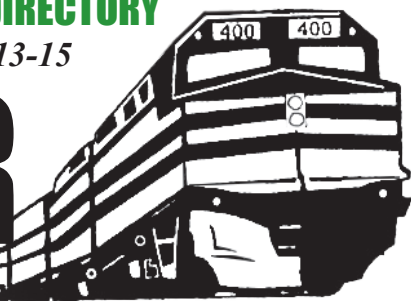




ORR  
BUSINESS DIRECTORY  
Pages 13-15



# THE CONDUCTOR

The Official Newspaper of The Overground RR!!®

VOLUME 8 No. 1

3rd Qtr. 2012

## The ORR WORSHIP CENTERS

Anointed Word Evangelistic Tabernacle  
Anointed Vision of Hope  
Ariel Bowen UMC  
The Ark of Salvation  
Believers' Bible Christian Church  
Ben Hill Christian Church  
Ben Hill UMC  
Bethesda Cathedral of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.  
Beulah Missionary Baptist Church  
Big Bethel AME  
Big Miller Grove Missionary Baptist Church  
Boatrock Baptist Church  
Butler Street Christian Methodist Episcopal  
Calvary United Methodist Church  
Cascade United Methodist Church  
Christian Fellowship Baptist Church  
Clarkston First Baptist Church  
Columbia Drive United Methodist Church  
Community Church of God  
Covenant Ministries

Day Spring International Ministries, Inc.  
Dodd-Sterling UMC  
Ebenezer Baptist Church  
Elizabeth Baptist Church  
Emmaus Road Missionary Baptist Church  
Emmanuel Tabernacle  
Enon Church  
Evangelistic New Life Worship Center  
First AME Church  
First Iconium Baptist Church  
First Victory Baptist Church  
Friendship Community Church  
Grace Community Fellowship Church  
Greater Heights Christian Church  
Greater Mount Carmel AME  
Greater Mountain Baptist Church  
Greater New Life Baptist Church  
Greater New Light Missionary Baptist Church  
The Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church  
Greenforest Community Baptist Church  
Headland Heights UMC  
Highly Favored Ministries  
Hillside International Truth Center, Inc.  
B.J. Holland Institute of Ministry  
Hopewell MBC  
Impact! Doing Church Differently  
International Christian Fellowship  
Jackson Memorial Baptist Church  
Journey of Faith Church  
Kingdom of God Evangelistic Outreach Ministry  
Kingdom Reality  
Liberty International Ministries  
Life Changing Ministries  
Light of the World Christian Tabernacle  
Lindsay Street Baptist Church  
Love Circle and Truth Center  
Love Life Christian Fellowship Church  
Midway Missionary Church  
Miracles, Miracles and More Miracles  
Mission On The Move  
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church  
Mt. Carmel Baptist Church  
Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church  
Muhammed's Mosque No. 15  
New Beginnings Ministries  
New Fountain Worldwide Ministries  
New Jerusalem Baptist Church  
Omega Holiness Church  
Poplar Springs Baptist Church  
Powerhouse of Deliverance Cathedral  
Power of Faith Deliverance Ministry  
Providence Missionary Baptist Church  
Ray Of Hope Christian Church  
Redemptive Life Christian Fellowship Church  
Salem Bible Church  
Solomon Temple Missionary Baptist Church  
St James Missionary Baptist Church  
St. John Missionary Baptist Church  
St. Mark AME Church  
St. Mark Lutheran Church  
St. Philip AME Church  
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church  
The True Light Baptist Church  
Trinity Tabernacle Baptist Church  
West End Seventh-Day Adventist  
Wheat Street Baptist Church  
Woods Memorial Baptist Church  
Word of God Ministries  
World Covenant Christian Center  
Zion Hill Baptist Church

## The Call and the Response

# WE WON!! CBC MEDIA AWARD

Congratulations to you Black Atlanta!!!

Because of your enthusiastic support, the staff of the OvergroundRR!!® has been informed that The Conductor newspaper has been chosen to receive the Concerned Black Clergy's Media Award. Each of you have played an important part in building the OvergroundRR!!® movement. Of course, The Conductor newspaper has had a key role in the movement, in addition to the world class website OvergroundRR.com; SPARKS, (the e-newsletter); the vibrant Black Business Month/Marching2March campaign; and many other activities that make up the movement.

Each time you pick up a copy of The Conductor, view or download it from OvergroundRR.com you move us all a step forward on this leg of the freedom march. And you absolutely outdid yourself with your support of this year's 2nd quarter issue with its lead article, *1st Annual Black Business Month*. The first 50,000 copies went so fast, that we had to print another 50,000 copies.

**That issue of the Conductor had the State's 2nd largest circulation.**

Wow!! With 100,000 copies, you caused The Conductor to have the 2nd largest circulation per issue in the State of Georgia, 2nd only to the Atlanta Journal Constitution, surpassing Creative Loafing, which prints 80,000 copies per issue. Now, lets not get it twisted, The Conductor newspaper has long had the 3rd largest circulation in the State of Georgia per issue with 50,000 copies, and that is absolutely extraordinary.

It is a great accomplishment when you

## Community Income Spending Comparison

Ethnicity	Population	Amt Spent (billions)	Bus. Revenues (billions)	% of Amount
Blacks	39,472,041	\$ 910	\$ 136	15%
Hispanics	48,232,635	\$ 978	\$ 350	36%
Asians	14,506,692	\$ 509	\$ 506	99%
Whites	244,493,339	\$ 9,125	\$ 24,061	263%

## ORR A.L.L.I.A.N.C.E.S

100 Black Men of Atlanta, Inc. - 100 Black Women of Atlanta - A Guiding Hand - All Empowered Inc. - Americolor Opera Alliance  
Association of Black Cardiologists - Atlanta Be Someone - Atlanta Business League - Atlanta Quest - Atlanta Urban League  
Black Women Film Network - Career Choice International - City of Atlanta, Minority Business Opportunities - Cleveland Ave  
Roy L. Yancy, Sr. Public Library - Community Teen Coalition, Inc. - Concerned Black Clergy - FACAA - Fulton County Workforce Development  
Georgia Black Chamber of Commerce - GABEO - Ga. Coalition of Black Women, Inc. - Girl Scout Troop 9216 - Greater Atlanta Economic Alliance  
Habesha Inc. - Heart 2 Heart Kids Foundation - Investment Atlanta, Inc. - Jehovah Jireh Edutainment Ministries - LAMA Inc. - Making The Transition, Inc.  
MACEO's Kids Foundation - M.E.N.S. Wear, Inc. - NAACP of Georgia National Action Network - Radio One - Ropheka Rock of the World, Inc.  
Sadie G. Mays Health & Rehabilitation Center - SCLC Women - Show and Prove Youth Organization - SKIP, Inc. - Soul Food Museum - SPARC - The B-Aware Foundation - The Grapevine HIV/AIDS Foundation - The Green City Development Group - The Michelle Davis Show - The Owens Center For Excellence - The Spirit of Sweet Auburn - Truly Living Well Center for Natural Urban Agriculture - Tupac Amaru Shakur Foundation  
United Negro College Fund - WCLK Jazz 91.9 FM

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." - III John 1:2

ABOVE ALL THINGS MINISTRY



### First Issue of The North Star

consider that the first issue of The Conductor in 2003 consisted of only 8 pages with a print of 5,000 copies. However, when you pushed The Conductor into the State's 2nd largest circulation spot the ORR staff, churches, businesses and community organizations became even more in awe at what GOD is doing through you. Yes, he is an awesome GOD!!!

### The movement is growing!!

Just as he led our people from chained slavery, he is raising up the OvergroundRR!!® movement to complete the journey to real freedom, economic freedom. It is extremely humbling and at the same time extremely exciting to be a part of this historic experience. The OvergroundRR!!® has grown to 92



### First Issue of The Conductor

churches, 170 businesses and 45 community organizations; thereby encompassing all areas of the Atlanta Black community.

The mission of the Overground RR!!® is the economic freedom of the Black community. Specifically, the mission the ORR is to empower the Black community by increasing the share of the Black economy controlled by the Black community. As of 2008, according to the Selig Center of the University of Georgia, Blacks spent approximately \$910 billion, but the gross revenues of Black businesses approximate only 15% of that amount.

The Conductor delivers to our community the primary tool which is necessary to increase the share of the Black economy controlled by us. That essential primary tool is the ORR Business Directory (see pages 13-15). The key to our freedom is for us to support our own businesses.

In order for us to do that we must be able to

Continued on pg. 2

To learn more about our business and community members, please visit [www.overgroundrr.com](http://www.overgroundrr.com)





Letter From the Chairman



Mad and Scared

Aaron Turpeau,  
ORR Chairman

I would be mad at any political party that would be so mean-spirited to hold a meeting the night of a national President inauguration to plan how to make the President fail. When Newt Gingrich admitted on national TV that he, Paul Ryan, Eric Cantor and others held a Republican caucus, at a Washington D.C. restaurant on inauguration night to plot how to destroy President Obama’s administration I got real mad. To me this is close to treason because all of them knew that the country was in a financial crisis, caused by their former leader, and their action could/would have a destructive effect on this country. But they did not care and believe only they could possibly have the answers, and therefore needed to control this country. This type of action is just WRONG, and they started the “NO” block vote against President Obama’s programs which affected progress in this country. So yes I am MAD and I am SCARED because it worked.

I am scared that this younger generation does not understand the intended implications of “We want our country back”, “Return to the days of our forefathers” and all the talk about the days of George Washington and James Madison and even Abraham Lincoln. What type of Black or White person would want to go back to the days of the Tea Party, slavery, and the conscious and legal approval of white privilege? Clearly going back would put us further behind in the jobs line, business opportunities, and competing for our own dollars. There are those Blacks and Whites who would be comfortable without Black economic freedom. Nov. 6th does give us a choice. It is clear that big money people are buying up the elections every day to maintain their economic freedom; the question is what will we do to keep us moving forward for ours.

know which businesses are owned by us and how to locate them. Therefore, we must have a central business directory which is broadly circulated and supported by our community. The ORR Business Directory is the central business directory of the Atlanta Black community.

As the mission statement shows, the ORR was created more than 10 years ago to change the economic landscape of the Black community. And, since Black-owned businesses are the vehicle to economic freedom, the ORR had to find out what is hindering the growth of community support for our businesses. The ORR discovered that one of the fundamental problems Black businesses have is a lack of awareness that they exist.

To address this problem, the ORR discovered that there was no better way to make the community aware of the existence of Black businesses than through Black preachers, the leaders of the Black churches. So, the primary strategy of the ORR became to connect consumers with Black businesses primarily through churches.

In conjunction with the Black Church, The Conductor newspaper was born. The Concerned Black Clergy are founding members of the movement.

Your Conductor newspaper of the OvergroundRR!!® is a progeny of the North Star. It was a newspaper which played a pivotal role in the Underground Railroad movement. The North Star newspaper was published by Frederick Douglass beginning on December 3, 1847. Significantly, the The North Star was printed in the basement of Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Zion church located in Rochester, New York.

In preparing *The Call and The Response* for this issue of The Conductor, the editorial board debated how much should be quoted or reprinted of Our Founding Father Frederick Douglass’ inspiring first article in the first issue of the North Star. We were moved so much by his words that we wanted to share some of them with you:

We are now about to assume the management of the editorial department of a newspaper, devoted to the cause of Liberty, Humanity and Progress. The position is one which, with the purest motives, we have long desired to occupy. **It has long been our anxious wish to see, in this slave-holding, slave-trading, and Negro-hating land, a printing-press and paper, permanently established, under the complete control and direction of the immediate victims of slavery and oppression.**

\*\*\*

It is scarcely necessary for us to say that our desire to occupy our present position at the head of an Antislavery Journal, has resulted from no unworthy distrust or ungrateful want of appreciation of the zeal, integrity, or ability of the noble band of white laborers, in this department of our cause; but, from a sincere and settled conviction that such a Journal, if conducted with only moderate skill and ability, would do a most important and indispensable work, which it would be wholly impossible for our white friends to do for us.

**It is neither a reflection on the fidelity, nor a disparagement of the ability of**



Frederick Douglass

our friends and fellow-laborers, to assert what “common sense affirms and only folly denies,” that the man who has suffered the wrong is the man to demand redress,—that the man STRUCK is the man to CRY OUT—and that he who has endured the cruel pangs of Slavery is the man to advocate Liberty. It is evident we must be our own representatives and advocates... In the grand struggle for liberty and equality now waging, it is meet, right and essential that there should arise in our ranks authors and editors, as well as orators, for it is in these capacities that the most permanent good can be rendered to our cause.

**Hitherto the immediate victims of slavery and prejudice, owing to various causes, have had little share in this department of effort: they have frequently undertaken, and almost as frequently failed.** This latter fact has often been urged by our friends against our engaging in the present enterprise; but, so far from convincing

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The ORR welcomes new members

Alliances

WAIN Internet Television

Businesses

C D Moody Construction  
First Fruit Natural Healing Home  
R L Brown & Associates, Inc.

Churches

Abundant Word Ministries  
Faith Walk Ministries  
Transform Lives Christian Church  
Victory for the World Church  
Liberty International Ministries



Thanks, for getting aboard ...

**The ORR!! pauses** in remembrance of Rev. David Scott a long Church Station Conductor who established Emmaus Road Missionary Baptist Church 16 years ago.

Rev. Scott died September 24th from complications of respiratory failure. In addition to his wife, Rev. Scott is survived by two sons, a daughter and four grandchildren.

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www.OvergroundRR.com

www.Marching2March.com

THE POWER TO PRODUCE WEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH SPIRIT-BASED COLLABORATION

Creating Economic Power in Our Community • Business Directory • Jobs in the Community • Consumer Satisfaction • Church Centers for Business Referrals • Business/Consumer Accountability • Membership Benefits • Email Newsletter • Referral Service • Arbitration of Disputes



# Overground RR!!® Pulpit



**Host Pastor**  
**Pastor Emeritus, Providence MBC**  
**Pastor Gerald Durley**

Rev. Frank Brown, President Elect of the Concerned Black Clergy has long been God-inspired to lead, celebrate and support the black community. I’ve enjoyed getting to know him and learning about how he got started and I’m sure you will also...



**Guest Pastor**  
**Senoir Pastor, Mt. Olive MBC**  
**Rev. Frank C. Brown**

It is with a great deal of humility that I have graciously accepted the honor of being elected to serve as President and CEO of the Concerned Black Clergy of Metropolitan Atlanta. This is certainly a daunting task and awesome responsibility to lead such a committed organization of faith and community leaders in seeking to meet the ever expanding needs of God’s people.

