

## Second Ward Alumni Set Golden Years Reunion

Second Ward High School is no longer a physical structure, but it is enshrined in the hearts and minds of its alumni. During the weekend of July 5-7 alumni will have an opportunity to see these "ol' buddies" they haven't looked up in years at a Golden Years reunion.

Because of people like William Henry Swift, alumni president, members of the class of 1934-45 will celebrate their Golden Years with pride and style. Diverse and interesting activities have been planned, according to Laura Kearns.

A banquet on Friday, July 5, will feature a member of the class as speaker and the recognition of outstanding achievers in education, community involvement, business, and leadership.

A time of fellowship with classmates and friends will follow.

Then on Sunday, July 7, the class will worship at the First United Presbyterian Church at 11 a.m. Rev. Curtis A. Kearns, retired minister, class of 1935, will deliver the sermon. Rev. Kearns received the Distinguished Achievement Certificate, awarded by the faculty and student body of Second Ward High School, and a citation of merit certifying induction into the Second Ward Hall of Fame on June 6, 1968.

A Memorial Service will follow with Helen Alexander presiding. A reception at Johnson C. Smith University Student Union Sunday, July 7, will be held at 4 p.m. This reception will honor former teach-

ers who gave tirelessly of their energy, understanding, and talents to help mold the future of the members of both classes.

The public is invited to participate in this event.

There are over 200 members of the 1934-35 class of Second Ward, then the only black school in Charlotte. Students came from every Ward and area. They were nurtured and supported educationally and spiritually by the same teachers in the public schools and also in church schools.

The influence of the members of the class of 1934-35 has radiated to all corners of the state of North Carolina and other parts of the country as well. The Golden Years have been spent in service to humankind.

Some alumni have filled pulpits of various denominations; countless numbers became educators, nurturing and supporting future generations; the business world has benefitted from the dedication, creativity and vision of other members and a few have served with honor in the armed forces. Still others have contributed to the field of medicine and to the betterment of health care for the communities while other have fought for justice in the field of law. Lives have been enriched through the musical abilities of talented individuals in the class and others lived honest lives striving to better themselves spiritually and constantly giving a helping hand to others.

## "Sing Out Against Hunger" Program Will Be Held Saturday

By Jalyne Strong  
Post Staff Writer

"It's time we stop talking and get together to do something," stresses Rev. James Barnette, barely disguising his anger at what he sees as blacks' disregard for their own plight.

Therefore, in an effort to stimulate blacks to help themselves, Barnette, along with The Feed My Sheep Ministries and The Christian Leadership Outreach Center, will sponsor a "Sing Out Against Hunger" program to be held at West Charlotte High School auditorium on Saturday, June 29, commencing at 8 p.m. The event will feature Kim Witherspoon, The Gospel Jewels, The Voices of Faith, The Stars of Harmony and others. Donations from the program will be directed to the Christian Leadership Outreach Center and will be dispersed among the needy.

But this is only the beginning of what Barnette promises to be an ongoing black self-help list of events. Already in the planning is another Gospel Sing to take place in July, a workshop in August, a youth crusade and city-wide march on hunger scheduled for the fall.

Barnette laments the fact that a large number of blacks are dependent upon government assistance. "We are the only race totally in the pocket of the system," he states. The misuse of government assistance has resulted in a cycle of dependency with black mothers passing on the legacy of welfare to daughters

and they in turn passing it on to their children, according to Barnette.

"But whites are not going to carry blacks anymore," projects Barnette. "Blacks are going to have to come together out of necessity."

At some point in the black self-help crusade, an emphasis will be placed on black-on-black crime also. "We have to discipline our own," relates Barnette. "We really have to address the wrong we do to each other."

"We have not held our black leaders accountable," he adds, pointing at the growing problems affecting black communities. "And if our leaders are not going to do what they should to alleviate these problems, we'll have to get new leaders."

Barnette reveals that it has been his philosophy for years that blacks should be more supportive of themselves. "But now I'm taking a more active and supportive role," he states. "The sun is going down fast and if there is no turn around in this next year for blacks, there will be no future."

