

Top Radio Personality

Eugene "Genial Gene" Potts

Is "Taking It Easy"

By Teresa Burns
Post Staff Writer



"Genial Gene" Potts
...talented disc-jockey

master of ceremonies at local churches and social events. In fact, he grew so popular he became one of the most sought after master of ceremonies in many regions.

According to Potts, "My career took me through 23 states."

Many governmental heads have recognized him as a leader. He was one of a few blacks to be invited to the Visitors Gallery by the 51st U.S. Congress. In 1949 the late Gov. Cherry elect-

ed him chairman of the council to eradicate functional illiteracy in North Carolina.

As principal of Billingsley Elementary School and officer in Potts-Murphy Life Insurance Co., Potts strengthened his leadership role in the community.

He has served as president of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and has been cited by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce for meritorious service.

Not only has Potts sought to improve the community, but his endeavor to improve himself has resulted in the 32nd Degree Mason honor. He is also the former Director of Education and past exalted ruler of Ramesse Temple Number 51.

This is only a glimpse of Eugene Potts. The most important thing to remember is that the voice once heard on WGIV belongs to a man of undeniable distinction.

A good man is hard to find.

It seems that this statement is on the lips of more women than ever before. In order to understand why this is so, one must first examine a few very basic facts.

For instance, even though it is true that more male infants are born than female, it is also true that the females live longer. Hence, there are just more women in the world than men.

This brings us to the obvious conclusion that if one were somehow able to pair off the whole world into nice neat male-female couples, there would be a good surplus of single women left over.

This fact is especially pertinent to single Black women since they outnumber single Black men about three to one. To some of these women it appears that the marriageable man is rapidly becoming an endangered species.

The Vietnam war took away a lot of men, some are in prison, some are homosexual, and a great many are already married. One must also take into

Single Women Must Exert Own Interest

consideration the reality of changing lifestyles. Women's liberation and open marriage are taking their toll on conventional female-male relationships.

Many single men prefer to indulge in relationships with women who are already married because they feel safe in that they can avoid the responsibility that marriage or a total emotional commitment brings. So once again, the single woman is left out in the cold. This is especially true if she, in turn, does not want to get involved in a potentially hurtful situation by dating a married man.

As women become more educated and many start to earn wages equivalent to that of men, they are less willing to remain satisfied with a man who provides nothing more than financial security. Their expectations rise.

They start to look for qualities such as intelligence, sensitivity and sexual compatibility. They look for someone who shares their interests.

When faced with these problems, what is a single woman to do? The situation

is not as bleak as it might seem. This woman owes it to herself to be the best that she can possibly be. She must live up to her full potential. She should do this in order to boost her own sense of pride, self-esteem and well-being, not just to "catch a husband."

This may call for a major change in lifestyle. The time that might normally be spent on a relationship with a man can be used to get to know herself, to explore her own interests and to assert her own standards and preferences.

She can fill her world with hobbies, exercise, music and with meaningful relationships with friends of her own sex. She should not isolate herself. She needs her friends. All of this can occupy her time until she discovers someone who is right for her.

She can also use her free time to bolster her self-image and to shore up her own personal values system.

For example, she might try exercise to get her body in shape. She can jog every morning or take a dance class. Her appearance will benefit her as well as her

mind. Joining a discussion group could prove helpful. Listening to other people articulate their feelings could help her to recognize and express her own.

She could go places where she is likely to meet the type of man who ap-

peals to her. If she makes the effort to pursue what she wants in life, then she will look like someone who is having a

great time. It is safe to assume that she will then have no trouble at all in attracting others to her.

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Lung Cancer On Rise

For Black Women?

Between 1973 and 1977, the rate of lung and bronchus cancers in Detroit area women rose 39 percent and the death rate, 36 percent, reveals a trend report prepared by the Michigan Cancer Foundation.

In Black women, the increase was more pronounced for the years 1973 through 1977 - a 63 percent jump in incidence and a 77 percent higher death rate.

"Smoking is the villain here," said Dr. Michael J. Brennan, president and medical director of the Michigan Cancer Foundation. "women do not have some special immunity to lung cancer. Rates for women were low because large numbers of women had not been smoking for 20 years. As the new statistics illustrate, that's no longer true."

The rate of lung and bronchus cancer is consistently higher in Detroit than in other areas surveyed. During the years 1973 through 1976, Detroiters experienced six percent more cases and 11.4 percent more deaths from lung and bronchus cancer than residents of other areas surveyed.

Lung and bronchus cancer accounted for 16.5 percent of the 12,857 cancers reported in 1977, or 2,128

cases. Although the sharp increase was noted among women, men experienced 72 percent of all lung and bronchus cancers.

Black males show the highest rate of incidence at 110 cases per 100,000 of population, and a mortality rate of 101.3 deaths per 100,000 of population and 73.4 deaths per 100,000 of population.

For white women the 1977 rate was 24.5 cases per 100,000 of population and 19.2 deaths. Black women experienced a 34.9 incidence rate and a 28.5 mortality rate.

The Michigan Cancer Foundation report is a trend analysis of incidence, mortality and survival of all cancer cases reported in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

Democratic Women's Club Plans Luncheon

Democratic Women's Club's annual winter luncheon will be held on Saturday, February 9, 12 noon, at the Myers Park Country Club.

The luncheon speaker will be State Representative Patricia Hunt, who is now serving her 4th term from the 17th District. She is an attorney practicing in Chapel Hill. She earned A.B., M.A., and J.D. degrees from UNC-Chapel Hill and was Phi Beta Kappa. Before becoming an attorney, she was a teacher and guidance counselor. She serves as chair of the Judiciary III Committee, vice-chair of the Board of Governors of the Greater University, and serves on several other important legislative committees. In 1978 she was voted "Most Influential Female Legislator" by her colleagues in the legislature, registered lobbyists, and the press. She was "Woman of the Year in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Area" in 1977, and in 1978 was voted one of the 5 most outstanding citizens in the last 25 years in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Area.

The luncheon this year will honor our elected women officials. The women to be honored include State Senator Carolyn Mathis; State Representatives Louise Brennan, Ruth Easterling and Jo Graham Foster; County Commissioner Liz Hair; City Council members Betty Chafin and Laura Frech; Board of Education members Betsy Bennett, Pat Lowe and Carrie Winter; and District Court Judge Daphne Cantrell.

Georgia Lewis is chair of this event. Telephone reservations for the luncheon may be placed with Cathy Hughes at 588-0133 and Margaret McLaughlin at 596-0845.

Sickle Cell Association Plans Meetings

The association For Sickle Cell Disease has implemented a program to provide educational presentations concerning Sickle Cell Disease and Sickle Cell Trait for the residents of the Community Development Target Areas. Two such services have been scheduled: The first session will be held on February 9, at 2 p.m., at the Gethsemane A.M.E. Zion Church, at 531 Campus Street for the residents of the Five Points Area.

The second session will be held for the residents of the North Charlotte Area on Wednesday, February 27, at 3:30 p.m., at the Johnston Memorial YMCA, 225 North Davidson St. The public is invited to attend both of the programs. The admission is free.

Sickle Cell Anemia is an inherited disease which affects Black Americans and other ethnic cultures such as Sicilians, Greeks, Turks, Africans, Asiatic Indians, and West Indians.

Individuals who are descendants of these different ethnic groups can also carry the Sickle Cell Trait. If an individual has the trait, then he is not considered to be ill but merely a carrier.

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