## THE CONCERNED BLACK CLERGY

By Rev. Frank C. Brown  
Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, Atlanta

As the moral compass of our community, we seek to be intimately engaged in the decision making process that affects the lives of all people. In other words, we want to be called and consulted first, when problems develop, exist or persist. And we will respond to those calls with all deliberate speed and due diligence, based upon our common values of faith, family and community. It is our position to be proactive, not reactive, and to utilize the ingenuity of our membership to develop initiatives and programs that will lead us from the ravages of an impoverished condition. Because when people live with their backs against the wall, they need to know that there is someone who stands on the side of the oppressed.

It was the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who once said that life’s most persistent and urgent question is what are you doing for others? And by virtue of our common cause, we are called upon to do the work that will liberate people from the depth of their circumstances. Our mission is to provide leadership, advocacy, and service to the homeless, helpless and hopeless in our community. With God as our guide, faith as our foundation, and deliverance as our aspiration, it is my

sincere heartfelt prayer, that together we will build upon the great legacy that began twenty eight years ago, which seeks to serve the least, the lost, the locked out, the marginalized and oppressed people in our society. We will make it our priority to continue to create outreach programs and partner with civic, community and other non-profit organizations that are addressing the needs of the homeless. The homeless population is expanding, while services and resources on the state and federal level are diminishing. But as a people of faith, we are called upon to be sensitive to the plight of the poor. We cannot turn our backs on this systemic problem.

The CBC has a partnership with the Wells Fargo Corporation to address this challenge in our community. It is an initiative that developed at the height of the foreclosure crisis to help people remain in their homes, and learn to better manage their resources. This program seeks to connect clergy and their memberships with relevant banking products and services that promote neighborhood stability and financial success in our communities. In addition to this initiative, it is imperative that we leverage relationships with other corporate sponsors such as Habitat for Humanity

and 1st Choice. Both of these outstanding organizations provide first time homebuyer workshops and other educational services relative to homeownership.

I recognize that the issue of homelessness is extremely broad and complex and that it is not limited to those who reside in shelters and sleep under bridges. But it is also represented by those who are living in the basement of family and friends, or perhaps living in extended stay motels. There are many variables that cause and create homelessness. Chief among them are the economic conditions under which we live. Unfortunately, the greatest disparity between the rich and the poor in this nation exist here in the city of Atlanta. We also hold the dubious distinction of being the poorest city in the US for children with the largest number of homeless children. So in our quest to deal with the homeless issue, we must not overlook our brothers, but we must channel our attention greatly to women and children.

We must continue to support and create programs and services that address the employment issues in our community. The employment market will never be what it once was. This is why we must help our

people develop a spirit of entrepreneurship. It is imperative that we encourage and educate our communities on how to create and support small businesses in our community. We want to provide resources for good business practices that develop into the tools necessary for creating sound business plans to provide consistent quality customer service which is critical product delivery, access to financial resources the sustainability of capital. All of which work together to eliminating homelessness and poverty.

We are called upon in the words of the prophet Micah, to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God. It is my prayer that as God leads me, God will lead this organization with the same sense of urgency and focus that has been demonstrated by our founding members. But I have learned that a leader is only as good as those who follow them. And I have absolutely no interest in being a lone ranger in this mission. Independently we can accomplish some things, but together we can accomplish so much more.

To learn more about our business and community members, please visit [www.overgroundrr.com](http://www.overgroundrr.com)

## Heroes and Sheroes of the Church



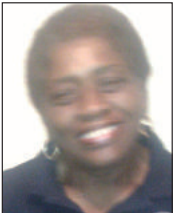
### ORR Church Coordinator

**Mrs. Cynthia Ross** has been a member of Hillside International Truth Center for 24 years. Her service to Hillside includes being a member of the Steering Committee of Our Business OnThe Hill (OBOTH), an auxiliary group that publishes Hillside’s Total Business Resource Directory, which includes information about businesses which are owned by Hillside members and of which she is editor. She also serves as editor of The Truth News Magazine, one of the primary means of communicating Hillside’s teachings, information, and events to its members and the greater community. She volunteers in Truth and Treasures Bookstore and, along with her husband, Roosevelt, is a member of We Are One Couples Ministry. Mrs. Ross worked in the legal profession for over 30 years, and she and Roosevelt have one daughter, Kellee, and a four year old granddaughter, Maria Lee.



### Deacon

**Deacon Charles Williams**, Head Deacon at Covenant Cathedral takes his lay leader position very seriously. He has been a member of Covenant Cathedral for 19 years and Chairman of the Deacon Board for 7 years. He states that the most important “attributes” for being a Deacon are “being prayed up, having faith, being dedicated and committed and a people’s person.” He is involved with the feed the hungry program and the drug treatment ministry. The greatest need after drug treatment is companionship. His many years in rural South Carolina churches prepared him for the lay leadership position he holds today. Deacon Williams is married with three daughters and three grand-daughters. He lives by hard work and the 23rd Psalm.



### Mother’s Board

**Mother Velva Glover Culverson** has been at Boatrock Baptist Church for twenty-five years. During this time, she has been a dedicated student, teacher and servant. She heads and trains all age groups of ushers. She has taught and supervised Sunday School, and organized Bible school and day camp. For her entire time at Boatrock, she has been a loyal member of the music department and participates with the Praise Team, sings in the choir, and at times leads spirit filled song with the audience. Last but not least, she chairs the Kitchen Committee. Mother Culverson is always seeking opportunities to learn more about her church and Christian journey. She is the wife of Deacon Henry Culverson, and the mother of two daughters, Chauntea Hall and Chennery Farris; grandmother of six and great great-grand of two, all of whom are members of the church.



### Usher

**Head Usher Theodori Smith**, a native of Temple, Georgia joined Ariel Bowen United Methodist Church in 1949. She has been head usher since 1955 and is responsible for teaching all ushers the mechanics of their position as well as the gestures of greeting with a smile and maintaining a good attitude. She prides herself in being a people person, always concerned and fully aware of all circumstances in the worship setting. The usher either sets the stage for a positive worship experience or an unpleasant time. Usher Smith has one daughter and three sons. She is serious about her guiding bible verse, “It is better to be a doorkeeper in the house of the Lord, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness” (Psalm 84). Additionally, she is a member of the Sanctuary Choir and the Finance and Trustee Committees. One of her greatest happiness is seeing many of her former students ushering and leading in other congregations.



### First Lady

**First Lady Reverend Felecia Pearson Smith** of Community Church of God has dedicated herself to full-time ministry with her husband, Pastor Michael A. Smith. She serves as the Administrative Director of Community Church, as well as the Executive Director of the Community Empowerment Development Corporation. She holds a bachelor degree in Arts and a Masters degree in Divinity. In 1977 she was licensed and in 1985 she was ordained. Of all her accomplishments and accolades, she takes great pleasure in her personal relationship with God and her family. She is the mother of two adult children, Allan and Allyson. Reverend Smith is known to be a distinct woman of great character, integrity, and grace. She believes that she “can do all things through Christ that strengthens her”, this is a true testament of her walk, her faith, and all that that she continues to do for God.



### Auxiliary

**Deacon Isadore Hillman**, a member of Emmaus Road Missionary Baptist Church, is one of the founding members of G.A.N.G. (God’s Anointed New Generation). This men’s ministry seeks to reach and teach today’s Black men how to live life God’s way with emphasis on personal relationships. Deacon Hillman is also Chairman of Deacons and oversees both the Deaconess and the Mother’s Ministries of Emmaus Road. He is the founder of Oasis In The Desert, an after-school and summer program. Deacon Hillman loves saying, “if I can help someone along the way, then my living will not be in vain!”





# A.G.E.S.

Arts  
Gospel  
Entertainment  
Sports

AGES is the section of The Conductor that is directed towards highlighting Arts, Gospel, Entertainment and Sports activities and events taking place within the African-American community; and specifically featured or presented within the Metropolitan Atlanta area. To learn how your church, business or organization can get involved, please contact The Overground RR!!® office at 404-346-0808.

## Arts



URBAN NUTCRACKER is Ballethnic Dance Company's contemporary African-American adaptation of the traditional Nutcracker with an urban twist. This entertaining performance takes place on Atlanta's own Sweet Auburn Avenue in the 1940's, and opens the weekend before Thanksgiving. Enjoy the soulful celebration, the majestic journey, the whimsical and mysterious characters such as Reggae Ragdolls, the sultry Arabian dance, the spins and leaps of the Black Russian, Mother Spice and her tumbling Spice Drops, the bubbly Coca Cola Pas de Six and the elegant Brown Sugar and her Chocolatier. Professional dancers and urban minority youth, dancing to the traditional Tchaikovsky score along with newly adapted music composed by L. Gerard Reid.

This full-length ballet has become a tradition, kicking off Atlanta's holiday season will be staged at the Ferst Center for the Arts located on the Georgia Tech campus, November 15th – 18th, 2012.

## Entertainment



The Mountaintop  
by Katori Hall  
directed by Jasmine Guy

The gripping re-imagining of events the night before the assassination of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, JR. After delivering one of his most memorable speeches, an exhausted Dr. King retires to his room at the

Lorraine Motel while a storm rages outside. When a mysterious stranger arrives with some surprising news, King is forced to confront his destiny and his legacy to his people.

Southwest Arts Center: November 13 - December 16, 2012  
Two Trains Running by August Wilson

In 1969 the Hill District is gentrifying, threatening the cultural heart of black Pittsburgh. Slated for demolition is Memphis' diner, the last refuge for a makeshift family of wounded souls who have all but given up. It takes a newcomer named Sterling - a young convict with a heart that lives up to his name - to change the rules of the game. Unknowingly, the regulars take up a fight that carries them headlong into the Civil Rights Movement. Two Trains Running is an inspiring story about the protest that changed a nation.

Southwest Arts Center: February 12 - March 10, 2013  
WORLD PREMIERE Shakin' the Rafters  
Book & Lyrics by David H. Bell, Music by Robert Deason

The story of the four Simmons sisters - a gospel group touring the South in 1963. When they attempt to win the South East Gospel Convention for the honor of singing for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr in Washington D.C., family rivalries, secrets, and resentments erupt during the stress of the competition. Yet, in spite of all their tensions, disappointments, and triumphs, they always find their way back to each other through the music they sing.

## Gospel



Verizon's **How Sweet The Sound®** gospel experience showed Atlanta how to bare your soul and voice to the Lord on September 10, 2012 at Phillips Arena. For five years, enthusiastic gospel fans have entered arenas across the United States to experience the best gospel choirs in America. This two-hour-plus showing of six choirs from Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and Tennessee gave renditions with conviction that impressed and wowed the audience and a four panel judge that included CeCe Winans, Erica Campbell and Bishop Hezekiah Walker.

Proving that God's work is never done, world renowned gospel artists, Yolanda Adams and Donald Lawrence hosted and performed. In attendance were other gospel greats inclusive of Dottie Peoples and the newly crowned Sunday's Best Vocal Artist– Joshua Rogers.

The night ended with the Atlanta West Pentecostal Church Choir receiving a total of \$15,000 and the opportunity to represent the Atlanta region at the How Sweet The Sound finale in Brooklyn, NY at the Barclay's Center on November 4th. What another day of rejoicing this will bring!

## Sports



### *Ahead of the Curve*

Kenneth Samuel Hudson, the first African-American NBA referee died on Wednesday May 9, 2012 at the age of 72. He made history in 1968 by becoming the first African-American full-time referee in the National Basketball Association, but his legacy stretches far beyond the court. The night after his death, the Atlanta Hawks and Boston Celtics tipped off Game 6 of their first-round playoff series. Three referees -- Derrick Stafford, Eric Lewis and Bill Kennedy -- put whistles around their necks and took the court in Boston. All three were African-American.

In the mid-1960s, Mr. Hudson caught the eye of NBA Hall of Famer Bill Russell who persuaded legendary Celtics coach Red Auerbach to allow Mr. Hudson to referee the team's training camp scrimmages. He was a nervous wreck when a snowstorm in Boston made it possible for his official call, even his parents did not know until they turned on the television. Mr. Hudson refereed several hundred games professionally from 1968-72 which prompted the 5-foot-6 legend to publish an autobiography, "A Tree Stump in the Valley of Redwoods." Though Ken Hudson's name will forever be etched into basketball history books, his passion for the game of basketball will breathe forever.

In the early 1970s his refereeing career was shelved and soon after Mr. Hudson founded the Boston Shootout, which remains an attractive tournament to top high school talent nationwide. He was committed to exposing young people, to inspire them and work with them to follow their dreams regardless of the obstacles.





# Black Business Month - Marching2March

(A new website also: [Marching2March.com](http://Marching2March.com))

## A Message from The Chief Convener

I am sure that you have heard the phrase: Talk is Cheap. However, I have discovered that talk IS NOT cheap if that talk is against a Black Owned Business. In fact negative talk about a small Black Owned Business can actually kill that business, or at the very least cripple it for an extended period of time. Most of our negative conversations about Black Owned Business are around the lack of good Customer Service. We at the Overground Railroad, Marching2March Campaign HEAR YOU!!! Good Customer Service is critical to the success of any small business.

As we look forward to our 2013 Black Church Marching2March Campaign, we plan to address the issues around good Customer Service. We have partnerships with the Atlanta Business League, Concerned Black Clergy, The Black Chamber of Commerce and other important institutions throughout our communities. Our aim is to change the culture of how we do business in the African American Community. We can learn a lot from each other, particularly from those businesses that have a good track record on Customer Service.

First, let us dispel the MYTH that most Black Businesses are sub-par. Too often we are our own worst enemies. Admittedly, there are SOME Black Business that just don't treat its' customers with maximum respect. Should we just leave and stop

supporting that business? Should we bring our concerns to the attention of the Manager or Owner? Of course we should, but with the intent to assist the business in improving its' Customer Service. If the truth be told, we have often received BAD CUSTOMER SERVICE from major Department Stores, major Banks, major grocery chains, and other businesses owned by the majority communities, and the fact is: WE DID NOT DISCONTINUE OUR SUPPORT of those businesses. Why then do we have a different standard for our own Black Owned Businesses? Why are we so ready to discontinue our support or just abandon our businesses completely due to a single bad experience?

