



THE CONDUCTOR

The Official Newspaper of The Overground RR!!®

VOLUME 7 No. 1

ORR PULL-OUT
BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Pages 16-19

May 2010

The ORR WORSHIP CENTERS

Anointed Word Evangelistic Tabernacle
 Ariel Bowen UMC
 The Ark of Salvation
 Believers' Bible Christian Church
 Ben Hill United Methodist Church
 Bethesda Cathedral
 Beulah Missionary Baptist Church
 Big Bethel African Methodist Episcopal
 Big Miller Grove Missionary Baptist Church
 Butler Street Christian Methodist Episcopal
 Calvary United Methodist Church
 Cascade United Methodist Church
 Chosen Generation COGIC
 Christian Fellowship Baptist Church
 Clarkston First Baptist Church
 Columbia Drive United Methodist Church
 Covenant Ministries
 Dodd-Sterling United Methodist Church
 Elizabeth Baptist Church
 Emmaus Road Missionary Baptist Church
 Emmanuel Tabernacle
 Enon Church
 First AME Church
 First Icomium Baptist Church
 Friendship Community Church
 Grace Community Fellowship Church
 Greater Heights Christian Church
 Greater Mount Carmel AME
 Greater New Light Missionary Baptist Church
 The Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church
 Greenforest Community Baptist Church
 Headland Heights United Methodist Church
 Highly Favored Ministries
 Hillside International Truth Center, Inc.
 Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church
 Impact! Doing Church Differently
 International Christian Fellowship
 Jackson Memorial Baptist Church
 Jehovah Jireh Edutainment Ministries
 Joshua Generation Ministries International, Inc.
 Life Changing Ministries
 Light of the World Christian Tabernacle
 Lindsay Street Baptist Church
 Love Life Christian Fellowship Church
 Midway Missionary Church
 Miracles, Miracles and More Miracles
 Mission On The Move
 Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
 Muhammed's Mosque No. 15
 New Beginnings Ministries
 New Fountain Worldwide Ministries
 New Jerusalem Baptist Church
 Omega Holiness Church
 Poplar Springs Baptist Church
 Powerhouse of Deliverance Cathedral
 Providence Missionary Baptist Church
 Ray Of Hope Christian Church
 Redemptive Life Christian Fellowship Church
 Salem Bible Church
 Solomon Temple Missionary Baptist Church
 St James Missionary Baptist Church
 St. John Missionary Baptist Church
 St. Mark AME Church
 St. Mark Lutheran Church
 St. Philip AME Church
 The True Light Baptist Church
 Wheat Street Baptist Church
 Woods Memorial Baptist Church
 World Covenant Christian Center
 Zion Hill Baptist Church

The Call and the Response

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:2

Jews Taught Never Forget. Blacks Taught Never Remember.

Obama, Va. Gov. McDonnell Want Study of Slavery

Atlantans Call For Governor's Endorsement of H.R. 40, the Official Slavery Study

Atlanta For H.R. 40 calls upon Virginia's Gov. Robert F. McDonnell to support the passage of H.R. 40. If Governor McDonnell is serious about his belated addition to the Confederate proclamation, claiming that he wants Virginians to study slavery (and the Confederacy) he has an opportunity now to prove it. H.R. 40 will accomplish exactly that.

Atlanta For H.R. 40 calls upon Gov. McDonnell to endorse the passage of the bill. If he fails to seize upon this opportunity, it will show that he has no interest in a serious study of slavery, but he is only interested in pandering to the elements of American society who desire to glorify the terrorist Confederate slaveholders.

McDonnell's proclamation states that "it is important for all Virginians to reflect upon our Commonwealth's shared history, to understand the sacrifices of the Confederate leaders, soldiers and citizens during the period of the Civil War."

U.S. President Barack Obama responded in an interview with ABC News, "I'm a big history buff. And I think that understanding the history of the Confederacy and understanding the history of the Civil War is something that every American and every young American should be a part of."

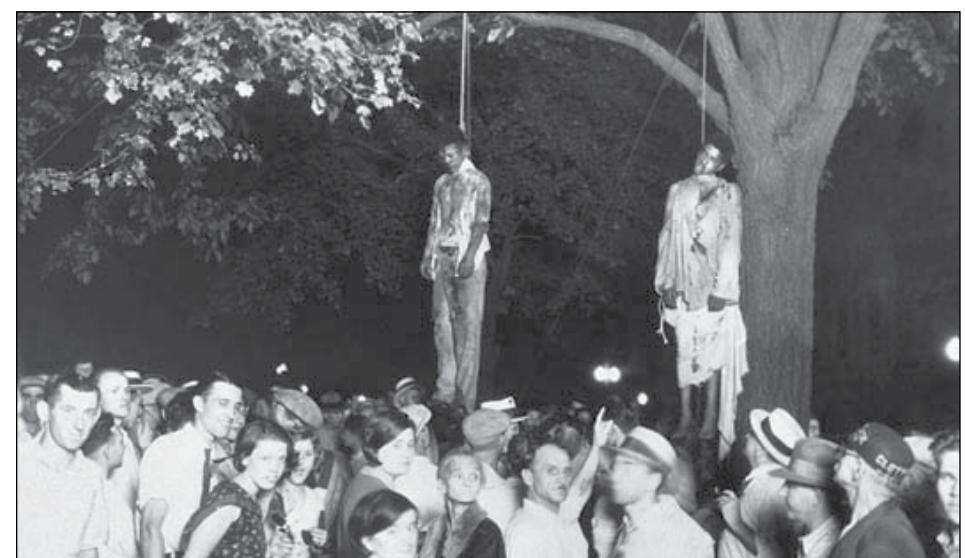
"Now, I don't think you can understand the Confederacy and the Civil War unless you understand slavery. And so, I think that was an unacceptable omission. I think the governor's now acknowledged that," Obama said.

The City of Atlanta has endorsed H.R. 40. See the resolution on page 23 as well as the [H.R. 40](#) and [Atlanta resolutions](#).

H.R. 40 Must Be Passed Now. (The following is primarily quoted from [www.johnconyers.com/issues/reparations](#))

"In January of 1989, Rep. John Conyers (D-Michigan) first introduced the bill H.R. 40, Commission to Study Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act. He has re-introduced HR 40 every Congress since 1989, and will continue to do so until it's passed into law."

This is not a bill demanding reparations, but a



The top photo is of a lynching in the South. The bottom two photos were used in the last two issues of *The Conductor*. (Bottom left) taken from the 1970's TV mini-series, "Roots". (Bottom right) A photo of a slave's scars from years of whippings.

bill to study the effect of slavery upon our people. What we must realize as a people is that slavery did not end in the 1800s, but continued in a different, but still very sadistic mentally, emotionally, physically and economically destructive form through the 1980s.

"H.R. 40 will do what has never been done - study the still devastating effects of the tyranny inflicted upon our people. [The] bill does four things:

1. It acknowledges the fundamental injustice and inhumanity of slavery;
2. It establishes a commission to study slavery, its subsequent racial and economic discrimination against freed slaves;

"Over four million Africans and their descendants were enslaved in the United States and its colonies from 1619 to 1865, and as a result, the United States was able to become the most prosperous country in the free world. It is undisputed that African slaves were not compensated for their labor. More unclear however, is what the effects and remnants of this relationship have had on African Americans and our nation from the time of emancipation through today."

ATLANTA H.R. 40 continued on page 2

ORR A • L • L • I • A • N • C • E • S

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

Letter From the Chairman



Your support of The Overground RR!!® in 2010 has brought us many new members so far! We would like to welcome the many businesses that joined our organization and we are excited that you are entrusting your company, church or community organization with us to help bring others to your company. Just remember, The Overground RR!!® is in a position to make a significant difference in the economic freedom of African-Americans.

The ORR!! provides an up-to-date, reliable central business directory published in *The Conductor* that can be found at nearly 500 locations. More information can be found at www.overgroundrr.com.

The Overground RR!!® is also gathering a group of community and civic leaders to head our H.R. 40 project. We'll be sure to keep you updated on our next move as well as our progresses. We are challenging our new, seasoned and potential members and readers to delve into the history of strength and entrepreneurial spirit that has lived in us for centuries. It's time to shake the system and support those who've taken the steps to economic freedom. Will you? Get On Board!!

Inside this issue...

| | |
|--|------|
| <i>The Call and Response</i> | Pg 1 |
| <i>Letter from the Chairman</i> | Pg 2 |
| <i>Overground in the Pulpit</i> | Pg 3 |
| <i>Arts, Gospel, Entertainment, Sports</i> | Pg 4 |
| <i>Brian Jordan Foundation</i> | Pg 4 |

Business

| | |
|--|----------|
| <i>Wilbourn Sisters' Leading Fashion</i> | Pg 5 |
| <i>Capitol City Teaches Finances to Students</i> | Pg 5 |
| <i>Optimal Health and the Power of Healing</i> | Pg 6 |
| <i>Martin Law Group</i> | Pg 6 |
| <i>Fantasy Faces Gives Glam</i> | Pg 7 |
| <i>Café Circa Delivers Ambience, Taste</i> | Pg 8 |
| <i>Michon's New Location</i> | Pg 8 |
| <i>Business Directory</i> | Pg 16-19 |

Church

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Changing A Generation Ministries</i> | Pg 9 |
| <i>St. John MBC Welcomes New Pastor</i> | Pg 9 |
| <i>Emmaus Road Grand Opening</i> | Pg 10 |
| <i>Cascade UMC Golf Academy</i> | Pg 10 |
| <i>World Covenant Builds Foundation</i> | Pg 11 |
| <i>Solomon Temple MBC</i> | Pg 11 |
| <i>Big Bethel AME</i> | Pg 12 |
| <i>Friendship Community Church</i> | Pg 12 |
| <i>ORR Clergy Pictorial Directory</i> | Pg 13-15 |
| <i>Hopewell MBC Sets High Bar</i> | Pg 15 |
| <i>Bethesda Bridges Generations</i> | Pg 15 |
| <i>Clarkston First Baptist</i> | Pg 15 |

Community

| | |
|--|-------|
| <i>ORR Calendar of Events</i> | Pg 20 |
| <i>Spelman presents 'The Bluest Eye'</i> | Pg 21 |
| <i>WCLK: Last Standing Jazz Station</i> | Pg 21 |
| <i>Jehovah Jireh Uplifts At-Risk Youth</i> | Pg 22 |
| <i>Making the Transition</i> | Pg 22 |
| <i>Dawson Mortuary Offers Pre-Needs</i> | Pg 22 |
| <i>Radio Host Debuts New TV Show</i> | Pg 23 |
| <i>H.R. 40 Resolution (partial)</i> | Pg 23 |
| <i>Love Beyond Bars Program</i> | Pg 24 |
| <i>GABEO 2010 Events Calendar</i> | Pg 25 |
| <i>FACAA: Fulton Cty. Eligible for Funds</i> | Pg 25 |
| <i>Their Memories, Our Treasure' book</i> | Pg 26 |

ATLANTA H.R. 40 continued from page 1

WHERE WE ARE

In 2000, approximately 36 million Blacks spent approximately \$590 billion. However, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, the revenue of Black businesses in 2002 approximated \$89 billion, only 15 percent of that amount.

During 2000, approximately 36 million Hispanics spent approximately \$490 billion. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2002 the revenue of Hispanic businesses approximated \$222 billion, which is 45 percent of that amount.

During 2000, approximately 11 million Asians spent approximately \$209 billion. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2002 the revenue of Asian businesses approximated \$326 billion, which is 155 percent of that amount.

During 2000 Whites spent approximately \$6 trillion, 231 billion. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2002 the revenue of White businesses approximated \$22 trillion, which is 353 percent of that amount.

This is the empirical evidence which shows where we are. Blacks spend more than any ethnic group other than Whites, but they spend very little of it with their own businesses.

The churches, businesses and consumers have begun to recognize that these are not mere statistics but a reflection of a dire state in which slavery (the chained and Jim Crow phases) have left us. Without an economic infrastructure to support our businesses, we, as a people, have grown accustomed to supporting businesses owned by others and neglecting our own. This minimizes the circulation of the dollar in the Black community leaving the community dependent on the prerogatives of others. This is a direct result of slavery (the chained and Jim Crow phases).

These statistics say that our children's chances for survival are dependent upon an affirmative action program which will not exist. These statistics reflect a poor state of community

consciousness, and circumstances where self determination is impossible; and the likelihood of continued victimization is certain.

When Blacks were ostensibly freed in the 1970s and 80s from the Jim Crow phase of American slavery, we were not paid reparations for four hundred years of stolen labor, relegation to the status of property, oppression, rape and the worst continuous, unrelenting inhumane physical, mental and emotional abuse in modern history of mankind.

"Mr. Conyers has requested the number of the bill, 40, as a symbol of the forty acres and a mule that the United States initially promised freed slaves. This unfulfilled promise and the serious devastation that slavery had on African-American lives has never been officially recognized by the United States government.

"H.R. 40 has strong grassroots support within the African-American community, as well as major civil rights organizations, religious organizations and academic and civic groups from across the country. This support is very similar to the strong grassroots movement that proceeded another major legislative initiative, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday bill. It took 15 years for this legislation to pass. It was introduced during the spring of 1968 and was finally enacted during the fall of 1983. Throughout most of those 15 years, the idea of a federal holiday honoring an African-American civil rights leader was considered radical.

"Like the King Holiday bill, Mr. Conyers has seen the support for H.R. 40 increase each year. There are currently 37 co-sponsors. Support also extends outside of the Congress as various city councils and other local jurisdictions have supported his bill. The city councils in Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, Dallas, Washington, D.C. and Atlanta have passed bills supporting H.R. 40."

"It is a fact that slavery flourished in the United States and constituted an immoral and inhumane deprivation of African slaves' lives, liberty and cultural heritage. As a result, millions of African Americans today continue to suffer great injustices. Our country can no longer afford to leave slavery in the past and the issue of reparations for African Americans must be resolved."

TIME FOR ACTION

As reported in "Your Name Is Not Toby! Or Is It?", The Conductor (3rd Quarter 2009):

[Recent] news headlines include the horrific story of Jaycee Dugard, a 29-year old woman who was kidnapped at the age of 11. Reports state that she was in contact with the outside world, was trusted to handle business for her alleged kidnapper Phillip Garrido, birthed two daughters by Garrido (similarly to Sally Hemming by Thomas Jefferson) and had every opportunity to escape her captivity. Like us, she'd been stripped of her name and her past.

Her alleged kidnapper completely separated her from any recollection of who she was. She'd become who he wanted her to be. Like Harriet Tubman of the Underground Railroad is often quoted as having said, "... I would have freed more; only had they known they were slaves." Poor Dugard after having been broken, didn't need to be chained. She did not know that she was a slave.

"Just as Jaycee Dugard is learning who she is, how lost she has been and what her life is really supposed to be, Blacks are doing the same. Not until 1977, when "ROOTS" debuted, did the masses of Blacks begin to learn who we are, how lost we'd been and what our lives were supposed to be.

We would still be on the back of the Montgomery bus if we allowed the timidity of some of our brothers and sisters to determine the demands we make. We are pleased to announce many of the churches, community organizations and businesses of Atlanta have decided to launch a campaign to pass H.R. 40 which will not end until it has been accomplished.

Get On Board!!!!

Atlanta H.R. 40 continued on page 23

The ORR welcomes our new members

Alliances

Love Beyond Bars Program, Inc.
National Black Arts Festival
The Michelle Davis Show
Tupac Amaru Shakur Foundation
WCLK Jazz 91.9 FM

Business

Chanterelle's Café
Fantasy Faces International
Optimal Health Wellness Center
Rashad Productions
The Martin Law Group, LLC

Churches

Bethesda Cathedral
Big Bethel AME
Clarkston First Baptist Church
Hopewell MBC
Joshua Generation Ministries Intl Inc
New Fountain Worldwide Ministries
Solomon Temple MBC
St. John MBC

Thanks, for getting on board ...

THE CONDUCTOR STAFF

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Publisher | Overground RR!!® |
| Managing Editor | H.J.A. Alexander |
| Operations Manager | Elgintine Dudley |
| Editor | Jatika Hudson |
| Design/Graphics | Larry M. Newton |
| Videographer | Nathaniel Small |
| Videographer/Photography | Alexandria Childs |
| Contributing Writers | Jeremy House |
| | Jacque Minor |
| | Kalin Thomas |
| Church Reporter/Freelance Writer | Angelina Velasquez (CAU intern) |
| Administrative Assistant | Vivian Benjamin |
| Distribution | Phala Herron-Nazarine |

THE CONDUCTOR is not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts, art and/or photographs. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the newspaper.

For more information contact:

The Overground RR!!®

(404) 346-0808

www.overgroundrr.com

THE POWER TO PRODUCE WEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH SPIRIT-BASED COLLABORATION
Creating Economic Power in Our Community • Business Directory • Jobs in the Community • Consumer Satisfaction • Church Centers for Business Referrals • Business/Consumer Accountability • Membership Benefits • E-Newsletter • Referral Service • Arbitration of Disputes

Overground RR!!® Pulpit



Host Pastor

Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley
Pastor/Providence Missionary Baptist Church

Everyday is a day that we should share love. We should always take an extra step to tell those that mean so much to us, and those we don't know, that we are willing and eager to share God's love with them. Please welcome Rev. Cynthia Hale as she explains the meaning and purpose of sharing God's love with all.



Guest Pastor

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Hale
Pastor/Ray Of Hope Christian Church

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this shall all men and women know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34

Loving Like God Loves

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Hale

Ray Of Hope Christian Church

This is an excerpt from a sermon by Rev. Dr. Cynthia Hale. For the entire sermon visit www.overgroundrr.com

One of the greatest joys of being a Christian is loving like God loves! God has an amazing love for people, we know because we have been recipients of God's love even before we knew we were. God's love is unconditional, God's love is sacrificial. God loves without counting the cost.

The greatest evidence of God's love, as you well know, is the gift of His one and only Son who came to earth loving like his father. The way that the Father and the Son expressed their love was through meeting needs. The thing that is most telling about the way Jesus operated with people was that He always met them at the point of their needs. God created us needy people. We need God and we need one another. He has created us with needs that He intends to meet himself or through others just like us, such as comfort. He is the God of all comfort; He comforts us, so that we might comfort us.

What God is asking of us is not foreign to us, He is asking us to do unto others what He has graciously done to you, love others as He has loved us. We are to love one another as God loves us. Praise and appreciate others verbally and publicly. We need to thank and praise people privately and publicly. Complement your spouse in front of the children; let them know how much you appreciate having him or her in your life. Appreciate your co-workers and your managers on a regular basis, and don't take for granted the things that they do. Some folks feel like it is not necessary to thank people for doing their job, for being your friend, for being your sister or brother in Christ and the things they do for you, that's all the more reason to do it. Your rational is, they are doing what they are supposed to do, what they are committed to do, what they are getting paid to do. Pay is compensation for services rendered, praise is appreciation for the fact that they did it for you and it makes a difference in your life.

