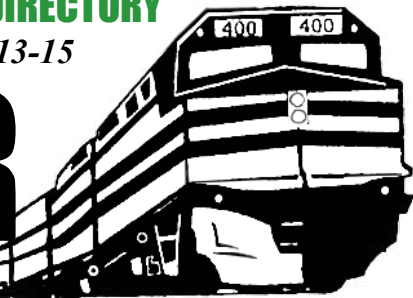




ORR!
BUSINESS DIRECTORY
Pages 13-15



THE CONDUCTOR

The Official Newspaper of The Overground RR!!®

VOLUME 10 No. 2

4th Qtr. 2014

The ORR WORSHIP CENTERS

Anointed Word Evangelistic Tabernacle
Anointed Vision of Hope
Antioch AME Church
Ariel Bowen United Methodist Church
The Ark of Salvation
The B.J. Holland Institute of Ministry
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
Carmy Arnett Ministries
Calvary Baptist Church
Calvary United Methodist Church
Cascade United Methodist Church
Chapel of Christian Love
Christian Fellowship Baptist Church
Chosen Generation C.O.G.I.C.
Clarkston First Baptist Church
Columbia Drive United Methodist Church
Community Church of God
Covenant Christ Ministry
Covenant Ministries
DaySpring International Ministries, Inc.
Dodd-Sterling UMC
East Atlanta Church
Ebenezer Baptist Church
Elizabeth Baptist Church
Emmaus Road Missionary Baptist Church
The Enon Church
Evangelistic New Life Worship Center
Faith Walk Ministries, Inc.
First AME Church
First Congregational Church
First Corinth Missionary Baptist 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.
Holsey Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal
Hopewell MBC
I Am Divine Believe and Receive Church
Impact! Doing Church Differently
International Christian Fellowship
Jackson Memorial Baptist Church
Joshua Generation Ministries International, Inc.
Journey of Faith Church
The Kingdom of God Evangelistic
Outreach Ministry
Liberty International Ministries
Life Changing Ministries
Life Line Church
Light of the World Christian Tabernacle
Lindsay Street Baptist Church
Love Circle Truth Center
Love Life Christian Fellowship Church
The Lutheran Church of the Atonement
Midway Missionary Church
Miracles, Miracles and More Miracles
Mission On The Move
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist
Mt. Carmel Baptist Church
Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church
Mt. Welcome Missionary Baptist Church
Muhammed's Mosque No. 15
New Beginnings Ministries
New Fountain Worldwide Ministries
New Jerusalem Baptist Church
New Jerusalem Worship Center International
New Life Tabernacle C.O.G.I.C.
Omega Holiness Church
Poplar Springs Baptist Church
Powerhouse of Deliverance Cathedral
Providence Missionary Baptist Church
Pure Praises Ministries
Ray Of Hope Christian Church
Redemptive Life Christian Fellowship Church
Rehoboth Christian Center International
Restoration Tabernacle, Inc.
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. Paul AME Church
St. Philip AME Church
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
The True Light Baptist Church
Transform Lives Christian Church
Trinity Tabernacle Baptist Church
Turner Chapel AME Church
Victory Cathedral Church of God in Christ
West End Seventh-Day Adventist
Wheat Street Baptist Church
Woods Memorial Baptist Church
Word of Faith Love Center
Word of God Ministries
World Covenant Christian Center
Zion Hill Baptist Church

The Call and the Response

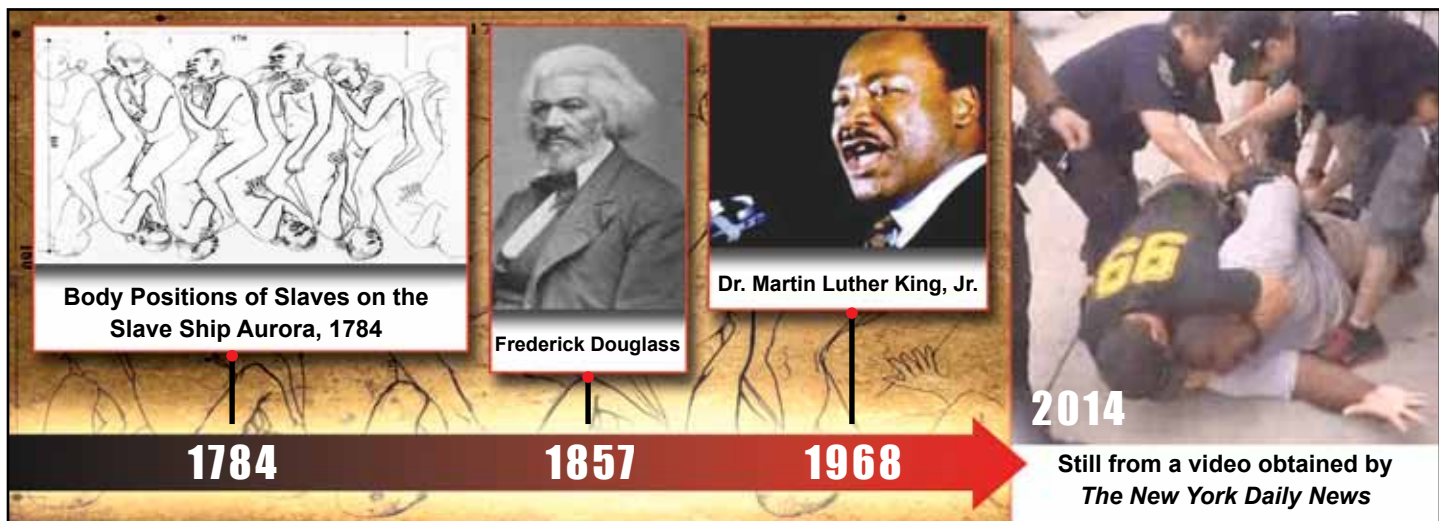
TRYING TO BREATHE FOR 400 YEARS

(No Longer Will We Quietly Submit)

We Must Exhale - Get Ready for Black Business Month!!

ABOVE ALL THINGS MINISTRY

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



(Listen to the video at www.Marching2March.org). OvergroundRR!!® pastors ask each and everyone of us to listen and have everyone you know to listen. Post it on your Facebook page, e-mail it, text it, and tell everyone you can to listen. Then support the OvergroundRR!!® in fulfilling Dr. King's true dream of a truly free Black community.

...If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation are men who want crops without plowing up the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters.

This struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, and it may be both moral and physical, but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will. Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them, and these will continue till they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress...

(Emphasis supplied). (1857) Frederick Douglass, "If There Is No Struggle, There Is No Progress".

Today **WE (You and I)** must admit that once the "Colored Only" signs were removed, we have quietly submitted to an unbroken line of injustice and wrong which has continued in this country to this very day.

WE must admit that **WE** have been so eager to believe that America had changed, that we have quietly submitted to the injustice. **WE** have submitted to America acting as if the debt owed for 400 years of chained and Jim Crow slavery has been washed away because some of our people have finally been

permitted to enter professions which our parents and our parents' parents were denied.

Indeed, **WE** must admit that **WE** celebrated the many firsts our people have accomplished since Jim Crow slavery while quietly submitting.

WE have quietly submitted to disregarding the fact that the only reason **WE** are celebrating these as firsts is because America prevented our parents and their parents from using their natural skills, intelligence, and determination to pursue their dreams.

Continued on page 5

Community Income Spending Comparison

Ethnicity	Population	Amt Spent (billions)	Bus. Revenues (billions)	Percent 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%

Source: The Selig Center of the University of Georgia 2008. This study is conducted every 10 years.

ORR!!® A • L • L • I • A • N • C • E • S

100 Black Men of Atlanta, Inc. • 100 Black Women of Atlanta • African American Philharmonic Orchestra • All Empowered Inc. American Kidney Services • Americolor Opera Alliance • Atlanta Be Someone • Atlanta Business League • Atlanta Citizen Review Board Atlanta Urban League • Beverly Cunningham Outreach Program • 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 • GABEO • Georgia Black Chamber of Commerce • Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda Georgia Prostate Cancer Coalition • Girl Scout Troop 9216 • Greater Atlanta Economic Alliance • Greater Works, Inc. • Habesha Inc. Healing Arts A-Z • Home Based Business • Chamber of Commerce • House of Restoration, Inc. • Investment Atlanta, Inc. Making The Transition, Inc. • MACEO's Kids Foundation • Metropolitan Atlanta Violence Prevention Partnership (MAVPP) Mother Dillard's Village of Hope, Inc. • NAACP of Georgia • National Action Network • National Stylist Association Ropheka Rock of the World, Inc. • Sadie G. Mays Health & Rehabilitation Center • SCLC • Show and Prove Youth Organization Soul Food Museum • South Fulton Business Coalition • The B-Aware Foundation • The Spirit of Sweet Auburn • True Dreams Showcase Truly Living Well Center for Natural Urban Agriculture • United Negro College Fund • University Community Academy • WAIN.TV



Letter From the Chairman



Aaron Turpeau,
ORR Chairman

THE STATE OF THE BLACK FAMILY:
‘Parenting is Hard, but Love Conquers All’



The topic was given to me by our staff. They know I do not do any scholarly research for these articles, plus everybody knows that the American family structure (Black and White) is being shaken beyond the core. Our liberal friends in the media are shoving issues and graphic scenes down our throats and proclaiming it is for equalization and freedom. Single parenting has become the norm and crime inside the family is no longer a surprise. So what did our staff expect me to write? I did read a recent article quoting the latest census that the Black household income is \$34,598 compared to non-Hispanic white of \$54,270. We all know a little more money will go a long way to improving the State of Black families.