If we in the African American community are going to continue to Teach Our Dollars Some \$cents, then we have got to find better ways of supporting each other. We have got to figure out how to work through our differences and build networks of mutual benefit. All other Ethnic Groups do a much better job of circulating the money within their own communities several times. Historically, when we could only buy and sell within our own communities, we too did a great job of circulating our dollars within our own communities several times. We understood the value of mutual business collaborations. Somewhere, we lost that idea. Without even giving it a second thought, we take our dollars out of our communities as soon as we get them.

Secondly, we have got to do extensive Customer Service Training. Our goal is to pull together the very best Trainers we have to offer and provide this service to Employers throughout Metro Atlanta. Customer Service is an issue that can be addressed because it can be learned. We witness good customer service every day and our aim is to duplicate and expand the good and minimize the bad. Perhaps we can begin by focusing on that institution closest to us - our Banks.

We are told that less than 3% of Black Dollars find their way into Black Owned Banks. This is unconscionable and this is NOT true for any other Ethnic Group. Our Banks are critical to our ability to expand small Black Owned Businesses, establish more Home Ownership in the African American community, and creating JOBS. We could begin to change the very nature of our economic situation by simply opening up accounts and supporting Capitol City and Citizens Trust Banks. If churches and businesses that have monies sitting in majority owned banks would simply MOVE some of those dollars to Capitol City and to Citizens Trust, we could Teach Our Dollars some more \$cents and thereby Empower ourselves.

When I joined Marching2March - Teaching Our Dollars Some \$cents campaign, sponsored by the Overground



Timothy McDonald

Railroad, I said that I am in this for the long haul. We did not get into this economic mess overnight and we will not solve it tomorrow. We must commit ourselves to the long, deliberate, strategic, intentional, focused and spiritually grounded approach that will truly, set our people free. Join us in this United Quest for Economic Independence.

Rev. Timothy McDonald, III

To learn more about our business and community members, please visit [www.overgroundrr.com](http://www.overgroundrr.com)



### Twanda Black of KISS 104.1 FM Radio Business in the Black

## THE DESTINY DOCTOR

She is known in public and private circles as the Destiny Doctor, Brenetia J. Adams-Robinson is all that and a bag of chips! As President of Epitome Consulting Services (ECS), Adams-Robinson has developed an innovative training firm, specializing in training development, HR consulting and professional coaching. "I have a passion to see people enjoy where they work and for years I saw people come in to work hating to come through the door. Having the expertise that I do with employee development and training, I realized that much of the problems were the leaders, the way they led and the culture they created. I have a passion to help leaders develop a better work environment for their employees thereby creating a stronger foundation to achieve organizational goals through employee efforts," states Adams-Robinson. The mission of ECS is to help business owners and corporate decision makers achieve their strategic business goals through maximizing management of human resources and providing creative workforce solutions for today's multicultural global workplace dilemma. She works with people of diverse backgrounds, nationalities and cultures, having the capacity to meet people where they are to help them achieve personal and professional success.

With over 20 years experience in both national and international markets, the Cum Laude

graduate of University of Maryland-Europe is skilled in training customization, leadership development, cultural analysis, HR program development and strategic planning. Adams-Robinson holds a MBA in global management strategies and is a candidate for a Doctorate of Management in Organizational Leadership (pending dissertation approval). She is adept at converting problems into proficiency and can transform failing programs into programs of maximum efficiency. She successfully designs and presents training programs to all levels of employee populations from entry level to senior executives.

Adams-Robinson believes that true success comes when you walk in your purpose, so she founded Proverbial Peace Revived in 2004, a 501c3 community outreach service. "Most

people live their entire lives unhappy and living through the trials that I've had, I was going to be one of them. When God brought me out of my trials and brought me to a place of peace, I realized I could use those same biblical principles to help others go from hopelessness to



hope filled purpose, because when we are hopeless, there is no way we can ever be happy- that's just not God's plan!" says Adams-Robinson. The vision of PPR is to see individuals restored from traumatic life events and empowered to live healthy, productive, purpose driven lives by releasing the pain of the past to make their personal and professional goals a reality. Woman 2 Woman (W2W) is a powerful, life-changing, 8-week series for women ready to dismiss the pain and walk into their destiny. Simply put, you grow and go! Adams-

Robinson has mastered strategies to tap into intrinsic motivators to identify self imposed limitations and hindrances for purposeful living. There is also a powerful Man 2 Man (M2M) program, led by experienced facilitators. PPR also has a program focused on youth in foster care and juvenile justice systems.

Known as the Destiny Doctor, Adams-Robinson is a speaker, seminar presenter, workshop facilitator and host and can be heard every 4th Sunday on Business in the Black on KISS 104 from 5am-7am. Her first book, "The Power Within" is a roadmap on how to release the scars and brokenness of your past to live your authentic destiny. Adams-Robinson has two sons and one daughter, and three beautiful grandchildren. This Destiny Doctor is an anointed leader and role model for so many women and an awesome woman of God!

For more information, go to [www.EpitomeTraining.com](http://www.EpitomeTraining.com) or [www.ProverbialPeace.org](http://www.ProverbialPeace.org). She is available to help individuals walk into their destiny and businesses maximize their potential!!

To learn more about our business and community members, please visit [www.overgroundrr.com](http://www.overgroundrr.com)





# The OvergroundRR!!® is here to lead us to economic freedom.

...We [the American Negro] collectively have an annual income of more than thirty billion dollars a year, which is more than all of the exports of the United States, and more than the national budget of Canada. Did you know that? That's power right there, if we know how to pool it... Martin Luther King, Jr "I've Been to the Mountaintop" delivered April 3,1968, the night before he was assassinated (Listen to 2 ½ minute audio of edited excerpts). The Black churches of Atlanta, Georgia have figured out how to pool it and they are ready to lead the community in doing just that. The Black churches of Atlanta urge you to join the OvergroundRR!!®'s Black Business Month/Marching2March celebration. By connecting consumers to Black businesses through churches, we will change the financial landscape of the Black community.



Listen to 2 ½ minute audio of edited excerpts at [Marching2March.com](http://Marching2March.com)



## Overground RR!!®'s Inaugural BLACK BUSINESS MONTH GOLF TOURNAMENT

**Tee time:**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2013**  
Alfred Tup Holmes Golf Course  
2300 Wilson Dr., SW | Atlanta, GA 30311



**"Get on board!!!!"**  
*"Teams can represent their churches, businesses or community organizations, or just represent themselves."*

**Early Registration \$50**  
**Registration is \$55**  
Register at ORR office:  
3720 Campbellton Road  
Atlanta, Ga 30331

**Celebrating**  
**Black Business Month,**  
**unifying the community**  
**for economic freedom**

Register online at  
[Marching2March.com](http://Marching2March.com)



Harriet Tubman (born Araminta Harriet Ross; 1820 – March 10, 1913)

## Become A Black Business Month / M2M Sponsor

### THE CONDUCTOR - \$10,000

- Full-page ad in the OvergroundRR!!® Black Business Month Directory
- Banner ad on the OvergroundRR!!® Black Business Month Website for all seven months
- Title sponsor recognition on all OvergroundRR!!® Black Business Month Newsletters
- Signage at all Black Business Month culminating events
- First Class seating on the Freedom Stand in the church of your choice (2 quarters)
- Title sponsor recognition on the Youth Banking Center in the church of your choice
- Company material distributed in congregation bags

### THE ENGINEER - \$ 5,000

- Half-page ad in the OvergroundRR!!® Black Business Month Directory
- Banner ad on the OvergroundRR!!® Black Business Month Website for 4 months
- Sponsor recognition on all OvergroundRR!!® Black Business Month Newsletters
- Signage at all Black Business Month culminating events
- Coach seating on the Freedom Stand in the church of your choice (2 quarters)
- Sponsor recognition on the Youth Banking Center in the church of your choice
- Company material distributed in congregation bags

### THE FOREMAN - \$ 2,500

- Quarter-page ad in the OvergroundRR!!® Black Business Month Directory
- Banner ad on the OvergroundRR!!® Black Business Month Website for 2 months
- Sponsor recognition on all OvergroundRR!!® Black Business Month Newsletters

See Details at  
[Marching2March.com](http://Marching2March.com)





# Business



## Architecture & Design Brings the Ray Charles Performing Arts Center to Life



*The Ray Charles Performing Arts Center.*

The Ray Charles Performing Arts Center is evidence of Morehouse College's commitment to enhancing the study of the arts. Designed to serve the academic mission of the Department of Music, as well as meet the performance space requirements of the College campus, the Center is home to the Morehouse College Glee Club, Morehouse Jazz Band, Morehouse College Jazz Ensemble and "House of Funk" Marching Band. The Center's architectural features capture the beauty of the traditional red brick bar accents and columns on the main campus, while adding modern, artistic elements of light colored stone accents, glass walls and cathedral ceilings.

Morehouse College says "Long live the Genius" through the Ray Charles Performing Arts Center. A \$20 million, 76,000 square-foot facility—located at the edge of the historic West End district at the corner of Joseph P. Lowery and West End Avenue—providing an attractive and welcoming gateway to the south entrance of the campus.

The design of the Ray Charles Performing Arts Center pays homage to the look and feel of the Morehouse campus with complements to other architectural structures.



*Ray Charles Robinson*

There is not much about Ray Charles Robinson's beginning that could have predicted the profound influence he would have on Morehouse College, Atlanta and the American music landscape. He was born into abject poverty

to a single mother in 1930, an era marked by the Great Depression and brutal racism. He witnessed the drowning of his only brother, George. He lost his sight at the age of six and was orphaned at 15.

Charles' recording career began in 1949 and soon after he started mixing music genres leading to the successful release of "I Got a Woman", which is popularly credited as the first true "soul" record. In creating the song, Charles reworded the gospel tune, "Jesus Is All the World to Me", adding deep church inflections to his music. One of the singer's most moving and enduring musical recordings is his oft-played rendition of "America, the Beautiful".

The lessons of hardships and challenges were instrumental in honing one of the greatest music pioneers of our times. Over the course of six decades, the little blind boy from Florida rightfully earned the title of "The Genius of Soul". An accomplished pianist and songwriter, Charles was one of the first inductees into numerous music halls of fame, including the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, as well as those for Jazz and Rhythm and Blues.

From blindness to greatness, from musical mimic to musical genius, Ray Charles' life was one of extremes and extraordinary talent that came to an end after 73 years on June 10, 2004.

In 2001, Morehouse College honored Charles with the Candle Award for Lifetime Achievement in Arts and Entertainment, and later that same year granted him an honorary doctor of humane letters. It is also the year that Charles and his longtime business manager, Joe Adams, gave a gift of \$1 million to Morehouse, where Charles had approved plans for the building of the Ray Charles Performing Arts Center.

On entering the world-class Emma and Joe Adams Concert Hall, patrons will be impressed by the 550-fixed-seat capacity featuring a motorized orchestra pit that can be raised to provide additional seating. Its incomparable acoustics will delight the ear of even the novice listener.



*Emma and Joe Adams Concert Hall*

### Atrium/Pre-Event Reception Area

Beyond the atrium stairway is an intimate two-story alcove—a perfect space for informal receptions and pre- and post-concert gatherings. The space features a floor-to-ceiling glass wall and upper-level balcony with spectacular views.

### Eugene Mitchell Performance Lawn

A unique attribute of the Center is the Eugene Mitchell Performance Lawn - located outside at the rear of the band rehearsal room. A wall in the band rehearsal room can be raised, transforming the space into a stage. The performance lawn, which will seat approximately 200 patrons in chairs and on blankets, begs for the occasional impromptu musical performances or casual gatherings of students between classes.

### Music Academic Building

The Morehouse College music program is nearly 100 years old, dating back to the founding of the world-renowned Morehouse College Glee Club in 1911. The Music Academic Building is designed to address the future instructional, rehearsal and performance space needs for several generations of Morehouse students. The building features 12 faculty studios, two electronic classrooms, nine practice rooms, dedicated storage areas for students' instruments, a library for sheet music and three academic labs.

### Team Work at Its Best...

Backgrounds in architect, engineering and construction with more than 30 years of experience, the vision of the Ray Charles Performing Arts Center brought together again a team of experts that know how to work projects from conception to completion. They are...



Robert L. Brown, Jr. of R.L. Brown & Associates, Inc. has spent his career combining business and social responsibility. As founder and CEO of the Decatur



based architectural firm, he used the time spent with his father installing roofs to "design them instead of building them". His firm provides comprehensive professional services in all phases of planning, design and construction management.

Founded in 1984, the firm's diverse project experience balances work for public and private clients and includes educational facilities of all kinds, as well as commercial offices, aviation and health care facilities, cultural centers, public libraries, infrastructure improvements, parks and recreational facilities. Brown says, "Architecture is the conductor of an orchestra – it has many working parts".

Brown's firm practices sustainable design principles and "Green Design," incorporating high performance materials for maximum energy efficiency, whether or not LEED certification is required. All of which have led to many awards of "Excellence in Architecture" from diverse project designs to his being chosen as *Georgia Trend's* Most Respected CEO for 2012.

To learn more about our business and community members, please visit [www.overgroundrr.com](http://www.overgroundrr.com)

### The Firm

Utilizing the 8th floor of the Renaissance Building on Ponce de Leon in Decatur since 1981 he and his staff use their expertise in "smart" building design and Building Information Modeling (BIM) to expand and promote best practices in architecture. The philosophy of his firm is to combine design excellence, strong business skills, collaboration and problem-solving to improve the places where we live, learn, work and play. This defines what they do and who they are. Brown says, "You try as an architect to look at how something could be designed to deal with the whole, [not just the pieces] to connect the pieces into an image, just like a design that everyone can see and be inspired by".

Early on architects were master builders designing buildings, much like Brown's father who sketched his concrete work, carpentry,

*Continued on pg. 8*





Continued from page 7

heating and air conditioning projects on a napkin. A significant change to this has been in the rise of the design-build system of project delivery where the design and construction is typically handled by a single entity. This is opposite the traditional design-build where project owners hired an architect for the design and a contractor for the construction. The design-build concept of collaboration was part of Brown’s plan in 1984 and is a fundamental component of his firm today. Brown’s use of the “design-build” concept helps to eliminate conflicts, scheduling difficulties and budget challenges.

Lifelong Influences

As sole proprietors of small businesses, he watched how his parents dealt with customers to cultivate and build relationships. Even though Brown was without an architect to advise him before beginning his six-year studies at Tuskegee University in Architecture, he used the teachings and influences of his mother and father to “lift the veil of ignorance” through education and relationship building. This led to his being recruited by the Atlanta architectural firm of Aeck Associates (now Lord Aeck Sargent) while still in school.