The notion of acceptance challenges us to love one another as God loves us. God's love for us was unmerited. We were not worthy of God's love, even if we were the nicest, most moral person's you can imagine, the truth of the matter is we were still not worthy; because we were sinners. If we are going to love as God loved, then we have to lovingly accept everyone just like God accepted us. God's love is unhindered in anyway. It never runs out! Never! No one should have to work hard to get approval. Each of us should be affirming, expressing a favorable opinion of others on a regular basis. Approval should focus on a person's worth than on what they accomplish.

We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of GOD, but our lives as well. Sharing your affection with another is giving yourself to them. It is going beyond saying I love you to showing it in appropriate and tangible ways. You know we have modified Romans 16, here at the Ray by saying give someone a holy hug, handshake or a kiss. We believe in affection here. The anointing flows from the top down. I love affection; got to have it, don't mind giving it. You got to give to get. Isn't that what the Word says, Give and it shall be given to you. This verse isn't just talking about money; actually it is talking about whatever you are in need of. It is one of the irrefutable principles of the universe, what goes around comes around.

All of us need to be touched on a regular basis in wholesome ways. Babies die from lack of touch; adults isolate. Your children need to be hugged, kissed, wrestled with, and touched to know that you care. Even your teenagers who act like they don't want to be bothered need to have you hug and kiss them. Fathers need to kiss their sons and daughters. Mothers need to hold their sons and daughters. Good friends, colleagues, persons you are meeting for the first time, are in need of a handshake, a pat on the back or a warm embrace.

In a world and a society where a person's worth is often determined by what they do, what they have achieved or accomplished in their life, we need to focus more on a person's qualities such as the fact that they are creative, determined, persistent, reliable, faithful, and consistent. You are the best!

Heroes and Sheroes of the Church



ORR Church Coordinator

Michelle Davis is the host of The Michelle Davis show and the founder of **Highly Favored Ministries**. She is also the host of "Kingdom and Community" radio show on WYZE that airs on Thursdays from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Also tune into AIB TV and watch The Michelle Davis Show on Fridays at 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. or watch the broadcast on www.faithvideondemand.com. Her ministries serve God's people and the churches that serve them. Davis assures that all of her ministries share the purpose of sharing the Word of God.



Usher

Donna Mitchell is a native of Atlanta who has attended **Clarkston First Baptist Church** for 45 years and a member for 30 years. She takes pride in her job as an usher because she believes that it "helps to maintain order and set an atmosphere of reverence for the worship service by welcoming the congregation and visitors into the sanctuary." Her favorite Bible scripture is Psalms 121.



Deacon

Deacon Charles Riley has been a member of **Providence Missionary Baptist Church (PMBC)** under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Gerald L. Durley for ten years. A faithful servant, Deacon Riley has served as Chair of the Deacon Board, member of the Brotherhood ministry, Sunday School Teacher and Instructor for the New Member's Orientation Classes. Entering through the doors to the PMBC Food Ministry, neighborhood residents are greeted by his winsome smile and humble demeanor. A man who embodies the true sense of service, Riley says his greatest joy comes from working with the various organizations of the church, as together they strive to make a difference in the community.



Choir Director

Elder Kelvin A. Manson has spent the past 20 years of his life, ministering to the body of Christ, through music. The anointed, talented and gifted director began directing at the age of 12. Manson has been a member of Salem for more than 20 years. He currently serves as Minister of Music, Worship and Arts at **Salem Bible Church** in Atlanta under the leadership of his spiritual father, the legendary Pastor Jasper Williams, Jr. Manson recently produced and directed a live recording featuring, Pastor Jasper Williams, Jr. & the Salem Bible Church Mass Choir. His favorite scripture is Psalms 144, "Blessed be the Lord, my rock, who trains my hands for war and my fingers for battle".



Mother's Board

Helen Lawson has been a member of **St. John Missionary Baptist Church** for nearly 11 years. She enjoys being on the Mother's Board because she takes pride in teaching and training the young mothers of the church. Lawson also enjoys sharing spiritual training, church conduct and serving and supporting the pastor. Part of the job of being on the Mother's Board at St. John MBC is helping with communion by preparing the communion and lighting the candle that represents the light of Christ. Her favorite scripture is Proverbs 3: 5-6 "Lean not to your own understanding and in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path."



Auxillary

Bennie Boyd, a deacon at **Greenforest Community Baptist Church** has led the Greenforest Fulfillment Hour classes for more than 14 years. The class has seized the opportunity to make the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays a time of missions, ministering and evangelizing in our community. The program requires members to do more than deliver a few canned goods and polite holiday greetings to the receiving families. These experiences can encourage others of us to be more appreciative of our process, which is more than delivering a can of corn.

To learn more about the ORR church members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com



AGES is a section of the overground RR!!® that is directed toward highlighting the Arts, Gospel, Entertainment and Sports areas of the African-American community.
 This page is dedicated to informing our readers about various entertainment aspects in Atlanta and surrounding cities.
 To learn how your church, business or organization can get involved, please contact The ORR!! office at 404-346-0808.

Brian Jordan Foundation Boosts Confidence

The Conductor

Brian Jordan is an athlete, broadcaster and philanthropist. Of all these titles, the two he holds closest to his heart are father and community servant. His organization, the Brian Jordan Foundation (BJF) is building the confidence and determination of children across the southeast.

BJF was created in 1998 to help guide and encourage children of all ages to give their best and know that the sky is the limit for their life dreams. Jordan says that a big part of his job in the BJF is motivation. He mentions the fears that often plagued him as a child, and surprisingly, one fear included being hit in the face with a baseball. His upcoming, second children's book is called "Overcoming the Fear of a Baseball" telling the story of actually getting hit and afterward not being afraid of the ball. This is a story that pushes children, even adults, to move past their fears and into triumph. Jordan's first book is, "I Told You I Could Play".

He loves working with children and helping them visualize their future in color and not a mundane or dismal black and white scope. He notes that working with children is "one thing that makes me smile." After being a successful baseball player with the Atlanta Braves (1999) and the St. Louis Cardinals as well as a star football player for the Atlanta Falcons (1989-1991), you would think his smiles would come from the success of his career. Even though the

*"I grew up watching my mom teach,"
 the Baltimore native recalls. "She taught kids
 that [needed] special attention and I saw how she
 poured her heart and soul into these young kids
 and how they [became successful in life]."*

-Brian Jordan,
 Athlete and Founder,
 Brian Jordan Foundation

memories are happy ones on the field, it's the off field memories that he's created through his career success that he cherishes.

Jordan credits his mother with planting a seed of giving and compassion in him. He recalls how his mother, a school teacher, would often show deep compassion for the students she taught. "I grew up watching my mom teach," the Baltimore native recalls. "She taught kids that [needed] special attention and I saw how she poured her heart and soul into these young kids and how they became successful in life." Her touch also spanned to reach children that were not in her classroom as well. He partnered this seemingly inherited giving spirit with his philanthropic goals to create the BJF. The foundation allows Jordan the benefit of reaching a wide range of children on all levels

of disadvantage.

It is Jordan's dream to expand the foundation nationally. By doing so, he will be able to reach a wider range of youth. The game plan is to keep his name and brand going in the philanthropic arenas and to, most of all, continue to help today's youth using every positive avenue that he can. He has partnered with other professional athletes who carry similar youth-inspired missions.

Included in the programmatic side of the BJF are literacy and health programs. The health program, Plan for Health, is a place where Jordan gets to continue to flex his physical sports muscles. Jordan and the program volunteers go to local schools and discuss the importance of drinking water, eating healthier and regular

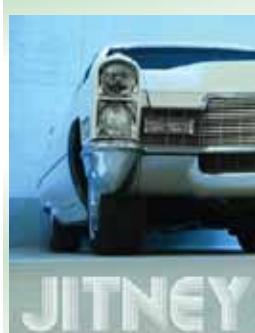


Brian Jordan stands alongside a student with a check for \$4,000 going to Morehouse College.

exercise. On these trips, a physician will also make the visit and explain to children the significance of going to the doctor regularly and letting a family member or teacher know if they are having any kind of pain.

Reaching his goals was, and still is, a focus for Jordan. He has retired from the playing field and is now working as a pre- and post-game broadcaster for the Atlanta Braves as well as for other local teams. He knows that he will continue to work in the sports arena and with children, all with the mission to make life a little easier and a little more fun.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com



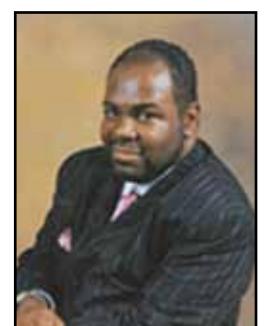
Arts

Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre Company will put on a production of August Wilson's play, Jitney. This is a story about a boisterous gypsy cab station that offers a poetic thrill ride look into the vitality of life in Pittsburgh's Hill District in 1977. A son returns home after twenty years imprisonment to face his father whose station is threatened with demolition. Battling the forces of urban redevelopment, the motley crew of drivers plan, dream and muse in this rich blooded humorous testament to Wilson's enduring legacy.



Gospel

Bishop J. D. Means, Sr. is one of Gospel's best kept secrets. He is a native/prodigy of Newark, New Jersey, now residing in Atlanta. He is truly anointed and has accompanied and sung on several projects with recording artists such as Dorothy Norwood (Live at Home) with such songs that were composed and arranged by Means, "Too Blessed To Be Stressed," Matt. 16:19, featuring Rev. Rance Allen", and his own 1997 release which featured "Tell The World That Jesus Lives" and "Don't Lose What You Got, Trying To Get What You Don't Need." Bishop Means also holds several other titles including pastor, preacher, teacher, evangelist, psalmist, musician, composer and arranger.



Entertainment

Silas Alexander III, or more commonly known as SiMan Baby is a native of Eatonton, GA and has been broadcasting on the radio for nearly 30 years. Some of SiMan Baby's former careers include TV news director, weatherman and various radio formats. He currently is the host of Café 102 (7 p.m. until midnight) on Grown Folks Radio, 102.5 FM. He is also a member of the SiMan Baby Team of Real Estate Professionals for EXIT Reality Solutions. SiMan is involved in the Atlanta community in various ways. To learn more about what SiMan is doing next visit www.simanbaby.net.



Sports

Ken Hudson was the first African-American referee in the National Basketball Association. He is a member of Cascade United Methodist Church and is the author of "A Tree Stump in the Valley of Redwoods". He has accomplished himself as a motivational speaker and mentor to countless youth and businesspersons alike. Hudson draws on the challenges he faced as the first African-American referee to encourage others to do their best and stay focused. He states that he didn't face direct or confrontational racism, nevertheless, the obstacles are what gave him the motivation to give his 100 percent.



To learn more about the ORR church members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com



Business



Wilbourn Sisters' Leading Fashion

The Conductor

Some fashions are a direct reflection of trends and what is hot now. However, other fashions are timeless. The Wilbourn sisters, Carolyn and Janice, take fashion and design to heart as it is a staple in their family and the fabric of their lives.

These sisters are only two in a family of eight siblings, including one deceased brother, where fashion is a foundation and desire. The matriarch, Elizabeth, who passed July 2, 2009, taught all of her daughters the art of sewing. She ensured that her children knew a trade that would always be in demand and, eventually, evolve into a passion.

For more than two decades, the sisters have been globetrotting to learn new fashion techniques and to show their designs from Europe to California. The designs are on the racks of exclusive boutiques as well as Macy's stores within Atlanta. "We moved to Atlanta in 1990 from Jackson, Tenn. We [also] lived in Europe designing and everything," Janice states. "When we moved here, we were living in the West End and rented from our girlfriend, Jean Murphy ... she's the one who introduced us to Macy's because she was a personal shopper for Rich's [Federated Department Stores]."

After a successful showing, the sisters were able to build a foundation in Atlanta. Janice recalls that first meeting with the store, "So we were living with [Murphy] and they told her they were looking for black designers and she told them 'Oh, I know the perfect ladies.' We met with them and had a wonderful private trunk show and they loved everything we had in our line of clothes." From then on, the fashion jobs that they've been approached with and required to do have been pleasantly challenging.

Their accomplishments have come through the hard work, dedication, love of all things fashion and most importantly, faith in God. Without the spiritual upbringing taught to them by their mother, the sisters believe that they wouldn't have made it as far as they have.

This strong spiritual belief and faith, they believe, has spearheaded their continued line of prosperity that the sisters have had as fashion designers. They take pride in bringing high fashion and flair to the average woman. They also have a higher priced, couture line that dis-



The Wilbourn sisters are shown above with their mother before her passing during the summer of 2009. (Top right) Janice and Carolyn show how to really model their exquisite fashions. (Bottom left) Janice advertises and struts in her own Wilbourn original in one of her favorite places, a department store. (Bottom right) a Wilbourn original is displayed in a department store where the sisters bring their fashions to the masses.¹

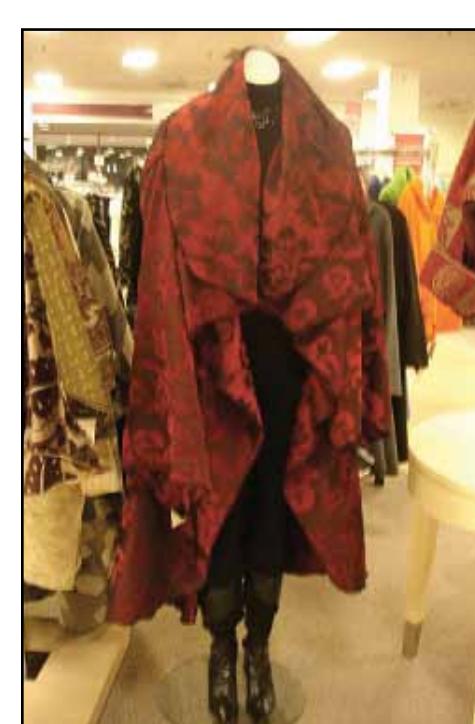
plays their European-inspired designs. Their flair for extravagant showmanship married with their fashion imaginations is what has given the following of many celebrities and everyday women alike. With an added bit of the customer's personal touch, attitude and character, the sisters are determined to reach the complete satisfaction of whoever desires to wear a Wilbourn original.

After the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the Wilbourn's recall that business in their Galleria Mall store slowed significantly. Then, after seven years in the Galleria, they decided to move to a new location in the new Camp Creek Marketplace. It was proven that the cost of renting the space was not beneficial to their profits, therefore, it was time to start looking into a more lucrative space where proper square footage and creativity meshed and fit into a budget. Time, patience and obedience showed themselves to be valuable in a



few short months.

They will openly and willingly tell anyone that their blessings have come through obedience and a strong faith in God. "You can have whatever you want. Just speak it," Janice says. This, just recently, has proven to be true as they have moved into the 2,200 square foot warehouse that holds their creative creations



from one-of-a-kind gowns, hats to shoes. The reason this space is so valuable to them is because it also houses a fabric warehouse next door. They have been buying fabrics from this location for more than 20 years and now they don't go far to get their fabrics.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

Capitol City Teaches Finances to Students

By Jeremy House

An exciting arrival has generated great enthusiasm for Panola Way Elementary School youth and school administration officials. For Panola Way teachers, counselors and principals alike, the introduction of Capitol City Bank's In School Banking Program (ISB) offers a unique opportunity to teach elementary school students how banks operate and therefore, the fundamentals of financial responsibility.

As for the students, they get the rare chance to reenact adult life, while learning important financial skills.

By pretending to be regular 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. bank employees or the millions of adults banks

serve, they're just doing what kids do best: have fun. Hiring student tellers, customer service agents, an executive staff and naming the bank are just the first steps to developing the real but imaginary student created in-school bank site. Last month, Panola Way students came to school prepared to open bank accounts and began the tedious practice of saving and managing their accounts.

The ISB program has no real world ramifications but real life lessons are inculcated. Other than the fact that the bank exists only within the particular school borders, everything else is real. Actual money is taken, receipts given, records kept, and student workers are held to a strict confidentiality agreement. Students are perpetually encouraged to save and contemplate their financial futures.

"This model of a bank is a student lead initiative," said Elese, In School Banking Coordinator for Capitol City Bank and Trust Company, one of two African-American-owned banks in the state of Georgia. "You see schools that have shop, and home economics and health classes. That's what schools are doing now ... they're trying to model real world experiences." She added, "In this model bank program for student and school usage, the program will encourage students to save and also change the mindset of our students from consumers to producers."

Tackling head on the mindset behind a consumer-driven culture prompted ISB creators—George Andrews, founder of Capitol City Bank and Vincent Terry, President of United Youth of America—to develop the initiative in 1995. Booker T. Washington High School was the first school with the student-founded Washington Student Bank of Atlanta. It has become a hallmark of Washington High, the first Black public secondary school in Atlanta.

Much of the source of Capitol City's passion-



Elese Simmons, is the In School Banking Coordinator for Capitol City Bank and Trust Co.

CAPITAL CITY continued on page 7



Optimal Health Helps With Power of Healing

By Jacquee Minor

Dr. Shoanmarie Seals is concerned that too many of us depend on too many prescription drugs. She's made it her business to clean out our medicine cabinets and get us back to living healthy.

The owner of Optimal Health Wellness Center in Decatur, Dr. Shoanmarie (she prefers first name only), the nation's first and only African-American certified sports chiropractic physician, has built her eight-year practice on the philosophy of eliminating pain without drugs.



Dr. Shoanmarie

"She educates and counsels her patients on how to safely get off the medications."

She was on her way to becoming a pediatric surgeon when, as she puts it, "chiropractic chose me." The New Orleans native chose a field that helps her spread her message and her mission of eliminating pain without the harmful side effects of prescription drugs. A 2001 graduate of Life Chiropractic College, with the

prestigious Clinical Excellence Award, she is passionate about the benefits of her profession.

The passion and intensity Dr. Shoanmarie brings to her work comes out of a sense of purpose. "God had a need and he created me." While a pre-med student for pediatric medicine, she had her first encounter with a chiropractor, who happened to be a recruiter for a major chiropractic school.

His interest in the bright young patient was the fortuitous beginning to her changing her career direction, and finding the work she was created to do.

A savvy businesswoman, Dr. Shoanmarie is a regular participant and organizer for community health events. Part of fulfilling her mission is reaching out to the community to educate. "It's an ongoing mission which gives me purpose and joy."

"Most people think chiropractors are doctors you only need after a car accident," says Dr. Shoanmarie. "Actually, chiropractic is something everyone can use. Instead of treating symptoms with surgery and drugs, chiropractic is concerned with the integrity of your nervous system."

