



ATTORNEY MASIE B. FERGUSON
...Mrs. Bethune's grandniece

Atty. Masie Ferguson Is Blackberry Brunch Speaker

By Karen Parker
Post Staff Writer

Attorney Masie B. Ferguson will be the keynote speaker at the second annual blackberry brunch sponsored by the Black Women's Caucus.

Ella Talley, president of the organization, recently announced Attorney Ferguson as the speaker. The theme for the 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. brunch is "Once Upon A Yesterday." It will be held Saturday, June 23 in McDonald's Cafeteria. Attorney Ferguson is the grandniece of Mary McLeod Bethune, the founder of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

A native of Sumter, S.C. the attorney is a graduate of Lincoln High School and received her degree in English from South Carolina State College. In 1978, Mrs. Ferguson obtained the Juris Doctor Degree from the University of South Carolina. In November, 1978 she was admitted to the South Carolina Bar. Now she is also a member of the United States District Court for the State of South Carolina and the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth District.

Attorney Ferguson revealed her career experiences varied before she demonstrated her expertise in the legal field in the late 70's. It wasn't until after the civil rights movement occurred in her home state that Mrs. Ferguson returned from New York to South Carolina, and sought a legal career.

One of her first endeavors once she returned to South Carolina was both politically and legally oriented. She served in Dorchester county as voter registration organizer with the Congress of Racial Equality. Later she worked at Palmetto Legal Services as a law clerk, staff attorney, managing attorney. After serving in those

positions, she was promoted to executive director of the 12-county legal agency.

Attorney Ferguson is the author of "In the Best Interests of the Child?" The material is a study of adoption and foster care in South Carolina. She once served as guardian ad litem for children who are brought before family court.

Serving on the state association's indigent committee, Attorney Ferguson is also a member of the American Bar Association, Civitan Club, Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce and holds the 8th degree in the National Order of the Tents. She is a soror of Zeta Phi Beta, and a deaconess at Ridgewood Baptist Church.

Named the 1981 Woman of the Year by her church, and honored for outstanding leadership by the National Clients Council, Attorney Ferguson is well known for her volunteerism with civic and community organizations. The mother of one child, Lei Antoinette, is a Woodrow Wilson Foundation fellow finalist. She is married to Daniel Ferguson Jr.

Mrs. Talley explained the blackberry brunch originated as a fundraiser and as a way for more community people to become familiar with the Black Women's Caucus. "We're working hard to build our organization," Mrs. Talley noted. She stated the turnout for the first blackberry brunch was good, and expects this year's participation to be even greater.

Black Women's Caucus is a 10-year-old organization that addressed health, housing and any other issues that need special attention particularly among blacks and poor people.

Talley explained there are several entities which

claim to be addressing these needs. "Because our members are black, we feel we can relate to the problems of blacks better than anyone else," Talley commented.

Black Women's Caucus is a non-partisan group. To purchase tickets to the brunch in advance telephone Talley at 372-0675 or contact any other member of the Black Women's Caucus. The donation is \$10 per person.

The officers in the Black Women's Caucus are president, Ella Talley; vice-presidents, Charlotte Hampton and Mattie Caldwell; recording secretary, Dorothy Crockett; assistant secretary, Helena Cunningham; corresponding secretary, Linda Wright; Theresa Elder, treasurer; Sue Huntley, parliamentarian.

School Of The Arts To Hold Benefit

The Board of Directors of the Community School of the Arts will host a Benefit on Sunday, June 24, from 6-8 p.m. at Charlie & Barney's, Independence Center on Tryon Street.

Entertainment will be provided by The Loois McGlohon Trio and all proceeds will benefit the school's scholarship fund. Tickets to the wine and cheese reception are \$7.50 per person, which can be purchased at CSA's office, 200 West Trade Street. For further information, call 377-4187.

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Ticks: So Small, And Yet So Deadly

Each year more cases of Rocky Mountain Spotted fever (RMSF) are reported in North Carolina than anywhere in the United States.

A deadly disease, RMSF is transmitted by the bite from an infected tick. Most cases occur during the spring and summer months when people are more likely to be outdoors and may be exposed to ticks.

If the disease is detected early, it can be treated with antibiotics and may cause little more discomfort than a common cold. If untreated or undiagnosed, it can be fatal within a few weeks.

The symptoms for RMSF and those for the flu are similar - headaches, chills, and muscle aches. But you will run a higher fever with RMSF (102 degrees or higher). With RMSF, you will also experience

blurred vision and sensitivity to light.

In the more advanced stages of RMSF, you may notice a rash on your wrists and ankles. This rash is the result of tiny blood vessels bleeding.

In the final stages of the

disease, major bleeding occurs in the vital organs - kidney, liver, and brain.

Be cautious. If you experience a high fever and body aches during the spring and summer months, check with a doctor to find out if you have the disease

or just a cold or flu.

To find out more about RMSF and precautions you can take to guard against the disease, call (704) 379-6052 for a free brochure or write to the Public Relations Department, Mercy Hospital.

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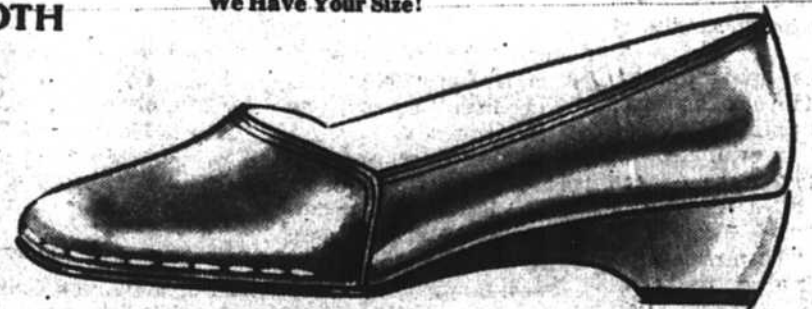
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