As his studies concluded and graduating magna cum laude his career took him to Fry and Welch/Steven & Wilkinson where in 1980 he became part of the team that worked on the Atlanta airport terminal driven by the late Atlanta Mayor, Maynard Jackson. On completion of this project he was approached by Dillingham Construction to work as a project architect giving him the opportunity to see how things were being built. As a result, the experience changed his perspective and his working habits that remain in effect today.

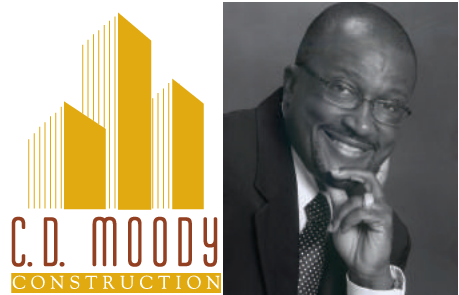
Other individuals with influence on his life include Manuel Maloof, construction pioneer Herman Russell and businessman Felker

Ward. Now he shares his wisdom in mentoring others and giving back to the community. This is a key driver in leadership for Brown.

Civic Responsibility

Meeting the late Manuel Maloof (DeKalb County CEO) was challenging and rewarding for Brown. Maloof asked him to sit on the board for Grady Hospital and after 20 years of service, of which 14 were as Chairman. In his civic duty, he learned how to balance supply and demand and how to manage a business without all the resources needed. Over the years his community work has grown to include education and state corrections. Brown’s giving back has helped sharpen his business skills in making tough decisions while maintaining his mission.

Brown says, “Architecture is more than just designing buildings; it’s investing in the community”. His firm is a vehicle in which to give back to the community and he readily gives credit to his parents and employees for making it possible. Community involvement and relationship building is how RL Brown & Associates came to be the design firm chosen for the Ray Charles Performing Arts Center, whereby “One project leads to another”.



C.D. Moody Construction

Creativity with Legos at the age of ten now has Charles David Moody, Jr. of C.D. Moody Construction acknowledged as a leader in the construction industry for his delivery of quality projects. Founded in 1988 to provide gener-

al construction, design-build and construction management services for clients throughout the Southeast, the company has amassed a broad range of experience and earned a solid reputation for top-quality work delivered on time and within budget.

Moody is a 1978 Psychology graduate of Morehouse College that followed his dream of becoming an architect to Howard University under the tutelage of Harry Robinson. On completing his architectural studies he went to work in the Nuclear Power Division as a staff architect for Bethel Power Corporation in Michigan. He was the first architect from an HBCU to join the firm and knew he had to work hard to be the best. Working hard was commonplace for him, but he quickly realized “he did not have the patience for architecture” nor “did he want to be an average architect”. This realization brought forth his passion for building things as a child which he used it to become a leader in the construction industry.

Moody Construction believes in “being green” and recognizes the importance of building smarter for the environment and generations to come.

Lifelong Influences

The lessons learned from working for three different small construction companies in the early 80s taught him how to build his own business. As a consequence, without a penny to his name, Moody used his supporting wife, passion, drive, tenacity, and most importantly, his faith in God to start C.D. Moody Construction Company.

The early years were tough and did not go without worry, however, his passion and love of architecture kept him going as did the many lessons his grandparents taught him, one of which was not to quit. More so, he credits his parents’ love, motivation, hard work, encouragement, and consistently telling him he could be whatever he wanted to be helped his dream

one of the most important positions in the world – Air Traffic Controller. She was the first African American female to qualify for this position at Hartsfield Jackson International Airport where she worked for almost 20 years. On recognizing the stress, depression and sicknesses of the job, she decided to explore different options and left the profession to follow her divine purpose.

As written in Disabled World News (2009-01-16), the World Health Organization estimates 65-80 percent of the population use holistic naturopathic medicine as a primary form of health care. Dr. Nancy says, “If everyone knew they could prevent any disease with plant extracts, medicinal herbs, natural vitamins, minerals, and supplements, as well as having peace of mind, the pharmaceutical and medical industry could collapse overnight. The majority of people tend to be concerned about their health after something major has occurred. The truth is if we consistently take good care of our health the aging process has little impact”.

First Fruit has a team of practitioners who openly serve anyone ready for a personal journey. An array of services offered include nutritional counseling, weight loss programs, Bio-Energetic assessments, Iridology session, Bio Mat Performance, the breakthrough session, total body wellness session, the jumpstart strategy session, colon hydrotherapy (colonics), detox foot bath, detox package, detox weight loss, transpersonal/spiritual counseling, & massage therapy.

Dr. Nancy has her own radio show called “Holistic Healing with Dr. Nancy, every Monday

come to fruition.

Moody says, “I am still a kid at heart living my dream, working with architects and building their buildings. I have a great wife and a successful marriage, and two adult children that work in the business; great employees who I enjoy watching grow and do great projects, and helping others by donating my time and money. I make it a goal to laugh every day and to make someone else laugh. I am humbled and honored by all that God has blessed me with. I am just having fun in life and living my dream.”

Civic Responsibility

Moody strongly believes one of the pillars in a successful company is community involvement. The C.D. Moody Foundation was created with the sole purpose of creating opportunities for individuals with a passion for construction through financial assistance towards higher education. The importance of giving back to the community extends beyond monetary donations and must include volunteering one’s time throughout the community. Being a part of the community means “time, dedication and active involvement.”

For Moody, it was never about how much money he could make, but about how much money he could give to help others, how much time he could give to others, how well he could build buildings and build other leaders. To his credit, he serves on boards and works with many community endeavors while being blessed to build more than 170 great buildings; set up endowment scholarships at six schools; provide 80 scholarships, and has been honored with awards for jobs wells done.

Being honest with what he was good at, he did not give up. He did not quit, and C.D. Moody Construction is celebrating 24 years of success. Moody never wants to retire and will continue to “thrive and drive” the next generation.

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and Wednesday from 2pm-3pm on Atlanta’s Love 860 AM, or internationally on the web at [www.love860.com](http://www.love860.com). Additionally, Dr. Williams



Dr. Nancy J. Williams

is an accomplished author with a published book to her credit, entitled “Divine You” Mind, Body & Soul which includes “The Complete Step By Step Detox Guide For A Healthy Happier You,” “Detoxing Into Your Best Self,” “Nutrition and Meal Plans For Beginners,” and “Juicing For Beginners”.

To learn more about Dr. Nancy J. Williams and First Fruit Natural Healing Home visit her website at [www.firstfruitnaturalhealinghome.com](http://www.firstfruitnaturalhealinghome.com), like her on Facebook or contact her by phone at (770) 484-4745.

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FIRST FRUIT NATURAL HEALING HOME



First Fruit Natural Healing Home

Dr. Nancy J. Williams, owner of First Fruit Natural Healing Home, is on a mission to heal the world. Specializing in holistic healing and holistic ministry, her focus is on the mind, body and soul. First Fruit creates the perfect ambiance when entering the facility as it illuminates warm and inviting colors integrated with welcoming scents to prepare you for a positive relaxing therapeutic experience. Dr. Nancy is the visionary behind First Fruit Natural Healing Home located in Lithonia, GA east of metro Atlanta. The home has 3,000

sq. ft. of sacred space which is housed on five acres of lush tree covered land. It is full of nature and do not be surprised if on your visit you encounter a deer or fox or hear soothing birdcalls. First Fruit is the ultimate healing oasis for people across the world to learn and experience what it is to be whole and live a prosperous fulfilling life.

Before becoming a full-time professional business owner, a world-renowned motivational speaker, educator, and author, Dr. Nancy held



# S&J Automotive is All Your Car Needs

“If your car is not running right, you should be running to S&J Automotive Repair”, says John Walton, owner. Starting with a 10-speed bike, he now works on domestic and foreign made cars as well as fleet cars for several Georgia government agencies and private businesses. S&J is your go-to expert source for any car, truck or SUV. Technicians are there with the experience and know-how to guide any customer through the maze of auto repair and service.

## Auto Repair Specialists

Whether it’s a new battery, brakes, alignment, or any other repair, S&J auto repair specialists have the expertise to get it done right. They boast the latest auto care technology and a staff of ASE certified technicians you can count on every time. Their goal is to provide you with trusted service you’ll come to appreciate.

Raised by his grandmother, Walton grew up helping his uncle fix cars. At the age of 16 he was taking out engines “for something to do and to stay out of trouble.” He is ASE Certified and trained in all automotive needs, but prefers automotive repair. In 1990 he started his own business to “provide quality service for cars of yesterday and today”. He is a believer of assisting customers in protecting their automobile investment, stating, “It is better to work with a customer than to work against them”.

S&J Automotive Repair, LLC is a family owned business delivering honest and professional automotive repair and auto maintenance services to the people of Riverdale and surrounding areas. S&J provides the benefits of an established national entity while maintaining the personal touch of a family owned business.

Conveniently located in front of Wal-Mart in

Riverdale on Highway 85, you can shop while waiting on your car to be repaired. Pricing for labor is below the standard rate in metro Atlanta. Recognizing that 90% of his customers are female, he gives discounts to single females to reduce their worries of paying for a vehicle that is inoperable. Also, in those times of an unavoidable excessive cost, financing can be arranged through a lending institution with approved credit.

## Car Care & Maintenance

Properly maintaining and caring for your vehicle can be confusing, but S&J makes it easy. They specialize in installing parts that meet or exceed manufacturer standards while providing the best price and quality service in metro Atlanta. No corners are cut.

Keeping your car properly maintained with oil changes or tune-ups will save money in

the long run. S&J technicians teach customers maintenance or gas saving tips to keep their cars running smoother and longer

Call S&J Auto Repair at (770) 996-3698 or visit their website at [www.sandjautorepair.com](http://www.sandjautorepair.com) for sales and service. Estimates are free and although most repairs or services are completed in one day, there are times when a rental car is needed – S&J assists customers with getting rentals.



To learn more about our business and community members, please visit [www.overgroundrr.com](http://www.overgroundrr.com)



*S&J Automotive Repair, LLC*  
*A personal touch in automotive repair*

We are an auto repair shop in Riverdale, Georgia providing the following services:

OIL CHANGES & LUBE	TRANSMISSION FLUSH	SHUTTLE SERVICE
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	COOLANT SERVICE	AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE (A1C)
BRAKE SERVICE	AIR FILTER REPLACEMENT	WHEEL ALIGNMENT
CLUTCH REPAIRS	COMPUTER DIAGNOSTICS	CVAXLES TIRE SALES & SERVICE
ELECTRICAL	VEHICLE FLUIDS	COMPUTER DIAGNOSTIC TESTING
EXHAUST SYSTEMS	CHASSIS LUBE	VEHICLE PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE
SUSPENSION WORK	CAR BATTERY REPLACEMENT	STATE EMISSIONS INSPECTION
FUEL INJECTION	BELTS & HOSES REPLACEMENT	EMISSION REPAIR FACILITY
REPLACE LIGHTS	TRANSMISSION SERVICE	TUNE UPS

“This is the kind of place people are looking for in these hard times”

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\*Must present this card at time of purchase to qualify for 10% discount. Subject to credit approval. Merchant participation may vary. Cannot be combined with any other promotion. Please see your CarCareONE merchant for details.

# Head’s Plumbing

Have you ever needed a plumber in a pinch? You start to think who can I get that is knowledgeable, dependable, that can come promptly and can answer your plumbing questions whether it is commercial or residential? Well there is a “living legend” plumber with a reputation of “doing it right the first time” and “getting it done quickly” – Odari Head of Heads Plumbing Sales and Service, Inc.



Head's Plumbing is a family owned and operated business with

There is no plumbing problem they cannot fix. Answering plumbing needs 24-hours a day; they are able to quickly diagnose a problem and usually can have it repaired within hours. All work is guaranteed with flat rates and discounts for senior citizens.

On a residential level they can assist with services such as water heater replacement, jet cleaning drains and sewer lines, septic tank installation and repair, sump pumps, rehab work and video camera inspection. For commercial properties they specialize in providing gas or electric water heaters and backflow testing and RPZ testing.

Winters is on its way and below are a few tips to help get your plumbing ready for the cold.

•Avoid frozen pipes. Watch your water pressure this time of year because the first sign of a frozen pipe is restricted water flow. If you notice this, be sure to act quickly and call a professional.

•Let cold water trickle from your faucets, slightly smaller than a pencil’s width, during the evening when the temperature is the coldest. This helps prevent freezing as moving wa-

ter does not freeze.

•Garden hoses can cause major damage if not disconnected. During cold snaps, if a garden hose is left connected, ice will form and pressure will build up in the water lines inside your home. Once this occurs, a water line leak or break is common. This can cause severe damage to the home. Disconnect garden hoses and drain outdoor pipes to prevent damage during the winter.

•After disconnecting hoses, you should install an exterior, insulated faucet jacket. This will protect your outdoor faucets, as well as the connecting lines running into the home, from freezing temperatures. Also, be sure to utilize the shut-off valves located inside your home to drain water from pipes leading to outdoor hose bibs. These valves can typically be found under sinks, in crawl spaces or basements, near your water heater or your meter, but every home is different and some homes may not be equipped with these valves.

•Circulating warm air helps keep pipes in the walls from freezing. Keep your house temperature above 55 degrees to prevent pipes from freezing, open cabinet doors under sinks and faucets, and near exterior walls to help circulate warm air and keep pipes warm.

•Close crawl space vents and garage doors, es-



Odari and Sheila Head

pecially if your water heater is in the garage.

•Check to be sure that snow is not restricting your water drainage. Watch the area around your sump pump discharge line used to avoid flooding indoors, as this line drains from a basement to an outside area. If the drainage area is blocked by snow or flowing into a puddle, freezing could occur as well as water backing-up into the house.

For repairs, cleaning or to get your home systems ready for winter, contact Heads Plumbing Service & Sales Inc. at (770) 696-3175 or [www.headsplumbing.com](http://www.headsplumbing.com).

To learn more about our business and community members, please visit [www.overgroundrr.com](http://www.overgroundrr.com)

contributions to the Atlanta area dating back to the 1940s. For four generations, this business has operated as father and son teams and now includes a grandson. Odari says, “His father was the root and he and his sons and grandson are the limbs.” This family of licensed plumbers stands on the belief that “all consumers deserve quality services and products at a reasonable cost.”