While chiropractors don't treat specific health conditions, they treat what is called "subluxations," or misplaced bones that can irritate nerve endings. She says chiropractic gets to the cause of the problem. "Your spinal cord is the information superhighway; it's how your brain sends messages to every part of your body. If one of those bones [doesn't] move right, you don't work right. That's what chiropractors do;

"Actually, chiropractic is something everyone can use. Instead of treating symptoms with surgery and drugs, chiropractic is concerned with the integrity of your nervous system."

- Dr. Shoanmarie

we make sure those bones move right. We adjust you so that the power that made your body can heal your body."

Her patients range in age from infancy to nonagenarian. About half of her practice is in the discipline of sports medicine, helping athletes improve their performance level.

She is blazing a trail as a sports physician in a lucrative industry where much of the money off the field is being made by others. "I think it's important for African Americans to get involved in every aspect of sports. African-American men are generating a lot of money around sports and our people are not benefiting from it."

Optimal Health Wellness Center is located in a 5,000 square foot facility in a converted warehouse in Decatur. The state of the art practice is totally paperless, with all patient medical records on file digitally.

The practice employs two licensed massage therapists, and includes two physical therapy suites, for passive and active therapies. They offer cervical traction as a way to potentially avoid surgery, use posture garments to support therapy, and are one of few practices to utilize metabolism breath testing as part of its nutritional counseling. A regular class schedule in the sizeable conference room welcomes the community to learn healthy lifestyle options.

A deeply spiritual practitioner, Dr. Shoanmarie takes inspiration from a statue of the Good Shepherd poised in the adjustment room where she spends most of her time doing chiropractic adjustments.

Contact Optimal Health Wellness Center at 678-418-3400 or visit www.optimalhealth1.com for more information.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

Bankruptcy Attorney Martin Joins OvergroundRR!!®

The Conductor

... start all over again."

Many believe that being a lawyer is a job that requires a person to be cold and ruthless. However, Yolvondra Martin-Brown knows that it's her mission and ability to show compassion and a keen listening ear that gives comfort to her clients and eases anxieties.

Martin-Brown is the founder, owner and manager of the Martin Law Group LLC that was started in 1996, three years after her move to Atlanta from Minnesota. Her law group specializes in personal injury, consumer bankruptcy and family law (including divorce, child support and custody cases, etc.). She earned her degree from The University of Minnesota Law School in 1985 and thus began her mission to change the legal field.

Realizing that when individuals finally decide that it's time for a lawyer to step in, the situation is dire, she carefully considers all available options for a particular case. Her passion is drawn from a place of helping others. "[I enjoy] helping people rebuild their lives," she says. "Giving people hope when they come to me. [Clients are] typically down trodden and when they're filing bankruptcy, they're not sure how they're going to rebuild their lives or

Hiring a lawyer is not an easy task. Finding someone who is trustworthy and who will work for the best interest of your family or situation is a job that requires research. "The first thing is that you have to listen and then offer solutions. Viable solutions," Martin-Brown explains. This a great lawyer makes.

The work that Martin-Brown has done for her community also speaks volumes to where her heart and responsibility lies. She is a member of the Atlanta Bar Association: Bankruptcy and Family Law Sections; Gate City Bar association and former board member; Board Member of Open Heart Open Mind, Inc.; Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys; the DeKalb Bar Association; and has donated in excess of 240 pro bono hours to low-income clients with the Justice For All Program. She was also recognized by the State Bar of Georgia Pro Bono Legal Services for her volunteer efforts with low-income clients. Her work is dedicated to service and helping others in ways where they falter to help themselves.

"In general, for example, if someone is being garnished, it puts them in a situation where they cannot pay their house note and it puts

them behind quite a bit," she recalls about a number of cases she's assisted with. "I can show them how to stop the garnishment, and in many cases, get the money back that was garnished and work with the mortgage company so they can keep their home." Martin-Brown admits that sometimes her clients have faith in her but don't fully understand how she can achieve such an accomplishment. Nevertheless, she has proven that she has the know how to get things done for the clients' benefit.

Being a strong person led Martin-Brown to the legal entrepreneur that she is today. "I have always wanted to have my own business. I wanted to do things the way I wanted to do things," she recalls. "I have not always agreed with the way things were being done or thought the client could get a different kind of service or advice and so I wanted to have my own firm for



Yolvondra Martin-Brown

those reasons." She has parlayed her drive and strong but caring personality into a successful law firm that aids Atlantans and others abroad, gain the legal rights they deserve.

Just as with any job, there are the downsides and situations that she assists with but knows are painfully unavoidable in her profession. Her work often takes rocky turns, especially when dealing with family court cases. "I have to let them know that I understand and that I also have some insight [because] they might not have [seen] some different options. Or weren't aware that different options were there," she states. "I think mostly [I] let them know that I am an advocate, I'm going to do everything I can, I'm going to lay it out on how I'm going to address [their] concerns and what I'm going to do to protect [them]."

Her listening to and advocacy for clients pays off in the end and they make sure to let her know that they appreciate her support and the fight that she has for their legal issues. "Most of my clients hug me when court is done," she reflects. "That's very rewarding."

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

Are You In Over Your Head?

Forclosure Helpers & Homes

We Buy Any House or Sell

- Inheritance ~ Pending Forclosure
- Divorce ~ Illness ~ Bad Tenants
- We Do Rent To Own
- Owner Finance



PHONE: 770-912-5700 / FAX: 770-909-3302
ROACHRICH@COMCAST.NET
andreasstopsforeclosurefast.com

 **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

to all of our members and friends who celebrate in May and June!
 From the ORR!! Family

Giving Women Glam Through Fantasy Faces

By Kalin Thomas

You have to attend a special event tonight and along with your new dress, you want to give an extra something-something to your makeup. But you're not used to wearing a lot of makeup, so what do you do? Call Fantasy Faces! They specialize in traditional makeup, airbrush, eyelash extensions, makeup for photo shoots and even body painting. Fantasy Faces owner, Jamika Crowner, became a makeup artist while still in college at Hampton University.

"I did makeup for dorm-mates, school fashion shows, cabarets and other events. I chose this industry because I love to make women feel beautiful, and I love the instant gratification I get once a woman gets out of my chair. I don't know what else I'd be doing if I wasn't doing makeup artistry," she said.

Crowner, who majored in marketing and has several makeup certifications, has had her work featured in film, television, print, runway, music videos and photos shoots. Her clients include: Essence Music Festival, MAC makeup, Tyler Perry's "House of Payne," several models from "America's Next Top Model," Warner Brothers Records, Roc-A-Fella Records, and GlamaGirls.com. Atlanta Tribune: The Magazine, Vibe and Uptown magazines have also featured Crowner's articles about makeup.

She also does work for various celebrities and earlier this year Crowner did the makeup of the hosts, waiters and bartenders for one of Michael Vick's Super Bowl parties in Miami.

CAPITOL CITY continued from page 5

ate support for the program stems from the damages underserved communities suffer for their lack of access to banking institutions and financial literacy training.

Capitol City Bank was created because Andrews saw thousands of Atlanta minorities swarming to nonbanks for their banking needs. These companies, in return, charged high fees for services banks give freely or inexpensively, essentially making not having a bank account costly.

With the ISB program, hundreds of students

says the pay is good with an eight to 10-hour day of work bringing in about \$1,500 for film and video shoots, and \$800 for other shoots. "The recession hasn't affected me. The beauty industry is recession-proof. No matter what your income is, you always want to look good," Crowner laughed.

And while Crowner enjoys working for celebrities, she really enjoys doing makeup for what she calls her "Everyday Divas". Frequent client, Tiffany Grimes is one of those divas. On this day, she approached Crowner for a traditional makeup service and eyelash extensions. "Jamika is the best! I'm obsessed with her work and get her to do my makeup a couple of times a week," Grimes exclaims. Everyday Diva prices are about \$50 for traditional makeup and \$65 for airbrush makeup. Photo shoot makeup starts at \$125, and body painting starts at \$350.

Fantasy Faces even provides "Everyday Diva" makeup classes for \$99, with an emphasis on taking care of your skin first. Crowner gives women four major steps to taking care of their skin: wash, tone, moisturize (morning and night) and exfoliate twice a week. She adds that sleeping in your makeup is a huge no-no! Her Makeup 101 class teaches easy makeup application for three distinct looks: natural, evening, and fantasy. When asked what every woman should have in her makeup bag, Crowner suggests a good mascara, a bronzer, a blush, and a great everyday, neutral lipstick that is one shade darker than your natural lip color.

from underserved communities, from nearly 20 schools, will get an early shot at financial empowerment. But the program won't end there.

The country's economic recession has reinvigorated the ISB program's expansion. Realizing that the consumer mindset has helped drive the American economy into the abyss, Andrews directed ISB leaders to take on the 100 school initiative, which is an effort to place the ISB program into one hundred more schools across the Atlanta metro area.

As an added bonus to the program, parents with students involved in an ISB school can



Jamika Crowner applies make-up for a client. Crowner has been painting faces since college and now she has a clientele that includes "Everyday Divas" to superstars in the music industry and Hollywood.

Crowner's mother, Gail Middlebrooks, also works for the company and she has another company artist working for her in the Washington, D.C. area. In the future, Crowner wants to offer more spa-like services that include facials, microdermabrasion and extreme permanent lashes. Also, since she speaks Spanish fluently, Crowner would like to expand her services to the Hispanic community. Fantasy Faces' services are available at several salons

around the Metro Atlanta area, as well as on-site services for "divas on the go". Crowner's slogan is "What's Your Fantasy?" and she's looking forward to fulfilling the makeup fantasies of Atlanta's celebrities and "Everyday Divas". For more information visit www.thefantasyfaces.com or call 770-728-3021.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

community."

It is noteworthy to mention that Capitol City Bank offers the FDIC program Money Smart as well as Parents Partnering with Children (PPWC) which deposits \$5 into a child's savings account if a parent opens one in their name at the bank.

"We're not trying to sell the value of this program," said Simmons. "This is something we are offering the community. If you take advantage of it the possibilities are limitless."

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

"Now You Have A Choice."



George S. Andrews
President

"What do you want from your bank? A variety of products and services to choose from—giving you the opportunity to make adjustments as your financial position changes. And then there's service. You want to be treated like a person, not a series of numbers."

Your wants are here with Capitol City Bank & Trust Company; competitive products and quality service.

For years we have been establishing service-oriented branches and strengthening our foundation. Our foundation includes enhanced banking services for our customers, such as Full Service Banking, Commercial Loans, Home Loans, and Retail Loans. Our Customer Service Representatives believe and know that without quality service a bank has no future. We bring our devotion to the communities we serve.

Control your own destiny, your financial future. Build your relationship with Capitol City Bank & Trust Company for the reason that—**Now You Have A Choice.**

Building all Your Financialized
Visit us at capcitybankandtrust.com

FDIC MEMBER FDIC LENDER



"Building A Legacy, One Client At A Time"

Albany Branch

591 West Oglethorpe Blvd., Albany, GA 31701

Mon-Thurs: 9AM-4PM Fri: 9AM-4PM Sat: 9AM-12PM

329-420-4227

Augusta Branch

1205 Broad Street, Augusta, GA 30901

Mon-Thurs: 9AM-4PM Fri: 9AM-4PM Sat: 9AM-12PM

706-542-5204

Conyers Branch

2969 Concourse Road, Conyers, GA 30031

Mon-Fri: 9AM-4PM Sat: 9AM-4PM Sun: CLOSED

404-735-4224

Douglasville Branch

International Street, Douglasville, GA 30135

Mon-Fri: 9AM-4PM Sat: 9AM-4PM Sun: 2PM-4PM

404-765-9711

Powder Springs Branch

24 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, GA 30303

Mon-Thurs: 9AM-4PM Fri: 9AM-4PM Sat: CLOSED

404-586-7719

Smyrna Branch

539 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Smyrna, GA 30081

Mon-Thurs: 9AM-4PM Fri: 9AM-4PM Sat: 9AM-12PM

404-233-8070

Stone Mountain Branch

5074 Memorial Drive, Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Mon-Thurs: 9AM-4PM Fri: 9AM-4PM Sat: 9AM-4PM

404-295-7711

West End Branch

362 Lee Street, Atlanta, GA 30303

Mon-Thurs: 9AM-4PM Fri: 9AM-4PM Sat: 9AM-4PM

404-735-4220



Restaurants

Café Circa Delivers on Ambience, Taste

By Jeremy House

Walking inside the spacious corridor of Café Circa engenders a warm and soothing mood. The colors are bright but mellowed. Seating is both upright and relaxed. It's not too big, however definitely not small. Every nick and cranny seems tediously planned to maximize the restaurant's visiting diners.

Indeed this was the intention of Café Circa co-owners, Randy Hazelton and Kevin Holt. A few years ago, the two Hampton University graduates and friends joined forces to create a restaurant that amalgamated the best of their own personal restaurant experiences. The goal was to create the perfect restaurant-bar-lounge for professional, yet upbeat people searching for a place to sit back and enjoy a tasty meal. The two friends with similar interests asked "why not?" and in 2007 Café Circa was opened.

"There's a need for a market like this. We find that we have a lot of regulars who enjoy people," explained Holt, a young business guru. Café Circa has received widely positive reviews from media such as Creative Loafing and Access Atlanta, including being named the "best no-cover night spot," by WJZZ Smooth Jazz 107.5.

As experienced night lifers, Hazelton and Holt have had the chance to wine and dine all over the nation, from New York, to Atlanta, to Los Angeles. By the time Café Circa came into fruition, the two were well aware of the character and style they wanted to bring to the Atlanta market. "Casual, sophisticated and relaxed, yet fun," said Holt.

The juxtaposition of opposites uniquely fits this downtown dinner. According to Holt, he and Hazelton wanted the setting to seduce a time period from the past but still maintain a touch of modernity. Hence the word "Circa" was selected as part of the name.

Holt explained, "We wanted people to feel like they stepped into the past but exactly what time, we'll leave it up for them to decide."

Café Circa regulars are deeply comfortable inside the restaurant. Most in their late twenties or early thirties, everyone is socializing on the same rhythm. On slow days, visitors effortlessly glide from chair and table to the comfortable sofas near the window view of Edgewood Avenue, just as their conversation becomes more intimate. The bar, lined with seductive lighting is long enough to fit 20 people. And the food, well the food is an experience itself.

Your taste buds are in for a pleasant awakening. Café Circa Chef Joey Zelinka has concocted a savory mix of meals that reflect a multitude of ethnic traditions with an American mix. Just to sample, the restaurant's mac and cheese croquettes offers a nice crunch to a timeless southern tradition that will make most Southerners jump for joy. Their Fried Shrimp and Andouille Skewer stings the tongue with its romesco sauce that pairs immaculately on the cooked shrimp with jalapeno and sausage. A real treat. Additionally, the Flat Iron Steak, the Seared Ahi Tuna, and the Lamb Shank all promise to be unforgettable dishes. Holt, Hazelton, and Zelinka have dubbed this ethnic mix of food style "global eclectic".



Café Circa has an ambience that takes diners to a more romantic, colmer, smoother atmosphere that works for after work as well as a romantic date. Co-owners Randy Hazelton and Kevin Holt traveled the nation and combined their favorites to create the Café Circa atmosphere and menu.

Spicing up the mix, are live band performances scheduled to perform two to three nights a week. Live bands perform jazz, blues as well as salsa and "soulful modern" arrangements. Adding to the restaurant's soulful harmony, the bands arrangements are as globally eclectic as the cuisine.

With two large, high-definition plasma televisions mounted above the bar, guys won't have to miss a minute of their favorite sports games. Holt and Hazelton, who help manage the bar every night, greet and socialize with most diners and visitors. Bartenders and waitresses, which according to Holt, were selected with extreme care, also invite welcoming spirits to the venue.

Holt is proud of the masterpiece he's helped place in downtown Atlanta, adding to the spunk of restaurants on Edgewood Avenue.

The buzz surrounding the restaurant has been on a steady upbeat. Look for Café Circa to become a staple of the Atlanta dining experience.

CAFÉ CIRCA
RESTAURANT • BAR • LOUNGE

464 Edgewood Avenue, SE
Atlanta, GA 30312
(404) 477-0009

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit
www.overgroundrr.com

Michon's Still Serving Great Food at New Location

By Jeremy House

One of Atlanta's greatest hotspots for sa-vory barbecue and "to die for" seafood has recently relocated not too far from its original location. Just a few minutes down the road from its initial spot on 811 Virginia Avenue, sits Michon's new home at 1583 Virginia Avenue in College Park.

Still serving unbeatable barbecue delights accompanied with live jazz music, Michon's hasn't missed a beat with the transition.

"The new location really fits with our theme: Comfort Foods in a comfortable atmosphere with the comforting sounds of jazz," said co-owner Gaye Wilson who is usually on site ensuring that everything runs smoothly. "The move has been great," she assures.

Everyone knows Michon's as the creation of husband and wife entrepreneurs, Al and Gaye Wilson. The couple started their popular restaurant in St. Louis after Al became unemployed and made the critical decision to work for himself.

Transporting the restaurant from St. Louis to Atlanta's airport area proved to be a successful decision as customers continued to pour in.



Michon's still boasts some of the best smoked meats in Atlanta and is continuing this tradition of great food and service at its new location on Virginia Avenue. Just a few minutes down from its former location, the family business is thriving more than ever. Inset: Gaye Wilson is co-owner of Michon's with her husband, Al.

Now a thing of the past, the previous location was the pride and joy of the business community surrounding the Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport.

Clients roll in two to three times a week to en-

joy their lunch breaks at the laid back barbecue restaurant. Others sought out the jazz performances at the restaurant later in the week.

Nonetheless, the business community in Hapeville was no match for 2009's great re-

cession. As numerous layoffs perpetuated and businesses closed shop, ultimately, Michon's was affected by the turn. Though the move wasn't a necessity, the right move would help the restaurant flourish throughout the recession.

College Park's political leaders "enticed" Al and Gaye to occupy the beautiful property and the business community has been exceedingly welcoming—including sending patrons there for lunch.

College Park appears to have been the right move. The new facility which mirrors a house of rich southern royalty has a luring patio which Gaye knows will be packed during Atlanta's spring and summer months. Smoked meats in the summer? What could be better?

Not to mention, the old guard of Michon's customers remain loyal to the name. A tediously planned marketing strategy to get the word out and a launch party for the move seem to have done the job. For many, they will travel anywhere to get a taste of Michon's smoked meats.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit
www.overgroundrr.com



Church



Changing A Generation Opens Doors

By Kay Marie Pressley

Bishop Paul Morton, congregants and visitors witnessed the birth of not only a new church in a new location, but a remarkable ministry that ushered in a feeling of hope that transformed Changing a Generation Ministries to greater heights.

Formerly known as Greater St. Stephens Missionary Baptist Church, the new complex has now truly become two churches in one. The previous church where Bishop Morton served as pastor since 1974 now sits on its new location and is truly in the business of changing present and future generations, while preparing them for leadership in the 21st Century.