Maybe our staff found out that my wife and I are celebrating 50 years of marriage this year and expect some tid-bits. This week my wife’s college roommate and husband were in town and came out to the house for dinner. My children and grandchildren came over to meet them and had dessert. The college roommate asked a provocative question on the way back to the hotel. “What makes your family relationship work?” In her question she referred to all the realty TV shows i.e. Atlanta Housewives, Doctors’ Wives etc. and all she had heard negative about our school, drugs, entertainment scene and other couples she knew from Atlanta. After pausing for a moment and giving this some thought, I remember my wife telling my father-in-law how “Blessed”

we were. He would say, “You are also very lucky.” While accepting the luck factor, we do consider ourselves blessed. We have three children; one son as a Psychologist – in private practice specializing in Black couple relationships; he has three children. My other son is my business partner for the last 15 years and he has one son. My daughter is a medical doctor and not married yet.

Back to the questions, State of the Black Family and how we make it? I will tell you my concerns center around the difficulty in parenting in today’s fast, anything goes society. Every day, television programs push a set of foreign morals down the family’s throat which standardizes a code that nothing is sacred or private. Once you accept the premise that anything goes, then the family is surely going down. In my house we don’t accept that premise, and I turn off the TV or quietly walk out on TV shows, that include some of the “Scandal” shows.

“So the State of the Black Family is weak and challenging. My advice is to make sure your spouse is your best friend before marriage, your children continuously understand your beliefs and standards and your grandchildren are given family love every day.”

Our high school teenage grandchildren openly challenge our language pattern which shows our generational bias toward certain groups. This and other challenges make us more aware of the difficulty of parenting. In some colleges today, students are being taught that it is wrong and benevolent chivalry for a man to be a gentleman and open doors for ladies or let a lady out of the elevator first. Liberal professors are pushing a lifestyle of equalization with no regard to time-tested behavior patterns that are based on respect.

So the State of the Black Family is weak and challenging. My advice is to make sure your spouse is your best friend before marriage, your children continuously understand your beliefs and standards and your grandchildren are given family love every day. Remember: life is difficult, parenting is hard -- but love conquers all.

Be blessed. Be lucky.

The ORR!!® welcomes new members...

Churches

Saint Paul AME Church
Victory Cathedral
Church of God in Christ

Businesses

Atlanta Boom Volleyball Institute

Alliances

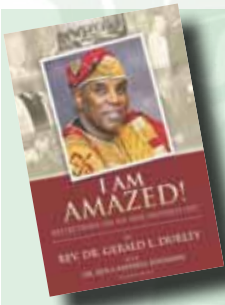
Beverly Cunningham
Outreach Program
Mother Dillard’s Village of Hope, Inc.



Thanks for getting aboard ...

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The ORR!!® Congratulates Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley
on publishing his Autobiography!

The OvergroundRR!!® congratulates Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley on completing and publishing his autobiography entitled, “I Am Amazed!: Reflections of an Awe-Inspired Life”. This well-written memoir offers insights into the making and shaping of the man Rev. Durley has become. Available now on Amazon.com. Rev. Durley has also provided a thought-provoking message for our readers on page 3.

THE CONDUCTOR STAFF

Publisher	Overground RR!!®
President	H.J.A. Alexander
Communications Manager/Writer	Kimberly Sheffield
Contributing Writer	Tadosha Long
Design/Graphics	Larry M. Newton
Videographer/Photography	Vince Bailey Productions
Administrative Coordinators	Vivian Benjamin/Juanita Love

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For more information contact:
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(404) 346-0808
www.OvergroundRR.com
www.Marching2March.org

Connecting Churches, Businesses and the
Black Community for Unity and Prosperity

THE POWER TO PRODUCE WEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY IS 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 Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. Dr. Gerald L. Durley

It is with pure, abiding joy and love that I greet you with this message.
I am amazed at what God has done, is doing and will do in all of our lives.
My prayer is that all hearts and minds will be inspired to press forward.

Change the System -- Change the Outcomes

“And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”
-Galatians 6:9

At the conclusion of 2014, across America, we saw in 190 cities, thousands of demonstrators march in protest to a justice system they felt had failed. People from all walks of life, across color, class, gender, and faith lines joined forces to raise the level of awareness that “Black Lives Matter”. These demonstrations were the collective culmination of the non-indictment stance by grand juries on the killing of young African-American males.

The trend of police officers killing unarmed Black males became more pronounced when Michael Brown, from St. Louis was gunned down and his body was left to lie in the street for four and half hours. Another incident of police violent behavior occurred on Staten Island, New York where yet another unarmed African-American male was strangled to death by a group of police officers. This killing was recorded on video and presented to the grand jury as evidence of the abusive force used to subdue Eric Garner. The obvious actions of the police were disregarded.

In both cases the grand jury failed to indict the police officers. These insensitive results of the grand jury sparked a wave of anger at a justice system which seemingly was unfair when white policemen killed Black males. These acts of violence on African-American males certainly are not a new phenomenon in America.

Violence against Black males began when they were beaten, snatched from their families, poorly educated, denied employment and lynched ever since their arrival in America. Black males have unfairly been targeted as a threat to “the system”. They were privately and publicly labeled as a danger to maintaining the power in the hands of white Americans.

Although these fears of Black males were unjustified, they continued to penetrate the dominant culture’s psyche laws to segregate African-Americans from becoming full participants in the broader culture, resulting in a system which legally produced a people who were poorly educated, disenfranchised of their civil and human rights, unfairly denied access to employment opportunities and virtually considered less than full citizens or even a human being. These physical and psychological conditions created an atmosphere, across America, of ignorance, hate, and fear toward Black Americans and especially the Black male.

Because the Black male was considered stronger and the head of the family, he was seen to be a threat unless he was systematically trained, restrained, and contained to a lesser minimal role of servitude. Through the years from systemic segregation until the era of legally producing

civil, human, housing, and voting rights laws, roles between white and Black Americans have been developing. Hence in 2014, that fear has produced an increasing broadening chasm between Black and white Americans. Laws cannot change ignorance, fear and hate which have climaxed into an unjust system that tries to maintain control by overlooking and covering up obvious atrocities of unfair disparities. These and many other factors are now putting young Black males’ lives at risk daily across America. They are profiled, stigmatized, and seen as a force to be dealt with “by any means necessary”.

Today the American justice system is facing a crisis of creditability and inequality as the “chickens have come home to roost”. Young African-American males are a product of a designed system which created a person whom has lost hope in being fairly treated. A hopeless person is much more dangerous than a person strung out on drugs. These feelings of hopelessness and despair have produced a mindset which no longer creates a docile, defensive people, but a people who expect and will demand equally, parity and justice by once again taking it to the streets.

In 2014 and for years to come, America now is forced to face what it has sown. It must now recognized and accept the fact that, as a nation, “none of us are free until we are all free”. Justice should be color blind, but it’s not when grand juries fail to indict the obvious transgressions against a group of Black males.

These statements are not being made at the exclusion of not recognizing the fact that Black males are disproportionally killing other Black males; however, the courts are sending the Black males to prison at an alarming rate, while whites are given reduced sentences or released.

Having outlined these conditions far too simply in this article, it is clear that something must be done and done quickly to correct this collision course among Black and white Americans. There are six proposed actions which I would suggest that we, as a nation, consider implementing immediately:

Six Proposed Actions for 2015:

- 1. Recognize:** All participating change agents must recognize that “the system” is not fair, not working and must be corrected for any significant progressive change to occur.
- 2. Communicate:** Establish lines of honest, open, transparent communication among all parties affected by the injus-

tices and not just by those in authority. Honest communication consists of mutual understanding, respect, and trust among perpetrators’ victims ---not finger pointing.

- 3. Institute New Laws:** Institute legislative laws which insure equal access to better education, health care, and employment opportunities for the underserved community.
- 4. Dialogue:** Begin dialogue among police, legislators, community residents, faith leaders, and businesses before major disruption events occur between police and Black males. Prevention not Reaction is Critical
- 5. Re-educate Police:** Re-educate police on how to appropriately confront African-American males who have been trained that the system is stacked against them and who believe that the police must maintain that system “by any means necessary”.
- 6. Re-educate African-American Males:** Re-educate African American males on how to effectively respond to police officers when they are confronted and ordered to respond in an expected manner by the police.

Consequently, Black males are becoming an endangered species on a number of fronts, including the battle ground with the police. However, the moment has arrived for cooler heads to prevail. It is crucial that Black males are included in strategy sessions and that there must be mutual agreements on sustainable methods to create a different more humane climate to resolve confrontation. The family structure must be revisited for clarity of direction and individuals must once again be challenged to desire and demand new behaviors of mutual respect as a collective body of concerned, committed and compassionate human beings. We cannot afford to put our heads in the sand and hope it will get better. We all have a moral and a spiritual obligation to accept our responsibility to stop the genocide of African-American males.

When we begin to recognize and respect one another as having been created equally, then the possibility of creating an environment where equality is apparent can and will exist.

“It can begin now; and it must begin with YOU!!”





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

Rain Pryor to Perform Award-Winning Fried Chicken and Latkes



The daughter of comedian Richard Pryor will perform her critically-acclaimed solo-show “Fried Chicken and Latkes”, a blend of comedy, music, and poignant insight. Pryor reflects on her experiences growing up, her acceptance of her Jewish and African-American heritages, and offers a glimpse into racism in the 1960s and ‘70s.

Location: Southwest Arts Center | 915 New Hope Road | Atlanta, GA

Shows: January 15-January 17, 2015 | **Tickets:** \$25 to \$100 per seat.

Gospel

Concerned Black Clergy Weekly Community Forums:

Every Monday at 9:30 AM, you are invited to share in one of the most insightful and informative community forums in Metropolitan Atlanta. The forums are held at the Vicars Community Center at 838 Cascade Road SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30310.



