

Tracing Roots Can Be Hard For Blacks Here

Genealogy for most black Americans is much like a jigsaw puzzle with many unidentifiable pieces scattered from the West African coast to the islands and shores of the American continent. Even many of the pieces that are germane to this continent and presumed reachable are buried in slave documents in vague and incoherent descriptions. It is doubtful whether other black Americans will match the accomplishments of Alex Haley who traced his family tree back to the African continent. Records maintained by slaveowners are generally undecipherable and only one with the training, sacrifice and tenacity of a Haley could expect to find and match so many missing pieces.

As a result, tracing one's heritage beyond a few generations is farfetched for most black Americans. This makes it extremely important for blacks to record and preserve those experiences and customs that are available which give them an identity. They must be sensitive to the bits and pieces of genealogy passed on by parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents through legacies, stories, and fables in the oral tradition, entries in Bibles, family portraits, and artifacts. It is a common practice in many families for heritage to be passed down to the next generation in these fashions.

There is now a project afoot that will enable blacks to organize and record their family histories in a publication for others to see while preserving the memories for family members.

The Black Family Heritage Book Committee which is affiliated with the North Carolina Afro-American Genealogical Society is in the process of publishing a volume which will contain some 1,000 stories of black North Carolinians. Stories are currently being solicited from around the state and from persons in other states with roots in North Carolina. Stories or histories can be no longer than three typed pages, double-spaced. Contributors are restricted to two



WEDDING BELLS—Stephanie Ann Battle of Wendell, and Darron Carson Keith of Raleigh were married Dec. 10 at the Gospel Temple Holiness Church. The bride's mother is Mrs. Ruth Williams of Wendell and her father is Clinton Hall of New York City. The groom's mother is Mrs. Barbara Hinton of Raleigh. His father is George Keith of Greensboro. (Photo by James O. Williams)

stories each. There is no cost to submit and have a story published in the book, but contributors who would like pictures to accompany the stories must pay \$20 per picture. The deadline for receipt of stories and pictures is Feb. 17, 1989. Contributors are under no obligation to buy the publication, which will sell for \$45. For more details on the project, interested persons are asked to write Black Family Heritage Book Com-

mittee, P.O. Box 26334, Raleigh 27611, or call Linda Simmons-Henry at 828-4451, Ext. 237.

Bricks are the oldest manufacturing building material still in use. Egyptians used them 7,000 years ago.

Julian Bond Takes Aim At Election Campaigns

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (AP)—Civil rights activist Julian Bond says the white presidential candidates failed to address the concerns of black Americans and other minorities during the 1988 presidential campaign.

Bond took special aim at Democrats who were concerned about how to handle the success of former presidential candidate Jesse Jackson.

"The real question is not what the Democrats are going to do with Jesse Jackson," Bond said last Friday at Minnesota's fifth annual Human

Rights Day celebration. "The real question is why couldn't the so-called Seven Dwarfs compete with Jesse Jackson."

The "Seven Dwarfs" is the nickname political pundits used to describe the seven Democratic presidential candidates early in the campaign. The group included the eventual nominee, Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, whom Bond criticized for running from his liberal background until the final days of the campaign.

"Politically, I think [Jackson]

needs his party to listen to and act on his concerns—jobs, homelessness and poverty," he said after his speech.

Bond contrasted Dukakis with former Vice President Walter Mondale, who beat Jackson in several key black voting areas during the 1984 Democratic campaign. Mondale was successful because he had a good record on civil rights and was known to the community, he said.

Bond urged human rights activists to scrutinize President-elect George Bush's cabinet and judicial appointments, emphasizing that "George Bush's choices for the Supreme Court—and he may have as many as four of them—will say much about his record on civil rights."

A Christmas story, a Yuletide song, love is knowing that you belong to our family. Many thanks.

We appreciate your continuing business.

JAMES H. BROWN, JR.

Brown Realty Company
Sales, Property Management and Insurance

814 New Bern Ave.
P.O. Box 1773

J. HENRY BROWN

Brown Realty Company
Sales, Property Management and Insurance

Raleigh, North Carolina 27602
(919) 832-1811

Wishes of happiness
from your warm
heart to your friends

Person St. Pharmacy
702 N. Person St. 832-6432
"WE DELIVER"

Christmas Is For Sharing

With fondest wishes for health and happiness, we send our friends and customers our sincere thanks.

J. D. Hinton Photos
515 S. Blount St.
Raleigh, NC 833-6095

Greetings...

May the precious gifts of love and peace be yours.