Born in Windsor Ontario, Canada, Morton came to the United States where he began preaching as an assistant pastor of Greater St. Stephens Missionary Baptist Church in New Orleans. The name was later changed to Greater St. Stephens Full Gospel Baptist Church.

Eventually, the church grew stronger under the leadership of the new minister and it wasn't long before Morton's messages and teachings began to attract a growing listening audience. The church has so far witnessed the growth of more than 60 active in-house ministries, several community outreach programs as well as year-round revivals and institutes.

These staples of his ministry will continue in the new facility where parishioners understand that it is a place for worship and spiritual growth. The elaborate and spirit-filled grand



Changing A Generation celebrated their grand opening and dedication service that welcomed community members and celebrities alike.

opening celebration is proof that determination and hard work can change the direction of what seems like an unfixable situation and turn it into a celebration, despite the obstacles.

The evening started with a press conference and ribbon-cutting ceremony that ushered in the birth of the new sanctuary. The dedication and celebration service followed as members of the clergy, well wishers, friends and family filled the new edifice with prayers and excitement of the anticipated day.

Among the large gathering were other members of the clergy such as Bishop Stephen Hall, the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship [FGBCF] State of Georgia Overseer and Bish-

op W. O'Shea Granger, the FGBCF Southern Atlantic Regional Bishop who came to give their blessings of the new sanctuary.

Bishop Neil C. Ellis, the second Presiding Bishop of Mount Tabor Full Gospel Baptist Church in Nassau, Bahamas was keynote speaker for the event. Bishop Ellis encouraged the congregation and its leader to remain strong and determined despite pre- and post-Katrina trials because they were chosen by God to fulfill His purpose in the earth.

"Within us lies the power to change the destiny of our future. God is always up to something because a storm came but could not take away the clear direction of [this] leader. Pre- and

post-Katrina would have devastated most of us. He experienced the loss of his only grandchild, and also faced colon cancer," he reminded the congregants.

The Reverend Jessie Jackson was also on hand and he also took the time to reminisce on the growth of the ministry despite the many obstacles it has faced over the past 32 years. He praised the work of both the senior pastor and his wife and First Lady, Dr. Debra B. Morton.

Jackson encouraged everyone present to acknowledge the true greatness that resides within Bishop S. Morton, his wife and the entire ministry. "Never take a miracle walking in [your] midst for granted." He continued on to say "God knocks us down, but the ground is no place for a champion because no scars, no stars, no story, no glory."

Musical performances were given by the Changing a Generation Sanctuary Choir and Bishop S. Morton himself who sang favorites such as: "Let it Rain". Gospel and recording artist, Vanessa Bell Armstrong was also present and gave a crowd-stirring performance.

Bishop and First Lady Morton personally thanked everyone for their continued spiritual, emotional and financial support over the many years. This included the church's native son and television and film mogul, Mr. Tyler Perry, who was unable to attend the ceremony.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

St. John MBC Welcomes Ministries, New Pastor

The Conductor

For nearly one year, Pastor Jeff Davis has been leading St. John Missionary Baptist church to new heights and dimensions. His mission is to lead by example and show members the path that Christ has revealed to him.

"My call to the ministry came in 1975. I really didn't go when I was called ... I kind of stalled until 1991. After 1991 I accepted my call in the ministry and went to the Bryant Theological Seminary as well as Andersonville Baptist Seminary where I received a dual doctorate degree in theology and Christian ministry." His acceptance of his new mission in life did not come without a fight. He notes that after so many nights without sleep and constant prodding from God, at around 38 or 39 years of age, he surrendered his will to accept the will of the Lord.



After nearly two decades of being in the ministry and being welcomed into St. John Missionary Baptist Church, Davis has again transferred his sights on God's will.

Pastor Jeff Davis

other churches in the Atlanta area. "Our goal ... is to bring people to Christ," Davis affirms. "That's our first and foremost goal: Salvation. Our second goal is to try to pay off a debt that we have established [due to] our multipurpose building." The multipurpose facility/gymnasium was built nearly five years ago and the

pastor and parishioners at that time were not able to utilize the facility to the fullest capacity. Since Davis' arrival earlier this year, the facility has been used at least 20 times.

The site can and has been used for classroom space, sports activities, a concert venue, banquets and other events. This past October the church hosted a Halloween event for the youth where there were games, food and fun. Children and adults of all ages were invited to participate. Davis remembers a good time was had by children of all ages, including the adults. His wife, Carolyn, says that she saw the happiness on everyone's faces and that they plan on making this an annual event.

"Here at St. John, we are trying our best to be a part of this community." He became the pastor in April of 2009 and has made significant alterations to the church community by leading by example just, as he says, Christ did.

Before he accepted the offer from the Atlanta church, he was a pastor at three other small churches in Snellville, Monroe ad McDonough. These worship houses led the now experienced pastor to St. John M.B.C. to be the fourth church under his leadership. His intentions are to reopen the doors of the church to welcome all that need spiritual guidance and a place to worship. His open door and open communication policy has sometimes given him unexpected results. His first month as pastor he gave his cellular phone number to congregants which left him with a \$480 phone bill. Nevertheless, he wouldn't have it any other way.

Since he's become pastor of the 127-year-old church, he has led the reorganization of the youth choir as well as bringing his brainchild to life of creating a step team. He sees these ministries as avenues to bringing youth into the house of God and giving them their



own special place of responsibility and way to praise God. "Since we've been here a lot of the youth have come back and others have joined," he states.

Before Davis came to the church there was no standing pastor. When he accepted the position, he made sure that all felt included in the body of the church and of Christ. He was also sure that everyone recognized that the first task they should take on was one of acceptance and belief of Jesus. "The word Christian means Christ-like. If we are Christ-like that means we are following in His footsteps; and if we follow in His footsteps, we're going to do [well] and we won't have to worry about the things of the world," Davis says.

His lessons teach that even though God may grant that we have the things of the world, like the fancy cars and beautiful homes, he reassures that those are material things that have no dominion in the lives of Christians.



St. John MBC (left) has opened their doors to new members and ministries into the sanctuary and multipurpose center (above).

"I'm trying to impress upon the people that I'll be the first one to do what I'm asking you to do," he exclaims. His method of leading by example is one that keeps his congregation motivated. He is a firm believer that "Only what you do for Christ will last." This knowingness that overtakes him in his mission is the same knowingness that leads him to give his all to Christ, his congregation and life and enjoy it every step of the way.

"It's been fun. I've enjoyed my 17 years of preaching. I have preached from Atlanta to almost all the way to Washington, D.C. We've had a good time in this ministry. If we stopped today, I'll say we had a good time in this ministry," he says smiling broadly.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com



Emmaus Road MBC Dedicates New Church

By Jacquee Minor

Members and friends of Emmaus Road Missionary Baptist Church in College Park didn't let a little rain stop them from celebrating the church's triumphant rise from the ruins. Nineteen months after a suspicious fire destroyed the old sanctuary, a new brick, fully appointed, state-of-the-art church stands at 3725 Flat Shoals Road as a symbol of hope and faith.

On March 21, 2010, their first Sunday in the new location, members rejoiced in their good fortune. Senior Pastor Reverend Dr. David Scott reminded the faithful that the work of the Lord has just begun.

"Expect to blaze new trails in ministry," Rev. Scott exhorted the congregation. "Prepare yourselves to make a powerful impact in the lives of those in the College Park community and beyond. From this backdrop, we say this is only the beginning 'cause (sic) the best is yet to come!"

In a rousing dedication service in the new sanctuary, inside freshly painted white walls, punctuated with blue fabric covered chairs, tile and carpeted flooring, the community joined in the celebration.

Grammy Award winning singer/songwriter Regina Belle rocked the church with her soulful gospel music. College Park Mayor Jack Longino, in the audience with his wife, proclaimed it as "Pastor Rev. David Scott and Emmaus Road Missionary Baptist Church Building Dedication Day." A stone fountain flowing just outside the sanctuary served as a reminder of God's continuous blessings.

The church recognized seven individuals for their contributions in helping them to recover from the fire. Special Recognition Awards were given to the College Park Mayor Jack Longino, Fulton County Commissioner Bill Edwards, Georgia Insurance Commissioner John Oxendine, Rev. Dr. Ripley, Delores Baskin of Commissioner Edwards' staff, Capitol City Bank President George Andrews, and Dan Cathy of Chic-Fila. A strong showing of support from the business community included Willie Watkins of Watkins Funeral Home and former Fulton County Commissioner turned businessman Michael Hightower. State Senator Donzella James and Evelyn Dixon, Mayor of Riverdale, were also in attendance.

Rev. Gerald Durley of Providence Missionary Baptist Church served as guest speaker. In



Senior Pastor, Dr. David Scott, stands in front of the new Emmaus Road Missionary Baptist Church on 3725 Flat Shoals Rd.

his message to the congregation, Durley made note of the significance of the day. Calling it an important day in America, a day of celebration, Rev. Durley acknowledged the historic reform on health care as another reason to give thanks on that day. He said the secret to Em-

maus Road's success was that it kept the faith throughout its ordeal.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

Cascade Golf Academy Unites Ministry, Family

By Jeremy House

W^{ith} summer and spring rushing to melt away the cold rigid face of winter, now is the time to shelve old hobbies and usher in new ones. Cascade United Methodist Church has just the right outside sport to welcome the new, warm season: golf.

For years now, the powerfully influential Atlanta church has managed to hold together all the right pieces to maintain an amazingly popular family-oriented golf academy. Their six-week academy for beginners of all ages consists of five weeks of "hands on training" and one week of instructional education dealing with rules and golf etiquette. Once participants complete the program they continue to compete with other graduates of the academy.

As of now, the Cascade Golf Academy is administered by Chief Development Officer Willie McGhee. The Hattiesburg, Miss. native and Katrina transplant has been coaching golf to students for a number of years. Since heading Cascade's golf academy he has helped launch the amateur golf careers of 300 individuals.

Founded in 2004, under Senior Pastor, Marvin A. Moss, the Cascade Golf Academy is an essential element of the church's ministry. The ministry president Kenneth Parks knitted the academy into the fabric of Atlanta's golf community. Along with deceased founder Alphonso Carlton Jr., the academy has earned a United States Golf Academy (USGA) charter and connected itself with various other community golf programs.

Alliances built by the Cascade team has forged important community building and introduced the game of golf to a host of unlikely participants. "It is a beautiful situation. Especially for the young ladies who come to the golf course and are intimidated about what's going to happen, we try to make them as comfortable as possible," said Willie Burks, former Spelman College golf coach and current instructor with the Cascade Golf Academy. "There are more women spending money on golf now because men feel as though they can pick up a magazine and learn how to play golf."

According to the coaches and some participants, the academy is engendering a mild stir in some families as well. Women and adolescents are attending the academy and taking on their fathers and his golf buddies. Much of this is the result of the academy's high-grade teaching talent. The Cascade Golf Academy utilizes some heavy hitters in the Atlanta golfing scene.

Former PGA Golf professional William Lewis is one the pioneers of the program. Lewis currently holds records at several golf courses in Atlanta. He's also helping to lead a black golf revolution in the city. As an instructor, his expertise remains invaluable to the developing players.

Instructor Willie Burks, a former professional football player, has been a golf fanatic his entire life. Years past, Burks caddied at Lincoln golf course to raise lunch money. Now the certified instructor has been tapped to build the golf programming of the entire Atlanta Public School System.

Lisa Scott heard of the program from a girlfriend who entered the program. Both are not members of Cascade United Church, but heard about the wonderful program through close associates. Scott explained, "I've had a growing interest golf, my husband and my brother-in-law golf, so it's a way for us to spend more time together. It's bringing us closer together.

"It's a good family situation," exclaimed coach Burks. "It's a good place to learn how to deal with your significant other."



(Above) Cascade Golf Academy participants listen as their instructor teaches them the way around a golf course and how to play a good game of golf. (Right) Coaches, Steve Wooten, of the Morehouse College golf team and Leon McGhee, take the time to pose for a photo during a Cascade Golf Academy lesson.

As the interest in golf grows, the Cascade Golf Academy ministry will continue to reach new souls on the golf course. McGhee says that before and after the lessons there is usually a word of prayer that is shared. That way, the students are not only blessed in the lessons by the coaches, instructors and golf professionals, but by the One who brought them all together to enjoy the game.



To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

Prescription, Imaging and Laboratory Savings Card

COIN
Community Outreach Information Network

powered by **FreeForAll** INCORPORATED

Pharmacist Help Desk
1-800-808-1213

RxGroup: RXC207
RxBIN: 013824
RxPCN: RXCUT
FAMILY COVERAGE

THIS CARD IS ACTIVE

www.rxcut.com/COIN

PHARMACY: Process all claims electronically using RxBIN: 013824 RxPCN: RXCUT. For the pharmacy help desk call 1-800-808-1213

CARD HOLDER: To receive your best price, present this card with your prescription to a participating pharmacy. This card is active with no enrollment required. This card can be used multiple times and will not expire. For FREE discounts on lab tests and imaging (requires your RxGroup number) or to locate a participating pharmacy, please visit our website or call 1-800-808-1213.

THIS IS NOT INSURANCE – VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW

Present this card at a participating pharmacy to get discounts on prescriptions. For more information visit www.rxcut.com/COIN.

World Covenant Builds Strong Foundation

By Jacquee Minor

As a young man hailing from College Park, just over the fence from the more metropolitan city of Atlanta, Reginald Ezell was always sensitive about his communications skills. He didn't talk much, and his insecurities forced him to avoid situations that would call on him to speak publicly.

Now, as pastor of World Covenant Christian Center in Conyers, where he masters the word of God from the pulpit every week, Pastor Ezell still shies away from one-on-one conversations.

Not to worry; no tell-tale signs of the self-described "country boy" remain in the polished man who expresses himself so eloquently today, groomed for the ministry by perhaps one of the most popular and powerful preachers of our time. Rev. Ezell credits megachurch minister Dr. Creflo Dollar, pastor of World Changers Church International (WCCI) with a reported 25,000 members worldwide, and his childhood friend, with giving him the tools to succeed. But he gives God all the credit for eliminating his fears and lack of confidence.

"I realize it's not me anymore," explains Ezell, when considering the irony of being a preacher who doesn't like to talk. "It's not about me, it's not about how people view me, how I present myself. It's about how I present God and allow God to use me."

Never did Ezell imagine when he joined Dollar, his high school football teammate, in the early weeks of the infant WCCI, that his own life would lead him to the pulpit. In 1986, World Changers members were meeting in a College Park school cafeteria when God told Ezell to "be all this man needs you to be." Ezell, then a printing company's shipping and receiving

manager, obediently took on the work of supporting Dollar's rising ministry.

"God said 'it's not about you,'" Rev. Ezell recalls. "He said 'I have not given you the spirit of fear, but of power, love and a sound mind. If you allow these three things to be a part of your life, they'll eliminate every fear in your life. You're just an instrument, like a fork in my hand. You don't determine what you do, or how you do it, or why you do it... you just do it,'" were the directions that liberated the reluctant leader from his personal insecurities.

Ezell's fears subsided as his trust in God continued to manifest in his life. Learning to yield his will to God's revealed abilities he never knew existed. "All that I do is not natural," Ezell declares. "It's [yielded] to God."

During his tenure at WCCI, Ezell held many positions, including chair of the board of directors, the first chairman of the deacon board and first choir president. With no formal training, he started the Pastor's Personal Aides and he was the first executive producer of WCCI television ministry and its first sound technician. Ezell was ultimately hired as crusade director, a personal assistant to Pastor Dollar, traveling the world scheduling Dollar's appearances.

Ezell's insider access exposed him to the intricate details of church operations. He helped put in place much of the structure of WCCI operations. In 1992, Ezell was licensed as a minister, launching a massive outreach ministry in 1994 that spread his own brand of church leadership to churches throughout the country and abroad.

Throughout every transition, Ezell turned to Dollar for counsel and advice. "Pastor Dollar nurtured my life," Ezell says.

While Ezell helped to build Dollar's ministry, Dollar encouraged the fledgling minister's personal growth. By the time Ezell was ready to step out to build his own church, he did so with the full blessings of Pastor Dollar. "Pastor Dollar released me like he has never released anybody else," says Ezell proudly. On the morning of his release service, Dollar encouraged anybody in his congregation who felt led to join Ezell to do so, and sowed a generous love offering for the new church. Ezell humbly recounts their launch in 1996, saying "we started out pretty good."

Now in their second location, World Covenant Christian Church occupies a lovely modern facility located on Troup Smith Road. Pastor Ezell's membership was able to acquire a practically new building for a song, in part thanks to a depressed real estate market. Purchased in October 2009, the membership renovated the existing church in two weeks by tearing down and building new walls, painting, adding a sound system, chairs and making much-needed repairs. A growing congregation of about 350 adult members, with dozens more teens and children, meets for regular worship every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m.

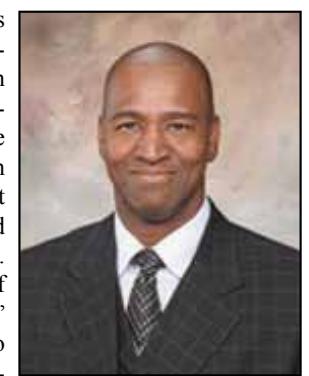
World Covenant follows many of the principles Ezell adopted at WCCI "We're a community-oriented church," he says. They invite the youth from surrounding neighborhoods for a Halloween "trunk and treat", decorating cars on the parking lot and filling their trunks with goodies for the kids. A friends and family back-to-school event provides school supplies to the students of the local community. There is also a Toys-for-Tots holiday give-away for children. The church follows four core values: love, family, covenant & servanthood. Pastor Ezell says "that's what represents us to the world. I stress love more than anything."

He also stresses self-accountability, in which he encourages the congregation to seek what God would have you to do. "The vision of the church," he says, "is to develop a personal relationship with God

that no matter where you are, it goes with you to keep you accountable." Pastor Ezell, author of three books, *A Heart to Serve*, *Becoming a Five Talent Man* and *The Distractions of Persecution and Tribulation*, prefers to challenge many of religion's conventions, shunning the concept of an interpreter of God's word, for the more personal, one-on-one relationship.

He shares the ministry with his wife and life partner, Pastor Wanta' Ezell. A former bank branch manager and financial analyst for the U.S. Postal Service, she rounds out this powerhouse ministry. Along with managing the church's books, Pastor Wanta', as she is affectionately called, trains other churches in the fundamentals of institutional finances. Together they share five children, two grandchildren, as well as a common vision for the future of World Covenant.

For more information about World Covenant Christian Church, go to www.worldcovenant.org, or call 678-565-0378.



Pastor Reginald Ezell

Solomon Temple: Small Church, Big Heart

By Kalin Thomas

As you drive up the hill on Blair Villa Drive near the airport, a steeple will rise in front of you, leading you to Solomon Temple Missionary Baptist Church. The church, which was organized on February 5, 1967 at another location, has grown from 17 original members to 70. It's a small church, but its outreach goes far into the community.

