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LET'S GIVE THANKS
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City Workers Say Hamlet Tragedy Can Repeat

BY CASH MICHAELS
Contributing Writer

Several Raleigh city employees believe that because of an alleged lack of workplace safety precautions, the same type of tragedy that occurred in Hamlet last September can happen here. Those feelings were expressed at a workers' rights forum held at the Richard B. Harrison Library last Saturday.

The forum was sponsored by the Hamlet Emergency Response Ad Hoc Committee, a Raleigh-based organization formed after 25 people lost their lives in a chicken-processing plant fire on Sept. 3. Reportedly, several of the fire doors were locked, and exits blocked, trapping the victims inside.

After listening to Willie Baldwin, a former third shift employee at the

now-closed Hamlet plant, comment on the bad working conditions there and the fear that many of the employees had of losing their jobs, several members of the audience who identified themselves as Raleigh city employees stood up and alleged that they, too, work under unfair and hazardous conditions that nothing is being done about.

One man who said he worked for

the Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department charged that he was hit by a car while working in the street last February only one week after complaining that there were inadequate precautions to slow traffic down.

"I told my supervisor a week before I went out there to put somebody out there... a flagman. He told me you got lights, signs, all that-

stuff. I was out of work until September of this year."

The man, who is not identified for his own protection, added that he has also heard complaints from sanitation workers about unsafe conditions. "Once they speak out they're going to be fired. We know this. They (city supervisors) have transferred people out of my department because they spoke out."

The man also alleged that workers in water and sewer are regularly overcome by fumes when they work underground, yet little has been done to safeguard them. It is charged that a majority of the water and sewer workers are black.

Another speaker who said that he works in Water and Sewer charged

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U.C.C. National Body Asks C. Boyden Gray To Resign

CLEVELAND, Ohio—A national body of the United Church of Christ Nov. 22 called for the resignation of President Bush's counsel, C. Boyden Gray.

The call came in a resolution passed by the 17-member directorate of the United Church of Christ's Office for Church in Society, meeting at the denomination's central offices in Cleveland.

The resolution called upon President Bush to request Gray's resignation, citing Gray's attempt "to mount a new attack on affirmative action" even as Bush prepared for his Nov. 21 signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1991.

The resolution referred to a presi-

dential directive, drafted by Gray and made public last week, that would have ended the use of preferences for minorities and women in federal hiring. The directive brought criticism from members of Congress and civil rights leaders on Nov. 21 and Bush rescinded the directive that day.

"While we celebrate the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1991," the resolution said, "We are deeply disturbed that the signing ceremony almost became the occasion for a new presidential directive negating the cornerstone of affirmative action enforcement."

The resolution also blamed Gray "for leading the charge to label the Civil Rights Act of 1991 a 'quota bill,'" for "doing everything in his power to block any compromise on that bill over the past two years" and for suggesting that Bush open his 1992 presidential campaign with an attack on affirmative action.

"We are disturbed by the racism evident in the political system in the United States," the resolution states.

"President George Bush has used racially divisive strategies in his presidency, including his oft-stated claim that the proposed Civil Rights Act of 1991, before its recent passage, was a 'quota bill' that would be unfair to white Americans."

The resolution also said White House Counsel Gray reportedly advised the president to rescind the Uniform Guidelines on Employee Selection Procedures—an action civil rights leaders say would create chaos in civil rights enforcement.

Also, "Had President Bush followed the advice of his legal counsel, he would have begun the 1992 presidential campaign with a full-scale attack on civil rights, thereby adopting the racially divisive appeal he condemned in the recent Louisiana gubernatorial campaign of David Duke."

Ms. Eva Clayton Kicks Off Campaign For 1st Congressional Race Seat

When Eva M. Clayton of Warren County steps up to the microphones to announce her candidacy for the newly created First Congressional District on Dec. 3, she will set into motion events that could make history. She could become the first minority representative since Reconstruction to represent North Carolina in the U.S. Congress. Ironically, the state's first black in Congress was also from Warren County. John Hyman served from 1875-1877.

