

# Scouting is a family tradition for the Murray family

BY PAUL COLLINS  
THE CHRONICLE

Scouting is in M.C. Murray Jr.'s blood.

His father, M.C. Murray Sr., helped bring Negro Boy Scouting to Winston-Salem and organized a full scouting program at Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Murray Jr.'s mother, Winona, was on the Girl Scout Committee at the church. Murray Jr. and his six sisters were all involved in scouting when they were growing up and went on to become scout leaders. Murray's wife, Barbara, is a den mother and their only child, daughter Ta Tansa, was a Girl Scout growing up and today is a Girl Scout leader in Lakeland, Fla.

Murray Jr. said that when he was growing up, "We had a full scouting family. At home, it was

like a Scout lesson every day — doing things helping others, (learning the importance of) being out in nature."

It all started in 1931 when a group of men decided to bring Negro Boy Scouting to Winston-Salem. The men were: E.F. Wilson, William Crawford, F. Newell, J.A. Carter, W.H. Stepp, E.M. Mitchell, R.W. Puryear, A.H. Anderson, D.H. Banks, Weymon Strong and M.C. Murray Sr., who was probably the youngest of the group, his son said.

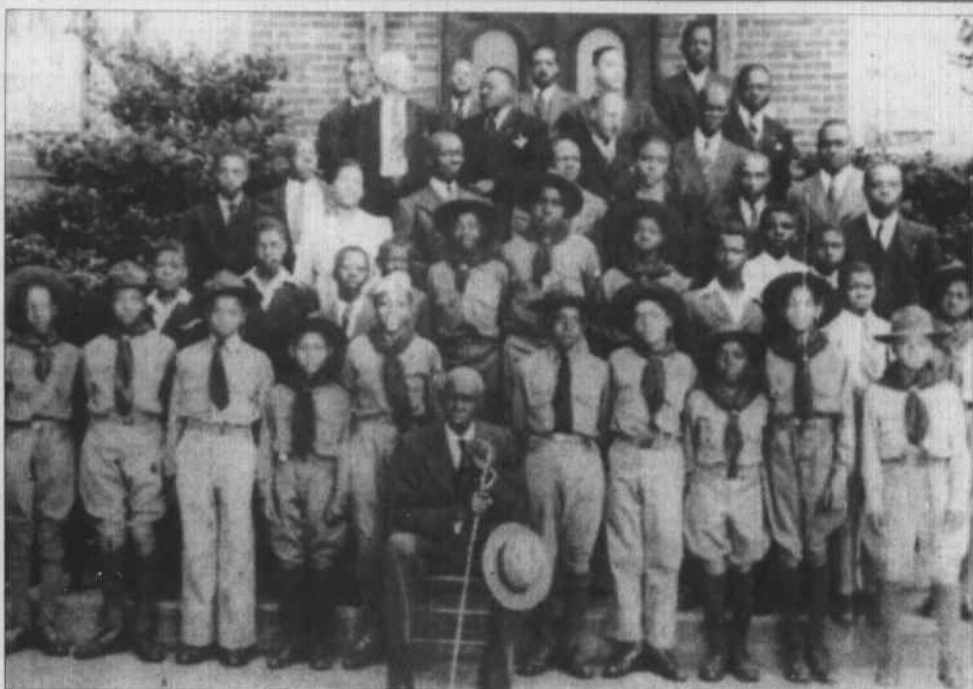
The first Negro Boy Scout troop in Winston-Salem was organized in 1931 by T.F. Poag and G.F. Newell at First Baptist Church in East Winston. It was Boy Scout Troop 68.

In 1939, Mount Zion Baptist Church became the second black

church in Winston-Salem to establish a Negro Scouting program, but its program was a full scouting program — Cub Scout Pack 69, Boy Scout Troop 66 and Explorer Post 164. Members of the Scout Committee were R.W. Puryear (chairman), F.L. Poindexter, T.W. Wilson, Monroe Falls, John L. Moore, Scoutmaster M.C. Murray Sr. and Assistant Scoutmaster Chester Latimore.

"In 1939 we produced our first Eagle Scout (James Stokes)," Murray Jr. said. "That's the highest honor a young man can receive."

"My father worked diligently with the Scout program and also with the Girl Scout program," Murray Jr. said. Murray Sr. was instrumental in establishing a black Girl Scout troop — the first



1942-43 Scout Troop 69 of Mount Zion Baptist Church

Photo courtesy of Winston-Salem Delta Fine Arts Inc.

in Winston-Salem — at Mount Zion Baptist in the 1940s. Murray Jr. said that his sisters encouraged their father to start a Girl Scout troop because they saw how much fun the boys were having in scouting.