"We feed people every Saturday for two and a half hours and then go over scriptures in the Bible with them," says Senior Pastor B.L. Clements. "We also just raised money to send a donation to the Red Cross for Haiti. I [also] regularly visit nursing homes in the community." With the church's outreach, Solomon Temple members touch the lives and reach the souls of those who might otherwise be lost. He tells the success story of a member who lived in a homeless shelter in downtown Atlanta. Members would go to pick her up and bring her to church, and eventually she got baptized, got a job and is back on her feet as a member of the church.

The church's motto: "I can do all things in Christ who strengthens me" (Phil. 3:13 – 14) shows the source of their strength and what keeps them motivated. Through the members' hard work and tithing, the church has been able to update its current location that it's called home since 1977.

In addition to much-needed renovations, the church has installed a public address system, added a new baptismal pool and paid off all debts. Eventually, parishioners would like to enlarge the kitchen area for their food bank; and the church plans to add a small library, buy a van to help elderly members get to church, and bring in a younger membership to keep the church going for many years to come. But the



Solomon Temple, under the leadership of Pastor B.L. Clements, reaches out to feed the community, both physically and spiritually.

church has had some challenges along the way. With their location being near the Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, there have been problems with noise during Sunday worship times. Regardless of meetings with airport representatives, a resolution has not been reached.

Other challenges that have arisen force the church and pastor to prepare for the unforeseen future. Because the airport has bought lots of property in the area warehouses now make up what used to be a residential area. "We don't want to leave this area, but we are saving money in the event that we have to find a new location," says Clements.

Still the little church on the hill is determined to go on preaching the Gospel and bringing people to Christ. Some of their fundraising events include: Women's Day on the first Sunday in May; Homecoming on the fourth Sunday in July; Men's Day on the third Sunday in August; and the choir's anniversary on the fourth Sunday in September where various

choirs from around the city come to sing praises.

Pastor Clements' philosophy is, "Give God your best." Though membership is small, there are big plans for the future. In fact, members of the church will soon go out into the community with door hangers with information about the church, its services and their 11am Social Fellowship time to get their neighbors "in-the-know" about what happens next door in Solomon Temple. Pastor Clements hopes this will bring in new members. He adds, "We're on the battlefield for the Lord every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. And the doors are open to everyone."

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

Cascade
United Methodist Church

A Light in Our Community

Cascade Service Times

SUNDAY

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

Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Children's Church - 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Ladies' 10:15 - Chapel
Youth Worship - 2nd and 4th Sunday,
11:00 a.m. (Lift 12-18 Room 209)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE
7:00 p.m.

Cascade United Methodist Church
3144 Cascade Road, SW
Atlanta, GA 30311
Phone: 404.691.5770
Fax: 404.691.7961
www.cascadeumc.org

Eason Brings Small Town Spirit, Heart to Big City

The Conductor

Big Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church is one of the oldest African-American churches in the nation and Pastor Gregory Eason is doing all he can to keep the tradition of excellence and spirituality that has earned it that honor.

Rev. Eason, grew up in southeast Georgia in a small town populated by 6,000 people. "Growing up in a small area [where everybody knew everybody] it was a caring spirit [and] no rugged individualism [where] people helped each other." He notes that he tries to bring that "small town" spirit and hospitality to the metropolitan Atlanta community. Nevertheless, regardless of how much he loves Atlanta he assures that "100 times out of 100, I would chose to grow up in a small town setting."

Rev. Eason arrived at Big Bethel in 2005 and was able to hit the ground running because the amount of ministries and their activities keep him busy. "Big Bethel has about 1,700 members on role," he says. His congregants are the oil that keeps the wheels turning in this historical church and also assist him in reaching his goals of uplifting those who have fallen through society's cracks and have been pushed aside and labeled a "have not".



Rev. Gregory V. Eason

Pairing his small town upbringing to the nearly 5 million populating the metro Atlanta area, Rev. Eason is taking on the task head on as senior pastor and a well versed leader. "Although Atlanta is a huge metropolitan area, it does have a friendliness that is different from some of the cities that I have visited."

The challenges that Atlanta does have are the areas that Big Bethel's ministries are looking to change and improve upon. These challenges include rampant drug addiction problems, abuse situations and other problems that contribute to the fall of moral fiber in the Atlanta community.

The landscape of the church that sits off of the legendary Auburn Avenue in downtown is one of remembrance. The lantern lights that hang from the ceiling and the antique style of the décor is reminiscent of the era that the church derived from.

"The African Methodist Episcopal church is the oldest African-American denomination in the United States of America which dates back to 1787," the Metter, Georgia native states. "[The AME church] was founded in Philadel-

phia, Pennsylvania by Richard Allen who was the first bishop of the [AME] church." The church derives from the Free African Society, a social service as well as a religious organization in Philadelphia.

"Big Bethel is the oldest African-American congregation in Atlanta. Our history dates back 162 years ... founded in 1847. Morris Brown College was founded in the basement of Big Bethel in 1881 and several national organizations have had their conventions here, including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People [NAACP]. Several presidents have spoken from the pulpit of Big Bethel including former presidents Taft and Carter and President Nelson Mandela after he was released from prison in South Africa."

The history and work of the church have made an indelible mark on the Atlanta community; especially on Auburn Street where the church is located. Right down the street from the church there is the Big Bethel Credit Union, Big Bethel Recreation Center and the Big Bethel Administrative Offices. Every building serves a purpose in making a breakthrough in the lives of congregants as well as those who pass by and need life assistance.

In 2010, Rev. Eason wants to increase the welcoming atmosphere of the church. He has named his mission "radical hospitality" which will go beyond just a "hello" or "how are you" he says. He wants the church's hospitality to reach those who face homelessness and addictions of all types that bring them to the church's steps. He borrowed this idea from a book entitled, "The Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations."

In the future, to increase the ministries and "radical hospitality", the church will introduce Helen's House where women who are drug addicts and have become victims of life and society will find refuge to help lead them to recovery. In this haven, the church will offer spiritual assistance and help with temporary living arrangements to get the women headed toward God and self reliance.

This is Rev. Eason's way of embedding "the values of caring for your neighbor ... being concerned about your neighborhood and really investing in the neighborhood and basically just taking the time to care," Rev. Eason says.

This is just an extension of Metter, Ga. and what he was raised to believe in biblically: "Love thy neighbor" and "do unto others as you would have them do unto you. ... Being a Christian is more than just a name, being a Christian is a way of life."

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com



Big Bethel AME is the home of more than 100 years of spiritual leadership. Its' sanctuary displays the grandiose history that has lived in the church. Pastor Gregory Eason is proud to lead the oldest African-American AME church in the nation.



Friendship Community Church takes health and help to the community with more than 85 ministries. More ministries are still in development.

Friendship Community Church: Friend to the Community

By Kalin Thomas

During any given day, you can find residents along Old Fairburn Road visiting Friendship Community Church. They may be participating in one of the church's outreach ministries, taking their daily walk around the church parking lot, or even snapping their fingers to jazz music and spoken word. According to Pastor Donald Earl Bryant, Sr., that's what being a friend to the community is all about. "Membership is not a requirement to participate in our ministry. Any person is welcome to participate in all of our ministries whether you're a member or not," says Bryant.

Friendship Community Church was founded in 1896 with a mission to "lift the name of Christ in word and deed." 100 years after the church was founded, a new complex was built on 72 acres along Old Fairburn Road. Today the church has about 2,500 members and more than 85 functioning ministries, each with its own mission project.

There is also a family life center, an education building and a sports complex with two tennis courts, outdoor basketball courts, a gymnasium, aerobics rooms, two weight rooms, and areas for youth and children. All are open for use by the public at no charge. Old Fairburn Road is not always safe to walk along, therefore prompting the church to allow the community to do their daily walks around the parking lot every day except Sunday.

The church also hosts an annual Health Week, which includes a health fair, a 2K run/walk, health screenings and workshops. Pastor Bryant says, "We want to address the needs of the community – spiritual, mental/intellectual and physical."

Bryant, who is from Dolomite, Ala., started at the nondenominational church 18 years ago. Over the next five years, Bryant wants to add a daycare, senior citizens building and assisted housing for all ages to the church's growing complex. He is relying on his faith when he proclaims that he wants to do all of this while continuing to keep the church debt free.

In fact, he recently announced that he wants to start a 529 college plan for every eligible child in the church -- out of his own pocket. As stated on www.savingforcollege.com: "A

529 Plan is an education savings plan operated by a state or educational institution designed to help families set aside funds for future college costs. It is named after Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code which created these types of savings plans in 1996." In order to be eligible for Bryant's college assistance, he says "You don't have to be a member to be eligible, but you have to be active in a ministry."

Friendship also addresses the needs of its members and the greater community with special events. The church held its Founders Day Celebration. In April, there was a Youth Conference and a Gospel Explosion where various youth ministries of step teams, praise dancers and choirs performed. There are also annual women's workshops. Some of the various ministries support the community by ministering to nursing homes, hospitals, serving babies with AIDS and food shelters. In addition, the church feeds more than 1,000 families a month through its food ministry.

One of the church's most popular events is during their October Leadership Summit. The church's "Jazz Café" with music and spoken word, is free and open to the public. Bryant said, "... We don't want to manipulate people. We want people to be attracted to Friendship because of who we are. We do it for fellowship, fun, we eat and that's it. Whatever the Lord does with that experience, the Lord does it."

In August the church will open the Fulton Leadership Academy, taking the education ministry to the next level. It's a charter school for young men in grades six through 12 who are seriously interested in aeronautical careers. It will be Georgia's first state commission-approved male charter school, and since it's a public charter, no tuition is required. Applications for students and faculty can be downloaded at www.fultonleadershipacademy.org.

Friendship also lends a hand to the international community, as they plan to send money and other needed items to the Haiti earthquake victims. Bryant says they will continue to expand their community reach because, "the people here are very giving, and we believe the more you give, the more God will give to you."

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

Need a service and/or product?

The Overground RR!!® business directory provides you with a host of businesses to choose from.



**Anointed Word
Evangelistic Tabernacle**
Bishop Bobby Henderson

7373 Covington Hwy
Lithonia GA 30058
770-482-5040

www.bobbyhendersonministries.org



**Big Miller Grove
Missionary Baptist Church**
Bishop Fowler

3800 Big Miller Grove Way
Lithonia GA 30038
www.bigmillergrove.org



**Dodd-Sterling
United Methodist Church**
Rev. Robert L. Melson Sr.

3272 Browns Mill Road
Atlanta GA 30354
404-361-4135
www.doddsterling.org



**Greater Heights
Christian Church**
Pastor Eric D. Jackson Sr.

4768 Highway 124
Snellville GA 30039
770-860-0820

www.greaterheightschurch.org



**Ariel Bowen Memorial
United Methodist Church**
Rev. Diana Spruill

384 Arthur St. SW
Atlanta GA 30310
404-525-6173



The Ark of Salvation
Pastor Nathaniel Bronner, Jr.

355 Georgia Ave
Atlanta GA 30312
404-635-0400
airjesus.com



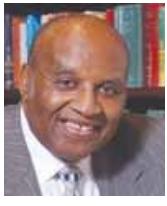
**Believers' Bible
Christian Church**
Rev. Allen McNair

3689 Campbellton Rd.
Atlanta GA 30331
404-344-7203



**Ben Hill
United Methodist Church**
Rev. Richard Don Winn Sr.

2099 Fairburn Rd. SW
Atlanta GA 30331
404-344-0618
www.benhill-umc.org



Bethesda Cathedral
Bishop Stewart Reese, Jr.

1989 Austin Dr.
Decatur GA 30032
Ph.: 404-289-3751
www.bethesdacathedral.org



**Beulah Missionary
Baptist Church**
Pastor Jerry D. Black

2340 Clifton Springs Road
Decatur GA 30034
404-241-3307
www.beulahbaptist.org



Big Bethel AME
Pastor Gregory Eason

220 Auburn Ave.
Atlanta GA 30303
Ph: 404-827-9707
Fax: 404.223.3060
www.bigbethelame.org
amcdaniel@bigbethelame.org



**Butler Street
Christian Missionary Episcopal**
Pastor Anthony M. Alford Sr.

23 Jesse Hill Dr. SE
Atlanta GA 30303
404-659-8745
www.butlerstreetcmecchurch.org



**Calvary
United Methodist Church**
Rev. Carol Snype Crawford

1471 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd
Atlanta GA 30310
404-753-8151



**Cascade United Methodist
Church**
Pastor Marvin A. Moss



**Chosen Generation
Church of God in Christ**
Pastor Keith R. Staley



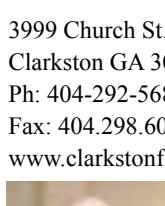
**Christian Fellowship
Baptist Church**
Rev. Dr. Matthew V.
Johnson Sr.



1500 Norman Dr
College Park GA 30349
770-997-4087



**Clarkston First Baptist
Church**
Pastor Karl Moore



3999 Church St.
Clarkston GA 30021
Ph: 404-292-5686
Fax: 404.298.6084
www.clarkstonfbc.org



**Columbia Drive
United Methodist Church**
Pastor Robert White



Covenant Ministries
Bishop Quincy Lavelle
Carswell



1700 Corey Blvd
Decatur GA 30032
404-288-8384



**Dodd-Sterling
United Methodist Church**
Rev. Robert L. Melson Sr.

3272 Browns Mill Road
Atlanta GA 30354
404-361-4135
www.doddsterling.org



Elizabeth Baptist Church
Rev. Craig L. Oliver



**Emmaus Road
Missionary Baptist Church**
Rev. David Scott



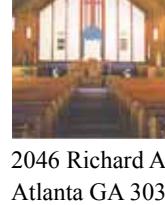
Emmanuel Tabernacle
Pastor Mark A. Couch



The Enon Church
Rev. Gregory L. Pollard



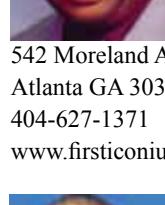
First AME Church
Rev. Larry Ervin II



**First Iconium
Baptist Church**
Pastor Timothy McDonald III



2046 Richard Allen Lane SE
Atlanta GA 30316
404-241-5900
www.enonchurch.net



542 Moreland Ave. SE
Atlanta GA 30316
404-627-1371
www.firsticonium.org



**Friendship
Community Church**
Pastor Donald Earl Bryant



**Grace Community
Fellowship Church**
Rev. Frederick L. Caldwell



4141 Old Fairburn Rd
College Park GA 30349
4215 Wendell Dr.
Atlanta GA 30336
770-841-2533
www.gracecf.com



Highly Favored Ministries
Michelle Davis



**The Greater Piney Grove
Baptist Church**
Rev. Dr. William E. Flippin



1879 Glenwood Road SE
Atlanta GA 30316
404-377-0561
www.pineygrovebapt.org



**Greenforest Community
Baptist Church**
Rev. Dennis Mitchell



3250 Rainbow Dr.
Decatur GA 30034
404-486-1120
www.greenforest.org



**Hillside International
Chapel & Truth Ctr., Inc.**
Rev. Dr. Barbara King

3675 Crestwood Pkwy., Ste 400
Duluth GA 30096
770-935-6257

2450 Cascade Rd. SW
Atlanta GA 30311
404-758-6811
www.hillsidechapel.org



ORR Church Station Conductors

The Official Publication of the Overground RR!!®



Hopewell MBC
Bishop William Sheals

182 Hunter St.
Norcross, GA 30071
Ph: 770-448-5475
Fax: 770-449-5143
www.hopewellmissionarybaptist.org
info@hopewellmissionarybaptist.org



**Lindsay Street
Baptist Church**
Rev. Anthony W. Motley

550 Lindsay St. NW
Atlanta, GA 30314
404-688-8959



**New Fountain Worldwide
Ministries**
Bishop J. D. Means, Sr.
Senior Pastor

PO Box 501
Jonesboro, Ga. 30237
678-644-1209
www.bishopjdmeanssr.com



Salem Bible Church
Rev. Jasper W. Williams
and
Rev. Joseph L. Williams

2283 Baker Road NW
Atlanta, GA 30312
404-792-0303



**Impact! Doing Church
Differently**
Pastor Olu Brown

765 Peeples St. SW
Atlanta, GA 30310
404-577-2826
www.impactdoingchurchdifferently.org
Twitter: @impactcd



**Love Life Christian
Fellowship Church**
Pastor Grace Washington

3980 Panthersville Road
Ellenwood, GA 30294
404-241-1499
www.lovelifecfc.org



**New Jerusalem
Baptist Church**
Pastor Elijah Collins Jr.

1958 Dogwood Road
Snellville, GA 30078
770-972-2324
www.njbcchurch.org



**Solomon Temple
Missionary
Baptist Church**
Rev. B.L. Clements

395 Blair Villa Drive, SE
Atlanta, GA 30354
Ph: 404-363-3349
Elizadunn2009@comcast.net



**International Christian
Fellowship**
Rev. B. G. K. Harris

3076 Humphries Drive, SE
Atlanta, GA 30354
404-363-3300
www.icfmatl.org



**Midway Missionary
Church**
Rev. Edward Spencer
Reynolds

2280 Godby Road
College Park, GA 30349
404-768-5648
www.midwaymbc.org



Omega Holiness Church
Rev. Dr. Richard H. Cobble

621 Memorial Dr. SE
Atlanta, GA 30312
404-624-9488



**St. James Missionary
Baptist Church**
Rev. Rodney B. Harris

2431 Iris Dr. SE
Conyers, GA 30012
404-561-7475
www.saintjamesmbc.org



**Jackson Memorial
Baptist Church**
Pastor Gregory Sutton

534 Fairburn Road NW
Atlanta, GA 30331
404-691-4238
404-691-7980 (fax)
www.jacksonmemorialbaptist.com



**Miracles, Miracle and
More Miracles**
Evangelist Sandi Collins

2414 Benson Ridge
Lithonia, GA 30058
404-441-1122
www.miraclesandi.com



**Poplar Springs
Baptist Church**
Rev. Ulysses Ponder

3796 River Road
Ellenwood, GA 30294
404-241-6516



**St. John Missionary
Baptist Church**
Rev. Larry Hudson



**Jehovah Jireh
Edutainment Ministry
International, Inc.**
Rev. Ranson Johnson

1835 Henry Thomas Dr. S.E.
Atlanta, GA 30315
404-624-0817



Mission on the Move
Overseer, Cynthia Andrews

3945 Yeager Road
Douglasville, GA 30135
770-920-4796



**Powerhouse of
Deliverance
Cathedral**
Bishop M. J. Pace

2622 Snapfinger Road
Decatur, GA 30034
770-981-2001
www.pdcpraise.com



St. Mark AME Church
Rev. Larry Hudson



**Joshua Generation
Ministries International,
Inc.**
Pastor Varian Harris

661 Vernon Ave SE
Atlanta GA 30316
770-334-0195



**Mt. Calvary
Baptist Church**
Rev. Douglas Stowers

17 Fairburn, GA 30331
404-696-1039
www.atlmtcalvary.org



**Providence
Missionary Baptist Church**
Pastor Gerald Durley

2295 Benjamin E. Mays Drive
Atlanta, GA 30311
404-752-6869
www.pmbcatlanta.org



**St. Mark Lutheran
Church**
Rev. Torrey O. Johnson



Life Changing Ministries
Rev. Pastor Napoleon Boyce

675 S. Gordon Road
Mableton, GA 30126
404-488-7770



**Muhammed's
Mosque No. 15**
Bro. Sharieff Muhammad

3642 Campbellton Road SW
Atlanta, GA 30331
678-705-1361



**Ray of Hope
Christian Church**
Pastor Cynthia L. Hale

2778 Snapfinger Road
Decatur, GA 30034
770-696-5100
www.rayofhope.org



St. Philip AME Church
Rev. Dr. George Moore



**Light of the World
Christian Tabernacle**
Pastor Ruth W. Smith

5883 Highway 155 North
Stockbridge, GA 30281
678-565-7001
www.comeintothelight.org



**New Beginnings
Ministries**
Bishop James H. Morton

923 Valleybrook Road
Decatur, GA 30033
404-508-1400
www.newbeginningfgbc.com



**Redemptive Life
Christian Fellowship
Church**
Dr. Mark W. Thompson

4172 Meadow Wind Dr.
Snellville, GA 30039
770-736-2676
www.theredemptivelife.org



**The True Light
Baptist Church**
Rev. Darell D. Elligan

47 Anderson Ave NW
Atlanta, GA 30314
404-799-8623
www.thetruelightbaptist.net



**Wheat Street
Baptist Church**
Rev. Dr. Michael Neely Harris

359 Auburn Ave
Atlanta, GA 30312
404-659-4328

www.wheatstreetbaptist.org



**Woods Memorial
Baptist Church**
Rev. Toney Moseley

5865 Old National Highway
College Park, GA 30349
404-761-3002

www.woodsmemorial.org



**World Covenant
Christian Center**
Pastor Reginald Ezell

3777 Troup Smith Rd.
Conyers, 30094
678-565-0378



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

815 Lynhurst Dr. SW
Atlanta, GA 30331
404-691-8025

www.zionhill.org

Hopewell Sets Bar High for Community

By Jeremy House

First time visitors to Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church may be thrown off by the small structure that sits at the helm. Almost instantaneously, the bubbly young members of the youth church will put visitors on the path that leads to the rest of the 32-acre campus.