IHOP - EVERYTHING YOU LOVE ABOUT BREAKFAST

IHOP restaurants, one of America’s favorite restaurant chains, are franchises featuring moderately priced, high-quality food and beverage items, and table service in an attractive and comfortable atmosphere. Although best known for their signature pancakes, omelets and other breakfast specialties, IHOP restaurants are open throughout the day and evening hours, and offer a broad array of lunch, dinner and snack items as well.

Leonard Wilson is one of the independent business people operating 99 percent of IHOP restaurants. For some, entrepreneurship is in the blood, for others it’s in the spirit; in the case of Wilson, it’s both. Wilson is the president, franchisee and chief executive of IHOP at Greenbriar Mall in Southwest Atlanta. For more than two decades, Wilson has been his own boss. Early on he realized in this country, you need streams of income and positive

cash flow. Earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from Rutgers University taught him the foundation of profit/loss, labor control, food cost and waste.

In 1980, Wilson became a licensed Certified Public Accountant in New Jersey and opened his firm the same year. Fifteen years later, he ventured a little further down south to Durham, N.C. and opened a Burger King franchise. At that time, the Burger King Corporation had a 98 percent success rate. He knew his chances of failure were low. Even with the success of the fast food restaurant, Wilson was not completely satisfied. After being in the fast food chain business for nearly a decade, Wilson came further South to Atlanta and opened the IHOP in Greenbriar Mall in 2004.

Before becoming an accountant or even an en-

trepreneur, Wilson looked up to family members who molded him into the businessman he is today. His mother, a teacher by profession, opened a café where hamburgers, hot dogs, fried fish, etc. were the specialty. His uncle was the owner of a corner grocery store. Wilson spent his down time working in the store. He credits their determination as a seed that was planted years ago to do what he is doing now. Even though both have passed away, he is glad both got to see his success and see him carry on with the pride that was instilled in him at an early age. “My father used to say to me, ‘what kind of work?’ and I’d say, ‘teamwork’; ‘what kind of work?’, teamwork,” Wilson remembers. This is the mantra that keeps his crew professional and their customers satisfied and coming back.

ing area to check on the satisfaction of customers, he carries with him the idea that “God says that He will bless you and you can have life more abundantly,” he quotes. “Success to me is not only monetary; it’s the food of life that God promises: Love, health and prosperity; if you operate in the spiritual level and [by] fruit of the spirit. ... When you help others to grow, you, [in turn] help yourself grow.”He teaches hard work and team work to reach his business goals. His legacy will be one of pride and dignity and of offering jobs to the residents of predominantly African-American communities.

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As Wilson makes the rounds in his IHOP din-



**Leonardo Wilson**  
Owner

**I-Hop Restaurant**  
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# Church



## Salute to Black

# FAMILIES



CONCERNED BLACK CLERGY OF  
METROPOLITAN ATLANTA, INC.

*Serving Metropolitan Atlanta  
for over 25 years*

In celebration of the many contributions and accomplishments of African American families, the Concerned Black Clergy of Metropolitan Atlanta, will present our **2012 Annual Salute to Black Families Celebration** on Saturday, November 3, 2012, 12 noon at the Georgia International Convention Center, located at 2020 Convention Center Concourse, in College Park, Georgia. The theme for this year's celebration is, **"Realizing the Beloved Community."** We are proud to honor numerous outstanding families in our churches and other community leaders in areas such as education, business, politics, religion and medicine. More than 800 people are anticipated to be our guests as we celebrate the outstanding work of some very deserving persons in our community.

Concerned Black Clergy, better known as CBC, was officially chartered in 1983 in response to the problems emerging in the city related to missing and murdered children. The founding leaders, both clergy and lay, were concerned about the negative black male images that were prevalent and being internalized by black children, especially black boys. The idea emerged that CBC needed to aggressively tackle the problem of negative black male images prominent in the black community. As a result, the salutes to the black community, to its heritage, to its leaders, and to its achievements were launched. Since the beginning of CBC, it has sponsored yearly salutes to the fathers, to the mothers, and to the black heritage as a way to promote positive

images not only for black boys but also for black girls.

With so much negative press permeating through the African American community due to high rates of divorce, single parents, and out of wed-lock births, we have witnessed an all too familiar story of our families being ripped apart due to a constant cultural crisis that often leads to people being kicked to the curb. If we continue to allow our families to fall apart, our society will remain on a path of increasing deterioration. Systemic problems related to education, racism, lack of resources and institutionalization are major contributors to this persistent problem.

As servants of God, the CBC believes that our number one ministry is our family. Therefore, we believe that this event is significant because the heart of the black community is family. As one of the key anchor institutions for our people, family has always been the social fabric which moves us forward. Family provides a safe, nurturing atmosphere where children can be conceived, born, adopted, disciplined, loved, encouraged, instructed, and ultimately released to form their own families. It's the place that is designed to meet our basic human needs. A place to experience belonging. It's a place to teach established social, community, moral and spiritual values. Family provides us with a safe place to discover the meaning of life. Everybody needs a family.

Subsequently, CBC is sounding the trumpet

to engage people of faith and goodwill in an effort to celebrate the highest ideals of our people, and place emphasis on establishing and developing strong familial relationships.

Historically, part of the CBC salutes has been the effort to recruit other churches into the process of honoring and promoting people who have made significant contributions to the positive uplift of the black community. Consequently, individual black churches select several people from their congregations who will be publicly honored at the salute as well. As we continue to expand our reach, this will enable us to make a more impressive impact on our community at large.

Some of the benefits for clergy being involved in CBC are that it provides an opportunity for clergy to identify resources for doing ministry; gives them a platform to discuss and share ministry ideas and challenges with other clergy; consistent engagement of the issues that adversely impact the lives of people, and persistent fellowship opportunities. As the primary, principle centered, proactive organization of faith in metro Atlanta, we pray that our efforts will always serve as the catalyst by which change occurs in our community as we address the systemic, social, economic, political, and cultural ills affecting our community.

To learn more about our business and community members, please visit [www.overgroundrr.com](http://www.overgroundrr.com)

*The Call And Response Continued from pg. 2*

us of the impolicy of our course, it serves to confirm us in the necessity, if not the wisdom of our undertaking. **That others have failed, is a reason for OUR earnestly endeavoring to succeed. Our race must be vindicated from the embarrassing imputations resulting from former non-success.** We believe that what ought to be done, can be done. We say this, in no self-confident or boastful spirit, but with a full sense of our weakness and unworthiness, relying upon the Most High for wisdom and strength to support us in our righteous undertaking. We are not wholly unaware of the duties, hardships and responsibilities of our position. We have easily imagined some, and friends have not hesitated to inform us of others. Many doubtless are yet to be revealed by that infallible teacher, experience. A view of them solemnize, but do not appal us. **We have counted the cost. Our mind is made up, and we are resolved to go forward.**

\*\*\*

(Only th bold emphasis was supplied).  
FROM The North Star, 3 December 1847;  
Reprinted in Philip Foner, ed., Life and Writings of Frederick Douglass, vol. 1 (New York: International Publishers, 1950), p. 280.

It is fitting that we reflect upon the words of Our Founding Father as The Conductor newspaper is being recognized by the Black clergy of our time. Just as the Black Church recognized and supported the North Star in freeing our people from chained slavery, the Black Church today is leading in the support of The Conductor to free our people from economic slavery.

There is a role for each person in this movement. Immediately review your spending. Using the Kitchen Table Affirmative Action form found at <http://www.marching2march.com/contents/AboutUs/KTAAAssessment.aspx> and the ORR Business Directory found on pages 13 through 15, evaluate where you are spending your money.

If it is with a qualified Black owned business that is not already in the ORR Business Directory, send the name of the business and the contact information to [info@OvergroundRR.com](mailto:info@OvergroundRR.com) or call 404-346-0808. Give the business owner a copy of this paper or send him/her a link to the online copy located at [www.overgroundrr.com](http://www.overgroundrr.com) and let the business owner know that you are recommending him/her for membership in the ORR.

Make sure your church or mosque is an active station the OvergroundRR!! And, if you are a member of a community organization that should be an alliance of the ORR, such as a fraternity or sorority, or a professional association, send its name and contact information to [info@OvergroundRR.com](mailto:info@OvergroundRR.com) or call 404-346-0808.

Together, through the OvergroundRR!!, we will be free.

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A Living Legend Retires

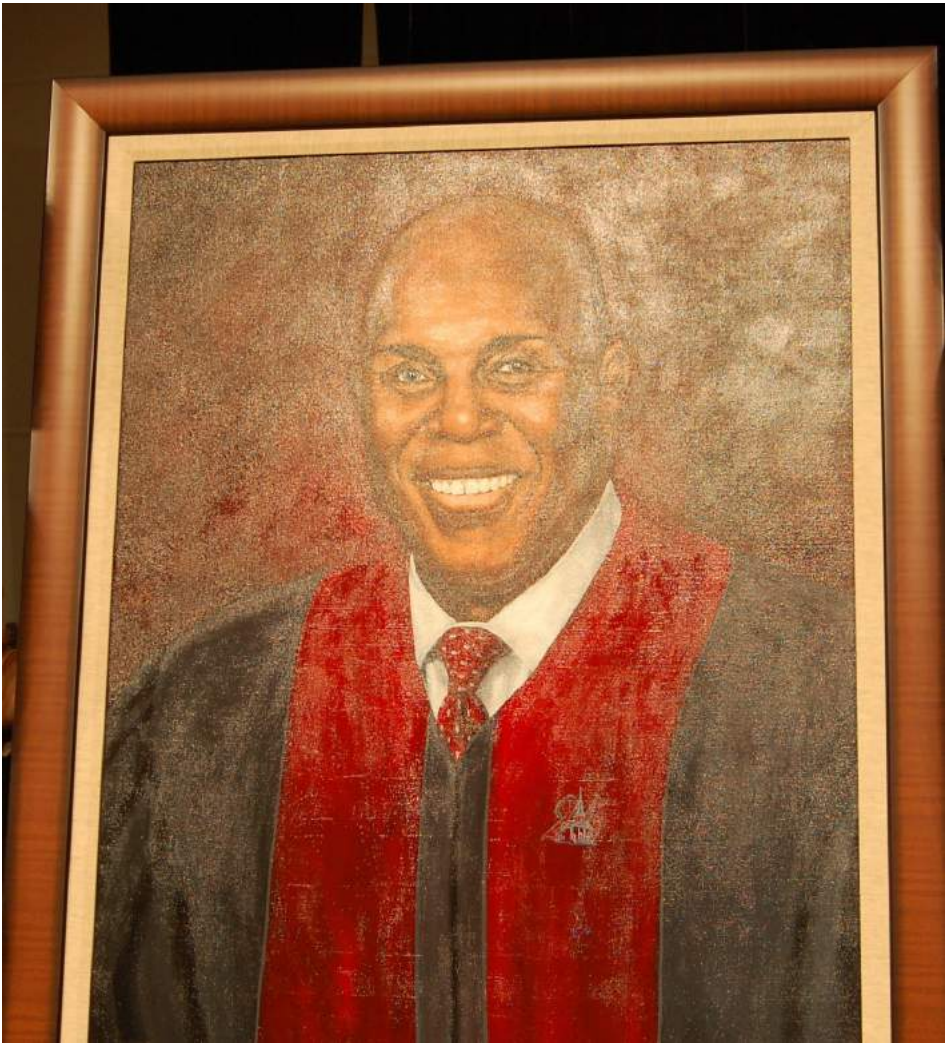
Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley

Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley is a legendary “warrior/prophet” minister who, for more than a quarter of a century, has not only transcended his Christian faith and his Providence Missionary Baptist Church pulpit, but has embraced and encouraged an entire generation of Atlanta’s unique brand of civil and human rights-based leadership. On August 4, 2012, hundreds of distinguished leaders and lay people joined together for his retirement from Providence after 25 years leading God’s charge. In the words of Andrew Young, “Gerald Durley is a pastor’s pastor.” This was seconded by Rev. Timothy McDonald saying, “He’s one of a kind.”

A professional psychologist and a well-trained minister, his commitment to what he does and has done goes as deep as his own life. Dr. Durley was born in Wichita, Kansas, grew up in California and graduated from high school in Denver, Colorado. Having exceptional basketball skills and a deep interest in improving the civil and human rights of African Americans, Dr. Durley chose to leave the west and venture south to Tennessee State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology. While working on his undergraduate degree, he played on a championship basketball team, and served as student government president and was very active in the civil rights movement. After graduating, Dr. Durley became one of the first Peace Corp volunteers to enter Nigeria, West Africa. From Africa he ventured to Switzerland where he enrolled in postgraduate studies at the University of Neuchâtel. While there, he was invited to play for one of the Swiss National Basketball teams.

When he returned to the United States, Dr. Durley earned one of the first Masters Degrees in Community Mental Health from Northern Illinois University where he again got involved in the struggle for human dignity. He assisted in the founding of the Afro-American Cultural Organization whose goal was to teach minorities about their heritage. Recognizing his sincerity for positive change, the U.S. Office of Education invited him to move to Washington, D.C. and become Assistant Branch Chief of Pupil Personnel Services. A compelling desire to be even better prepared dictated that Dr. Durley enter the University of Massachusetts and earn a Doctorate Degree in Urban Education and Psychology and a Master of Divinity Degree from Howard University.

The Institute for Services to Education, Inc. invited Dr. Durley to direct many of its major projects working with historically black colleges and universities. He later founded and became president and CEO of Perspectives International, Inc. to produce positive, constructive programs for African Americans and other minority communities. Having been a dedicated educator, an effective psychologist,



Morehouse College M.L. King Chapel Hall of Fame Portrait of Dr. Durley  
(Photographs courtesy of Clyde Bradley)



a nationally sought after motivational speaker, Dr. Durley was gravely disturbed by the decaying moral, social and family value systems throughout the nation. Combining the disciplines of psychology and religion, Dr. Durley moved to Atlanta, Georgia and accepted the position as Director of the Counseling Center at Clark Atlanta University and later became Dean of Student Affairs at Clark Atlanta.

His concern for families and children encouraged him to accept the Executive Directorship of the Head Start Program for Fulton and Douglas Counties in Georgia. Realizing that the spirit and mind must work in concert with the physical body, Dr. Durley joined the faculty at the Morehouse School of Medicine as the Director of the Health Promotion Resource Center and has been intricately involved in the

global warming climate change discussions across the country. He has served on the Conservation Fund’s National Forum on Children and appears in the film, The Great Warming where he is discussing climate change with urban youngsters at the YMCA. Dr. Durley truly believes that for the environment to be saved the educational, scientific, business, political and religious communities must join forces and agree on positive actions for immediate, constructive change.