Concerned Black Clergy Monthly Clergy Luncheon:

The Concerned Black Clergy would like to invite all clergy to the Clergy Empowerment Luncheons held every 4th Thursday of each month. These luncheons are designed to equip clergy with vital information provided from selected professionals and experts in the areas of economic development, education, finances, health, community enhancement and spiritual awareness.

Entertainment



Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre at The Fabulous Fox

One of Atlanta’s most eagerly-awaited annual traditions is the return of the world’s most popular modern dance company to the fabulous Fox Theatre. See this season’s hottest new works plus returning repertory favorites including (at all performances) the beloved *Revelations*, which continues to move audiences around the world with its powerful storytelling and soul-stirring music. Groups of 10 or more save up to 20%. Call 404-881-2000.

The Fabulous Fox Theatre
660 Peachtree Street Northeast,
Atlanta, GA 30308
(404) 881-2100

Tickets start at \$25. | Show dates: February 11-February 15, 2015 | www.foxtheatre.org

Sports

atlantaboom.org / 770.469.1850



“We’re More than Volleyball”

Atlanta Boom Volleyball Institute, a 6-court, 23,000 SF mixed-use facility was established in 1999 by Del and Arleen Hughes. Atlanta Boom focuses on individual development including sports excellence, character development and academic achievement. In the pursuit of collegiate scholarships, it is their belief that elite skills always find homes. Atlanta Boom Volleyball Institute provides camps, clinics and instruction for athletes both male and female around the country.

1045 Research Center Atlanta Dr., SW | Atlanta, GA 30331



Twanda Black of KISS 104.1 FM Radio Business in the Black

DATABASES RULE THE WORLD!

What does a warehouse worker, a taxi driver and a stay at home mom have in common? Absolutely nothing! That is until they decided to enroll in Pishon Technologies, Inc. with technology guru, Billy Efik. Pishon Technologies specializes in training and mentoring Oracle Database Certified Administrator, Oracle Database Certified Developer, Oracle WebLogic Administrator, UNIX and Microsoft SQL Server Administration and Development. Every major corporation uses these technologies to develop, analyze and manage their extensive data and the USA is hiring database administrators (DBAs) from other countries because there is not enough talent to fill the positions here at home. These jobs pay between 50k and 150k, definitely worth a 12-14 week sacrifice of hard work!



Billy Efik, President of Pishon Technologies came to the US nearly 15 years ago from Nigeria where he attended the University of Nigeria and began his career in the IT field working for a consulting firm. Efik spent 30 years working in government, banking, oil and IT consulting industries both in Africa and the USA. He came to Atlanta in 2000 and started Pishon Technologies. The married father of 3 also began his journey as a Pastor- he is a natural born teacher!

I talked with several of Efik’s students and found them to be amazed that they were quickly learning the course work so easily. I actually witnessed his teaching style which is filled with easy to learn instruction and amazing stories making the classroom setting comfortable and a great environment to learn such difficult concepts. The classroom is instructor led with hands-on training using comprehensive study materials, labs, lectures and more. Efik can teach anyone this IT specialty with his anointed style of breaking concepts down to easy pieces and it has proven very lucrative for former students who average six figures in their new careers. His students are working for Fortune 500 companies all over the world and command great salaries and benefits. This field requires certification and at the end of course work, the student is prepared to sit for their examinations and pass!

If you are looking to change careers or move to the next level in your job, Billy Efik is the man to get you there. Pishon Technologies, Inc. is located in Austell, GA. For more information www.pishontechnologies.com or 888-406-1026



Black Business Month - Marching2March

(website: www.Marching2March.org)

A Message from The Chief Convener

The Strength of the Black Family Is in Your Hands --
Now What Are You Going to Do?



Rev. Timothy McDonald, III

There is no doubt in my mind that the Black Family is at risk. We have seen the impact of poverty and incarceration upon our families. There have been significant shifts in the status of Black Men over the past 40 years that have had a negative impact upon the Black Family. We have witnessed more and more of our children being raised in Single Households, primarily by our Strong, Beautiful Black Women. Every day, every week, in fact every month we hear all of the negative predictions for the Black Family. However, let's understand that the Black Family has already endured Slavery, Segregation, Jim Crow and Massive Incarceration, and yet we are still standing. Admittedly, the Black Family has changed, but so has America and all of its institutions.

It is so easy to focus our thoughts and energies on the negatives, or we can choose to find some Solutions to the Challenges that the Black Family faces. In 1965 there was a study on the Status

of the Black Family that issued a Report, called the Moynihan Report. Moynihan saw the breakdown of the nuclear family as the fundamental source of most of the problems in the Black Family. We saw in 1965 how the absence of the Black Male negatively impacted the Black Family. Unfortunately, this problem has not gotten better but has grown increasingly worse. So the question becomes: how do we constructively address this growing problem of the role of the Black male?

I contend that it is no accident what has happened to the Black male over the past 50 years. There is a strong correlation between non-violent drug-related incarceration laws and a failing education system that withdrew its support from Black males. These two factors: incarcerations and shifts in education have only accelerated the demise we see in the Black family. So the questions become: How do we stop all of the unnecessary non-violent Incarcerations and how do we refocus learning for the Black Male in our Education Institutions?

In order for us to restore the integrity of the Black family, we must create new laws for incarcerations for non-violent drug offenders. Attorney Michelle Alexander's Book, *The New Jim Crow* lays out a plan of how we might go about addressing the incarceration issues. This changing of laws should occur at both the Federal and State Levels. This effort needs to be multiracial and bipartisan. This will not solve all of the challenges facing the Black male and thereby the Black family, but it is absolutely a step in the right direction. However, to address incarceration without at the same time addressing education is equivalent to trying to read a book that has no words. It will prove

"We must be creative, supportive and willing to make some sacrifices for the sake of the Black Family. We must come out of our comfort zones, mentor, educate and lead our children as many of us were mentored and educated."

to be futile and irrelevant. As a people and a nation, we should be ashamed of how we have treated our African-American boys in our schools.

The lack of Black male teachers, and counselors only help to make this matter worse. Therefore, if we are serious then we should be educating, recruiting, training and paying Black men to re-enter our educational system. In order to strengthen the Black family, then our young Black boys must see role models in our Schools. No profession in our society is more important than education. Education is the foundation for our family, our governments, our communities, our churches, and our lives.

Recently, about 28 Black males were caught up in a sting drug bust. Two factors stood out and they were common to all 28 arrested. The two factors are: High School dropouts and secondly, unemployed. Therefore, reason and common sense dictates that if we are serious about strengthening the Black families then we **MUST** address Black male dropout rates and jobs. This is why Black business and the church will be key to strengthening the Black family. When the Black church takes its rightful

role in supporting the Black community, then our businesses and our children will prosper and live. We need to support and strengthen Black businesses so that they can hire our Black children. This means that the Black church must continue to encourage our people to buy Black.

We all can talk about the problems and challenges of the Black family, but until **WE** change the laws that continue to lock up our young Black men, and until we fight to change the education system that is so afraid of Black boys that it allows him to drop out of school at an alarming rate, and until we create an environment of promoting and sustaining an economic system that can hire our children, then we too are a part of the problem rather than the solution.

We must be creative, supportive and willing to make some sacrifices for the sake of the Black Family. We must come out of our comfort zones, mentor, educate and lead our children as many of us were mentored and educated. The Strength of the Black Family is in your hands, now what are you going to do?

The Call and the Response (Continued from page 1)

These were the ones who were supposed to be the firsts; but were denied their freedom. **WE** quietly submitted to not speaking of the millions of our parents and their parents' parents who should have and would have been firsts centuries ago except for the tyrannical oppression they endured.

WE must admit and repent for quietly submitting to America's blatant false exclamation to have

been the land of the free and the home of the brave since the declaration of its independence. How could **WE** have participated in this shameful charade when our parents' parents, and their parents' parents were literally in chattel slavery?

WE (You and I) must admit that **WE** quietly submitted to, and even sang and loudly proclaimed this false **HIS**tory which ignores our parents and their parents' parents, and their parents' parents' parents' indescribable suffering. The suffering was inflicted upon them by constant and unrelenting terrorism. To proclaim that America

since George Washington has been the land of the free and the home of the brave, we must deny that our people were chattel slaves, inventoried, bought and sold along with the goats, the pigs and cows. Indeed, such a proclamation requires that we deny their very existence. And so today **WE (You and I)** repent for quietly submitting to proclaiming this **FALSE HIS**tory.

Today we acknowledge that what Frederick Douglass said in 1857 was and is true:

Continued on page 7



The OvergroundRR!!® Was A Proud Participant at Judge Penny’s 2-day Powerhouse Event



NOVEMBER 7-8 2014 - The ORR!! was a proud participant in Judge Penny Brown Reynold’s 2014 SisterTalk Women’s Empowerment Conference. The ORR!! and its members are committed to strengthening Black families, women and youth through advocacy, education, service and economics.

This 2-day powerhouse event was held at the Georgia International Convention Center in College Park. The conference featured: Founder and Keynote speaker Judge Penny Brown Reynolds; A town hall meeting on the State of Black Women; A Sister of Substance Awards Luncheon honoring Dr. Bernice. A. King; and several break out sessions led by panelists who are experts in law, medicine, business, finance, relationships and personal and spiritual development. The conference also featured TeenTalk Forums on robust skill-building, leadership and personal development workshops for girls ages 12-18.



More Scenes from SisterTalk 2014



The Call and the Response (Continued from page 5)

...Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them, and these will continue till they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both... Today **WE (You and I) resist** with these words. Today we hear in the fateful struggling gasping voice of our dear brother Eric Garner the same fateful struggling gasping voices of our fathers and our mothers stuffed in the bottom of the bowels of America’s ships:

“I CAN’T BREATHE...”