The church is an enormous construction and the first service starts promptly at 7:00 a.m. Church ushers are accommodating and willing to fulfill the needs of every member and visitor. Members have a lot to proud of here. This 16,000 member church has made extraordinary strides. Once a congregation so small that it only held services twice a month, the church now holds four services per Sunday and boasts of owning and operating a private academy, credit union and a shopping mall.

Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church is a community within a community. Founded by freed slaves in the early twentieth century, the church's growth has experienced ups and downs. In the 1980's the pastor's office sat in a small trailer next to an old junk yard. Needless

to say, a higher power seems to have sent the church a heavenly leader. Under the leadership of Dr. William Sheals the church membership has soared. Sheals spearheaded the movement that transformed the one building church into an eleven building campus which the congregation calls the City of Hope.

"As you walk the campus you definitely know it's a city of hope," said Sheals. "This place is about love and family, and you get that from the people here."

In 1990, the Sheals saw a vision from God of the current day campus. According to Sheals, he immediately grabbed a pen and legal pad paper to draw the images he visualized. The same drawing sits in the lobby before heading into his office. From that point on God kept sending Sheals the tools to build a mega church. As Sheals will say, his trust in God's vision made it possible to create monumental feats.

Within a few days of seeing the vision, Sheals made contact with owner of the large junk yard adjacent to the church. At that point, the church

was growing, but it was nowhere near the millions of dollars necessary to purchase the land. Nonetheless, Sheals is a confident man who had high level experience in city government, plus, he gained the trust of the land owner.

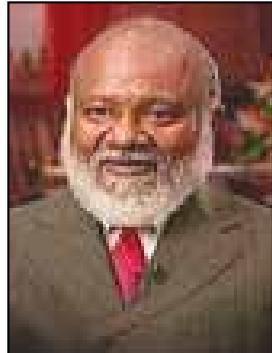
Sheals really has that ability to inspire people. His sermons have spurred organizations and small movements within the church. Sheals' sermon on fatherhood ignited the ministry, 500 Men of Battle (a group now dedicated to mentoring youth).

While Pastor Sheals filmed a small segment for church related television, he explained to the television host that this church campus derived from that imperfect sketch on a legal pad. On his way to his office, he didn't miss a beat as he greeted children in the toddler Sunday school building and ate breakfast.

Ministry is the congregation's strongest asset. The Domestic Abuse Ministry is led by Sheals' wife. Just recently, the pastor announced that the 2010 Census would be using the campus as a testing center to fill nearly 600 jobs in Norcross. Health and Wellness are also significant

parts of their ministry. The church routinely holds food and clothing drives for the homeless.

Most impressive, is the church's commitment to the congregation and economic development. Leading by example, the church's federally certified credit union teaches congregants money management and financial literacy. Employees of the mall, which houses a salon and barbershop, are required to train apprentices on their craft and entrepreneurship.



Pastor William Sheals

Sheals has set the bar for the church and the community. With Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church the sky is the limit.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit
www.overgroundrr.com

Bethesda Offers Bridge to Coming Generations

By Jeremy House

While residing in rainy Seattle, Stewart Reese, Jr. never thought that the sun would shine like it has on the church he was about to discover. Bethesda Cathedral has about 1,000 members and is growing. According to congregants, the church is embroidered with energy and has attracted the young and elderly alike.

"This church has grown so because the type of service we have," said founding pastor Bishop Reese. "It is very lively, jubilant and of course good preaching and teaching."

Bishop Reese, is a retired army veteran raised in Birmingham, Ala. His stint with the army has taken him around the country and helped lead him to God.

According to Reese he recognized his calling to preach while visiting Fort Houston Medical Center. The legendary Bishop T. Moore mentored the young pastor for 11 years before Reese made his move to Georgia.

The congregation maintains an extraordinary outreach to the senior citizen community. Currently, their recreational educational program for seniors includes daily classes involving swimming, music education, outdoor exercise, dancing and more—tuition is \$35.

The youth is also vital to this congregation. Much is invested in developing young preachers with their enormous Christian education program. Currently, 20 ministers are training.

Reese's son, Stewart Reese, III, leads several of the churches ministers, especially those geared toward educating young preachers. Reese exclaimed, "We have a lot of emphasis on the young people. We have about 40 ministers altogether [and] over half are in training."

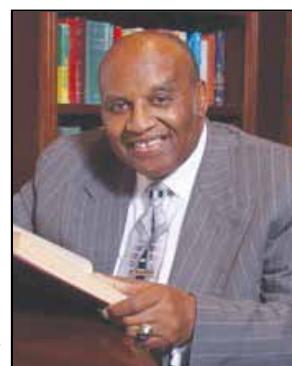
Hazel Lucas has been involved with the church for 31 years. The retired teacher says church leadership has kept her committed. "Well, I think being in one place for this length of time has to do with the ministry and the vision of this pastor," said Lucas. "When you see the vision and you feel it and embrace it, you want to be a part of it."

She added, "The concern he shares for people and the overall congregation has shown me that this is the place I want to be. You have to have good leadership in order to succeed."

Indeed, Bethesda Cathedral is excited about its future. Plans are being made to erect a recreational center in order to attract and unite the entire community. As Reese begins to step in his father's shoes as the church's leader, he shows no signs of slowing down.

"He wants to see [us] on television; he wants to see us marketing this great ministry, so others will know that we're here," said Lucas. "So I can see us on television and constructing larger buildings to accommodate the needs of our community."

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit
www.overgroundrr.com



Bishop Stewart Reese, Jr.

Clarkston First Baptist Leads with Ministries

The Conductor

Clarkston First Baptist Church is working to better the community through its ministries. With a pastor led by the spirit of Christ and with the Southern upbringing of Louisville, Mississippi, he is well prepared to take the church's ministries to the next level.

After working in Jackson, Miss., Pastor Karl Moore came to Atlanta to attend the Interdenominational Theological Center in 1988. However, he recalls that his calling came to him many years before this. "I struggled with it because my first calling was in 1979, but I didn't act on it until 1989," he stated. "I accepted the first calling into ministry in my senior year in college, but I didn't respond until later on. I accepted the calling in 1988."

After graduating from ITC, Moore began his life as a minister and sharer of God's word. Today, he has been a pastor for 19 years and the senior pastor of Clarkston First Baptist for 10 years. He is most proud of the powerful and outward reaching ministries that are at Clarkston. Congregants are very focused on the community and numerous ways they can make positive differences in the lives of others.

Moore states that one of the most powerful ministries at Clarkston is the Christian education due to the church being the home of a Bible institute. The institute is a place where members and nonmembers can learn more about Christian ministry and living the life that is reminiscent of Jesus Christ. Another strong ministry, says Moore, is the prison ministry. "We help family members who are behind prison walls; we encourage them on a monthly basis," Moore recalls.

There is a relationship with the Atlanta Food Bank where the members are able to help pass



Pastor Karl Moore

The church's evangelism ministry, Reach Across the Community with Evangelism, or R.A.C.E., is becoming a focal point for the church. With this ministry, church members walk the neighborhoods surrounding the church (within a five mile radius) and knock on doors and talk on the streets to those who want to hear the word of God. Not all the time are the evangelists welcomed, but those few seem to not distract or deter them.

With its outreach, Clarkston is making lives better for community members as well as helping others build stronger spiritual relationships. Moore expressed satisfaction of his church, members and ministries, however, he would love for the outreach to touch more and the capacity to increase. "We are actually doing everything that I'd envisioned, I'm just looking for us to do it to a greater degree," he says.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit
www.overgroundrr.com

To learn more about the ORR church and business members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com





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.

Accounting

McGee CPA Group, The
3180 Franklin St., Ste. A
Avondale Estates GA 30002
www.mcgeecpagroup.com
404-292-8805

NJI Limited
405 Stonecastle Pass
Atlanta, GA. 30331
Telephone #404-789-8934
Fax #404-494-9127

Advertising

Lighthouse Promotions, LLC
116 Bethesda Rd. Ste. 104
Fayetteville GA 30214
770-461-9345
www.lighthouse-promo.com

Southwest Atlanta Home & U Magazine
5055 Montcalm Drive, SW
Atlanta GA 30331
404-349-1959

Architectural Design

Washington Design Group
3225 Shallowford Rd, Suite 410
Marietta GA 30062
404-432-1818

Attorneys

Alexander Law Firm
Personal Inj., Wrongful Death
2160 High Point Tr.
Atlanta GA 30331
404-346-0834
www.alexanderlawfirm.com

Andrews Law Firm LLC, The
Real Estate
3421 Dogwood Dr.
Hapeville GA 30354
770-968-7380

E. C. London & Associates
101 Marietta Street, NW
Suite 3310
Atlanta GA 30303
404-688-6607
eclondon.com

Donald P. Edwards, Law Office of
Personal Inj., Medical Malpractice
and Wrongful Death
170 Mitchell St.
Atlanta GA 30303
404-526-8866
www.donaldpedwards.com

Foster Firm, The
Criminal Def., Personal Injury
and Real Estate
3455 N Desert Dr.,
Bldg. 3, Ste. 105
Atlanta GA 30344
404-559-8325
www.tfflaw.net

Bernadine Layne LLC, Attorney
Civil, Corp., Immigration
3523 Buford Hwy, Ste. 202
Atlanta GA 30329
404-231-1477

Attorneys, continued

Daryl Von Yokely, Law Office of
127 Peachtree St., Suite 1010
Atlanta GA 30303
404-876-5458

David M. Walker Esq., Law
Office of
201 17th St., NW, Suite 300
Atlanta GA 30363
404-541-6551
www.davidwalkeressq.com

Leroy R Johnson P.C & Assoc.
Personal Inj., Criminal and Traffic
Violation, Civil Litigation
3915 Cascade Rd SW, Ste 260
Atlanta GA 30331
404-691-1069

Mathis Law Firm, The
3575 Piedmont Rd, NE
Building 15, Suite 1560
Atlanta GA 30305
404-523-5000
www.mathislawoffices.com

Martin Law Group, LLC, The
1935 Cliff Valley Way, Suite 117
Atlanta, GA 30329
404-248-4898
www.themartinlawgroup.com

Thomas, Kennedy, Sampson, &
Thompkins Med. Malpractice,
Person Inj. & Comm'l Real Estate
3355 Main St.
Atlanta GA 30337
404-688-4503
www.tksp.com

Auto Body

V's Customs
3781 Campbellton Rd.
Atlanta GA 30331
404-344-6687
www.vscustoms.com/

Auto Services

S&J Automotive Repair, LLC
7056 B Highway 85
Riverdale GA 30274
770-996-3698
sandjautorepair.com

Fantastic Tire & Auto Service Inc
6169 Old National Hwy.
College Park GA 30349
770-994-1761

Fantastic Tire & Auto Service Inc
6751 Londonderry Way
Union City GA 30291
770-964-8500

Fantastic Tire & Auto Service Inc
4879 Redan Rd.
Stone Mountain GA 30088
404-299-7643

Miracle Auto Glass Repair &
Installations
PO Box 669
Ellenwood, GA 30294
678-886-7837

JOIN THE ORR TODAY!

How to Join

To become a member of The Overground RR!!®

- The appropriate application for membership must be made and is subject to approval by the Board of Directors of The Overground RR!!®.
- An organization must verify that individuals of African-American descent hold a majority of the company's ownership
- Membership may be declined for any reason deemed appropriate by the Board and the decision is not subject to review.
- Members agree to binding arbitration and pre-paid annual membership dues (\$360).

Key Membership Benefits

For your annual investment of only \$360 you will receive:

- One free listing in the Business Directory included in each edition of The Conductor (printed and distributed quarterly)
- One free web page that may include a photo, a video greeting, contact information and 25 word business description
- Business Spotlight in The Conductor
- Free listings in the events calendar
- Promotional Video
- Exclusive advertising rights in The Conductor, Sparks on www.OvergroundRR.com for a small additional fee (see Marketing Rates & Specifications for more details).
- A \$1435 direct marketing package for a small investment of \$360; over \$1000 savings

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

Overground RR!!®

Connecting Church, Business and Community

Name: _____

Title: _____

Company: _____

Type of Business Products / Services Sold: _____

How Long in Business? _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

Fax: () _____

Email: _____

Send Membership Applications To:

Overground RR!!®
3485 N. Desert Dr., Bldg. 2 Suite 109
Atlanta, GA 30344

For More Information Please Contact Our office:

Phone: (404) 346-0808
Fax: (404) 684-0229

| Banking | Dance | Florist | Graphic Design | Hair Salons, Barber Shops & Spas, continued |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| Capitol City Bank & Trust 562 Lee St. Atlanta GA 30310 404-758-7519 www.capitolcitybank-atl.com | Ballethnic Dance Company Inc 2587 Cheney St East Point GA 30344 404-762-1416 www.ballethnic.org | Bussey Florists 2358 Candler Rd, Decatur GA 30032 404-659-2968 www.myspace.com/Bussey1962 | LMN Art & Design 3030 Contl Colony Pkwy #1301 Atlanta GA 30331 404-397-9064 | Eugene Of Detroit Hair 2905 Campbellton Rd Ste. E Atlanta GA 30311 404-349-7458 |
| Citizen's Trust Bank 75 Piedmont Ave. Atlanta GA 30303 404-659-5959 www.ctbconnect.com | Dentists BE Orthodontics Highland Grove Office Condominiums 3614 Highlands Parkway Smyrna GA 30082 770-432-6070 www.beorthodontics.com | Willis' Florist and Memoirs, Inc. 770-991-6460 willisflowers.com | Onyx Creative 2451 Hogan Rd. East Point GA 30344 404-936-0884 | Hair A La Parisienne 1862 Washington Rd. East Point GA 30344 404-559-1511 |
| Bridal Wedding Firm of Jeffery Bost and Associate, The 5400 Lawrenceville Highway (Highway 29) Ste. E1 Lilburn GA 30047 404-786-5333 www.theweddingfirm.blogspot.com | Cleaning Services Total Approach Cleaning Service P.O. Box 89108 Atlanta GA 30312 404-688-0239 www.tacclean.com | Framing Best Dressed Walls Art & Custom Framing 749 Jasper Cove Riverdale GA 30296 404-435-6034 | Green Development/ Solar Panels Quality Environmental Mgt. Inc. P.O. Box 54818 Atlanta GA 30318 404-454-6323 | Hair Effects 2375 Wesley Chapel Rd., Ste. 5 Decatur GA 30035 770-987-2106 |
| Commercial Leasing Odd Fellows Buildings 236 Auburn Avenue, Ste. 103 Atlanta GA 30303 404-525-5027 theoddfellowbuildings.com | Direct Mail & Design Dove Mailing, Inc. 5601 Fulton Industrial Blvd. Atlanta GA 30336 404-629-0122 www.dovemailing.com | Funeral Services Alfonso Dawson Mortuary, Inc. 3000 M. L. King Jr. Dr. Atlanta GA 30311 Phone: 404-691-3810 www.dawsonmortuary.com | Greeting Cards Toucharose 4454 Catalina Cir. East Point GA 30349 678-642-9209 | Prestige Beauty Salon 5970 Fairington Rd. Lithonia GA 30038 404-617-4816 |
| Construction Gaitor Construction Inc 800 Wendell Ct. Ste E Atlanta GA 30336 770-981-1588 | Direct Sales Blessed Hands Enterprises 2003 P.O. Box 170098 Atlanta GA 30331 678-768-0536 | Hair Care Products Willie A. Watkins Funeral Home 1003 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd. Atlanta GA 30310 Phone: 404-758-1731 www.williewatkins.com | Hair Salons, Barber Shops & Spas FBB Inc. Take Down FBB Inc. P.O. Box 115331 Atlanta GA 30310 1-206-350-7971 www.millresources.com/takedown | Roni Artistic Hands 6319 Memorial Dr. Stone Mountain GA 30083 770-469-8101 ronisartistichands.webs.com |
| Consultants A.C.S. Amazing & Creative Solutions 132 Fairfield Place, Ste. 204 Atlanta, GA 30314 404-645-8452 www.101050.org | Dry Cleaner Ponder's Cleaners 4473 Campbellton Rd SW Atlanta GA 30331 404-349-6464 | Games Que It! 2785 Dodson Lee Dr. East Point GA 30344 404-259-9277 | Clip Appeal Carolyn & Co Hair Studio 6157 Memorial Dr. Stone Mountain GA 30083 770-879-7666 | Simply Wanda's Hair Weaving 961 N. Hairston Rd. Stone Mountain GA 30083 770-465-6211 |
| Contractors H J Russell & Company 504 Fair Street SW Atlanta GA 30313 404-330-1000 www.hjrussell.com | Electrician E. Ray Britton Electrical 158 Fairview Rd Ste. C Ellenwood GA 30294 678-289-5522 www.erbelectrical.com | Event Planning A Regal Event 2745 Mount Zion Rd Ste. 105 Jonesboro GA 30236 404-437-8807 | Clip Appeal 736 Ponce De Leon Ave., Ste. I Atlanta GA 30306 404-892-6209 | Sir Charles Professional Touch 4467 Campbellton Rd. Atlanta GA 30331 404-629-5760 |
| Counseling & Hypnotherapy Heart of Compassion 1640 Powers Ferry Road Marietta, Ga 30067 770-757-0508 www.heartcompassionhypnotherapy.com | Financial Services The Atrium on Sweet Auburn 236 Auburn Ave. NE, Ste. 102 Atlanta, GA 30303 404-524-7921 ofbldgs@bellsouth.net | Financial Services Blackanomics, LLC P.O. Box 1402 Atlanta GA 30301 404-537-6634 www.blackanomics.com | The Grandest Festival of the Year on the Greatest Street on the Planet V-103 News & Talk WAOK REI Ford 2ndoffice.com Green Grease Take Marta No Pets No Coolers No Flyer Distribution | 6 STAGES OF ENTERTAINMENT ACTIVE SENIORS PAVILION ARTIST & CRAFTS MARKET BUSINESS & TECH EXPO CAR & BIKE SHOW HEALTH & FITNESS FAIR FILM & LITERARY FEST HOPEDAY THEATER JUST FOR WOMEN KIDS FANTASTIC FUN ZONE LIVE GREEN PAVILION SO YOU THINK YOU CAN STEP COMPETITION |
| Court Reporters/Video Atlanta Realtime Reporters, LTD 925 B Peachtree St Ste 380 Atlanta GA 30309 770-908-9821 | Court Reporters/Video Intergrated Funding International PO Box 360955 Decatur GA 30036 678-499-6801 | Court Reporters/Video The Wealth Engineer #2275, 5 Concourse Pkwy. Atlanta GA 30328 770-395-3737 wealthengineer.com | Court Reporters/Video For Complete Details See www.sweetauburn.com | |

