

# THE BETTER WE KNOW US ...

by Miller Carter, Jr.

THOMASVILLE—A man who has done as much, or more, for Thomasville as any other man and is well-respected for it is the REV. WILLIAM E. BANKS. Rev. Banks is presently the pastor of First Baptist Church and has been since 1959.

Rev. Banks was born November 22, 1927, in Edenton, N.C., into the family of Mr. and Mrs. Jahovah and Rachel Banks. He attended public schools in Edenton, graduating from Edenton High School in 1948.

His thirst for further education led him to Saint Augustine's College in Raleigh, N.C., where he received his B.S. degree in 1953. He received his B.D. degree from Shaw University,

Raleigh, in 1956. He pursued further study at A&T State University where he received his M.A. degree in 1974; and did his graduate work at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

From 1956 to 1959 Rev. Banks taught at Richard B. Harrison High School in Selma, N.C. While teaching he also pastored the Zion Tabernacle Baptist Church of Corapeake, N.C.

Rev. Banks is affiliated with a number of local, national, and political organizations. He is a member of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, the North Carolina General Baptist Convention, the Rowan Association, NAACP (Thomasville Branch), President of the North Carolina

Convention of SCLC, member of the Board of Directors of Thomasville Church Homes, Inc.


He has also served as a veteran of World War II during which he was on active duty in the State and European Theater.

Aside from the responsibilities of pastoring First Baptist Church, Thomasville, he also has served in many official capacities. Some of which include being President of the Thomasville Branch of the NAACP in 1962 and Director and Advisor of North Carolina's Youth Councils. He was elected State Chairman of the Ministers' Conference of the NAACP in 1965, ran for City Council in 1965,

ran for General Assembly in 1966-67, assisted in the organization of the Davidson County Community Action Program and is a member of the Board of Directors.

Adding further to his credentials, the Rev. Banks participated in the Meredith March in Mississippi and was Transportation Officer when the "poor people" went to Washington, D.C. He worked with Robert Kennedy in the primaries in several states and with the Republican National Committee during Richard Nixon's campaign in 1968.

Community-wise, Rev. Banks has organized church groups to act as

**A VIABLE, VALID REQUIREMENT  
RESPONDING TO  
BLACK NORTH CAROLINA**

## Notes & Reminders

**GREENSBORO**  
(YMCA MODERN DANCE CLASSES BEGIN)

Hayes-Taylor YMCA is offering Modern Dancing to youth and adults beginning Tuesday, October 21, 1975. Classes will meet Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Register today for this dynamic class. For further information call or come by Hayes-Taylor YMCA, 1101 E. Market Street, Phone: 272-0197.

**HIGH POINT**  
(SR. CITIZEN'S ADVENTURES)

If you are 60 years of age or older the High Point Parks and Recreation Department, in conjunction with Astor Dowdy Towers, is forming two interesting trips, at nominal charges, for your enjoyment. Sunday, October 19, an afternoon trip to Greensboro is scheduled to see the Holiday on Ice program. Tickets are \$2.50 up.

Wednesday, October 22, a bus trip to the State Fair in Raleigh is being planned. The entire trip, excluding food, will only cost \$3.00. Please call Astor Dowdy Towers, 885-4414, now, for reservations and further information.

(BI-CENTENNIAL I POSTER CONTEST)

Bi-Centennial I is a poster contest sponsored by the High Point Jaycees for all students attending High Point City Schools. Students may enter one poster in one of three categories: FESTIVAL, dealing with events leading up to the signing of the Declaration of Independence; HERITAGE, which deals with the battle of Guilford courthouse; and HORIZONS, dealing with the future of Guilford County. Savings bonds will be given as prizes in each category, and judging will be on the basis of appearance and originality. Further information about the Bi-centennial I Poster Contest can be had at all city schools. Posters must be entered at the Jaycee Office, 508 North Hamilton Street during the week of October, 1975.