Murray Sr. received the Silver Beaver Award, the highest honor a volunteer can receive, in November 1958. He served these positions in Boy Scouts' Old Hickory Council: a member of the divisional committee from 1939-58, scoutmaster of Troop 69 from 1939-43, a neighborhood commissioner from 1947-55, assistant divisional commissioner from 1953-55.

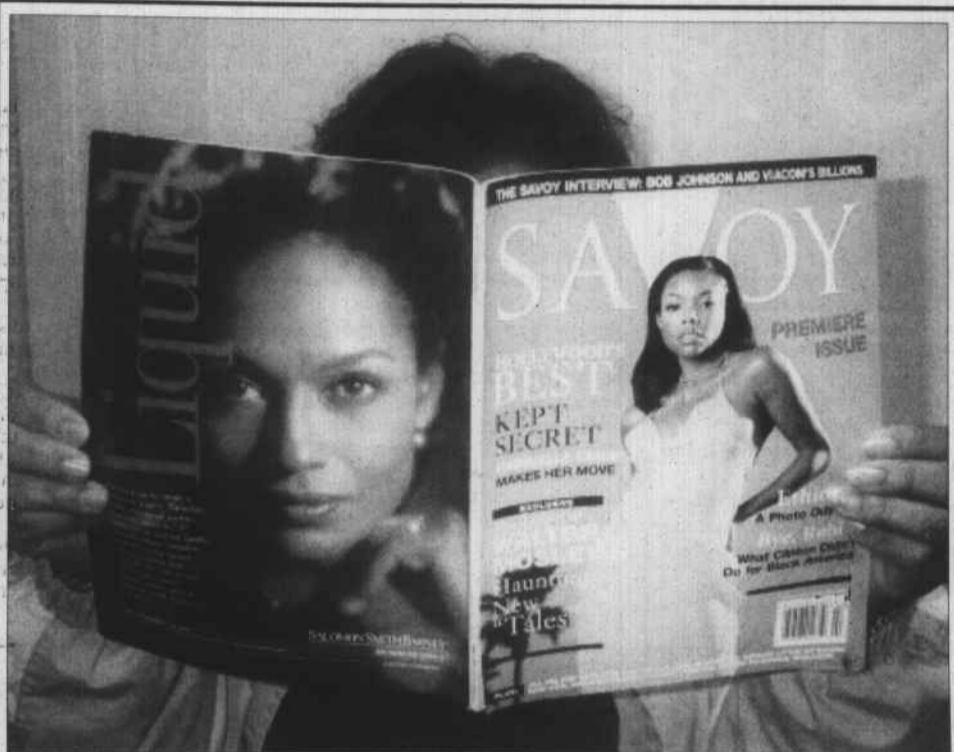
"My dad was also asked to be a professional scouter; he took all the training a professional scouter could take," Murray Jr. said.

Although he loved scouting, Murray Sr. turned down the offer to become a professional scouter because it paid less than his job as R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. and he had a family to support. (Murray Sr. retired from Reynolds in 1967 with 43 years of



Cubmaster M.C. Murray Jr. works with some of the current members of Cub Scout Pack 869, Den 1, on arts and crafts.

See Scouting on D10



New magazine is designed for sophisticated readers.

## Vanguard Media launches Savoy Magazine

*Life and style publication promises to be the smart, provocative voice of today's new black power*

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

**NEW YORK** — Vanguard Media Inc. CEO Keith Clinkscales and Editorial Director Roy S. Johnson announced recently the launch of SAVOY, a new general-interest life and style magazine aimed at successful, affluent and educated black men and women 25-54.

Named for the famed Savoy Ballroom from the days of the Harlem Renaissance, Savoy was conceived by Johnson, who also serves as the magazine's editor-in-chief.

"Savoy is aimed at today's New Black Power generation," said Johnson. "It will be a smart, engaging and provocative new voice in the marketplace."

The premiere issue, released last month, features an array of noted writers and journalists, including authors Benilde Little ("Good Hair") and Jill Nelson ("Straight, No Chaser; Police Brutality"); and syndicated columnists Deborah Mathis and Armstrong Williams. In the magazine's biggest coup, famed author Walter Mosley has created a new serial that will appear exclusively in SAVOY. The "Tempest Tales" was penned in homage to Langston Hughes' "Simple Stories," which were published in the Chicago Defender from the 1940s through the 1960s. "Tempest Tales" debuted in the premier issue with "Life and Death." Subsequent stories will appear in each issue of SAVOY.