The ORR!!® pastors tell us to know our history. But, we must honor their lives and their sacrifices by seizing the issues of our day like Harriett Tubman did in her day. Like Harriett Tubman, Dr. King did not spend his life lost in history. He took on the issues of his time. Because he and countless others with him built on our history rather than living in history, when his life was taken on April 4, 1968, we, as a people, were much farther along the freedom journey than when this great man was born in 1929.

After having gotten us off the back of the bus, into the front doors of stores, restaurants and hotels, into jobs and careers we could not previously have hoped to have, Dr. King told us that the next leg of the freedom journey is building our own economy. (Listen to the video at www.Marching2March.org)

Dr. King’s last message to us was to build up and support our own businesses. Throughout all of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of Dr. King’s “I Have A Dream” speech, you never heard a word spoken of Dr. King’s very direct and urgent mandate to us to become more economically independent as a people.

Well, OvergroundRR!!® pastors are pointing the community to the life-changing words of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., spoken on April 3, 1968 mere hours before he would lose his life. On that fateful night, Dr. King called for all of our people to practice a concept we now refer to as, “Kitchen Table Affirmative Action.” The speech that contained this profound call for action is most famous for the contents of the final stanza wherein he proclaims, “I’ve Been To The Mountaintop!”

Of course, that part of the speech is climactically moving and inspiring. However, we have failed to pay attention to the very explicit instructions he also gave to us as a people. Specifically, he directed us to change the economic landscape of the Black community.

Over the years, we have indulged in the emotional inspiration of the message - and rightfully so. But in the midst of our indulgence, it appears that we have overlooked the life-changing directive he gave regarding the essential need to build up and support our own businesses. 40 years later, much like the people of God who wandered in the wilderness for 40 years and then finally emerged and awakened, the inspirational pastors of The OvergroundRR!!® are telling us to listen to Martin:

[C]ollectively -- that means all of us together - collectively we are richer than all the nations in the world, with the exception of nine. Did you ever think about that? After you leave the United States, Soviet Russia, Great Britain, West Germany, France, and I

could name the others, the American Negro collectively is richer than most nations of the world. We 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.

... But not only that, we’ve got to strengthen black institutions. I call upon you to take your money out of the banks downtown and deposit your money in Tri-State Bank. We want a “bank-in” movement in Memphis. Go by the savings and loan association. I’m not asking you something that we don’t do ourselves at SCLC. Judge Hooks and others will tell you that we have an account here in the savings and loan association from the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. We are telling you to follow what we are doing. Put your money there.

You have six or seven black insurance companies here in the city of Memphis. Take out your insurance there. We want to have an “insurance-in.” Now these are some practical things that we can do. We begin the process of building a greater economic base...

(Emphasis in original) Martin Luther King, Jr., I’ve Been to the Mountaintop speech delivered 3 April 1968 (Listen to the 2 ½ minute audio of edited excerpts at Marching2march.org).

Following Dr. King’s instructions, we now have the ORR!!® Business Directory (see pages 13-15) to find businesses owned by members of our own community. It has become the central business directory in the Atlanta Black community found in *The Conductor newspaper*, which has grown to have the third largest circulation per issue in the State of Georgia. Additionally, the ORR!!® Business Directory can also be found on the website, www.overgroundrr.com. It has grown to have more than 1 million hits per year. **Can your church’s business owners be found in the ORR!!® Business Directory?**

Yes...the Pastors of this great movement pointed us to the victories over the chained and Jim Crow terroristic slavery of our past. Our leaders pointed out that when Dr. King on April 3, 1968 directed us to start supporting our own businesses, Black spending was more than \$30 billion dollars a year. Now, as shown in the chart on the front page, it is \$910 billion dollars.

In addition, the ORR!!® continued the campaign to get the *Black Enterprise Magazine* into every household at the special ORR!!® rate of only \$6.50. Make sure you get yours at OvergroundRRFinancial.com or call the office at 404-346-0808.



Rev. Dr. Richard Cobble

Congratulations to Rev. Dr. Richard H. Cobble and Omega Holiness Church, which presently has taken the lead in getting more *Black Enterprise Magazine* subscriptions than any other church. **Where does your church stand?**

WE (You and I) must breathe!! Join the OvergroundRR!!®.

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Business



Atlanta Boom Volleyball Institute:

An organization committed to shaping young lives through excellence in volleyball, character development and academic achievement

We're more than Volleyball

Atlanta Boom Volleyball Institute, established in 1999 by Del and Arleen Hughes, is a family-oriented USA Volleyball organization whose goal is to train kids at the highest possible level and help them capture volleyball collegiate scholarship offers.



Del and Arleen Hughes

"I wanted to change the cycle of life. I tell kids they can do anything anybody else does – they just need two things: knowledge of how and time to get good at it. With that in mind, I tell them not to ever doubt themselves because confidence will take them places skill never will," says Del Hughes, Director and Founder of Atlanta Boom Volleyball Institute.

Located at 1045 Research Center Dr., just off Cascade Rd., Atlanta Boom is one of the premier athletic facilities in Southwest Atlanta. The organization is committed to athletes and families in the pursuit of health, fitness and academic achievement. Mr. Hughes and his wife Arleen are former highly-skilled volleyball players and certified Division I, nationally-ranked officials. The Hughes train young officials as well as athletes and coaches. Mr. Hughes is the Coaching Director and Founder of Atlanta Boom. He has an extensive Olympic training, coaching and officiating background.

State-of-the-Art Training Facility

Atlanta Boom boasts a 6-court, 23,000 SF mixed-use facility, which includes:

- A Players' Only Lounge
- Medical and Rehab Clinic
- Coach's Education and Audio/Visual Wing
- Parent and Family Fellowship Gallery
- Conference Center
- Boom Products Store
- Training Aids
- Kitchen

The state-of-the-art facility is primarily used for training and housing leagues and tournaments. Boom recently hosted the Peachtree Classic, one of the largest volleyball tournaments in Georgia, accommodating over 1500 people at once. Athletes, coaches, and officials receive instruction through group training, private training and on-site camps and clinics. Parents also receive instructional training on how to become a good source of support for their children during the ups and downs of sports competition.

On-site Camps & Clinics

Atlanta Boom's camps and clinics are designed to teach and enhance the skills of each participant, regardless of prior volleyball experience in a fun, safe, interactive, team-building environment. Athletes receive comprehensive technical instruction that will prepare them for collegiate and Olympic competition. Boom takes pride in its highly-qualified 36-member coaching staff, several of whom have coached at the Division I level or higher.

In 2014, Atlanta Boom demonstrated its commitment to integrating the most innovative training techniques into their program by hosting training camps instructed by World #1 Hitter, professional volleyball player Destinee Hooker, and four Division I college coaches including Syracuse Head Coach Leonid Yelin; Auburn Head Coach Rick Nold; Georgia State Head Coach Sally Polhamus; and Coastal Carolina Head Coach Jozef Foreman.

Atlanta Boom has also reached out to local schools including Mays High School, Therrell High School and Sandtown Middle School to encourage their students to join their volleyball program. Atlanta Boom's training will prepare public school coaches and students to compete on much higher levels. Atlanta Boom is confident that young athletes who enter their program will start to create a pipeline for athletes entering into Mays and Therrell High Schools.

While Atlanta Boom training is open to girls and boys, the league teams are currently made up of girls. According to Coach Hughes, "Boys in the south tend to get more involved in football and basketball rather than volleyball, but Atlanta Boom is working to change that statistic because there are huge opportunities for boys to obtain collegiate scholarships in volleyball."

Over 239 Volleyball Collegiate Scholarships

Over 239 collegiate scholarships totaling over \$10 million have been awarded to Atlanta Boom-trained athletes since 1999. Five players have made it into the Olympic pipeline. Atlanta Boom is well-connected with Division I, Division II and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Several of these institutions have offered scholarships to Boom athletes including:

- Division I schools such as Auburn, Howard, Texas, UCLA, Syracuse, New Hampshire, Georgia, Georgia Tech, Stony Brook, South Carolina;
- Division II schools such as Valdosta, Kentucky State, West Georgia and West Alabama;
- HBCUs and Jr. Colleges such as Alabama A&M, Albany State University, South Carolina State, Gadsden, Miami Dade, and San Jacinto.

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Community Engagement

As part of its community engagement efforts, Atlanta Boom has reached out to local churches, pastors, politicians, business owners, high schools and community leaders to encourage and establish corporate leagues, church leagues, and small business/organization leagues to promote fun, exercise and friendly competition. They offer leagues for ages 5-year olds to Adults. Atlanta Boom's ultimate goal is to leave a lasting impact in the community by helping

kids learn and excel in volleyball, attend college, help their families and become great members of the community.

For more information on leagues, tournaments, and training camps, please contact Atlanta Boom Volleyball Institute at 404.663.2098 or visit their website at www.atlantaboom.org.



The TAX *Mis*Education of Lauryn Hill: Are You Miseducated too?



SPICEDA DAVIS JACKSON, CPA
Founder & CEO
eXFinancial, Inc. and TaxPlus 365

The MisEducation of Lauryn Hill led her to jail for IRS TAX EVASION and FAILURE to FILE past due tax returns! What is this all about? And how does not paying taxes or avoiding paying taxes get you placed in jail? Could this be you?

Lauryn Hill was a business owner. Per the Associated Press, she owned and operated four private Corporations in addition to her music and entertainment career. There was no mention that she had not been paying taxes recently (2009 – 2012). I think it’s fair to call her a hard working Taxpayer, so how did she get caught up in tax mess?



Was it bad tax advice? WARNING!!! Don’t take tax debt advice from “side-line coaches”, which is what I call individuals who prepare taxes seasonally and kitchen table tax preparers and advisors. You want to deal with a professional when faced with IRS or State tax issues. For example, if you are being audited by the IRS consult a CPA, Attorney, or Enrolled Agent. Your tax preparer may not be able to help you out of your tax situation. They may only specialize in preparing taxes not performing tax resolution services. There is a difference.