For further information,

# THE TRIBUNAL AID

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## Leadership And Unity Breeds Success

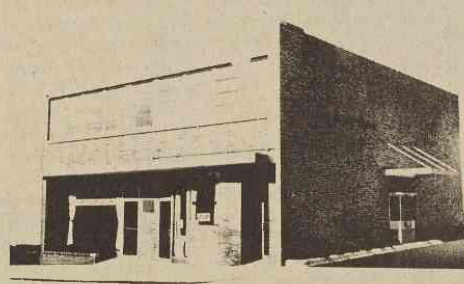
**GASTONIA**—It was in January, 1941, that Charles Hall approached Nathaniel Barber with the idea of opening some type of business with a small group of civic-minded, Black persons who showed signs of interest in the future growth and development of Gastonia. Mr. Hall had spoken to other persons along this line but few seemed to have been interested. So, in January 1941, after several meetings, from house to house, the EXCELSIOR BUSINESS MEN'S LEAGUE was organized with W. A. McCallum as its President.

The name "EXCELSIOR" being chosen by R. L. Schooler. For 15 months, this small group of 20 men met monthly at Sanders & King Funeral Home paying dues of 25 cents per month and fines that the law imposed. After

15 months of running along at a "hit and miss" kind of way, the little organization that had made various community contributions, to the Red Cross, March of Dimes and the Boy Scout movement, was at a loss for a definite program. It was in March 1942, that N. Barber, who was then President, in search of a definite program brought to this small group of men the suggestion of the State Credit Union idea.

After inviting a Mr. Draughn of Lincoln Academy to come to the meeting, bring literature and talk with the group in detail about the workings of credit unions, Mr. Draughn suggested even more. He recommended that Mr. Graham, the Superintendent of Credit Unions from Raleigh, be invited to give us the information first-hand.

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**EXCELSIOR CREDIT UNION OF GASTON COUNTY**  
**GASTONIA**—EXCELSIOR CREDIT UNION OF GASTON COUNTY—Your credit union provides a range of important financial services to its members. Excelsior Credit Union of Gaston-County with assets of more than \$2,185,000, offers excellent returns on passbook savings and low interest rates on all loans. Members also enjoy banking by mail, drive-in banking, and loans for automo-



biles, homes, home improvement, education, vacation, and Xmas Savings Club. 206 W. Page Ave., Gastonia, 28052, (704) 865-1273 or 865-1274.

## Leaders Honor Dr. Cousin

**DURHAM**—Congressman Ike Andrews leads a parade of North Carolina leaders in honoring Dr. Philip R. Cousin, pastor of St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church and candidate for Bishop of the A.M.E. Church.

The gala affair will be a testimonial banquet, Friday, October 17, 1975, Royal Villa Motor Inn, Raleigh, North Carolina, 7:00 p.m.

Outstanding guest such as Mr. J. H. Wheeler, President of Mechanics & Farmers Bank; Mr. J. S. Stewart, President of Mutual Savings & Loan Association; Dr. J. D. Davis, Presiding Elder of the Western District of Western North Carolina Conference of A.M.E. Church; and Mayor Clarence Lightner.

Philip Robert Cousin is the Pastor of St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church, Durham, North Carolina and is currently celebrating his 10th Anniversary as Minister of this outstanding congregation.

He has prepared himself for his ministry and is the recipient of the following degrees: Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, cum laude; Master of Theology; Doctor of Ministry in Black Church Studies, through the Martin Luther King Fellowship from Colgate Rochester Divinity School (he was one of only 20 ministers in the nation so honored); Honorary Doctor of Divinity from Kittrell College, where he served as President (1960-1965).

Dr. Cousin, an untiring leader, has served the Durham community well for the past ten years. As a political leader, Chairman of the Political Subcommittee of the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People, he has worked hard to elect public officials and to build a strong community through active political participation.

His service in education is commendable, presently serving on the Durham County School Board, Board of Trustees, Fayetteville State University, Lecturer at Duke University, and also having served as Lecturer at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and Southeastern Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina.

In the Durham community, he has been active in addressing the needs of the total community through membership on the Durham County Board of Social Services, Durham County Child Guidance Clinic and Past Chairman of the Durham Human Relations Commission. He is also a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and a 33 degree Mason.

As pastor of St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church, Reverend Cousin has led this dedicated

congregation to accept the church's total ministry, through the construction of complete religious facilities which will be completed in December of 1975.