For several years, Dr. Durley has traveled to other countries with Muslims, Christians, and Jews to better understand the differences and similarities among people, cultures and beliefs. He has worked across faith lines to promote interfaith relations, and has been a vocal, outspoken advocate for assisting groups and individuals to communicate across faith disciplines.

Dr. Durley is called upon to address hundreds of civic, political, higher education, and social groups on various topics. He is a highly sought after motivational/inspirational speaker.

Pastor Durley was an associate pastor at Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Arlington, Virginia. He was ordained and became a pulpit associate at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. He is now officially retired as the Pastor of the historic Providence Missionary Baptist Church of Atlanta. He has been married for more than forty-five years to his wife, Muriel.

Rev. Durley’s wife, Muriel says for over the past 45 years “It’s been a surprising journey. When I met my husband, he told me he had no plans to become a pastor or a minister.” Smiling softly, she added, “Well, God had other plans, as you can see. It’s been an amazing journey. We are just doing what God wanted us to do.” Dr. Durley leaves a strong legacy of love and salvation of Jesus Christ and God’s power to change lives.

Dr. Durley says, “I’ve been called to create the kind of place where all of us can find who we are and who God called us to be, and break down the barriers between Jews, Muslims, Shiites, because we are all under one God. What we’ve tried to do here in Atlanta is to create an environment where everybody can grow to their highest potential. When you create that kind of environment, where people feel comfortable in their own skin, we can all grow”.

Past Presidents of the Concerned Black Clergy unanimously say Dr. Gerald Durley has made an indelible imprint on the hearts, minds, and souls of many, from Atlanta to Africa, and beyond.

To learn more about our business and community members, please visit [www.overgroundrr.com](http://www.overgroundrr.com)

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## ORR BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The following businesses are members of the Overground RR!!® The ORR Business Directory is your community guide to utilizing members of the Black community who are dedicated to recycling the Black dollar back into our communities. Each business listed has agreed to legally binding arbitration should there be a problem with their product or service. Binding arbitration does not apply to torts or banking members.

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\*Please note that ad placement is only available for purchase by members in good standing and not open to the general public.

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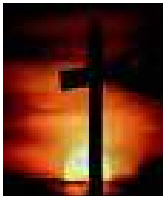


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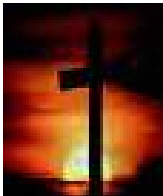
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revaelove@yahoo.com



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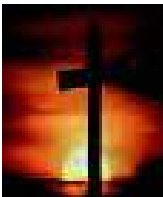
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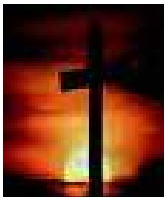
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404-344-0189 (fax)  
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www.pmbcatlanta.org



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www.rayofhope.org




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Elizadunn2009@comcast.net



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Decatur, GA 30034  
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**Trinity Tabernacle Baptist Church**  
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www.trinitybc.com



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Atlanta, GA 30310  
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Atlanta, GA 30318  
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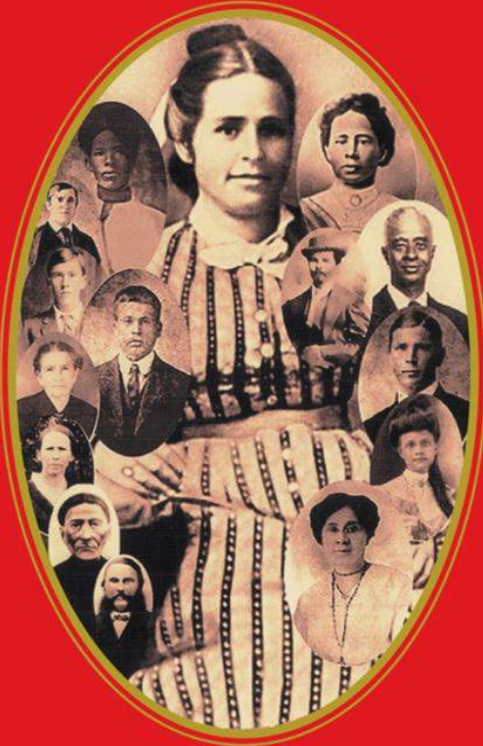


**World Covenant Christian Center**  
Pastor Reginald Ezell  
3777 Troupe Smith Rd.  
Conyers, 30094  
678-565-0378



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--Dr. Joseph E. Lowery, President Emeritus, SCLC, Recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom Award

BRENDA CLARKSON TURPEAU, researcher, entrepreneur, civic leader, philanthropist and genealogist, is the African American author of ALMOST FORGOTTEN, “The Real America.”



# J.C. RIDERS HORSE CLUB OF WORLD COVENANT CHRISTIAN CENTER

This is a horse lover’s dream! Imagine attending events wearing your favorite country and western gear, horseback rides, enjoying some good ‘ole country grub and enjoying the company of people who love horses as much as you do. That’s what the Horse Club at World Covenant Christian Center is all about....food, fun, fellowship and all things horses.

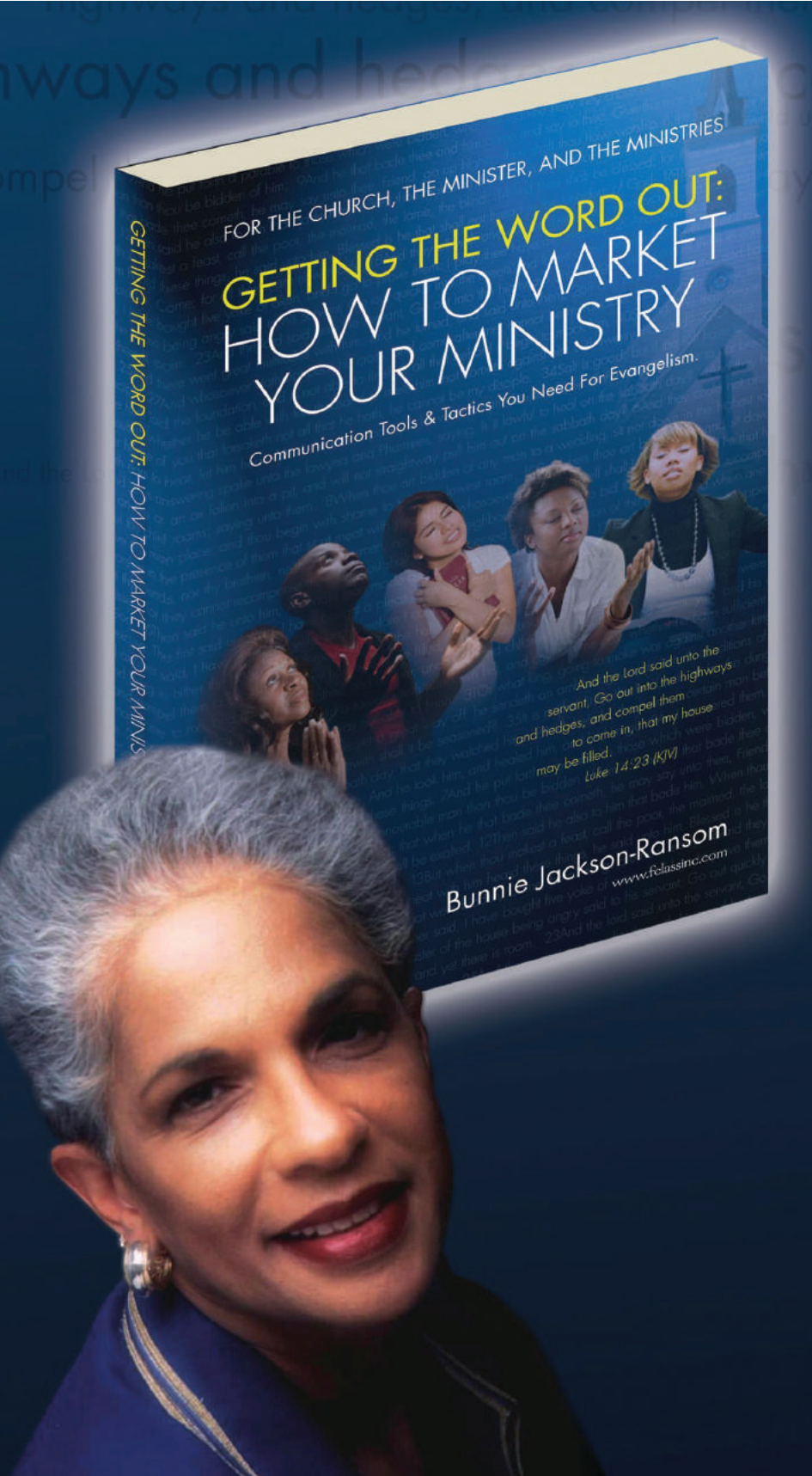
The Horse Club is the dream child of World Covenant’s Christian Center’s Pastor, Reginald Ezell. He has always had a love for horses and anything country and western. He frequently dons his favorite cowboy hat and boots and once a year, all church members come to church wearing country and western clothing for the Annual Country and Western Day Celebration. Once it was announced that the church was establishing a horse club, not only did horse lovers sign up, but also those who had never ridden horses, but always wanted to. Some describe the Horse Club as a fabulous adventure that has opened up a whole new area of interest in their life.

The J.C. Riders have appeared in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade as well as the opening ceremonies of the Bill Pickett Rodeos in Conyers. For more information regarding the J.C. Riders Horse Club, please contact the church at (678) 565-0378.





# HOW TO MARKET YOUR MINISTRY



Ms. Bunnie Jackson-Ransom is President and CEO of **firstClass, Inc.** - a full service public relations and marketing firm in Atlanta. Ms. Jackson-Ransom’s prominent professional career began at Bennett College in Greensboro, NC. as an Instructor of Business and supervisor of secretarial services. After moving to Atlanta she continued to build her career while taking time for family, church and community.

Ms. Jackson-Ransom has a diverse business background, extensive administrative experience and organizational know-how, and a dedicated commitment to community involvement. Educated in the public schools of North Carolina, she received a Bachelor of Science in Business from North Carolina College and a Master of Science in Business from North Carolina Central University. Graduating magna-cum-laude, she worked her way through college; and it is that same attitude that has propelled her and **firstClass, Inc.** into prominence.

Ms. Jackson-Ransom has published a new book to communicate tools and tactics needed for evangelism. **GETTING THE WORD OUT: HOW TO MARKET YOUR MINISTRY** is using the King James Version of Luke 14:23 where the “the Lord said unto the servant, go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.” Although its subject matter can be used in diverse arenas, it was written for the church, its ministers and its ministries.

To get the job done, you will need these tools:

- 1. A good media data base (kept up to date) – a list of names, phone numbers (cell phone numbers if possible), email addressed and fax numbers
- 2. Photographs
  - Photos should be in color, available in jpeg format (or other acceptable formats).
  - Photos should be 300 dpi (or other acceptable sizes)
  - Vector format if you want to use the photo on a large piece such as a banner.
  - Keep head shots and a few “staged” action photos on hand. (The action

- photos should tell a story.)
- 3. Biographical information on relevant persons – those persons who speak for your organization – your church or synagogue or mosque.
- 4. A Press or Information Kit
- 5. Collateral materials – flyers, brochures, posters, etc.
- 6. A media crisis plan

The Press Release and the Media Advisory may be a part of your tools but they are written per event or occasion.

**How to Market Your Ministry**  
Have you ever wondered what you might do to get the word out about the many wonderful God filled happenings at your place of worship?

When the goal is to get the attention of those whom you want to invite, receive, and maintain as active members of your church, you must not only get them to come inside the church, but get them to stay.

**In the book of Roman 10:14 we have the following questions** “How then can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?”

**Here’s the tip:**  
Get started with this process by determining just what your church is about, what it stands for, who are the people that currently make up your church. Set some goals, define your mission, and determine your objectives. Most importantly, what is the collective vision of your church members?

One important fact to determine early on is just how many of your members actually communicate via the internet, through emails, and to what extent are your members familiar with social media. Since social media is such a resource, and a time-saver, we tend to use this method to “get the word out.” Your job before you lean heavily on this method is to be sure you are using this resource right.

To learn more about our business and community members, please visit [www.overgroundrr.com](http://www.overgroundrr.com)





# Historic Providence Missionary Baptist Church Welcomes New Senior Pastor!

By **TBG**  
Worldwide

Media Contact: Zee Bradford Brown



*Senior Pastor, Reverend Dr. Damon P. Williams*

The members of the historic Providence Missionary Baptist Church in southwest Atlanta are pleased to announce the selection of their new Senior Pastor, the Reverend Dr. Damon P. Williams. Everyone is invited to Dr. Williams' Inaugural Sermon, Sunday, November 4, 2012, during both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:40 a.m. Morning Worship Services, as we welcome him to his new church home.

In 2006, while a doctoral candidate at the University of Michigan, Damon P. Williams answered God's call to the ministry of the Gospel, and was licensed under the pastorate of Reverend Mark J. Lyons at the Second Baptist Church of Ann Arbor (Michigan). Reverend Williams served in several ministerial roles at Second Baptist Church, including, but not limited to: Young Adult Sunday School Teacher; Christian Education Council Member; University of Michigan Mustard Seed Campus Bible Study Director and as a member of the Missionary Outreach Ministry.

Reverend Williams was born and nurtured in Ellicott City, Maryland, where his parents, Deacon & Mrs. Thomas (Vivianne) Williams, still reside. Reverend Williams has an older brother, Jason, who also resides in Maryland.

Upon graduation from high school, Damon P. Williams attended the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) graduating summa cum laude in 2002 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering. Dr. Williams continued his education receiving a Master of Science degree as well as his Doctorate degree in Industrial and Operations Engineering from the University of Michigan (U of M).

Honorably earning his Ph.D., the Reverend Dr. Williams returned to Georgia to attend Columbia Theological Seminary with the prestige of being both a Columbia Honors Fellow and a Fund for Theological Education (FTE) Ministry Fellow. In May 2012, he graduated from Columbia with a Master of Divinity (M.Div).

Concurrently, between 2009 and 2012, Rev. Williams served as an Associate Minister at Zion Hill Baptist Church in Atlanta under the guidance of Reverend Dr. Aaron L. Parker. In this capacity Reverend Williams worked in Christian Education serving as a traditional class Saturday School Teacher, Connexion College Ministry Student Leader, and Vacation Bible School Director.