Sweet Auburn SpringFest 2010
America's Festival
May 7-9

**The Grandest Festival of the Year
on the Greatest Street on the Planet**

6 STAGES OF ENTERTAINMENT

- ACTIVE SENIORS PAVILION
- ARTIST & CRAFTS MARKET
- BUSINESS & TECH EXPO
- CAR & BIKE SHOW
- HEALTH & FITNESS FAIR
- FILM & LITERARY FEST
- HOPEDAY THEATER
- JUST FOR WOMEN
- KIDS FANTASTIC FUN ZONE
- LIVE GREEN PAVILION
- SO YOU THINK YOU CAN STEP COMPETITION

SPONSORS

- V-103
- News & Talk WAOK
- REI
- Ford
- WYNDHAM HOTELS & RESORTS
- BAYMONT INN & SUITES
- 2ndoffice.com
- BARBADOS
- Green Grease
- SNUGGY ISLAND
- Take Marta
- OPALS

For Complete Details See www.sweetauburn.com



| Hair Salons, Barber Shops & Spas, <i>continued</i> | Home Health Care, <i>continued</i> | Investigations, <i>continued</i> | Marketing | Modeling, Talent & Booking Agencies, <i>continued</i> |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| Styles Of Zuri 4819 Rockbridge Rd., Ste. 17 Stone Mountain GA 30083 404-298-7133 | Health Companions Inc 2364 Candler Rd Decatur GA 30034 404-284-1768 www.healthcompanions.com | Faye Coffield P.O. Box 360453 Decatur GA 30036 770-484-0193 | Aaron Group, Inc. 754 Woodson St. Atlanta GA 30315 404-622-4308 www.aarongroup.us | Lance Boyd Talent Agency 5015 Old National Hwy., Ste 112 College Park GA 30349 678-851-8669 www.lanceboydtalent.net |
| Totally U Hair Salon/ Style and Beyond 1514 East Cleveland Ave., Ste. 111 East Point GA 30034 404-768-0936 | Home Care Georgia 1280 Winchester Pkwy., Ste. 210 Smyrna GA 30080 770-384-0494 homecaregeorgia.com | Grin, INC. P.O. Box 128 Acworth GA 30101 770-966-5235 | TAG TEAM Marketing, Intl. 3465 N. Desert Dr. Bldg. 4, Ste. 102 East Point GA 30344 404-305-0300 www.tagteammarketing.com | Rashad Productions 60 Oaks Landing Dr. Covington GA 30316 404-642-2737 |
| Health, Wellness & Fitness | | Investments | | Mortgage |
| The Aloe Man Inc./The Healing Nature 3030 Campbellton Rd. Atlanta GA 30311 404-629-3539 | Right at Home 448 Ralph D. Abernathy, Ste. 2 Atlanta GA 30312 404-522-0029 www.rightathome.net/atlanta | Burks Jewelers, Inc. 1188-A Glenwood Ave. SE Atlanta GA 30316 404-622-6090 | Marketing and Managing Employee Benefit Services | Atlanta Integrity Mortgage 1316 Boat Rock Rd. SW Atlanta GA 30331 404-310-5913 & 404-344-7911 |
| B.E.S.T. Health and Wealth 60 Oaks Landing Dr. Covington GA 30016 404-952-4549 | Home Improvement | Legal Services | | Moving Service |
| Body By Inches 6703 Shannon Pkwy., Ste. 3 Union City GA 30291 770-964-0032 www.bodybyinches.com | A & A Home & Stucco Inspection 2638 Kings Way Lawrenceville GA 30044 678-231-7479 | Essentia Legal P. C Promenade Park 3915 Cascade Rd., Ste. 110 Atlanta GA 30331 404-549-6771 | Massage Therapy | B&B Movers 2587 Gresham Rd. Atlanta GA 30316 404-212-0819 www.bbmovers.com |
| Circles of Wellness Inc. 2572 Wiggins St. Lithonia GA 30058 646-322-3987 www.thewatertruth.com/henrietta | B & B Services 1828 Giben Rd. Atlanta GA 30315 | www.essentiallegal.com | | Museum |
| Hands on Personal, Inc. 4287 Memorial Dr Ste. G Decatur GA 30032 404-297-6858 | Beeks Service Company 1570 Niskey Lake Atlanta GA 30331 404-346-0443 | Atlanta Chauffeur Service 6370 East Stubbs Rd. College Park GA 30349 770-969-9988 | | Soul Food Museum 372 Auburn Ave., NE Atlanta, GA 30312 678-508-9478 www.atlantasoulfood.com |
| Health Food Intl. 5006 Owens Mill Lane Stone Mountain GA 30083 404-849-6066 | Platron Services Marble & Granite 220 Den Ric Dr. McDonough GA 30253 678-898-1511 www.ronplatt.net | Nealey Executive Limousines 4324 Bexley Dr. St Mountain GA 30083 770-808-7432 www.nealeyexecutivelimousines.com | Ministry and Media | Music, Musicians and Composers |
| Heavenly Body Products 2571 Park Central Blvd Decatur GA 30035 404-286-6700 www.heavenlybodyproducts.com | Information Technology, Internet, Internet Video & Telecommunications | Person 2 Person Limo PO Box 2543 Atlanta GA 30301 678-463-3636 www.person2person.us | Consider the Word Ministries Inc D/B/A The WRTS-FM Show P.O. Box 162553 Atlanta GA 30321 678-410-9833 considerthewordministries.org | Delores Burwell P.O. Box 420457 Atlanta, GA 30342 404-409-8170 |
| Holistic Cleansing Center 879 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd Atlanta, GA 30310 | Net One Stop 1561 Virginia Ave., Ste. 208 A College Park GA 30337 404-669-3600 www.netonestop.com | Fantasy Faces International 770-728-3021 404-642-3316 | Highly Favored Ministries 3675 Crestwood Pkwy., Ste 400 Duluth GA 30096 770-935-6257 | Faye Raye P.O. Box 42850 Atlanta GA 30311 404-805-5888 www.fayeraye.com |
| Melaleuca "The Wellness Company" P.O. Box 1032 Jonesboro GA 30237 678-768-5871 | By appointment only www.thefantasyfaces.com | Make-Up Artist | Modeling, Talent & Booking Agencies | Phala Herron-Nazarine Black To Eden 404-454-2764 queenspen@hotmail.com |
| Optimal Health Chiropractic Ctr. PC 2500 Park Central Blvd Ste B4 Decatur, GA 30035 678-418-3400 www.optimalhealth1.com | Strick Software, Inc. PO BOX 4717 Atlanta GA 30302 404-273-9634 www.stricksoft.com | | HOP Models & Talent Agency 5825 Glenridge Dr., Ste 218 Atlanta GA 30328 404-297-6638 www.hopmodels.com | |
| Heating & Air | Inspirational Wear | | | |
| A.D. Heating & Air 934 Harte Dr, Atlanta GA 30310 678-887-6787 | Rishona Inspirational Wear 102 W. Lake Ave. SW, Ste. A Atlanta GA 30314 404-753-5441 | | | |
| Artis Maintenance Repair, Inc 1572 Hwy 85 North Fayetteville GA 30214 770-460-6432 www.artisrepair.com | Insurance | | | |
| Home Health Care | | | | |
| Bridges Personal Care Home Group 233 Mitchell St Suite 420 Atlanta GA 30303 770-774-9128 www.bridgespcgroup.com | Donna Tate & Associates P.O. Box 170565 Atlanta GA 30317 770-879-6342 | | | |
| Exodus, Inc. P.O. Box 487 Union City GA 30291 770-774-9128 | Marketsearch Insurance Agency 971 N Hairston Rd., Ste. 7 Stone Mountain GA 30083 770-413-8110 www.marketsearchinsurance.com | | | |
| | Investigations | | | |
| | Direct Investigations, Inc. P.O. Box 361939 Decatur GA 30036 770-922-7888 www.directinv.net | | | |

Michon's Loft
Smoked Meats & Seafood Restaurant

404.766.7770 Tel
404.767.5619 Fax
www.michons.com
We've Moved
Come visit our new
location at
1583 Virginia Avenue
College Park, Georgia 30337
See you there!

Music Promotion

Bobby Hurd & Company
3011 Rainbow Drive, Suite 155
Decatur GA 30034
404-241-3030

Office Furniture

HA Office 515 Inc.
1582 Stoneleigh Hill Rd.
Lithonia GA 30058
770-879-8420
www.haoffice515.com

Painter

Che Parker Painters
269-924-9197

Pest Control

Dependable Termite & Pest Serv.
5701 Mableton Pkwy Ste 3E
Mableton GA 30126
770-745-0000
www.dependabletermite.com

Ever-Redi Exterminating, Inc.
6380 Old National Hwy
College Park GA 30349
770-909-7000
www.everredi.com

N.W.O Will Kill Pest Management
3665 Cherry Ridge Blvd
Decatur GA 30034
404-241-7619

Physicians

Allwell Physicians, Inc.
118 N. Avondale Road
Avondale Estates GA 30002
404-499-0005

Edward C. Mack, MD
315 Boulevard NE, Ste. #444
Atlanta GA 30312
404-420-0116

Joann Donaldson, MD
249 Fielding Lane S.W.
Atlanta GA 30311
770-908-3449

Regency Health Associates
2191 North Lake Pkwy.
Bldg 11, Suite 22
Tucker GA 30084

Printing

Metex Screen Printing
2410 Butner Rd SW
Atlanta GA 30331
404-346-7012

Perfect Image, Inc.
503 Commerce Park Dr., Ste D
Marietta GA 30060
770-422-4221 ext.25
www.perfectimageprinting.com

Real Estate

Home Solution, LLC
P O Box 83053
Conyers GA 30013
770-572-0099

LowCom Development, Inc.
541 Tenth Street #158
Atlanta GA 30318
770-997-2848

Dr. James T. Walker III, LLC
2125 County Line Rd
Atlanta GA 30331
404-281-8052; www.drjames.info

Rental, Props

Creative Props Rental
2311 Cascade Road, SW
Atlanta GA 30311
404-835-2568
www.sohosites.com/creative-props/contact.html

Restaurants

Chanterelles
646 Evans St. SW
Atlanta, GA 30310
404-758-0909
www.thechanterelles.com

IHOP
2841 Greenbriar Parkway
Atlanta GA 30331
404-346-0407

Michon's Loft
1183 Virginia Ave
College Park GA 30349
404-766-7770
www.michons.com

Paschal's Restaurant
180-B Northside Drive
Atlanta GA 30313
404-525-2023

Q-Time
1120 Ralph David Abernathy
Atlanta GA 30310
404-758-2881
www.q-timerestaurant.com

Soul Vegetarian Restaurant
652 North Highland Ave
Atlanta GA 30306
404-875-0145
www.kingdomofyah.com

Soul Vegetarian Restaurant
879 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd
Atlanta GA 30310
404-752-5194
www.kingdomofyah.com

Retail Sales

D.I.V.A.S
126 N Avondale Rd
Avondale Estates GA 30002
404-299-2394
www.divadahlin.com

Security

Monitor One Security Systems
1372 Lamont Rr., SW
Mableton GA 30126
770-819-3040

Security Protection Investigation Services
PO BOX 310387
Atlanta GA 31131
770-274-9468
www.spisinc.com

System 5 Electronics
1761 R D Abernathy Blvd
Atlanta GA 30310
404-756-0736
www.system5electronics.com

Vision Security Inc
1307 North Crossing Way.
Decatur GA 30033
770-771-9789

Signs

A+ Signs
4191 Snapfinger Woods Dr.
Decatur GA 30035
404-284-8444

Indigo Signs
3853 Lawrenceville Hwy, Ste. G
Tucker GA 30084
770-939-0902
www.indigosigns.net

Simon Sign Systems
3034 Lakewood Ave
Atlanta GA 30310
404-543-5557
monstarproductions.blogspot.com

Sound & lighting

AEE Productions
1073 Huff Rd., Ste. A
Atlanta GA 30318
404-352-2201
www.aeeproductions.com

Spa

Spa L & Colon Therapy & Skin
2345-4 Cheshire Bridge Rd
Atlanta GA 30324
404-321-3228

Tax Service

L & B Tax Service, Inc.
185 Veterans Memorial Hwy,
Ste.108
Mableton GA 30126
678-213-1141

L & B Tax Service, Inc.
1745 Phoenix Blvd
College Park GA 30349
678-216-0212

L & B Tax Service, Inc.
5300 Memorial Drive
Stone Mountain GA 30083
678-704-6780

Professional Tax Advisors
7311 Cardiff Place
Jonesboro GA 30236
770-472-9998
www.professionaltaxadvisors.net

Technical Training

New Life Technical Academy
777 Cleveland Ave SW, Suite 506
Atlanta GA 30315
770-870-7333
www.newlifetechnical.com

Television and Radio

The Michelle Davis Show
4919 Flatshoals Pkwy.
Ste. 107B-305
Decatur GA 30034
770-935-6257

Tradeshow

Georgia Black Business Expo
P. O. Box 38027
Atlanta GA 30334
Phone: 678-467-7536
www.gbbexpo.com

Transportation

Atlanta Chauffeur Service
6370 East Stubbs Rd
College Park GA 30349
770-969-9988

Video

Faith Video Live
3869 Springleaf Ct.
Stone Mountain GA 30083
770-912-7677
www.faithvideoondemand.com

Focus on Video, LLC
PO Box 1828
Stockbridge GA 30281
770-957-4299
www.focus-on-video.com

Hayes Technical Services, Inc.
9043 Jenni Circle
Jonesboro GA 30238
770-210-4677

MonStar Productions & Creations
PO Box 90531
Atlanta GA 30364
404-543-5557
monstarproductions.blogspot.com

The Overground RR!!®

business directory
provides you with a
host of businesses
to choose from for
your needs.



*Miracles, Miracles
& More Miracles*

Evangelist Sandi Collins broadcasts on
WYZE 1480AM every
Thursday at 9:00am-10:00am.
Repeat broadcasts are 9:00pm-10:00pm.

Plus ASK THE PASTOR
Q & A session with Pastor Mark A. Couch,
Pastor/Founder of Emmanuel Tabernacle
and plenty of good soul-stirring
gospel music.



Attend the 3:00 PM Praise
& Worship Service Every
2nd Sunday at 3:00 pm
hosted by
Evangelist Collins at www.miraclesreachout@aol.com
www.miraclesandi.com

Emmanuel Tabernacle
Mark A. Couch, Pastor/Founder
823 Dill Avenue
Atlanta, GA 30310

Evangelist Sandi Collins



Willie A. Watkins Funeral Home, Inc.



We are a full-service funeral home specializing in:

- Funeral Service Arrangements
- Cremation Services
- Caskets, Vaults & Transport Services
- Funeral Program Design & Printing
- Obituary Assistance
- Limousine Service
- Domestic & International Shipping
- Repast Facilities
- Aftercare and Counseling service
- Pre- Need Arrangements
- Notary Public
- Dove Release Ceremony

For the Best


Historic West End Chapel
1003 Ralph David Abernathy SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30310-1811
404.758.1731

Douglasville Chapel
8312 Dallas Highway
Douglasville, Georgia 30134
770.489.6751
www.williewatkins.com

Lithonia - Sta. Miss. Chapel
3840 Redan Road
Lithonia, Georgia 30058
770.482.2376

Affordable Legal Solutions. Right Now.

ESSENTIAL LEGAL



Promenade Park • 3915 Cascade Rd. Ste. 110
Atlanta GA 30331 • 404-549-6771

For more information about us, visit
www.essentiallegal.com

ORR Destinations Calendar & Events

Official Publication of the Overground RR!!®

MAY

May 1-26
Free Tutoring
 1:00 PM-7:00 PM; Wednesdays
 College Park Branch Library,
 College Park Library, Meeting
 Room, 3647 Main Street, Atlanta,
 GA; All programs are free and open
 to the public!

May 1-26
 10:00 AM-11:00 AM (Tuesdays,
 Wednesdays)
Preschool Story Time
 West End Branch Library,
 Conference Rm., 525 Peeples St.,
 S.W., Atlanta, GA - All Programs
 Are Free And Open To The Public

May 1
 Saturday, / Omni Hotel
Delta Sigma Theta
Atlanta Alumnae Chapter
Annual Torch Awards
 Speaker: Cynthia Butler-McIntyre
 Honorees: Billye Aaron and Ingrid
 Saunders-Jones
www.atlantaalunmaedst.org
 Vendor Space Available.
 For more information call
 404.344.8280.