He plans to evaluate the progress of the black self-help programs every six months. Barnette hopes that the evaluations will reveal incidences that blacks are beginning to "pool their resources" and that there will be a decrease in black-on-black crime. Ultimately, he envisions at the end of the first six month movement, "two to three thousand young people saying, 'We are taking our destiny into our own hands.'"

## Gov. Martin Proclaims "Community Watch Day"

Raleigh - Governor Jim Martin has proclaimed June 29 as "Community Watch Day" in North Carolina.

"Crime can be prevented in our homes and communities when neighbors get together with neighbors and their local law enforcement agencies," Governor Martin said. "I support the purposes of the (North Carolina Community Watch) Association and consider its efforts a valuable contribution to

state and local law enforcement agencies' crime prevention efforts. We must all work together to prevent crime, because a lack of cooperation only benefits the criminals."



Gov. Martin  
....."Work together"

Governor Martin said that all citizens of North Carolina are victims of crime either directly or

indirectly but that "we do not have to accept crime as inevitable."

Citizens in more than 14,000 neighborhoods and communities and in all 100 counties are working hard to make their homes and communities safer places to live and work, according to Joseph W. Dean, Secretary of the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety. "We have come a long way since Community Watch was started statewide in North Carolina in 1977, and I commend these citizens and the Association for their continued efforts in the program."

North Carolina's program of involving citizens in community crime preventions has served as a guide to the rest of the nation, said

Bruce E. Marshburn, director of the Crime Prevention Division.

The fourth annual Community Watch Day activities will be held at the W. Kerr Scott Pavilion at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds in Raleigh from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Secretary Dean will deliver a key-note address and awards will be presented beginning at 2 p.m. Additionally, approximately 30 law enforcement exhibits will be displayed.

Information about Community Watch Day and the North Carolina Community Watch Association may be obtained from local law enforcement agencies or the Crime Prevention Division at 919-733-5522.



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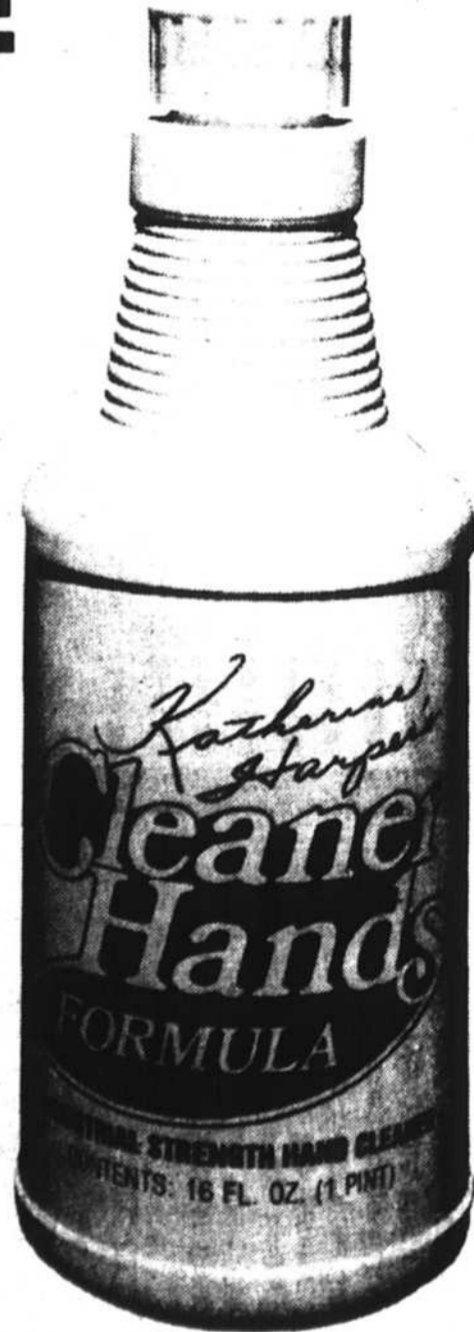
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