Was she too afraid to address the problem? While I feel the IRS is making an example of Lauryn Hill, tax evasion or IRS avoidance is never the answer to delinquent income tax situations. You must PAY or NEGOTIATE with the IRS, you cannot ignore them. They have no limits, ask the Tea Party (I had to throw that one in).

Did she procrastinate because she didn’t have it all to pay? Like I mentioned before, never avoid paying taxes because you don’t have all the money to pay the IRS or any debt. The IRS has tax programs available to help and assist the tax payer reduce their debt and pay the money owed, such as Offer and Compromise, Installment Agreements, and Payment Extensions. Alternative payment

arrangements and even tax liability reduction is available to financially distressed tax payers.

Lauryn Hill paid the debt she owed totaling over \$900,000 in back taxes before being sentenced, but was still sentenced to 3 months in jail due her explanation for non-payment of taxes on the \$1.8 million earned between 2005 and 2007.

In summary, she told the IRS that she didn’t pay because she did not like being forced to comply with the taxing system of the great ole’ USA. Not a great explanation Lauryn, at least pretend that you are remorseful or was truly miseducated about the matter. All in all, we all must pay taxes and leave this life one day, if we live here in United States America. If you ever find yourself owing lots of money either due to miseducation or poor tax preparation, consult a CPA professional to help you and if you feel as though you cannot afford the full services of a professional, visit www.taxplus365.com to attend a seminar to educate and learn how to help yourself.



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In Memory of Herman J. Russell:

1930

Legendary Atlanta Business Man and Dedicated
OvergroundRR!! Member

2014

“Our” Business Man Who Gave of Himself and His Treasures

Mr. Herman J. Russell founded H.J. Russell & Company in 1952 and has been a leader in shaping the Atlanta skyline, as well as many socioeconomic concerns including desegregating Atlanta’s public schools, creating the city’s rail transit system, saving Grady Hospital, keeping the King Papers in Atlanta and encouraging intown neighborhoods. To honor Mr. Russell, the OvergroundRR!! has included tributes from local and national businessmen, businesswomen, preachers and community leaders.

by Aaron Turpeau, ORR Chairman

During my first week in Atlanta, I met Herman Russell, Atlanta’s Black business tycoon. He along with other black business and community leaders had left a black tie Christmas party to come to a community leaders’ meeting at Julian Bond’s house. He and the others came to offer “The MARTA Deal” to pass the 1 cent sales tax and referendum. Here you had this multimillionaire businessman dress up in a tuxedo leaving his wife at a high society integrated Christmas party because he personally care enough about how the common man and women could get to work. This community meeting was headed up by the President of the Welfare Right organization, President of the Domestic Union organization and the President of the Housing Authority Tenant Association. Mr. Russell knew he wasn’t going to ride the bus or train his needs were never his issue. This meeting is why we have MARTA today.

That meeting marked my image of Herman Russell for the next 44 years. A successful, businessman that kept climbing but was always looking for others.

Herman Russell was at the meeting when the Overground Railroad was conceived. At that time our name was The Atlanta Black Agenda Business Resource Center. Herman Russell let us use his company’s training room to actually organize and host the gathering of 25 black businesses in grand catered style. Throughout Herman’s time with us we could depend on his mentoring and leadership.

Anytime in Atlanta there was a serious meeting among community leaders Herman Russell was always there. He would not say a lot but you knew you had to quickly get to a decision point if you wanted his support.

Today most of us are too busy making a living for ourselves and not looking out for the common man. While we may donate money and give to politicians, we must take the time to give of ourselves. Organization and political parties must get back to inclusion of people instead of begging for money. Herman Russell gave of himself and his treasure to help others and that’s what made Herman and Atlanta Great.



Tributes...

“You have contributed so much to the entire community of Atlanta, we can never thank you enough for the foundation you have set. I was so honored to have met you when I worked for ER Mitchell Construction Company in the late 80’s (Margaret). You have always been so down-to-earth, so real and unassuming. In your latter years, I was honored to shake your hand and have you sign your book at Concerned Black Clergy (Frederick). You were a world-class giant who walked bigger than life and you have inspired us all to want to grow as tall as you.”

PASTOR FREDERICK AND LADY MARGARET CALDWELL
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“Mr. Russell has left a lasting legacy to people of goodwill, who witnessed him use his economic power to ardently support the causes of faith and justice. Generations yet unborn will benefit from his creativity, ingenuity, and philanthropic contributions to our society. He will be missed, but always remembered.”

REV. FRANK CORNELIUS BROWN
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PRESIDENT, CONCERNED BLACK CLERGY OF METROPOLITAN ATLANTA

“A perennial member of that exclusive group of business leaders who are CEOs of the BE 100s, Herman J. Russell forged a legacy as a master businessman and mentor who inspired several generations of leaders in business, politics, education, corporate America, and beyond. It is often said that the greatness of a person is not measured by what they’ve achieved, but by what they’ve overcome. By any measure, Russell is every bit a titan. Let us always honor both his example and his legacy.”

EARL G. GRAVES, SR. - FOUNDER, BLACK ENTERPRISE

Herman J. Russell was a man who, through his hard work and faith, contributed to changing the landscape of a city. Atlanta and its residents have been immensely blessed because he was here. He was a man with great vision, and proved that God truly “is no respecter of persons”. The legacy that he leaves, from the beautiful buildings and structures that we enjoy, to his business, civic, and community leadership, will be remembered for years to come.

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The 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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Continued on page 14



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404-755-9455
www.macksfitnesscenter.com

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Nash Alexander, III

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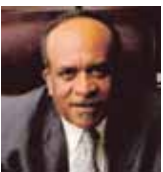
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Atlanta, GA 30311
404-758-6811
www.hillsidechapel.org



**Liberty International
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Rev. Greg Fann
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Parkway
Atlanta, GA 30310
404-524-9860



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Pastor Robert W. Crummie
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College Park, GA 30337
404-766-1300
www.mtcalvarycp.org



**Poplar Springs
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Rev. Ulysses Ponder
3796 River Road
Ellenwood, GA 30294
404-241-6516



**Holsey Chapel Christian
Methodist Episcopal**
Rev. Ricky Hammond
416 Cole Street
Merietta, GA 30060
770-427-6467



Life Line Church
Pastor Mark A. Couch
823 Dill Avenue
Atlanta, GA 30310
404-753-5551

www.emmanueltabernacleatl.org



**Mt. Olive Missionary
Baptist Church**
Rev. Frank Cornelius Brown
2685 Barge Rd.
Atlanta, GA 30331
404-349-4273
www.mtolivembcatl.org



**Providence Missionary
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Bishop William Sheals
182 Hunter St.
Norcross, GA 30071
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770-449-5143 (fax)

info@hopewellmissionarybaptist.org



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Atlanta, GA 30331
678-705-1361



Pure Praises Ministries
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770-873-2263



Love Circle Truth Center
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Atlanta, GA 30311
404-207-7849

Continued on page 18



ORR!! Church Station Conductors (Continued from page 17)



Redemptive Life Christian Fellowship Church
Dr. Mark W. Thompson
406 Pleasant Hill Road
Conyers, GA 30012
770-922-1234
www.theredemptivelife.org



St. John Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor Jeff Davis
52 Fairburn Road SW
Atlanta, GA 30331
404-696-1779



Transform Lives Christian Church
Rev. Michael Wright
130 Shelby Oaks Trail
Covington, GA 30016
770-866-1505



Wheat Street Baptist Church
Rev. Dr. Michael Neely Harris
359 Auburn Ave.
Atlanta, GA 30312
404-659-4328
www.wheatstreet.org



Rehoboth Christian Center International
Bishop Ronnie Jackson
450 Racetrack Road
McDonough, GA 30252
770-305-9881



St. Mark AME Church
Rev. Walter E. Daniels
3605 Campbellton Road
Atlanta, GA 30331
404-349-6800
www.stmarkameatl.org



Trinity Tabernacle Baptist Church
Rev. Portia Wills Lee, M.Div.
592 Veterans Memorial Hwy.
Mableton, GA 30126
770-941-4131
www.trinitybc.com



Woods Memorial Baptist Church
Rev. Toney Mosley
5665 Old National Hwy.
College Park, GA 30349
404-761-3002



Restoration Tabernacle, Inc
Bishop Franklin L. Glover, Sr.
52 International Court
Dallas, GA 30157
678-363-6777



St. Mark Lutheran Church
Rev. Larry Miller
(Interim Pastor)
4137 Washington Road
East Point, GA 30344
404-768-3304



The True Light Baptist Church
Rev. Darell D. Elligan
47 Anderson Ave. NW
Atlanta, GA 30314
404-799-8623
www.thetruelightbaptist.org



Word of Faith Love Center
Rev. Dr. Reginald Garmon
2435 Ben Hill Road
East Point, GA 30344
404-762-8286
www.woflovecenter.org



Salem Bible Church
Rev. Jasper W. Williams
Rev. Joseph L. Williams
2283 Baker Road NW
Atlanta, GA 30312
404-792-0303



St. Paul AME Church
Rev. Dr. Gregory V. Eason, Sr.
1540 Pryor Road, SW
Atlanta, GA 30315
404-622-9711
www.stpaulameatl.com



Turner Chapel AME Church
Rev. Raphael Allen
4650 Cascade Road
Atlanta, GA 30331
404-699-0023



Word of God Ministries
Rev. Larry Hill
3120 Donald Hollowell
Atlanta, GA 30318
678-698-8386



Solomon Temple Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. B.L. Clements
395 Blair Villa Drive, SE
Atlanta, GA 30354
404-363-3349



St. Philip AME Church
Rev. Dr. William D. Watley
240 Candler Road
Atlanta, GA 30317
404-371-0749
www.saintphilip.org



Victory Cathedral Church of God in Christ
Pastor Larry L. Ford, SR., CFC
3704 Campbellton Road, SW
Atlanta, GA 30331
404-349-0400



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



St. James Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. Rodney B. Harris
23 Parr Farm Road
Covington, GA 30016
678-837-5622



St. Timothy's Episcopal
2833 Flat Shoals Road
Decatur, GA 30034
404-241-7711



West End 7th Day Adventist
Elder Calvin B. Preston
Senior Pastor
845 Lawton St, SW
Atlanta, GA 30310
404-755-5927
www.westendsdachurch.org



Zion Hill Baptist Church
Rev. Dr. Aaron L. Parker
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Rev. Dr. Richard Cobble



Church



Oprah Winfrey Attends Hillside International Truth Center's 43rd Anniversary Celebration

“I’m going to remember you for the rest of my life and more!”

