

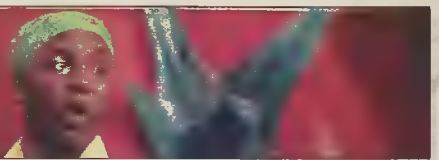
NEW HOUSE

United House of Prayer sanctuary on Sugar Creek Road/5C



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History's no mystery at national convention

Legacy of historian and author John Hope Franklin recognized

By Herbert L. White

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African American history has a bright future.

The Association for the Study of African American Life and History is meeting this week in Charlotte to honor historian and author John Hope Franklin of Durham. The convention, which started Wednesday, runs through Sunday at the Hilton Charlotte-University. The hotel is sold out with more than 1,000 participants from across the U.S.

"This has been an extreme success," said Sylvia Cyrus-Albritton, ASALH's executive director. "We knew North Carolina would be a great draw with Dr. Franklin. It's a time where we're experiencing a revitalization, not just with Dr. Franklin's work, but his impact on people's lives."

Franklin is considered one of the country's foremost historians. A professor emeritus at Duke University, he is author of 18 books, including "From Slavery to Freedom: a history of Negro American," as well as "Mirror to America," his autobiography. Franklin also chaired a national panel on racism in the U.S. commissioned by former president Bill Clinton.

ASALH was founded in 1915 by Carter G. Woodson, the father of black history. Its mission is the promotion, research and interpretation of black life, culture and history.

"History is important, but particularly African American history is important because it stands as a shining example of what can happen with determination and fortitude," Cyrus-Albritton said. "African Americans, and Africans before we came to these shores, have achieved so much."

Woodson's goal was to weave the history of black Americans into the nation's tapestry, Cyrus-Albritton said. During a time of rigid segregation - especially in the South - Woodson saw teaching black history as a vehicle to bring ethnic groups closer.

"His objective was racial harmony," Cyrus-Albritton said. "He felt if the community at large knew of the contributions of African Americans, there

Please see HISTORIAN/8A



PHOTO:CAROLYN BAUMANN

After the storm

Two years after leaving Katrina's wake, survivors build new lives in Charlotte



PHOTO:ERICA SINGLETON

Blanca (left) and Carolyn Baumann of Charlotte are two of the thousands of Gulf Coast residents who resettled in the Carolinas. Carolyn Baumann, who said she insured her New Orleans home (above) for \$268,000, was paid \$21,000 after it was destroyed. Her Individual Retirement Account was wiped out by the storm, too.

By Erica Singleton

FOR THE CHARLOTTE POST

Consuela had no plans to leave New Orleans two years ago when Hurricane Katrina hit.

The WPEG radio (FM 98) personality, who was then an employee of Clear Channel radio, and her co-workers were on "Hurricane duty." But an early morning call made her change her plans.

"I got a call at 3 a.m....Saturday night, Sunday morning," Consuela said. "When Monica, the lady who did news called...a woman who never leaves...she said, 'Consuela you need to get in your car and get the heck out of here.'"

For Consuela, one of many residents who didn't want the hassle of leaving for no reason, and who wasn't feeling well, the

call was an eye opener, and it kicked her into gear.

"I grabbed a bag of underwear, my good jewelry...and some pictures and I was out the door," she said. "I evacuated a few hours before it was too late."

Consuela and her cousin hit the road headed for Houston.

"We thought we were just going

"I grabbed a bag of underwear, my good jewelry and some pictures and I was out the door."

WPEG radio personality Consuela on leaving New Orleans when Hurricane Katrina hit.

to have a fun week in Houston...and come back with just a little flood damage."

For 64-year-old Carolyn Baumann, Katrina came as a complete surprise. In August 2005, Baumann left her home to visit a family friend, expecting to come back just as she had from any vacation.

See HURRICANE/6A



WPEG PHOTO

Caucus urges domestic action

Issues that affect African Americans belie Iraq war

By Hazel Trice Edney

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

WASHINGTON - Poverty in rural America, job deficiencies for ex-offenders, educational needs for black males, preventing the stagnation of black politics, not enough health care for black children and class wars in black America.

These, among a string of black equality and justice issues belied the still raging war in Iraq during last week's Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference, members said.

"We are spending a hundred billion dollars a year in Iraq and that same money can be used to build families in America," said U.S. Rep. G. K. Butterfield (D-N.C.), who co-chaired the ALC with Rep. Kendrick Meek (D-Fla.). "There are so many issues facing the African-American community, but poverty transcends all of the different issues. We've got to tackle poverty. We cannot have one out of five children in this country living in poverty. We just can't accept that. That's intolerable. And so poverty is the number one issue facing Black America."

While the Bush administration has striven to keep focus on the war, Butterfield says tackling economic issues here at home

Please see CAUCUS/2A

Hairy advice: Editor disses 'political' locks

By Monica Harris

IBLACKCOLLEGEVIEW.COM

WASHINGTON - An editor from Glamour magazine kicked off yet another racial debate during what was intended to be a carefree luncheon at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton law firm in New York City.

The unnamed junior editor made remarks about the inappropriate nature of natural African hair during a recent slide show about the dos and don'ts of corporate fashion, according to an article in the August issue of *The American Lawyer*.

"First slide up: an African-American woman sporting an Afro. A real no-no, announced the Glamour editor to the 40 or so lawyers in the room. As for dreadlocks: How truly dreadful! The style maven said it was 'shocking' that some people still think it 'appropriate' to wear those hairstyles at

See EDITOR/3A



PHOTO:CALVIN FERGUSON

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg NAACP honored the achievements of civil rights activism at the Freedom Fund awards. NAACP President Ken White (left) congratulated honorees Blanche Penn, Martha Alexander, Sam Smith Jr., Barbara Moye Wayner and George Walker Jr., for his father Bishop George Walker Sr.

Forum devoid of GOP front-runners

By Elaine Welles

THE PHILADELPHIA TRIBUNE

Four empty podiums raised perhaps more questions than anything that came out of the contentious debate between the second-tier Republican presidential candidates.

Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, former Sen. Fred Thompson, former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani and Arizona Sen. John McCain did not attend last Thursday's forum for Republican presidential candidates, hosted by PBS and commentator Tavis

Smiley at Morgan State University.

Citing scheduling conflicts, the four leading Republican candidates were represented at the forum by four empty podiums, set between the other six candidates who did appear.

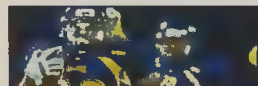
They were former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, Kansas Sen. Sam Brownback, Tom Tancredo of Colorado, Texas Rep. Ron Paul, Calif. Rep. Duncan Hunter and the lone black candidate, conservative political activist Alan Keyes.

Smiley, in opening comments, said it had been suggested that forums such as this one, focused primarily on issues of importance to the African-American community, would be "hostile" and "unreceptive."

However, even some of those who did appear on Thursday evening at what was called the All-American Presidential Forums on PBS, said those not present had erred.

"I am embarrassed by those

See REPUBLICAN/3A



N.C. A&T alumni are struggling with 21-game football losing streak/1B

INSIDE

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