"I'm just lucky that they could see the contemporary value of my 'Tempest Tales' and at the same time understand the history of the form," said Mosley.

SAVOY's contributing editors include several prominent individuals, as well. Among them: jazz artist Branford Marsalis; health specialist Ian K. Smith, M.D.; and Marcus Samuelsson, master chef and part-owner of Aquavit, widely recognized as the top Swedish restaurant in the nation.

Johnson also contributes to the debut issue with an exclusive interview with BET CEO Robert Johnson, who reveals the inside details of the historic \$3 billion sale of the cable network to media giant Viacom.

"We are extremely excited about the opportunity to publish SAVOY," said Johnson, who first

conceived of the magazine concept six years ago as an editor at Time Inc. "I truly believe it will establish a new paradigm in magazine publishing, particularly for African Americans, because of our sophisticated approach to ideas, design, photography and the written word. "As many people in the industry know, SAVOY has long been a dream of mine. To see this dream become a reality is truly a blessing for me and the SAVOY team. We hope our readers will feel the same."

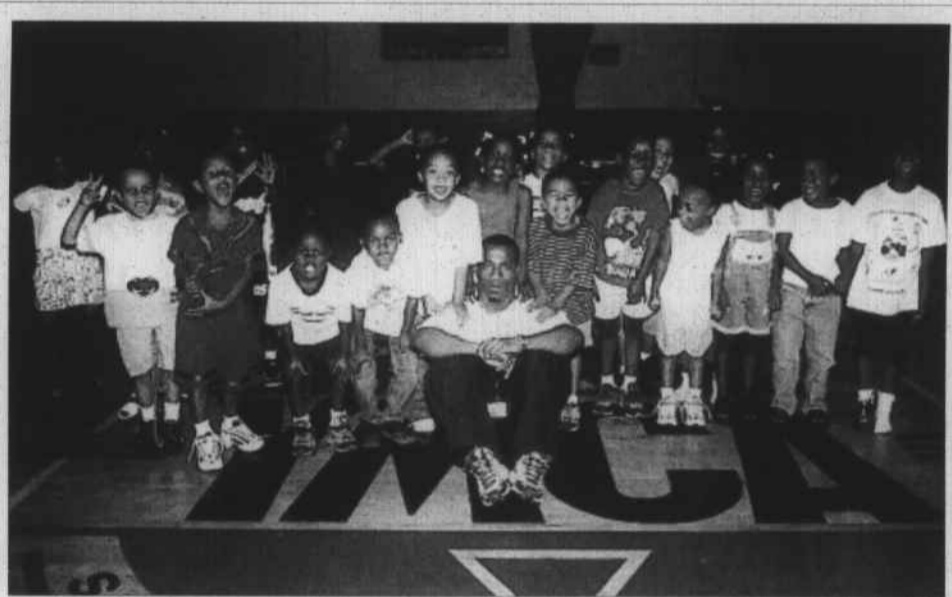
For the premiere issue's cover story — "Hollywood's Best-Kept Secret" — SAVOY's editors chose to feature a rising star: hot young film actress Gabrielle Union. The story, written by Mema Ayi, reveals a talented woman on the verge of stardom who, despite a traumatic and violating experience several years ago, has emerged as a fighter, a survivor and a winner.

Veronica Chambers, the magazine's executive editor, said, "SAVOY will not only feature the elite in Hollywood, business, the arts, politics and other circles, we'll also expose our readers to people, both known and less familiar, who exemplify what the publication is all about — power, substance and style."

SAVOY will be published 10 times annually.

"We are infinitely proud of what we're bringing the urban culture in SAVOY," said Keith Clinkscales. "By all accounts, we're off to a good start. We have a significant circulation to start, and the premiere issue has more than 50 pages of advertising from a number of top financial services, transportation, insurance and telecommunications companies." He said, "We look forward to being a positive and strong force in this industry and, over the long run, establishing a new legacy in black media."

Vanguard Media Inc. (VMI) creates and distributes world-class media for the urban marketplace. The company owns Honey, a fashion and entertainment magazine aimed at stylish urban women; Heart & Soul, a vibrant living magazine for black women; Impact, a trade weekly; and Savoy, a general interest life and style magazine. VMI also owns and manages the Impact Super Summit, an annual entertainment industry conference. VMI's investors include BET Holdings II Inc. and the Provender Capital Group, LLC.



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And coming in the summer of 2001— Fulton Family YMCA (Northern Forsyth County) and the Yadkin Family YMCA (Yadkinville)