6425 Hillsborough St.
1 1/2 Miles Beyond Beltline in Raleigh

WAYSIDE
FURNITURE HOUSE

Open Monday and Friday Until 9:00 P.M.
851-0880

1989 WAKE COUNTY PROPERTY TAX LISTING

Wake County's property tax listing for 1989 will begin on Tuesday, January 3, 1989. Property tax listing forms will be mailed to taxpayers of record. If you are a newcomer to Wake County, or a property owner who is listing for the first time, you should contact the Wake County Assessor's Office for assistance if needed, or any of the listing stations listed below. If you find it inconvenient to visit our office or one of the listing stations, you may obtain a listing form by mail by calling our Personal Property Division at any one of the following telephone numbers: 755-6550, 755-6551, 755-6552, 755-6553, or by making written request to the Wake County Assessor's Office, Room 1100 Courthouse, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601.

Property listing forms may be completed and mailed, or listed at any one of the various listing stations on the dates indicated, however, listings must be received or postmarked no later than Tuesday, January 31, 1989 in order to avoid a 10% late listing penalty.

Real Estate owners who own property as of January 1 are required to report any buildings, additions, improvements, etc. and/or deletions which occurred during the preceding calendar year. These changes must be reported whether made by you or someone else if you are to avoid a 10% late listing penalty. If none of the indicated improvements have been made, it is not necessary for you to list real estate as it will be automatically listed for you.

Owners of residential, commercial, and industrial buildings and/or owners of taxable personal property, such as, but not limited to, vehicles, boats, motors, and mobile homes, who recently sustained damage to their property as a result of the tornado should attach a note to listing form detailing damage so adjustments can be made.

You are no longer required to list household personal property unless you are a landlord who rents a furnished house, apartment, or mobile home. In this case, furnishings are required to be listed. Livestock is no longer required to be listed.

Vehicle owners should be aware that the 1987 General Assembly enacted legislation which deals with vehicle owners who fail to annually list vehicles for local property tax. The new law imposes a stiff penalty on vehicle owners who fail to list. Failure to list a vehicle will result in a \$100.00 penalty PER VEHICLE plus an additional 10% late listing penalty. Applications of penalties will be strictly enforced.

Vehicle owners will encounter another problem if vehicles are not listed. State law prohibits the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles from processing registration renewal unless a vehicle owner provides written certification that no delinquent property tax is owed on the vehicle, and further requires the vehicle owner to indicate the month and county in which said vehicle was listed.

Vehicles required to be listed include, but are not limited to the following: Automobiles, Trucks of all types, Motorcycles, Motor Homes, Travel Trailers, Utility Trailers, Boats and Motors, Boat Trailers, Aircraft (Includes Hot Air Balloons & Helicopters), Mobile Homes, etc.

Corporations, Partnerships, Organizations and Unincorporated Associations, Individuals engaged in industry, business or profession, who on January 1 own, control or possess personal property are required to file a Business Personal Property listing. All fixed assets, inventories not held for resale, and vehicles are required to be listed. Business personal property owners needing assistance should visit the Wake County Assessor's Office, Room 1100 Courthouse, or you may obtain a Business Personal Property listing form by calling 755-6946 or 755-6947. If you have listed previously, forms will be mailed to the address on record.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO LIST BY MAIL TO AVOID LONG LINES.

WAKE COUNTY ASSESSOR

LISTING STATIONS

Mr. M. Jack Stephens, P.O. Box 123, Holly Springs, NC 27540-Tel. 552-6302
January 4, 11, 18, 25, 1989

ALL OTHER DAYS AT OLD TOWN HALL - MAIN STREET
Listing Hours - 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday
..... Farmer's Supply, New Hill

Mrs. Edna B. Allman, P.O. Box 202, Zebulon, NC 27587-Tel. 289-9174
January 3 through January 31, 1989
Listing Hours - 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday
..... Zebulon Town Hall

Mrs. Joyce A. Black, Rt. 2 Box 71-C10 Youngsville, NC 27596-Tel. 556-1926
January 6, 13, 20, 27, 30 & 31, 1989
..... Wake Forest Town Hall

LISTING ASSISTANCE WILL BE AVAILABLE EACH FRIDAY IN JANUARY, AND ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY JANUARY 30 & 31
Listing Hours - 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Mrs. Elaine Hopkins, Rt. 1, Knightdale, NC 27545-Tel. 296-2367
January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 1989
ALL OTHER DAYS AT WENDELL COURT LOBBY
Listing Hours - 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday
..... Knightdale Town Hall

Mrs. Savonne M. Hedlin, Box 275, Fuquay-Varina, NC 27326-Tel. 552-5143
January 3 through January 31, 1989
Listing Hours - 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday
..... Fuquay-Varina Old Town Hall, Fuquay Ave.

WAKE COUNTY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE, ROOM 1100 COURTHOUSE, RALEIGH, NC 27601
January 3 through January 31, 1989, 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday

NOTE: All Listing Stations and Wake County Assessor's Office will be closed January 16th in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.