

20 Years After Voting Rights Act Blacks Have No Equity

More People Buckling Up As Date Nears For Seat Belt Law

Rev. Wallace Sees Additional Directions For His Ministry



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New Weapon To Battle Highway Patrol Nemesis

State troopers are armed with new weapons to control speeding drivers. The State Highway Patrol has distributed 115 new radar units to its various districts across the state and just in time for the Labor Day holiday.

Colonel Jack Cardwell, Commander of the State Highway Patrol, says, "The Patrol will use all of its resources, both equipment and manpower, to curb the number of traffic deaths. Statistics show that our perpetual nemesis, the drinking and speeding driver, continues to be the leading cause of traffic accidents."

Last year during the Labor Day holiday, 19 people were killed and 930 injured in traffic accidents on North Carolina highways. The number killed in 1984 was the highest death toll for a Labor Day weekend in five years.

The Labor Day holiday officially begins at 5 p.m. Friday, August 30, and ends at midnight Monday, September 1. The holiday traditionally marks the end of the summer vacation season. Interstates and highways are heavily traveled as residents and tourists head to the beaches and mountains for the last long holiday of the season.

County Offices Will Be Closed Monday

County government offices and agencies will be closed Monday, September 2, in observance of Labor Day.

This includes all units of the Department of Social Services, the Health Department, the Tax Office, the Elections Office, and the Register of Deeds Office.

The Board of County Commissioners, which normally meets the first Monday of each month, will meet instead on Tuesday, September 3. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. in the Board Room, fourth floor, Education Center, and will be shown on Channel 42 at 9 p.m. Tuesday.

All branches of the Public Library will be closed for the holiday, beginning Sunday, September 8, the Main Library at 310 N. Tryon St., will resume its normal Sunday schedule and will be open from 2-5 p.m. each Sunday. The library has been closed on Sundays during the summer.

Two of the County's landfills - York Road and Harrisburg Road - will remain open on Labor Day. The Robberson Road Landfill is closed on Mondays.

County parks will be open on Labor Day. This includes McDowell, McQueen Greenway, Latta Plantation, Idlewild Road, Ramsey Creek, and North Mecklenburg.

All of the County's emergency services, including MEDIC, the County Police Department, and the Mental Health Hospital, will operate on a regular schedule.



Attractive Jackie Jeter
....Will achieve her goal!

Jackie Jeter Is An Assistant Buyer At Belk's

By Jalyne Strong
Post Staff Writer

Attractive Jackie Jeter describes herself as "outgoing, very ambitious, a people person, and I talk a heck of a lot," she confesses. And luckily, or maybe by design, these particular personality traits fit very well with her career as an assistant buyer for Belk Store Services.

It's the type of job where Jackie can make important decisions, meet and talk with many people and have her influences felt. "Basically, what I do is meet with vendors and see what they are offering for the upcoming season. Then, it's determined whether the products will be good for the store. The decisions are based on what's happening in the market, what is forecast in trade journals and also the current trends with our customers," explains Jackie. "Good products are recommended to the store."

An accounting graduate of Furman University in Greenville, S.C., Jackie has been with Belk Store Services for one year. She brought to the job prior experience of working as an assistant manager with a clothing store in Spartanburg, S.C.

Jackie's ambition is to become a buyer. "Or even a general merchandise manager," she projects, pointing out that she plans to eventually acquire an MBA in marketing retail management.

She's looking for more "control" over the market, says Jackie. "I'll have more say about what's going on in the market. Vendors will listen to my ideas and there will be additional contact with people."

There's no doubt Jackie will achieve these goals. "I'm very determined," she admits.

Twenty-six-year-old Jackie is a native of Spartanburg, S.C. She has lived in Charlotte for one year and says she enjoys the city. "But it's not as much as everyone says it is," she reveals. "The social life leaves a lot to be desired. Since I moved here, seems as though the places to go have all closed down."