In a tour that spans the First District from Elizabeth City to Durham and culminates in Henderson, Clayton will set the pace for what she promises will be a hotly contested race. Her initial stop will be an 8 a.m. breakfast at the Elizabeth City Holiday Inn. At 11:30 a.m., Clayton will greet supporters at the Greenville Ramada for brunch, then it's off to Rocky Mount to rally in front of City Hall. The Clayton campaign will meet citizens of Durham on the County Courthouse steps at 5 p.m., then take off for a gala celebration at the civic center on the campus of Vance-Granville Community College from 7-9 p.m.

"The First District is one of great diversity and strengths," she says. "In addition to being blessed with

Citizens Still Question

Unarmed Man Shot

Options For Action Reviewed

BY CASH MICHAELS
Contributing Writer

The relationship between the city of Raleigh and its African-American community is at its lowest point in recent history, and concerned citizens plan to do something about it. That was the sentiment at a special meeting held last Saturday at the Richard B. Harrison Library in Raleigh, called by members of the Raleigh-Wake Community Forum to discuss the recent police shooting of Ivan Ingram, among other issues. Ingram was killed by Officer Vincent Kerr during a drug raid on Nov. 8. He had no weapons or drugs in his possession.

With about 30 people in attendance, several options for action were discussed and considered, including a petition drive, a selective buying campaign, and even the creation of a community-based citizen complaint review board.

According to Rev. David Foy, the convener of the meeting, in addition to these options, several students at an area college plan a march on Friday, Dec. 6, to the spot where Ingram was shot, to protest the killing.

"This is our way of showing the city that we don't appreciate that they've done this a second and third time," said Rev. Foy, encouraging all citizens to join the students. Two innocent black citizens and one suspect have been shot by Raleigh police this year. Ingram was the only

(See POLICE SHOOTING, P. 2)



HIGHEST AWARD WINNER — Rev. Leon H. Sullivan (center) was one of 10 distinguished recipients of the United States' highest civilian award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, presented by President and Mrs. George Bush at a recent White House ceremony. Rev.

Sullivan was honored for being a "vigorous leader for civil rights and freedom throughout the latter half of this century." He was the founder of the OIC movement and initiator of the Sullivan Principles, which were designed to expand equal opportunity for black South Africans.

Reverend Leon Sullivan Presented Nation's Highest Civilian Award

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Rev. Leon Sullivan, the founder and leader of the OIC movement in this country, has been presented the nation's highest civilian award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

President and Mrs. George Bush presented the prestigious award to Rev. Sullivan at a White House ceremony on Nov. 18. Rev. Sullivan was one of 10, in the president's words, "extraordinary individuals (who) were pioneers in their own right... each a monument to individual achievement."

The other recipients were: Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; Russell E. Train, chairman, World Wildlife Fund; Prof. Friedrich August von Hayek, historian/author; Ted Williams, Hall of Fame baseball star; Gen. Vernon A. Walters, military leader and statesman; Betty Ford, former first lady who inspired the founding of the Betty Ford Health Clinic for treatment of drug and alcohol dependency; Hanna Holborn Gray, historian, humanist and college educator and leader; William F. Buckley, Jr., columnist, author and public affairs commentator; and Luis A. Ferré, industrialist and patron of the arts in Puerto Rico.

In his remarks on Rev. Sullivan, President Bush said, "Clergyman and civil rights leader Rev. Leon Sullivan has been a voice of reason throughout the latter half of this century. A vigorous proponent of equal rights for all, Rev. Sullivan founded Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America, one of the world's largest self-help and job training programs. More recently, he has worked hard to develop closer ties between this country and Africa. Reverend, we salute your leadership in one of the great movements

of our time, here and throughout the world: equal rights under the law."