A powerful sentiment made even more meaningful coming from a New York Times Best-Selling author of the work that Oprah Winfrey calls her “favorite book of all time except for the Bible.” Gary Zukav, author of “The Seat of the Soul,” moved the Hillside International Truth Center audience with this emotional closer and then took his seat. There was thunderous applause.

“I’ve been absolutely flying all month long!” Founder Minister, Dr. Barbara King exhaled after a celebration that included some of the most extraordinary moments in the southwest Atlanta institution’s 43-year history: Oprah Winfrey receiving the first ever Dr. Barbara L. King Founder’s Award; profound, metaphysical teaching from Gary Zukav; and the powerfully inspiring story of Grammy and Tony Awards winner, Jennifer Holliday, illustrated with vocal stylings representing meaningful milestones in the Broadway superstar’s career.

A Celebration for the Ages

It was Founder’s Day – September 7th – the actual date Dr. Barbara L. King founded Hillside 43 years ago. Oprah Winfrey told the excited congregation that she met Barbara King in 1987 and heard her speaking “New Thought” principles “...long before we even knew anything about New Thought,” as she put it. “I didn’t come here to get an award... I came here for you.” “I came here to say, ‘Thank you!’”

Winfrey’s expressions of admiration for “Dr. Barbara” were abundant:

“Oh my God! What a woman you are! What a magnificent woman you are.”

“The power that brought you all to Hillside and allowed you to be blessed by the words and wisdom and vision of this woman is manifesting in, around and through you always.”

“I applaud your courage. I applaud your bodaciousness... to be a woman born tall as a cypress, brown skin... raised in the ‘50s and ‘60s and all you have to put up with from your own people because of that...”

“...to have the courage, and the heart, and the heart’s desire, the vision and the wisdom, to follow the voice of Spirit – that’s why I’m here to say, ‘Thank you for that,’ because you had the courage to do it and because ... it allowed all of us to be able to follow in your footsteps.”

“I am a student of all that you teach and I thank you for being the Professor, the Chieftan, the Queen Mother of New Thought.”



Oprah Winfrey receiving the first-ever Dr. Barbara L. King Founder’s Award at Hillside International Truth Center on September 7, 2014



Author Gary Zukav conducts a metaphysical teaching; and Grammy and Tony Awards winner, Jennifer Holliday illustrates her powerfully inspiring story through song.



All Photos - Copyright: Hillside International Truth Center, Inc.

The Dr. Barbara Lewis King Founder’s Award is given to a person who exemplifies characteristics of the Founder – unconditional love, helping others to live their dreams and commitment to expanding the consciousness of humankind.

Winfrey announced that she was excited that Hillside was going to get to see The Seat of the Soul author, Gary Zukav. “I read his book in 1989 and the great idea in “Seat of the Soul” is that when you use

your personality to serve your soul - when you align the two - that is when you have authentic power and authentic power is the power that nobody can take from you; ‘cause authentic power is God’s power manifesting through you.”

Zukav did, in fact, address a near capacity audience in Hillside’s famed Sanctuary-in-the-round on October 4th as a part of the Anniversary celebration’s “Soul Saturday” event.

“I’ve been wanting to come here for a long time,” he said.

Hillsiders studied Zukav’s work in classes years ago and again this year in preparation for experiencing the author first hand. After his presentation, Zukav participated in a Q&A session with the audience and an inquisitive, intergenerational panel.

The Soul Journey of a Songstress and Her Song

It would be hard to imagine how the performance of Broadway legend, Jennifer Holliday, could have been a more perfect, more fitting conclusion to Hillside’s 43rd Anniversary celebration. Her storied career – full of highs and lows; good times and could’ve been better times – filled the audience with more than inspiration. It was a full-blown master class in life-skills.

The remarkably affable Ms. Holliday related her story of navigating the snares of fame and unparalleled success with humor and powerfully moving renditions of some of the incredible music she is known for.

“Some things make us uniquely who we are – you know, not that it’s bad or good but some things just make us uniquely who we are,” she said of the place where she finds herself at age 54.

“If you don’t stick around you won’t know that things can turn around so just stay.”

The audience was treated to magical performances of hits from the Jennifer Holliday songbook including “I Am Love,” – from her first album – “At some point in life, you have to get to where you’re having a love affair with yourself,” she explained.

“I Am Changing,” – the showstopper from Dreamgirls – “This song has become sort of a personal mantra of mine because now I wake up every day just seeing how I can become everything I’m supposed to be.”

“Come Sunday” – her 1985 Grammy Award winner for Best Inspirational Performance, Gospel – “A simple prayer for whatever you need from God, from the universe, from yourself, from friends... that in those dark hours when I could not pray for myself – intercession – I didn’t even believe in that but I know now for a fact that God can pray for you, others can pray for you without even knowing your situation and can bring you through.”

The one-of-a-kind singer shared more music and testimony but finished with a walk-off performance of “And I Am Telling You I’m Not Going” from Dreamgirls that – needless to say – brought the house down.

“This was the best Anniversary celebration we have ever had.” – Dr. Barbara King.



The ITC: Educating and Nurturing Leaders to Transform the Church and World for Common Good

The Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) is the world’s premier resource for Black church scholarship and faith-based solutions to the spiritual and socio-economic challenges confronting the African-American community.

The Interdenominational Theological Center is a Christian, ecumenical, graduate professional school of theology and one of the most significant ventures in theological education in America. Founded in 1958 through the mutual efforts of four denominational seminaries: Baptist School of Theology (then Morehouse School of Religion), Gammon Theological Seminary, Turner Theological Seminary, and Phillips School of Theology, came together to form one school of theology in cooperation as an ecumenical cluster and were later joined by two additional schools, Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary, and Charles H. Mason Theological Seminary. The Center’s actualization was greatly helped by magnificent grants from several philanthropic foundations. The ITC has been accredited by the Association of Theological Schools in the U.S. and Canada since 1960 and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools since October 1984.

During its 56-year history, the institution has experienced tremendous growth under the administration of eight presidents. The ITC is located on a 10-acre plot in the heart of the Atlanta University Center --a generous gift of Atlanta University. ITC faculty members are chosen both for scholarly competence and for teaching ability. The center is under the direction of a 45-member Board of Trustees.

ITC’s Two-fold Vision: Honoring History and Embracing the Future
The ITC embarks upon the 21st century with a two-fold vision that honors its historic mission and embraces its promising future. The first facet of the vision builds on a century-old commitment initially established by the constituent seminaries. With an international reputation for producing outstanding clergy and a long-standing tradition of community outreach, The ITC is committed to academic excellence in training leaders, teachers, pastors, and preachers with an exceptional dedication to serving the church and society.

The ITC is dedicated to producing public theologians - men and women who are intellectually keen, politically sophisticated, economically savvy, culturally sensitive, family friendly, technologically literate, and spiritually



Campus View of The Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) Chapel

astute. A key role of these public theologians is to serve as liaisons - facilitators of new alliances between America’s churches and other non-profit organizations, corporations, foundations, and government entities.

The second facet of the ITC’s vision is to expand the variety and effectiveness of partnerships to meet the challenges confronting our nation’s communities. The ITC is establishing itself as a nationwide resource on the Black church’s role in the renewal of American society. The program, which includes a research center, think tank, and clearinghouse, will compile data, analyze issues, develop leadership, inform the public, and encourage faith-based solutions to community problems. Through this initiative, the ITC will bring together leaders from the church, academia, secular non-profit organizations, corporations, foundations, government, and communities to share insights and develop solutions to address the social and moral crises plaguing the nation’s communities.

Degree Programs
ITC offers four degree programs and one dual degree program.

- Master of Divinity (M.Div.) Offered on ITC Campus and Online
- Master of Arts in Christian Education (M.A.C.E.)
- Doctor of Ministry (D. Min.)

- Doctor of Theology in Pastoral Counseling (Th.D.)

Dual Degree Program

- Master of Arts in Christian Education/Master of Divinity M.A.C.E./M.Div

Continuing Education (non-degree) and Distance Learning
The Continuing Education Program allows students to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) in multiple ways and in different settings. The ITC Distance Learning delivers accessible on-line instruction, superior customer service and an exceptional user experience to the non-traditional adult learner seeking a graduate theological education.

ITC Special Programs
Other programs offered include:

- Black Women in Church and Society
- Youth Hope-Builders Academy
- Religious Heritage of the African World (RHAW)

Student & Campus Life
The buildings and all other facilities are modern, providing every resource for effective instruction and comfortable living. Student life is about more than just academics. It is about the personal growth and development that comes from being an active participant in a


community of individuals and interacting with people from different backgrounds. It is about engaging in activities for which individuals feel passionate while taking time to try something totally new and outside their comfort zone.

Committed to Forging New Partnerships
The ITC understands that the church must assume a more aggressive leadership role in the renewal of American society. Toward this end, the African-American church, in particular, must forge new partnerships that undergird and energize the church’s historic and pivotal leadership in the communities it serves. Only by doing so can we help neighbors to strengthen their capacity to provide a higher quality of life for themselves and their families. The ITC welcomes the participation of all on this historic journey - a journey of faith, good works, and community - a journey to meet the unprecedented challenges we must face in the society we share today - a journey to make a lasting difference in the society we will share tomorrow.