Not discouraged, this week's beauty is content to spend leisure time bike riding, meeting people, and playing board games, such as backgammon, Pente and Trivial Pursuit.

She also enjoys taking in a jazz concert when the occasion arises. She particularly likes Earl King, Grover Washington, and Ronnie Laws.

Jackie comes from a family of all

girls and she's the youngest with three sisters, Patricia, Floretta and Gloria. "I don't mind being the youngest," claims Jackie, "because I've learned from their mistakes." She and her sisters are very close, says Jackie. When they were younger they all sang together. But the world missed out on another sensational, singing sisters ensemble because Jackie says she was far too shy to perform at that time.

But she's not bashful now, she contends. And it's due to cheerleading. "I cheered for seven years," relates Jackie. "Through junior high, high school, and college. Making noise all the time helped me overcome my shyness."

According To Fred Stewart

By Audrey C. Lodato
Post Staff Writer

"Blacks traditionally don't trust other blacks and don't do business with other blacks." A strong accusation, but true, asserts Fred Stewart, founder of Stewart Office Suppliers.

For the past two weeks, we have been reporting on the health of black business: what keeps black businesses from growing and what's needed for success. In this third and final segment, black business owners discuss some attitudes that uniquely affect black businesses.

Stewart continues, "I don't know the reason for that (lack of business). I think the bottom line is trust. There might be valid reasons for why the trust is not there, but I can't give them."

In line with Stewart's perception, Naif Majeed, president of the Besties Ford Road Burger King, was quoted in last week's Post as saying that "I got into the hard way and you get yours the hard way" seems to be the attitude of blacks who have succeeded in business toward those who are starting out.

According to Majeed, "We're not using good economic intelligence. We have to address this through an educational process. We have to get a different mindset."

Noting the vast amount of money that blacks spend outside of black businesses, Majeed states, "We

Buy Freedom Economic Development Plan Set

Tony Brown, America's number one black affairs television personality and award winning journalist, has released details of the "Buy Freedom" Economic Development Plan slated to be launched October 1, 1985.

In a hard-hitting, factual and well-researched document, Tony Brown and the National Council For The Economic Development Of Black Americans has made public the plans for a nationwide economic recovery program aimed at black consumers and black businesses.

No longer can the black community complain about not having a definite economic agenda. In his newly released magazine, "Tony Brown's Journal," Brown reveals the rationale, philosophy, and goals of the most extensive economic development plan in the history of black America.

Brown stated in a recent interview with The Charlotte Post, "Our objectives are clear, we want freedom and we want it now. Our financial security is predicated on how we use the resources at our disposal. Black people must be made aware of the fact that there is a direct relationship between how we use our resources (spend our money) and how we achieve economic, social and even political freedom."

The "Buy Freedom" program relies on a media approach to indoctrinate the black consumer to its responsibility to bring about change in the social and economic order. The National Council has developed the program because, "The time has come that we put things into perspective. We must be very candid with each other. In order for us to progress economically, we simply must do more business with ourselves. Period," Brown stated.

It is a widely conceived notion that we are a poor people. To the contrary, we as a people, the 30 million of us in America, earn and



Tony Brown
.....Television personality

spend \$170 billion a year. We make and spend more money than all the people in Canada, Australia, Finland, or Denmark. In fact, there are only eight countries in the free world that earn and spend as much money as black Americas. Therefore, we should put away our notions of how poor we are and use the money we do have to bring about ways to channel more of our money back into our own communities, our own businesses.

Freedom is the opportunity to live your life as you want to live it. Wealth and freedom have a great deal more in common than we realize. Money represents in an objective way, the value of all material goods both relative and absolute, and is a medium of exchange. Money is also the means by which a society judges your economic, political and even moral standings.