The formal citation said: "The Rev. Leon Sullivan, a civil rights leader and pastor emeritus of the Zion Baptist Church in Philadelphia, has devoted his life to the causes of liberty and justice. Rev. Sullivan founded the Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America, one of the largest and most prestigious job training organizations in the world. He later founded the International Foundation for Education and Self-

Help. In 1971, Leon Sullivan was elected to the Board of Directors of General Motors, becoming the first black American to participate in the direction of a U.S. auto company. America honors this man of principle, who in word and example has shown so many people the way to freedom."

Rev. Sullivan was accompanied by members of his family: his wife Grace; a son, Howard; and two daughters, Julie Sullivan-Johnson and Hope Sullivan-Hurley.

Collegiate Contribution Spurs Boycott Of Family Dollar

From CAROLINIAN Staff Reports
An activist group across the state and in South Carolina has joined together and aimed a boycott at a major regional discount chain, citing "insensitivity toward customers."

Citizens Advancing Reconciliation and Reciprocity, a federation of organizations and individuals, met at an incubator in Charlotte recently to promote an effort to increase visibility to get Family Dollar Stores to increase contributions to African-American educational institutions, according to Melvin Whitley.

The 1,700 Family Dollar stores across the South are mainly located in urban centers, low-income African-American neighborhoods, said Whitley, an activist and Raleigh resident. "We receive a lion's share of their dollars from African-Americans and have given pennies in appreciation."

Whitley said Family Dollar needs to show the same sensitivity toward the customers they serve as they

have shown toward Duke University in giving them \$10 million.

L. Jezreel Toliver, in a letter to Leon Levine, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Family Dollar Stores, said, "Some African-Americans are convinced that reciprocity does not characterize the relations between our two communities."

"You have heard the complaint before about shopkeepers in urban neighborhoods who take from the poor and who fail to help the poor. Well, that same complaint is now being leveled at Family Dollar Stores. And, fortunately or unfortunately, knowledge of your generous donation to Duke University has provoked some people to express their feelings of victimization," Levine, who lives in Charlotte, said.

In a media release, CARR said, "More specifically, the exploitation of the black community by Family Dollar Stores must come to an end. 'Family Dollar has built its success by marketing to poor and work-

(See BOYCOTT, P. 2)

NEWS BRIEFS

BLACK NURSES COUNCIL TO MEET

The Central Carolina Black Nurses' Council, Inc. will hold its second annual luncheon Dec. 7 at the North Carolina Central Student Union from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The topic for discussion will be Substance Abuse Crisis in the African-American Community. There will be a panel presentation by local experts on substance abuse.

BACK-A-CHILD CAMPAIGN GAINS SUPPORT

Recently, Lawrence Bradley, chairman of the Garner Road Family YMCA Back-A-Child Campaign, gave the first report for 1991-92.

"The campaign goal for 1991-92 is \$10,000, and to date we have raised \$8,640," said Bradley.

The Back-A-Child Campaign's objective is to offer memberships to financially disadvantaged youth. These youth will be exposed to athletic events, arts and crafts, cultural activities, field trips, environmental and social issues workshops, public service projects, recreational leagues and tutoring.

SICKLE CELL PROG. MARKS 10TH YEAR

The Comprehensive Sickle Cell Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill marks its 10th year of service this fall to North Carolinians with sickle cell disease.

The multidisciplinary program, which is housed at UNC Hospitals, offers medical and psychosocial care to more than 350 adults and children with sickle cell and related blood diseases.

These hereditary diseases affect about 2,000 blacks in North Carolina and about 50,000 blacks throughout the United States. One out of 10 blacks has sickle cell trait, an asymptomatic condition caused by the inheritance of one gene for sickle cell disease.

(See NEWS BRIEFS, P. 2)



MS. EVA M. CLAYTON

great universities and colleges, small businesses, manufacturing giants and the finest family farms, we also face great challenges in our high rates of unemployment, substandard housing and crime.

"I plan to build a broad-based coalition of citizens who can make a difference, and I can do that by being

(See EVA CLAYTON, P. 2)