For more information on the ITC, please call 404-527-7700 or visit www.itc.edu.



If you would like to donate to the ITC, please scan the QR code or visit www.itc.edu/give



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Community



The Atlanta Job Corps: A Leader and Pioneer in the Community



“The Job Corps Program offers a solution to the nation’s escalating unemployment problems. At the Atlanta Job Corps Center, we focus on growth and development that prepares our youth to be ready for life long careers and key contributors to society.”

– Annie T. Matthews, Atlanta Center Director

The Atlanta Job Corps was opened September 1969 in the historic Waluhaje Apartment Hotel Building, located at 239 West Lake Ave, NW. A unique part of the National Job Corps the Center is a residential and nonresidential coeducational program, which trains hundreds of students each year.

The Center is a career technical training facility that offers training in Finance and Business Technology, Culinary Arts, Health Occupations (CNA), and Facilities Maintenance. The Center also has a daycare program that provides supportive childcare services for nonresidential students including counseling support to help them in their role as parents.

Committed Leadership

Over the past 45 years, the Atlanta Job Corps Center’s dynamic leadership (past and present) has celebrated the Center’s success as a leader and pioneer

in the community. For the past 15 years, Center Director Annie T. Matthews has continued that tradition of leadership excellence. The Atlanta Center is presently operated by Management and Training Corporation in Centerville, Utah, for the US Department of Labor in Washington D.C., and has been consistently recognized as one of the top performing Centers in the country!

Training Tomorrow’s Workforce

The thousands of youth that have graduated are employed in all levels of the workforce throughout the country. A significant number have joined the ranks of the Armed Forces with high ASVAB scores. An impressive number have attended and completed college via the Advanced Training Program.

Job Corps in the Community

A sense of community is an intangible but vital component of building and maintaining healthy communities. The Atlanta Job Corps students and

staff volunteer thousands of hours of community service in an effort to make a difference within the communities in which we live, work, and learn.

Partnering for Progress

As part of fulfilling its mission, the Atlanta Job Corps has partnered with many corporations, local businesses, and governmental entities that provide support through work-based learning and job shadowing opportunities for our students. We also partner with institutions of higher learning such as Atlanta Metropolitan State College and Atlanta Technical College.

Your Opportunity

If you are an employer seeking well-trained, entry-level employees in your business, Job Corps is the ideal place to find them. Our students receive focused, hands-on career training, so hiring Job Corps graduates can provide your business with many unique benefits, including:

- **A Constant Source of New Employees** - Because Job Corps students create their own training timeline, our graduates are available to work at all times of the year.

- **Employees with Training Tailored to Your Company’s Needs** - Establishing a training partnership allows Job Corps to teach the specific skills your company looks for in employees.

- **Employees that are Motivated and Ready to Work** - Learning a good work ethic is part of every Job Corps student’s training.

- **Assistance in the Employee Selection Process** - When you need an entry-level employee, Job Corps will screen eligible students to give you the best possible candidates.

For more information, contact the Center at 404-794-9512 or visit their website at www.atlanta.jobcorps.gov.



Congressman Hank Johnson visits Center



Culinary Arts students show off their talents



Graduation Ceremony



Breast Cancer Awareness Walk



REP. TYRONE BROOKS

GABEO

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF BLACK ELECTED OFFICIALS

An affiliate of the SCLC - “Celebrating Excellence in Public Service”

With more than 1000 members statewide, GABEO's main focus is on developing programs which will provide deterrents to violence and crime among youth; promoting voter registration, education and participation, forming literacy programs to battle the growing problem of illiteracy in the state; securing economic parity for all Georgians; preserving minority voting strength, and removing the divisive Confederate emblem from the Georgia state flag. Below is the 2015 Action Calendar:

2015 Action Calendar

- January 1, 2015** – 11:00 a.m. – 25th Annual Emancipation Proclamation & Pioneer Awards Observance, Bethel Baptist Church, 59 North Main Street, Watkinsville, GA 30677. 706-338-9301 Rev. Kevin J. Daniel, pastor.
- January 6, 2015** – 3:00 p.m.- An Intergenerational Dialogue With Activist of the Civil Right Movement, The King Center, 449 Auburn Avenue, NE, Atlanta, GA 30312. 404-526-8900 Dr. Bernice A King
- January 15, 2015** – 7:00 p.m. - Hyatt Regency Hotel, Peachtree Street Downtown, Atlanta, GA. National Convention of Electrical Workers
- January 17, 2015** – 12 Noon - The Georgia Informer, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration: Saluting Atty. C.B. King Jr., Albany, GA, Lula Smart/The Quitman 10+2. Ebenezer Baptist Church, 777 Elm Street, at Telfair Street, Macon, GA 31201. PH: 478-742-0575 Rev. Jacob Parker, Pastor
- January 18, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.** - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Hawthorne Street, Athens, GA. 706-549-3767 Rev. Abraham Mosely, pastor.
- January 19, 2015** – 10:00 a.m.. – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, Mt. Enon Baptist Church, 3791 Mt. Ena Church Road, (Off Hwy 78 East) Monroe, GA 30655. 770-267-2124 The Rev. J. Livingston, pastor.
- January 19, 2015** – 5:00 p.m. – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, Wheat Street Baptist Church, Auburn Avenue N.E, Atlanta, GA 30303. Rev. Michael Harris, pastor.
- January 23, 2015** – 5:00 p.m. Race Relations Forum, Ms. Xernona Clayton’s Trumpet Awards, Ritz Carlton Hotel, Peachtree Street Downtown, Atlanta, GA 30303.
- February 27,28 and March 1, 2015 – GABEO Winter Conference**, Douglasville Conference Center, Church Street, Douglasville, GA 30133. Local Coordinator: Hon. Lashun Burr Danley, Councilwoman, Douglasville PH: 770-598-5708 cell, 678-570-7193.
- March 5th-13th, 2015** – SCLC’s 50th Anniversary Selma to Montgomery March to secure The 1965 Voting Rights Act, again. Contact Sen. Charles Steele, President, CEO SCLC 404-522-1420, www.nationalsclc.org
- April 4, 2015** -12 p.m. – Commemoration of the 47th Anniversary of the Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Annual March on the Moore’s Ford Bridge, Monroe, Georgia. First African Baptist Church,130 Tyler Street (Corner of Main Street, Hwy. 11) Monroe, GA 30655. Demanding the arrest and prosecution of those responsible for the lynching massacre of the Malcoms and the Dorseys, July 25, 1946 is our assignment for peace and justice. Invited Guest Speakers: Dr. Cornell Brooks, Pres./CEO, NTL. NAACP, Hon. Min. Louis Farrakhan Leader, The Nation of ISLAM.
- April 5, 2015** -3 p.m.– Celebrating The 1970 Civil Rights Movement on the Square in Covington, GA 30015.
- April 18, 2015** - 11:00 a.m. NAACP Festival, Downtown City Park, Madison, GA 30650. Contact Ms. Laura Butler, Pres. Morgan Co. NAACP 706-342-0803 office 404-272-2617 cell
- June 25, 26, 27, 28, 2015** – GABEO’s 45th Annual Summer Convention, Savannah State University, 2219 College Street, Savannah, Georgia 31404.
- July 11, 2015** -12 Noon – Prayer Vigil (Praying for the guilty to confess to the lynching massacre at the Moore’s Ford Bridge and surrender) Walton Co. Courthouse, 100 Broad Street (Hwy. 11) Monroe, Georgia 30655, Main Street (Hwy. 11),
- July 23, 2015** - 10 a.m. – Annual Reenactment News Conference State Capitol, Statue of Governor and U.S. Senator Richard B. Russell, Washington Street, at Mitchell Street, Atlanta, GA 30334.
- July 25, 2015** -12 Noon – 11th Annual Reenactment of the Lynchings at the Moore’s Ford Bridge, Saturday, 12 Noon, 1st African Baptist Church, 130 Tyler Street (Across from Church’s Chicken), Monroe, GA, 30655. (Demanding the Arrest and Prosecution of the Killers)
- October 10, 2015** - 11:00 a.m. – The Keysville Come Home Festival. Assemble: At The Sen. Charles Walker Comm. Center on MLK Jr. Drive, to Keysville City Park. Contact: Keysville City Hall, 30816.706-547-3007
- October 16, 17,18, 2015** GABEO Fall Conference.
- October 31, 2015** - 11:00 a.m. – The Pine Tree Festival, Downtown Sparta, GA 31087. Contact Mayor William Evans 706-444-5753





Mother Dillard’s Village of Hope, Inc.: Recovering, Rebuilding and Restoring At-Risk Youth

Mother Dillard’s Village of Hope, Inc. (MDVH, INC.) is a non-profit youth refuge program designed to help at-risk youth. MDVH, Inc. provides a safe, drug free, faith-based housing and a complete supportive maintenance program for at-risk youth, ages 10 – 19 years old. It is structured for participants to safely express their feelings and be taught how to deal with their issues. They will be equipped to function productively in society and give back to their community after leaving the program.

MDVH, Inc. offers spiritual principles and teachings for at-risk youth to help them prevail with general life skills and help them overcome struggles they have faced in life. They will start a successful life of hope that stabilizes them to gain self-worth and ensure integrity.