Presently, Dr. Cousin seeks a higher office and a larger service as Bishop for the A.M.E. Church. The A.M.E. Church has never elected a Bishop from the State of North Carolina and Dr. Cousin's chances of being elected Bishop are excellent. However, he must travel throughout fifty (50) states, Central and West Africa, to get his message

over to the over 2,000 delegates to the General Conference. The Boosters Club, an auxiliary of St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church is sponsoring this Testimonial Dinner as a fundraising effort to support Dr. Philip R. Cousin's Candidacy to the Episcopacy of the A.M.E. Church.

Reverend Cousin is married to Margaret Joan Grier of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and they are the parents of five sons: Phillip Jr., Steven, David, Michael and Joseph.

## Black Artists Wanted

by Miller Carter, Jr. Staff Reporter

**HIGH POINT**—To spark the interest of the young and the "not so young" artists in High Point, the Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring classes in Arts and Crafts which are being held in various community centers throughout the city.

These classes are offered for those who wish to develop or broaden their talents in the areas of painting, drawing, printing, sculpture, pottery and stitchery for both the young and the old. A small fee of Three Dollars is being charged for the drawing and stitchery classes and a Five Dollar fee is being charged for the painting classes.

The schedule of classes is as follows: Mondays—Adult Drawing Classes are held at the Oakview Recreation Center from 8:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Also, Arts and Crafts for Senior Citizens is held at Astor Dowdy Towers. Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. there is

## Gaston Boy's Club Builds Good Citizens

**GASTONIA**—In the fall of 1957, a group of Gastonia Citizens under the leadership of D. E. Ramsuer met at St. Peter's A.M.E. Zion Church with the idea of establishing a Boys' Club. With the cooperation of the Regional Office of Boys' Clubs of America the group adopted the name "Gaston Boys' Club", and a Board of Directors and Officers were elected.

This organization was chartered by the State of North Carolina on April 6, 1959,

and was at once affiliated with the Boys' Clubs of America, Inc., the National Organization founded in 1906 and chartered by Congress in 1956.

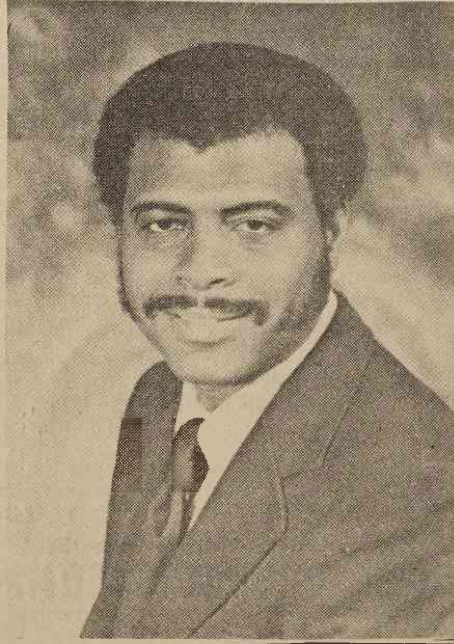
On February 1, 1960, the Gaston Boys' Club, Inc., launched a campaign and urged county-wide support for the rapidly expanding movement. The campaign closed with \$56,537.75 having been pledged in support of the effort. In the fall of 1960, the Board of Directors

saw fit to purchase a valuable site for the club on North Dallas Street in Gastonia whereon was located three residences. A sufficient amount had been paid on pledges to convert one of the residences into a temporary club building and to commence club operation. Mr. Glenn T. McLinnahan of North A&T College was employed as Executive Director and the club opened its doors on December 21, 1960. Seventy-nine boys rushed in and joined that day.

In 1966, Boys' Club minded citizens put into motion a Fund Raising Campaign for a much needed new home for the boys. The community responded magnificently, contributing \$75,000.00 for the construction of the main building, which was dedicated on June 4, 1967. The campaign was continued until another \$9,000.00 was raised to build the adjoining gymnasium, which was dedicated in 1969.

At the Gaston Boys' Club "fun" is believed in — but "fun with a purpose". The purpose of being able to prepare our youth as a happy and productive member of today's society and the society of the future.

The primary mission of the Gaston Boys' Club is to assure and enhance the quality of life for boys with special concern for those from disadvantaged backgrounds. Pres-



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