And because money allows a person to live life as he or she wishes, money represents freedom as well. Therefore, the only color of freedom in America is green. If the only color of freedom in America is

green, why don't blacks equal whites economically? Simple. Blacks spend their money with whites and whites spend their money with whites. It's time we wake up. Many black people who are conditioned not to shop at black stores and use black professionals must begin to realize the seriousness of their spending habits. All our lives we've heard that we are inferior, that blacks are not as intelligent or productive as whites. Most of us know that is not true. Many of us are convinced that from slavery to the present, it has always been and continues to be a matter of economic brainwashing.

Regardless of how we presently feel about black businesses, they represent our only salvation in terms of more employment, investment in our communities, and support for our institutions. We must begin to understand that when we go to the malls, to white banks, and to white grocery stores, what we are doing is giving them our money. In turn, many of them use our money (and theirs) to finance Jesse Helms, South African businesses and countless other activities which work against us. In reality, we finance the very people who keep their feet on our necks.

The National Council is looking for business groups, civic groups, churches, and individuals who would like to be involved early with the "Buy Freedom" program. You may obtain your free copy of "Tony Brown's Journal on Buy Freedom" by writing to: Buy Freedom, Southeast Regional Office, P. O. Box 14526, Raleigh, N.C. 27620, or call 919-755-0804.

Tony Brown will make public appearances in Raleigh and Durham on September 11 and Atlanta on October 2.

United Church Of Christ Leaders Respond To Falwell

Special To The Post

Leaders of the 1.7 million-member United Church of Christ, responding to the Rev. Jerry Falwell's comments on apartheid in South Africa, described the Moral Majority leader's positions as "appalling," "insensitive" and "dangerous."

The United Church leaders also reiterated their support for Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Anglican Bishop of South Africa, whom Mr. Falwell called a "phony" and was criticized by the U.S. Government for refusing to join a meeting between South African clerics and the country's president, P. W. Botha.

Mr. Falwell made his comments in a press conference this week after he completed a five-day "fact-finding" trip to South Africa, which included a meeting with Mr. Botha.

"In his recent trip to South Africa, Jerry Falwell has shown a dangerous, even a smug, self-righteousness that has played into the hands of the Botha government," said the Rev. Dr. Avery D. Post, president of the United Church of Christ. "He gives no evidence that he perceives the demonic character of apartheid. His selective observations betray an atrophy of conscience and compassion."

"In his visit to South Africa at this time, we have the specter of a religious leader providing moral, and by inference, theological support to the apartheid system. This is a shocking insensitivity to what many of us believe are the imperatives of a just God: to be present with people who have been in bondage and whose humanity has been violated."

"Jerry Falwell's 'diplomacy' in See UNITED On Page 18A

Lack Of Trust Is Significant Problem For Black Businesses



Fred Stewart
.....Office supplier

Third in series

have the economics, but we have to look at it so we funnel dollars here. It took us 230 years to get into this mindset and it might take us 230 years to get out of it; but we should be moving in the right direction."

It's not only blacks' attitudes toward other blacks which affect black businesses. "Institutional racism is a factor we have to deal with, but it's not as difficult to overcome as it was 30 or 40 years ago," Majeed points out. "But," he continues,

"we're conditioned to not go past a certain line. The atmosphere has changed, but we have not changed. We don't have an economic problem; we have a mental condition that is detrimental to the growth of the community."

What Majeed is talking about is the level of aspiration many black business owners set for themselves and their enterprises.

Better Cleaning president Bobby Lowery puts it this way: "Our goals are not high enough. By limiting our vision and aspirations, we limit our business." Many black businesspeople, Lowery believes, settle for a "job" rather than a "business." A business can be distinguished from a job, he says, by the number of persons employed, the number of clients or customers, and the structure of the organization.

Majeed adds that it's more than setting appropriate goals; it's also how one goes about reaching them. "We may set goals high, but then we don't construct our ladders in such a way that we can realistically achieve those goals," he declares.

Those ladders Majeed speaks of are a combination of planning, experience, and good business sense. As Wanda Lewis of Scapes Alive puts it, "If you're a good business person, you try to stop doing what doesn't work and start doing what does."

That's the bottom line.



Learning is a tonic which thinking people take every day.