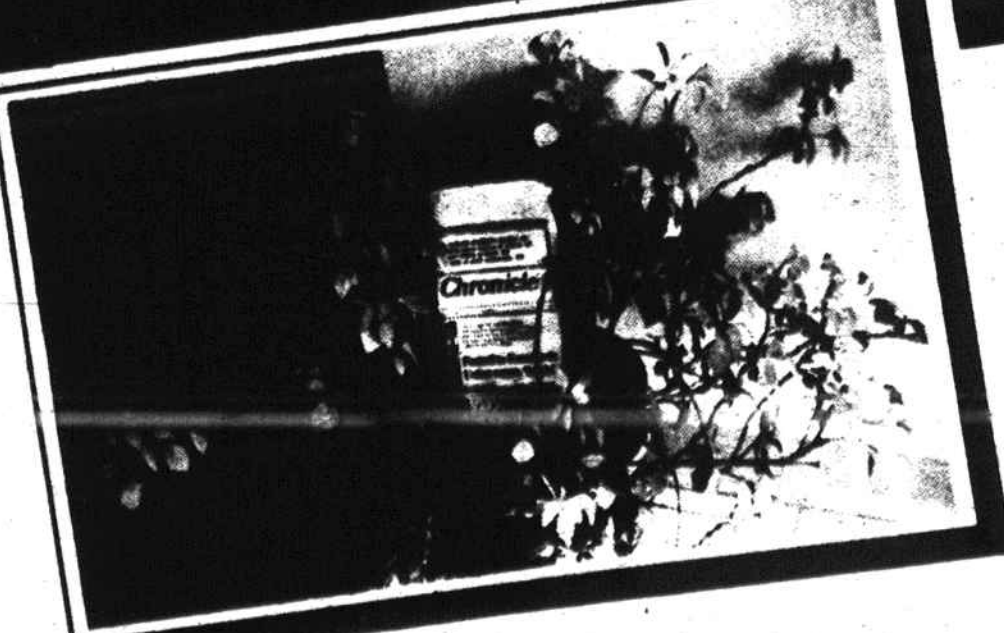
36. Etna Gas
37. N.W. Blvd. Pantry
38. Hazel's Beauty
39. Real Food Bakery
40. Ray's Fish
41. Joe's Shop Rite (Patterson)
42. Great American Foods
43. A Cleaner World
44. Brown's Produce
45. Ervin's Beauty
46. Bojangles

66. Paw's Grocery
67. Amoco (Fourth & Broad)
68. Hop-In (First St.)
69. Food Fair (First St.)
70. Baptist Hospital
71. Amoco (Cloverdale)
72. Kroger
73. Hop-In (Stratford Rd.)
74. Papers & Paperbacks (Hanes Mall)
75. Crown Drugs (Hanes Mall)
76. Forsyth Hospital

SOUTHSIDE

77. Rainbow News
78. Crown Drugs (Peters Creek)

The Winston-Salem Chronicle is
Closer Than You Think



available at these locations:

16. Gulf Gas
17. Mama Chris
18. Jamal's Grocery
19. Chandler's
20. Westbrook's
21. Minit Market (27th & Liberty)
22. Chick's Drive Inn
23. Mack's Grocery
24. 3 Girls (Northampton)
25. Shop Rite (Northampton)
26. A Cleaner World (Carver Rd.)
27. Carver Food
28. Joe's Shop Rite (Bowen)
29. Garfett's (311)
30. Wilco Gas (311)
31. Garden Harvest
32. Bernard's
33. Jones' Grocery
47. Northside Fish Market
48. Eckerd Drugs
49. I Stop Food (Akron Dr.)
50. Food Fair (Patterson Ave. Exit)
51. Motel 6
52. Winn-Dixie
53. Ticked Pink Cleaners (Cherry St.)
54. Food Lion (University Plaza)
55. Fast Fare (Cherry St.)
56. Maytag Laundry (Cherry St.)
57. Forest Hills Curb Market
58. RJR World Headquarters
59. Jimmy the Greek
60. Fast Fare (30th St.)
61. Super X Drugs
62. K&W (Coliseum)
63. Golden Comb
64. Best Bookstore (Reynolds Shop. Ctr.)
65. Mr. T

79. Marketplace
80. Gulf Gas (S. Broad St.)
81. Garden Harvest
82. Post Office (Waughtown Station)
83. Hop-In (Stadium Dr.)
84. Revco Drugs
85. Belview House
86. Gold Fish Bowl
87. Joe's Shop Rite (S. Main)

DOWNTOWN

88. Chronicle Office
89. Lincoln Barber
90. Post Office
91. Benton Convention Center
92. Cecelia's (Hyatt House)
93. Rite-Aid
94. Revco
95. NCNB Building
96. Wachovia (Main St.)
97. RJR Plaza
98. Brown's Restaurant
99. Forsyth Seafood
100. Sanitary Barber Shop