Dr. Damon P. Williams is a curriculum writer for the Baptist Layman publication of the Sunday School Publishing Board. He is also an adjunct professor at Georgia Tech in both the Industrial and Systems Engineering departments, and, the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning.

In ministry and professionally, Reverend Williams has a passion for practical Christian Education, through which he works to make the doctrine of the grace of God, inherent in the Scriptures, applicable to daily living.

In May of this year, he proposed to his fiancée, Reverend Khalia J. Jelks. Reverend Jelks is a doctoral student of theology and worship at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California.





# Community



**sclc**  
Southern Christian Leadership Conference

## MOVING BEYOND THE PAST

In the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the new Chief Executive Officer of Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), Charles Steele, Jr., will renew their commitment to bringing about the promise of 'one nation, under God, INDIVISIBLE' together with the commitment to activate the 'strength to love' within the community of humankind.

Charles Steele, Jr. was born on August 3, 1946, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. His dedication to serving is evident through his many worthwhile and tangible accomplishments. He and his wife, Cathlean Annette Steele, are the proud parents of two daughters, LeKeisha and Charla.

One of his first priorities as CEO of the civil rights group will be to improve the organization's "dismal" finances. Sound economic footing is something the SCLC is striving toward, said Steele, who runs an East Point-based consulting firm. Although SCLC has Christian principles, it is not a church; it is a business that must be run like a business. The Tuscaloosa, AL, native said he wanted to build a corporate roundtable board of international and domestic companies that can each commit between \$75,000 and \$100,000 annually. "We've got to have movement and we're going to have it, but movement costs."

Steele previously served as SCLC president from 2004 to 2009 and is credited with spearheading efforts to have a new SCLC headquarters built and increasing membership. During his tenure, Steele opened international conflict

resolution centers and helped build the group's \$3.3 million headquarters in downtown Atlanta.

He returns to SCLC as it continues to go through crisis of infighting and financial and legal problems. It is believed that Steele's credibility is what SCLC needs right now. His recognition in corporations and nationally will help the organization move beyond the past and swiftly into the future to solidify the work of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

The Objectives of the SCLC are:

- To promote spiritual principles within our membership and local communities.
- To educate youth and adults in the areas of personal responsibility, leadership potential, and community service.
- To ensure economic justice and civil rights in the areas of discrimination and affirmative action.
- To eradicate environmental classism and racism wherever it exists.

The SCLC challenges all people of good will, of every persuasion, who believe in the principles espoused by Martin Luther King, Jr. to join them in their mission.

### History

The very beginnings of the SCLC can be traced back to the Montgomery Bus Boycott. The Montgomery Bus Boycott began on De-

cember 5, 1955 after Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat to a white man



on the bus. The boycott lasted for 381 days and ended on December 21, 1956, with the desegregation of the Montgomery bus system. The boycott was carried out by the newly established Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA). Martin Luther King, Jr. served as President and Ralph David Abernathy served as Program Director. It was one of history's most dramatic and massive nonviolent protests, stunning the nation and the world.

The boycott was also a signal to Black America to begin a new phase of the long struggle, a phase that came to be known as the modern civil rights movement. As bus boycotts spread across the South, leaders of the MIA and other protest groups met in Atlanta in January of 1957 to form a regional organization and coordinate protest activities across the South.

Despite a bombing of the home and church

of Ralph David Abernathy during the Atlanta meeting, 60 persons from ten states assembled and announced the founding of the Southern Leadership Conference on Transportation and Nonviolent Integration. They issued a document declaring that civil rights are essential to democracy, that segregation must end, and that all Black people should reject segregation absolutely and nonviolently.

Further organizing was done at a meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana on February 14, 1957. The organization shortened its name to Southern Leadership Conference, established an Executive Board of Directors, and elected officers, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as President, Dr. Ralph David Abernathy as Financial Secretary-Treasurer, Rev. C. K. Steele of Tallahassee, Florida as Vice President, Rev. T. J. Jemison of Baton Rouge, Louisiana as Secretary, and Attorney I. M. Augustine of New Orleans, Louisiana as General Counsel.

At its first convention in Montgomery in August 1957, the Southern Leadership Conference adopted the current name, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Basic decisions made by the founders at these early meetings included the adoption of nonviolent mass action as the cornerstone of strategy, the affiliation of local community organizations with SCLC across the South, and a determination to make the SCLC movement open to all, regardless of race, religion, or background.

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# 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARCH DR. KING'S "I HAVE A DREAM" SPEECH

A large crowd of people, mostly African American, is gathered for a protest. Many are holding signs with demands for social and economic reforms. Visible signs include: "WE MARCH FOR THE FIRST CLASS CITIZENSHIP NOW!", "WE DEMAND DECENT HOUSING NOW!", "WE MARCH FOR JOBS FOR ALL NOW!", "NO U.S. DOLLAR TO HELP JIM CROW GROW", "WE MARCH FOR THE FIRST CLASS CITIZENSHIP NOW!", "WE DEMAND DECENT HOUSING NOW!", "WE MARCH FOR JOBS FOR ALL NOW!", "NO U.S. DOLLAR TO HELP JIM CROW GROW", "WE MARCH FOR THE FIRST CLASS CITIZENSHIP NOW!", "WE DEMAND DECENT HOUSING NOW!", "WE MARCH FOR JOBS FOR ALL NOW!", "NO U.S. DOLLAR TO HELP JIM CROW GROW". The crowd is dense, and the atmosphere appears to be one of organized civil disobedience.

Oh what a day it was when distinguished leaders of the civil rights community in Atlanta like Ms. Helen Butler (People's Agenda), Rev. Alfred Love (Concerned Black Clergy), Ms.

The 1963 March on Washington had an estimated 250,000 people peacefully advocating for Civil Rights and economic equality for African Americans. Participants marched down Constitution and Independence Avenues 100

A color photograph of Martin Luther King Jr. smiling and waving his right hand to a large, dense crowd of people. He is wearing a dark suit and a white shirt with a cufflink. The background shows a line of trees under a blue sky with some clouds.



The march was initiated by A. Philip Randolph, international president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, president of the Negro American Labor Council, and vice president of the AFL-CIO; and sponsored by five of the largest civil rights organizations in the United States. It was a diverse crowd: black and white, rich and poor, young and old, Hollywood stars and everyday people.

The 1963 March on Washington was powerful, peaceful and orderly. The 2013 March on Washington 50 years later will be just as powerful, peaceful and orderly!



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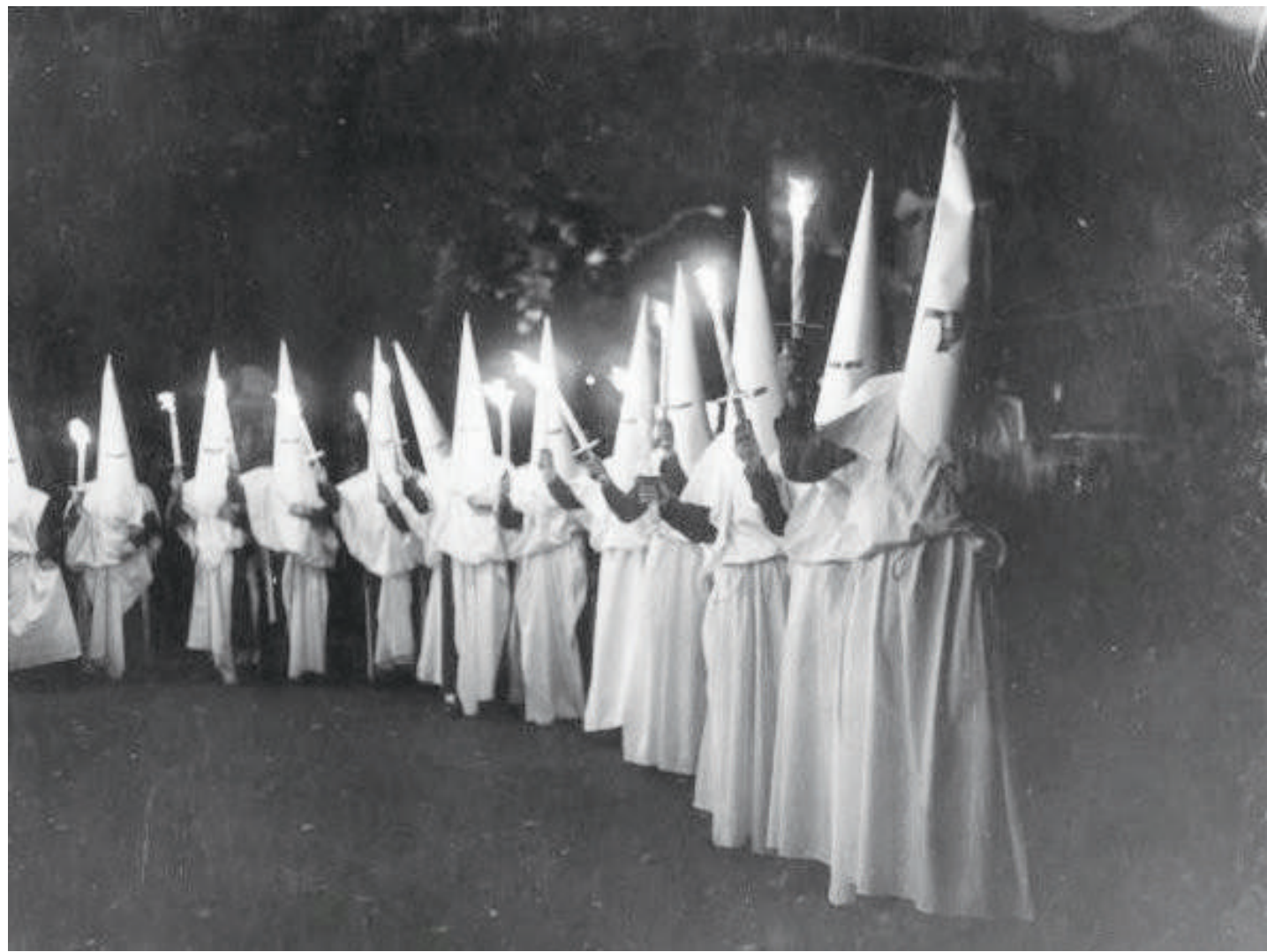
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# Blood Stains Will Remain: The KKK Should Not Be Allowed to Participate in Georgia’s Adopt A Highway Program

By Rep. Tyrone Brooks, President Georgia Association of Black Elected Officials



The Ku Klux Klan is a terrorist organization. They are among the founders of organized domestic terrorism in the United States of America. No matter how they try to change and rebrand their image, and rewrite history – the blood stains will remain.

Georgia is correct in denying the application of the International Keystone Knights of the KKK to participate in GDOT’s Adopt A Highway program in Union County, Georgia. It is outrageous that they were ever under consideration. This program is for “civic-minded organizations” that build up the community, not hate-filled terrorist groups seeking its destruction.

As a proud American, a lifelong Georgian, civil rights activist and president of the Georgia

Association of Black Elected Officials (a non-partisan, multiracial, multicultural organization); I am a strong supporter and believer in our U. S. Constitution. I am a firm believer in the First Amendment which guarantees us “freedom of religion, speech, and the press; rights of assembly and petition.” But let us be

clear. This is not about Freedom of Speech. This is about allowing a known group of murdering terrorists to adopt our public property and place their brand name on it for public relations, membership and recruitment purposes. This is clearly an attempt to hijack our state property, not a First Amendment Freedom of Speech issue.

I support the right of the KKK to clean up highways and they can call me any name under the sun, moon and stars in the process. I do not support them being legitimized by the state of

Georgia and having the name of this heinous organization placed on our public highways, supported by the tax dollars of all our citizens. If they are sincerely interested in cleaning highways then it should not matter whether they get name recognition for doing so. Organizations defending the KKK should consider using resources to help us in the fight against voter intimidation and suppression and to defend the Quitman 10+2.

The KKK is the Aryan American Al-Qaeda. Their murderous, terroristic roots run deep

throughout the South and this nation. Established at the end of the Civil War, the hooded cowards of the KKK tried to instill fear in formerly enslaved people. Their ideology and philosophy are treasonous. If they could they would abolish the United States in favor of the confederate states. The KKK is responsible for mass murder, church bombings and burnings, lynchings and the destruction of numerous homes and businesses. I authored an anti-terrorism law signed in 1983 which created the anti-terrorism squad of the GBI to target violence by hate groups.

It amazes me that anyone would dare to compare the KKK, founded in order to kill, maim, intimidate and suppress people, to multiracial, multicultural civil rights organizations established to work for equal rights, freedom and justice for all people. What ignorance would prevent someone from understanding the difference?

Many of my colleagues and friends (black and white) have been murdered by members of the KKK for standing up for our God-given human rights and the rights of others. Innocent

unborn babies, children, young people, mothers and fathers have all been victims of their venomous cruelty and hatred.

In the 1950s and 60s the Ku Klux Klan threatened to kill my father, Mose Brooks, and burn our house and church because he had a physical altercation with a white man at Wiley’s Chevrolet dealership in Warrenton, GA. He had to flee to Philadelphia, PA to escape death. Crosses were burned in front of the house of my grandmother, Ada Myrick Cody. They threatened to kill her and family members because her grandchildren (including me) were picketing, marching and protesting Jim Crow legal segregation in education and public accommodations.

They tried to kill me in Covington (1970), Atlanta (1974), Woodland (1974), Pensacola, Florida (1975-76), Laurel, Mississippi (With Rev. James Orange, 1976), Vienna (1981), Monroe (1982-83), Cumming–Forsyth County (With Hosea Williams, 1987) and Keysville (1987-88). They almost killed Mrs. Evelyn Gibson Lowery, wife of Dr. Joseph Echols Lowery, in Decatur, Alabama (1979). They did kill George and Mae Murray Dorsey and Roger and Dorothy Malcom and their seven month unborn infant on the Moore’s Ford Bridge, July 25, 1946.

For a history lesson in heinous KKK genocidal violence, join us at the 1st African Baptist Church, Monroe, Georgia, 12 Noon for the Annual March on the Moore’s Ford Bridge (1st Saturday in April) and the Annual Reenactment of the Lynchings at the Moore’s Ford Bridge (4th Saturday in July). For more information about victims of KKK violence nation wide visit [www.splcenter.org/civil-rights-memorial/civil-rights-martyrs](http://www.splcenter.org/civil-rights-memorial/civil-rights-martyrs).