Vision

This vision started when Alisa D. Boyd and Roxanne Shields decided that being foster parents was not enough to help children awarded to the state. Together they have over 15 years of experience with reforming children. Their skills include influencing and developing successful relationships with youth of all ages. They have been community advocates and volunteers for the homeless. After fostering youth and experiencing the ups and downs, joys and sorrows of parenting foster children, they took things a step higher. Ms. Boyd decided to go back to school, while upholding her role as a foster parent, to get her bachelors’ degree; majoring in Business

Administration with a concentration in Legal Studies. She familiarized herself with the judicial system to create a program to help children in foster care. Mrs. Shields wanted to utilize her experience in management, accounting, family reunification, sales and guidance, to help enhance the structure of children in foster care. They shared their ideas and together they developed a one of a kind program for youth.

Ms. Boyd and Mrs. Shields put more thought into the business plan after the death of Ms. Boyd’s grandmother. God extended their vision, to recover, rebuild and, restore at risk youth with a holistic approach. They put together a faith based program called Mother Dillard’s Village of Hope, Inc. In memory of Ms. Boyd’s grandmother Mrs. Elizabeth Dillard, aka Mother Dear. Mrs. Dillard was known as a God-fearing woman, with strong spiritual values and Godly influences. She always remained focused on achieving her desire to help others. She assisted Ms. Boyd and many others with overcoming troubling childhood issues.

Programs

MDVH, Inc. offers schooling, instructions for employment, parenting skills, life skills, facilitation of jobs and after a certain period of time, help with permanent housing. Programs offered include:

- Holistic Therapy
- Aquaponics and Hydroponics
- Community Involvement



*Alisa D. Boyd
President*

- Education
- Chapel and Prayer Garden
- Residence Program
- Parenting Program
- Assessment and Treatment



*Roxanne Shields
Vice President*

In essence, MDVH, Inc. provides an opportunity to help at-risk youth, with or without children, ages 10 -19 years old develop maturity and pursue their dreams in a faith-based home atmosphere. They provide individualized education and life skills to help them develop the right mindset to adapt in society, develop leadership skills and enhance their ability to give back to their community.

For more information, contact Alisa Boyd or Roxanne Shields at P.O. BOX 3717, Decatur, GA 30031, 678-374-9388, info@mdvh.org. Visit their website at www.mdvh.org.



*Beverly Cunningham
Brown
1954-2009*

BEVERLY CUNNINGHAM OUTREACH PROGRAM

*Providing individual and group counseling, advocacy and
rehabilitation services to survivors of domestic violence*



*Roderick Cunningham
Founder & Executive
Director*

The creation of The Beverly Cunningham Outreach Program was inspired by the life of an extraordinary woman, Beverly Cunningham, whose love for children overflowed and touched the lives of countless others. After her passing, the mission began to develop her legacy, and to share the heart she possessed, through a living continual demonstration of her love.

Her son, Founder and Executive Director Roderick Cunningham, felt the pressing need to pass along the love she felt for all children, and thus he became the vision for The Beverly Cunningham Outreach Program. He hopes the number of children he is able to reach through his vision will forever keep the memory of his beloved mother alive.

**About Evangelist Beverly Cunningham Brown
June 3, 1954 - October 27, 2009**

Beverly Cunningham Brown grew up in Talledega, Alabama, humble with a love for children and family. Her three sons were her life and after her youngest son Demetrius was born hearing impaired, she decided to stay at home and pursue her passion for children. For over 20 years she took care of children in her daycare “Beverly Home Childcare”. From the outside looking in it seemed as if life was great for the mother and business owner, but sadly it was not. Underneath the smile and wholesome advice was a woman silently suffering from domestic violence.

On October 27, 2009, Beverly retreated to her bedroom only to find herself confronted with the rage of her husband. From the outside, her son Roderick recalls hearing his mother’s last words, “What you ‘gon do with that gun?” The next sound he heard was

the sound of that gun. His stepfather opened the door after Roderick was pounding on the door asking was his mother ok only to see his mother shot in the head. His stepfather then standing over her lifeless body taunted him to defend her honor. He knew that in that other room was his disabled brother whom he had to now protect. His mother was gone and there was nothing he could do to bring her back.

Roderick had a choice in the moment that he found his mother dead -- he could lay in misery and allow the hatred and pain to tear at his life or he could use that pain to help others. He chose to create an organization in his mother’s honor that would help victims and children of victims of Domestic violence. He was about to go forward in his career in law enforcement and his mother’s death changed the course in his life forever. He has dedicated his life to saving the lives of children and women that have suffered in any type of violence. His mission is to provide a voice to those that have been shut down due to the intimidation of others.

Mission

The foundation’s mission is to provide individual and group counseling, advocacy and rehabilitation services to survivors of domestic violence. The foundation also seeks to be an outlet for community youth who are at risk of becoming victims of violence, substance abuse or who are impacted by health issues.

For more information and a schedule of upcoming events, contact Diane Adoma, P.O Box 361061 Decatur GA 30036, 678.813.6273, diane.adoma@bcop.org or visit their website at www.bcop.org.



Youth



Jason Kai Parker and his Father

14-Year-old Gaming Prodigy Develops Video Game

Jason Kai Parker, grandson of The Wealth Engineer, William Parker has developed and sold a video game and is launching a new trio of games in April 2015.

Longtime OvergroundRR member, William Parker, The Wealth Engineer®, is a financial engineer who designs structured investment programs that help guide clients through the four stages of money: Earn It, Invest It, Use It and Pass It On. Mr. Parker's primary business focus is retirement planning. He focuses on his client's big-picture goals to the purpose of every transaction.



Recently, Mr. Parker amazed a group at Cascade United Methodist Church when he told them about the success of his 14-year-old grandson's online video game.

Mr. Parker and The OvergroundRR!! are very proud of his grandson and his accomplishments in gaming development and would like to introduce you to Jason Kai Parker, a gaming prodigy with a very bright future.

Meet Kai Parker: Gaming Development Prodigy

Jason Kai Parker, also known as Kai, is an East Cobb Middle School 8th grade student. His favorite subject is science and his hobbies include online video competitions. He is really excited about his latest collaboration with friends to develop a trio of new online games that will include 3D-concepts and multi-player battling slated for release in April 2015. Kai's parents and grandparents are very supportive of his endeavors.



Kai and his friend Anthony

Inspiration for Developing the Game

In 2012, Kai was inspired to develop the game when he and his friend and co-founder Jaron Richard Gant learned HTML coding. Out of boredom, they decided to create a game that only they could play together, thus they created Raze 2 and Raze 3. It took about three months to completely develop the games and they have actually sold Raze 3 to Armor Games, an online gaming company. Upon turning 16, age



Kai and The East Valley Robotics Team

restrictions will no longer apply, so Kai and Jaron plan to add more coding to the game as well as apply for a patent. Once they turn 18, they plan to open their own firm.

About the Game: Raze 2

Raze 2 is a virtual game of survival and the object of the game is to get to an end-point or final level. The game will allow three players to play simultaneously against the villain. The target audience includes boys and girls ages 10-16 and the game is rated "E" for everyone. The game is complete

with really cool animation, virtual character movement, detailed graphics and warrior-inspired music. The web address is www.armorgames.com. Kai's role was to provide concept art, which includes imagining the visuals and how he wants the game to feel. He also provided the specs for colors, subplots, plots and character matching. His friend Jaron animates the specs and makes them come to life.

There is no cost to play the game, but there is an option to use PayPal to obtain extra tokens immediately, but is not necessary because everything is in game currency (tokens can be earned through game play). Currently, Kai and Jaron have made \$2835.

Worldwide Access

Currently, Raze 2 has been accessed via internet by over 130,000 people worldwide. While the game is not currently structured to play against people in other countries, the game is set up for people to play others within three-neighboring states to Georgia and three-neighboring states to Nebraska, as these states house the servers. The code is also designed to track players by states.

Future Aspirations

Since the age of 4, Kai has wanted to become a Biomedical Engineer, but lately he is leaning towards becoming a Video Game Developer. He has had a strong interest in Robotics since 4th grade and has participated in two Robotics competitions and placed very well in his second competition. Upon graduating from high school, Kai plans to attend Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and major in video game development. The OvergroundRR!! wishes Kai much success in his future endeavors!

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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

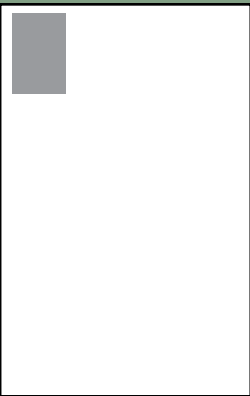
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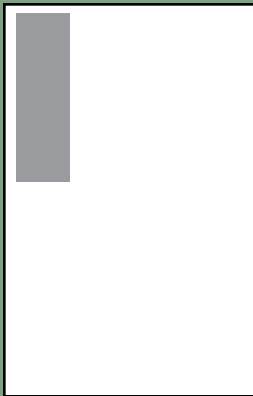
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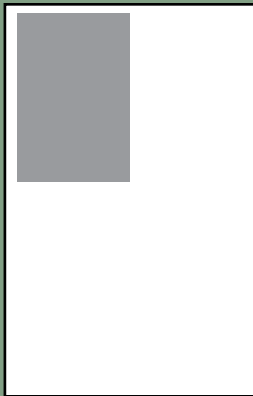
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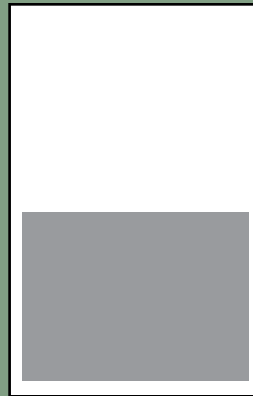
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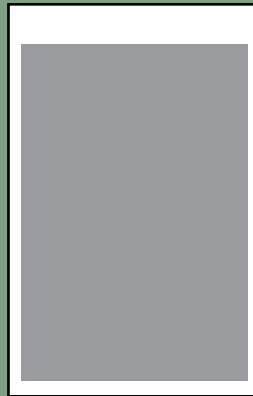
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