They hate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. so much that when in 1973 his portrait was placed in the Georgia State Capitol in Atlanta, they marched and rallied around the capitol all day and came into the building later that night and tried to destroy it. They shot Dr. King’s crypt following his burial at South View Cemetery in Atlanta several times until it was moved to Ebenezer Baptist Church on Auburn Avenue.

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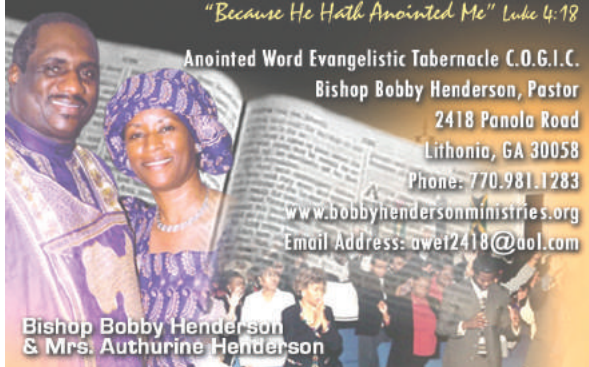


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# Internet TV

In 2004 Lewis Jackson, Sr. joined forces with Attorney F. Joseph Rushing, Jr. to form WAEN. TV, an internet television station known as Atlanta’s Entertainment Network. Six months after WAEN was established WAIN.TV was born because of the realization that a lot of potential clientele were spiritual minded. WAIN. TV became the inspirational internet television channel.

Seven days a week from 9AM to 9PM, WAIN. TV serves, informs and entertains worldwide. Taking advantage of the super highway, WAIN uses a diversified marketing strategy to connect ideas around the world. Their vision is to break the communications barriers among families, friends, co-workers and business associates by allowing any event or special occasion to be streamed “LIVE” and hosted on the internet.

Streaming live events changes the consumers’ way of communicating with family, friends, co-workers, business partners, etc. The use of the internet allows others to feel they are a part of the event/activity even though they are not physically present. The philosophy of WAIN. TV is “location is not important, as long as you have internet access”.

F. Joseph Rushing, Jr., is the Co-CEO is owner of The Rushing Firm in East Point, GA- which has over 23 years experience providing quality legal counsel. His company has the capacity to handle a large amount of cases while giving each one individual specialized attention.

Lewis Jackson, Sr. Co-CEO considers himself a country boy born who decided to become a self-employed entrepreneur and has been suc-



F. Joseph Rushing, Jr., Owner



Lewis Jackson, Sr., Owner



Fred Grogan, Marketing

cessful as owner of an Insurance agency, Real Estate Company, Tag and Title Agency, Title and Loan Company, Auto Mechanic Shop, Construction Company, DUI School and several other small businesses.

Fred Grogan of Marketing says “Internet TV is exactly what it sounds like, video delivered over the Web”. Specifically, it refers to the variety of Internet-delivered video-on-demand and subscription services that offer movies,

TV shows, and sports.

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Allen Temple AME  
All Risk Insurance  
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Ameri Bistro  
American Deli (2)  
Ana's Dominican Salon  
Angie's Beauty Supply  
Anointed Word COGIC  
Antioch AME  
APEX Museum  
Arden's Garden (4)  
Ariel Bowen  
Atlanta's Best Wings  
Atlanta Family Church  
ATL Fulton Public Library (5)  
Atlanta Detailer  
A Nu-U Barber & Salon  
B-Aware Foundation  
Barbershop (The)  
Barlow's Restaurant  
Beauty & Beyond  
Believer Bible Church  
Ben Hill Package Center  
Ben Hill Recreation Ctr.  
Ben Hill UMC  
Bethel Baptist Church  
Beulah Baptist Church  
Berean Church  
Best Cleaners  
Besteda House of Faith  
Big A Food Mart  
Big G Grocery  
Big Daddy's (3)  
Big Bethel AME  
Big Momma Rosa Grocery  
Big Miller Grove Church  
Black To Eden Events  
Blessed Beauty Supply  
Bobby Hurd Ent.  
Bouldercrest Baptist  
Burnadett Park  
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Butler Street CME  
Canaan Baptist  
Cascade Auto Service  
Cascade Club  
Cascade UMC  
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Center Of Faith  
Calvary UMC  
Capitol City Bank (2)  
Citizens Trust (3)  
City Buffet Sushi  
Chapel of Christian Love  
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China Way Restaurant  
Cedar Grove Church  
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Christians For Change bap  
Christians Living For Christ  
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Welcome All Park  
Wesley Chapel Library  
Wesley Chapel UMC  
West End Branch Library  
West Georgia Dental  
Whosoever Will Let them Come Church  
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Church office: 404.361.4135 • Church fax: 404.361.0884  
email: [info@doddsterling.org](mailto:info@doddsterling.org) • [www.doddsterling.org](http://www.doddsterling.org)



Please feel free to contact us with any  
questions, comments or concerns that  
you may have.

NOI Southern Regional Headquarters  
Muhammad Mosque No.15  
3836 Campbellton Rd, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30331

Phone: 404.344.9399



## Providence Missionary Baptist Church Atlanta, GA

Dr. Gerald Durley, Pastor.

## Services

Early Worship Service  
8:00 A.M.

Breakfast  
9:00 A.M.

Sunday School  
9:15 A.M.

New Members Class  
9:30 A.M.

Worship Service  
10:40 A.M.

2295 Benjamin E. Mays Dr.  
Atlanta GA 30311  
Phone: 404-752-6869  
Fax: 404-752-5484

[www.pmbcatlanta.org](http://www.pmbcatlanta.org)

Providence

## LOVE LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

3980 Panthersville Road Ellenwood, GA 30294

Pastor Grace C. Washington

Weekly Service Times

Sunday Worship Service 8 AM & 10:45 AM  
Sunday School 9:30 AM

Wednesday Bible Study 12 Noon  
Wednesday Prayer 6:30 PM  
Wednesday Worship Service 7 PM

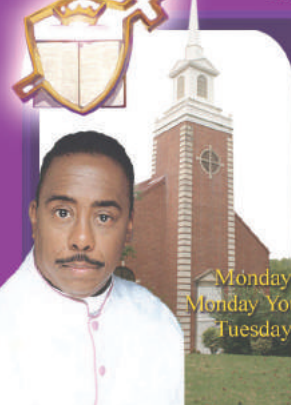
Phone: 404.241.1499  
Fax: 404.241.1519

Email: [llife01@bellsouth.net](mailto:llife01@bellsouth.net)  
Website: [www.lovelifecfc.org](http://www.lovelifecfc.org)



## JACKSON MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Dr. Gregory A Sutton, Senior Pastor



534 Fairburn Road NW  
Atlanta GA 30331  
Phone: 404-691-4238  
Fax: 404-691-7980

Service Times

Sunday Mornings @ 7:45 am  
Service-10:30 am Service  
Monday Men's Bible Study - 7:00 PM  
Monday Young Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM  
Tuesday Noon Day Prayer - 12:00 PM  
Wednesday Night Adult &  
Youth Bible Study - 7:00 PM

## Saint James Missionary Baptist Church

Bishop Rodney B. Harris, Senior Pastor

"LET YOUR WORDS BE FEW,  
AND YOUR PRAYERS BE MANY"



Worship Times :  
9AM every Sunday

1312 Olympic Ct. SW  
Conyers GA 30012

Phone: 770-388-9844  
[pastorhsjmbc@bellsouth.net](mailto:pastorhsjmbc@bellsouth.net)

[www.saintjamesmbc.org](http://www.saintjamesmbc.org)

## Cascade United Methodist Church



"A Light in the Community"

### Cascade Service Times

SUNDAY

Worship Services - 8:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.  
Sanctuary

Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Children's Church - 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
(Ages 5-10) - Chapel

Youth Worship - 2nd and 4th Sundays  
11:00 a.m. (Ages 12-18) Room 209

WEDNESDAY

Wednesday Night Live Worship Service  
7:00 p.m.

### Cascade United Methodist Church

3144 Cascade Road, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30311

Phone: 404.691.5770

Fax: 404.691.7961

[www.cascadeumc.org](http://www.cascadeumc.org)

## ST. MARK A.M.E. CHURCH

3605 Campbellton Rd. | Atlanta, GA 30331 | 404.349.6800 | Fax: 404.344.7052

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Rev. Larry W. Hudson, Sr., Pastor

## MID-WAY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Edward S. Reynolds, Pastor

Service Times:

Sun. School - 9:15 AM

Sun. Worship - 10:45 AM

Wed. Bible Study - 7 PM



2280 Godby Rd. College Park GA 30349

Phone: 404-768-5648

Fax: 404-768-8277

## HEADLAND HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. George P. Lanier

"Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden,  
and I will give you rest."  
Matt: 11:28

Service Times

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Church Service 11:00 a.m.

Wonderful Wednesday Worship 7:00 p.m.

2147 Dodson Dr.

East Point, Georgia 30344

Phone: 404-344-0144

Website: [www.headlandheightsumc.org](http://www.headlandheightsumc.org)





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CHRISTIAN DECLARATION OF POSITION REGARDING MARRIAGE

1. As a Christian, with all of my faults and shortcomings, I must look to the Bible to define what marriage is and what marriage is not.
2. Marriage according to the Bible is between a man and a woman. (Genesis 2:24 - “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”).
3. The relationship was established by God between the first man Adam and the first woman Eve, both created by God. (Genesis 2:20 - 25).
4. Though the Bible is my guide, support for homosexual marriages cannot be found even in non-biblical sources. Every system of faith (whether it was called a religion or not) which has had any wide recognition in human history has recognized that marriage is only between men and women, never between persons of the same sex. “The first country to allow same-sex couples to enter into legally recognized marriage was the Netherlands, effective in 2001.” Wikipedia, Same-sex marriage.
5. Even when marriage has been defined to include polygamy, it was always between men and women, never between several men or several women. As shown in Wikipedia, Same-sex marriage, homosexual “marriages” is a recent invention beginning in the Netherlands in 2001.
6. Indeed the Bible is very plain, in both the old and new testament, that homosexual behavior cannot be approved.  
“Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.” (Leviticus 18:22).  
Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools; And changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things; Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.  
For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient. (Romans 1:22 - 26).
7. None of this is to say that homosexual behavior is the only sexual behavior unacceptable by the Bible. Sexual intercourse outside of marriage between a man and a woman is also prohibited. (Exodus 20:14 - “Thou shalt not commit adultery.”; Romans 13:9 - “...Thou shalt not commit adultery...”).
8. At any large gathering of Christians there is likely to be many who have committed, are committing, and/or within a short period of time after that gathering will commit, adultery. Indeed David, God’s chosen servant, committed adultery. (2 Samuel 11th and 12th chapters).
9. However, there is no movement afoot to stop the Church from preaching the Biblical teachings against adultery. A very large percentage of people who have committed adultery claim to be driven by biological urges which they cannot resist. This is similar to the claims of those who advocate homosexual marriages.
10. We have all fallen and come short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23 - “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”) This includes heterosexuals as well as homosexuals. But it is not God or the Bible that must change. We must change.
11. The fundamental message of the Christian faith as stated by Jesus is “Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.” (John 3:7). And, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16).
12. As much as I love my homosexual relatives and friends, I cannot go against God and the Bible to endorse homosexual marriage. I respect their choice to not follow the Bible in their personal lives, just as I respect the right of persons to commit adultery.
13. But my respect for a person’s right to make a private choice does not justify my endorsement of that which the Bible clearly states is wrong. It would be a violation of my conscience and my relationship with God, as well as an encouragement for others to do wrong, for which I would be responsible to my family, society in general and GOD.
14. Likewise I stand strongly opposed to any violence against those involved in homosexual behavior. Any act of violence against a person because of homosexual behavior is a sin in and of itself, as well as a crime which should and must be prosecuted.
15. It must be clearly understood that the Church must preach the gospel which includes the loving teaching to repent for all sin including homosexual behavior. (Matthew 28: 19-20 - “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen).

It is imperative that a clear statement of the position of Christians regarding this issue be put forth.  
“For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?” (1 Corinthians 14:8).

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” (Ephesians 6:12).

This is not homophobia, which those who seek to silence dialogue quickly label anyone who disagrees with them. This is homolove.  
“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16).

THIS DECLARATION IS BY THE BIBLE BELIEVING CHRISTIANS ALLIANCE

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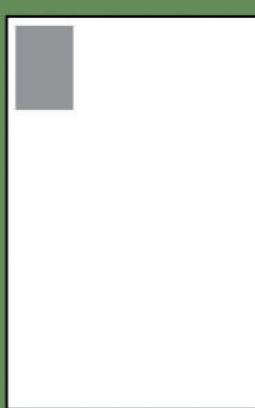
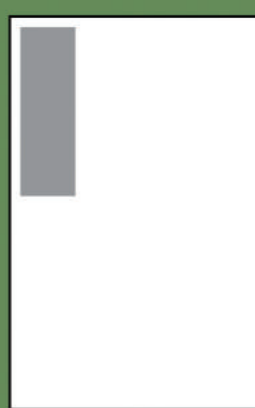
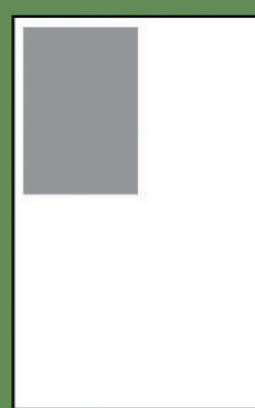
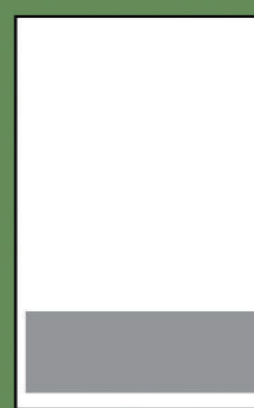

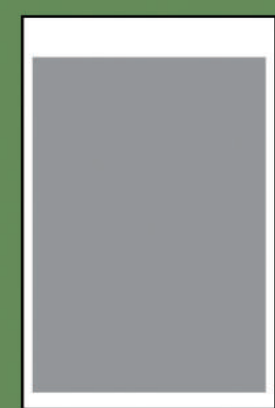


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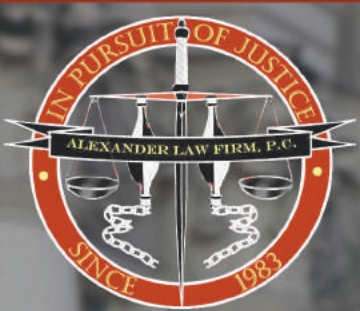
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