May 1
Jazz Under The Stars
 Clark Atlanta University
 Jazz Orchestra &
 Jazz Vocal Ensemble
 6:00pm;
 Call for tickets: 404.880.8995

May 2
Cascade United Methodist Church Annual Scholarship Program. Higher Ed Ministry invites all to celebrate with our 2010 student winners and scholarship sponsors. College and university students will be recognized at the 11 am Worship service with a reception to follow in Fellowship Hall. For more information, contact Dr. John Carter at carter06@bellsouth.net.

May 3
First Mondays - Movie Mania!
 4:00 pm-6:00 pm
 Mechanicsville Branch Library,
 400 Formwalt St SW, Atlanta, GA;
 Teens will have the opportunity to act as a movie critic and review a new movie which has been released for the month. Ages 13 - 18.

May 5-30
Kenny Leon True Colors Theatre Presents: Jitney
 By August Wilson one-man show at the Southwest Arts Center. For tickets call 404.588.0308

For more information call:
 Evangelist Sandi Collins at
 404.441.1122

May 18
Atlanta Business League Business Power Forum
 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 Atlanta Life Financial Group Building, 100 Auburn Avenue;
FREE to the public
 SPEAKER: Milton Jones

May 20
The OvergroundRR!!® new membership drive
 5:30-7 p.m.; 3485 N. Desert Dr., Atlanta, GA; For more information please call 404.346.0808; www.overgroundrr.com

May 22
Cascade United Methodist Church Women's Health Seminar
 For more information call 404-691-5770 or e-mail womenschorus@cascadeumc.org

May 25
Atlanta Business League 32nd Annual CEO Appreciation Luncheon
 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
 Atlanta Marriott Marquis, 265 Peachtree Center Avenue
 Awards to be given include: CEO of the Year, Entrepreneur of the Year, Catalyst, Trail Blazers, League Leadership.
 Call ABL for info: 404.584.8126

Finale: Sept. 25

Voices Across the Color Line Atlanta History Center
 Exhibit celebrating the 50th anniversary of the student movement crusade to fight for justice and equality for African-Americans. This exhibition is free of charge and open Monday – Saturday, 10:00 am – 5:30 pm, and Sunday, noon – 5:30 pm. For more information call 404.814.4000.

Finale: January 19, 2020
Spelman College presents: This I Believe Forum
 Cosby Auditorium (on campus); 350 Spelman Lane S.W., Atlanta, GA 30314; Phone: 404 270-5315; Location Phone: 404-270-5476; One of the goals of "This I Believe" is to facilitate a higher standard of active public discourse by inspiring people to reflect, encouraging them to share, and engaging them in a conversation about personal values and beliefs that can shape a life, community, and society.

JUNE

June 10-12
FRASERNET 2010 Power Networking Conference; Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel; 265 Peachtree St. Atlanta, GA 30303
 For additional information please call 216.691.6686 ext. 330

June 14
Maceo's Kids Third Annual Golf Tournament Mirror Lake Golf Course
 Villa Rica Georgia / Shotgun 9:30 am Registration and Breakfast at 8:00am; For more information call: 404.756.0736 www.maceokids.org

June 20
Real Men Cook for Charity

Georgia Railroad Depot / 404.344-84; realmencoak@yahoo.com www.realmencoak.com/atlanta

June 22
The Atlanta Business League Annual Membership Campaign
 Turner Field 755 Club
 For more information Contact the ABL at 404.584.8126

June 24 - 27
GABEO Annual Summer Convention Saluting the Legacy of Rev. Hosea Williams; Guest Speakers: Congressman John Lewis, Judge Penny Brown Reynolds. For more information contact Rep. Tyrone Brooks by phone, 404-656-6372, e-mail tyrone.brooks@house.ga.gov or visit www.ga-gabeo.org

June 26
Be Aware Foundation Presents: A Town Day on Auburn Avenue
www.atownday.com
 Call Brian Glasper at 404-434-6631

Finale: June 30
Drawing From the Soul: The

Brotherman Art Experience
 Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History, Cary-McPheeters Gallery; 1st Floor, 101 Auburn Ave. NE, Atlanta, GA – Free



"CONNECTING THE DOTS"
 WINNING NOW!

Marriot Atlanta Marquis • Atlanta, Georgia • June 10-12, 2010

"Getting You Out Of Pain Without Drugs"

Dr. Shoanmarie
 America's 1st Black Certified Chiropractic Sports Physician



- Headaches-
- Migraines-
- Neck Pain-
- Muscle Spasms-
- Numbing Arms-

Relieve life's aches and pains.

Dr. Shoanmarie Seals
 Certified Chiropractic Sports Physician
 Optimal Health WELLNESS CENTER
 2500 Park Central Blvd Ste B4
 Decatur, GA 30035
 678.418.3400
 Fax 678.418.3444 Cell 678.521.5215
drshoanmarie@optimalhealth1.com
www.optimalhealth1.com

SERVICES OFFERED:

- Chiropractic
- Massage
- Physical Therapy
- Sports Rehabilitation
- Body Reshaping Garments
- Ionic Foot Bath
- Detoxify Supplements
- Nutritional Counseling
- Metabolic Testing
- Weight Loss

COUPON OFFER

Offer Expires in 30 Days

\$20 OFF IONIC BATH

(Reg \$40)

FREE CONSULTATION and CHIROPRACTIC EXAM

(Reg \$145)

\$25 OFF METABOLIC TESTING

(Reg \$75)

\$15 OFF ONE HOUR MASSAGE (\$60)

Call to schedule your FREE consultation Today!

Connecting the Church, the Business and the Community



www.overgroundrr.com

Get on Board!!!

Call today 404-346-0808 and visit us online at www.overgroundrr.com



Community



Spelman drama students, Jasmine Guy present Morrison's "The Bluest Eye"

The Conductor

Spelman College has a long tradition of molding female community, business and entertainment leaders. The historically black college is also known for a culture that supports the arts and one that does it on a grand scale. This tradition is continued with the latest and newest production of the Toni Morrison novel, "The Bluest Eye".

Students have been rehearsing for months in their preparation to perform the story that has been around before many, if not all, were born. With a lot of help and direction from veteran actress, Jasmine Guy, their anxieties should all vanish. The opening night of the play went off without a hitch and the students were phenomenal in their performances.

Spelman College president, Beverly Tatum says that "[The play] fits into the tradition of Spelman [because] the writer is a woman of excellence, one of the most distinguished writers in the United States and probably the world, and she's an African-American woman whose work is an inspiration to all," she says. "I'm excited that our students are working with such rich material but [also] very excited that they are working with Jasmine Guy who's a professional in the world of drama. [She's] a director who has so much to share with our students who are really going to learn and benefit from her expertise."

As one of the leading characters on Bill Cosby's *The Cosby Show* spinoff, *A Different World*, Guy, who played Whitley Gilbert, the spoiled Southern belle, knows her way around a script and how to pull out the actor's best from each actor. "I try to direct the way I would like to be directed," she says. "Which is give them the parameters but let them find their own way."

Guy is new to the directing game as "The Bluest Eye" is only her third play. In 2009, Guy made her directorial debut at the Southwest Arts Center with the Ntozake Shange play "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide when the Rainbow Is Enough". Her second play was "Brownie Points" at Theatrical Outfits in downtown Atlanta. Even though she is still cutting her teeth, she is willing and able to take on the complex, and sometimes difficult, nature of Toni Morrison's writing.



Jasmine Guy (center) and Spelman College Dance and Drama Cast Members of "The Bluest Eye". The Bluest Eye ran at the Baldwin Burroughs Theater on Spelman's campus from April 1-4. For those days the students presented the award-winning piece written by Nobel Prize winning author, Toni Morrison, which was adapted by Lydia Diamond. The play shone a spotlight on low self image as well as emotional and physical abuse.

The story tells the difficult times of a young, pre-teen girl named Pecola whose parents are physically and emotionally abusive toward her. After being called ugly on a consistent basis, Pecola begins to wish she were caucasian with blue eyes with the hopes that, if it were true, all her problems would cease. The play ran from April 1-4 at Spelman's Baldwin Burroughs Theater located on campus.

"I feel the play is about giving [a] voice to the voiceless and that may be a universal, timeless theme and our poor, our broken, our women,

we lose our place in the world and that's still relevant today." Guy also states that the story will bring to light the "self-loathing" culture that often occurs in the African-American race. She feels that her generation was a step-up from her parents and knows that this generation of actors is far better than the previous. "They feel beautiful. I see that," she recalls.

As someone who played a significant role in Spike Lee's film, also filmed in the Atlanta *BLUEST EYE* continued on page 26

WCLK Holds Title as Last Standing Jazz Station

By Kalin Thomas

With the recent loss of a competitor jazz station – Jazz 91.9 WCLK is the only "Jazz of the City." Unlike many stations, it has weathered the storm and is celebrating 35 years of serving the Atlanta community. The radio station started celebrations in 2009, with actor Danny Glover as the honorary chair. They hosted 35 events that included: a concert with Take 6, a second line parade, a jazz caravan, wine tasting, Six Flags Fling, Martins and IMAX, and the Wednesday WindDown Concerts with Roy Ayers as the closing headliner for the year.

WCLK was the first educational FM station licensed in Georgia. Since then it's grown from 54 watts when it debuted in April of 1974 to 6,000 watts today, with a listening audience of more than 250,000 households. Though the station started out airing gospel, oldies, blues, Latin and jazz, the mainstay genre has always been jazz. Along with helping to promote new artists like Mike Phillips, Ken Ford and Joey Sommerville, it has kept legends like Ella Fitzgerald, Miles Davis and John Coltrane from being forgotten.

Located on the Clark Atlanta University (CAU) campus, WCLK is recognized as the

flagship HBCU radio station in the nation, and has been voted best radio station for the last eight years by Creative Loafing readers. With all its growth, General Manager, Wendy Williams says the mission has remained the same – to keep jazz alive, and serve the community.

"We really get in there and try to establish partnerships with organizations like The Atlanta Tribune and the City of Atlanta Bureau of Cultural affairs where we do live remotes or public service announcements to promote community events. We partner with the Atlanta Community Food Bank to be sure the public is aware that food pantries were drying up. We also partner with Hosea Williams Feed the Hungry" said Williams. The station also promotes toy drives and health fairs, and hosts a monthly show called "Men's Health Line". Their partnership with Resources for Residents and Communities introduces and promotes foreclosure prevention resources.

Williams started with the station in 1994, and says over the years, many other stations have pulled from WCLK's format, which has really cut into the funding that the station receives – especially over the past year. The station had to really fight to stay in the game with all of the competition, and it's been a challenge to reach the \$100,000 goal during the spring and fall

membership drives. But Williams says that after 35 years of serving the community WCLK should be bringing in \$500,000 per year. "It has really made us have to rethink what we mean to the community and how we continue to serve our audience, and how we make a difference," she states. "We're public and member supported...and our funding comes from listeners who value us as well as government grants, and some support from the university."

According to Williams, only about three percent of the audience gives during their membership drives, which is average for public broadcasting, but she'd like to see that increase to six percent for WCLK.

Since Radio One's jazz station went off the air, WCLK has seen a small increase in audience numbers and underwriting. The station also has an advisory board of business and community leaders to help promote the station and bring in funding. Williams is looking to bring in grants to help fund new technology to make the station completely digital by the end of 2010. The station also broke new ground by simulcasting the program "Jazz at Sundown" on WCLK and Clark Atlanta University TV (Comcast Cable 23).

"We want to make sure that people sup-



Wendy Williams serves as the general manager of WCLK. She looks forward to a growth in listeners and sponsors to keep WCLK alive and thriving.

WCLK continued on page 23



Jehovah Jireh Educates, Entertains At-Risk Youth

By Jeremy House

Thirteen years old was Ranson Jackson's age when his father left home. It wasn't until years later that Jackson, the President and Founder of Jehovah Jireh Edutainment Ministry Group, Inc. (JJEM), understood the developmental impact ignited by his father's absence. In Jackson's own words, he was a certified "knuckle head." But nonetheless a knuckle head who just needed a mentor and someone to talk to.

Before becoming a fulltime worker for JJEM, Jackson—who holds a degree in chemistry—worked as a lab researcher. Mere reflections on his rough childhood led him to become personally involved in the lives of at-risk young people. Instead of making his home inside the lab, Jackson made new use of the persistent but energetic qualities that once got him into trouble.

"I used to fight a lot; later I understood I was missing my dad," said Jackson, a drummer and part time vocalist. As a former "bad kid", Jackson said he understands the pressure of the problematic at-risk youth. "Most of these kids [inner city youth] are fulfilling a void that they can't get at home," he analyzes.

With that insight, Jackson courageously positions himself in the lives of numerous troubled youth. Under his ministry, the JJEM Group, Jackson conducts creative strategies to rein in and transformed low-income families and



Rev. Ranson Jackson takes the time to visit and talk with WAOK radio show hosts.

their youth. Jackson's primary success strategy is to educate and entertain. Jackson explains, "Entertainment is really not reality" but it does have tremendous potential for teaching and educating at-risk youth on how to make better choices.

During one JJEM after school project, Jackson asked students to bring their favorite CDs to class. Jackson purposefully played the most vulgar and violent music of the collection. After breaking down the music and structuring the classroom discussion about information

the students were feeding themselves, Jackson claimed that some students trashed their discs on the way home.

The New Jersey native co-founded the JJEM Group with childhood friend William McInnis. He shared the vision with McInnis and other church members and as Jackson applauds, "they stepped up to the plate."

JJEM is now in its sixth year and the programs have been largely successful by partnering with larger institutions and Jackson's com-

mitment to personally organize much of the ground work of the organization.

Of the several programs JJEM operates throughout the year, the most successful has been Teen Quizine Culinary Arts Program. In partnership with the Morehouse School of Medicine, JJEM's year-long program taught 44 young males about nutrition and cooking. Jackson said that the information he learned about the students' eating habits were shocking.

"They were so amazed by the different things they didn't know," exclaimed Jackson. "None of them had prepared a garden salad inside their homes, it was mind blowing."

The success of Teen Quizine caught the attention of many. The young men indicated that the program was the sole reason many had not used their free time for drug use and stealing. According to Jackson, the program's success also convinced the federal government to fund another mentorship program for youth with incarcerated parents.

Additionally, JJEM is proactive in the fight against HIV/AIDS, homelessness, and an array of other issues that disproportionately affect the poor. As Jackson frequently states, "there's a JJEM in every child."

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

Making the Transition Helps Give Second Chance

By Jacque Minor

We've seen the grim statistics. More African-American men are unemployed than employed. More of them are in prison, on probation or parole than enrolled in college. Nearly 50 percent of all African-American males will not graduate from high school.

The data is stunning, leaving many in a quandary about what to do. But for some, like Keith Strickland, founder and CEO of Making the Transition, Inc., it is a call to action.

Making the Transition, Inc. utilizes training, education, cultural activities and community service projects, all as a means to an end... teaching young men life skills that will help them become productive members of society. At 28 years of age, Strickland is committed to being a catalyst for change. His campaign to save the African-American man, while certainly ambitious, is an earnest attempt to reconcile some of the disparities young black men face. Street wise and business savvy, Strickland started the non-profit organization in 2007 in the wake of his own personal renaissance.

Growing up in Atlanta's inner city, he began a predictable descent into the abyss early on. With parents who left their kids to fend for themselves, he moved out on his own at age 15, was kicked out of high school in the 11th grade and hung out with the wrong crowd. Strickland left a lot of carnage in his wake. His

destructive behavior resulted in three felony convictions and time in jail. With many of his friends from the streets either dead or in prison, Strickland took a long, hard look at his life.

"I began to look at how my lifestyle was negative to so many people," he recalls. "I didn't feel like one person should cause so many people so much harm."

After he was released from prison, Strickland spent two years researching the source of the problem with black men. He reached out to people he thought could help him make sense of things: doctors, lawyers, accountants, teachers, pastors, parents, prisoners, children of addicts, assembling the wisdom he collected in a self-published book. He sent copies of Demanding More, a survival guide for black men, to prison inmates. The book developed a faithful following, and ultimately proved to be the seed for his mentoring program.

In Demanding More, Strickland explored the overarching themes of manhood. It was a how-to guide to being a good father, loving husband and a confident member of society, teaching Biblical principles that can build a lifestyle pleasing to God.

The young mentor is driven by the desire to keep others from making the same mistakes he made. "I know where they are, because I've been there," says Strickland. "Everything I'm helping them do, I had to do myself. Everything they went through, I know how it feels



Keith Strickland, founder of Making the Transition, knows the value of lending a helping hand to those who are in need. He not only serves as founder but also as a mentor and friend.

because I've been in those shoes. I know how difficult it was to make the changes in my own life. I was fortunate to make it, but it's not enough to make it for yourself. If you do something that you see changes your life, then you go back and help other people," he added.

Before fully launching Making the Transition, Strickland pursued business endeavors, operating a detail shop on Campbellton Road, a barber shop and a lawn service. At the same time, he was developing philanthropic pursuits; including organizing a feed the hungry drive, clothing drives and computer classes for single moms.

Serving African-American males ages 16-25 living in Atlanta, the program offers life enhancing activities through a 12-week goals-building curriculum. It includes workshops that focus on preparation for employment, understanding the value of education, the role of a man in the household and community and building positive self-image. Making the Transition also offers apprenticeships in various business settings, cultural activities that expose participants to new experiences and school tours. The program seeks to motivate the young men to want to change their lives, moving them toward their personal goals and

TRANSITION continued on page 24

A. Dawson Mortuary Offers Pre-Needs Program

God has truly blessed us to see the dawn of a new year. We are all looking forward to all of the good things 2010 will bring. However, we know that there will be challenges ahead and we understand that with proper planning we can better face whatever comes our way. We are very proud of our Pre-Need Program at Alfonso Dawson Mortuary, Inc. Our Pre-Need Program will allow prearrangement and /or prepayment of a funeral and burial costs prior to death.

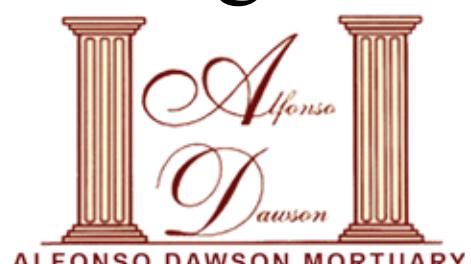
Pre-planning is one way of expressing love and thoughtfulness toward your family. It is not always easy to discuss funeral plan-

ning with loved ones, but our Pre-Need Program helps families take the needed steps to bring everyone peace of mind. It is comforting to know that your wishes will be carried out when the time comes. Our Funeral Directors will help families put everything in writing. This will help alleviate any misunderstandings among family members. Loved ones will not have to ask: Did we do the right thing? Did we spend too much or too little? Is this what he or she would have wanted?

Another benefit of pre-planning is that preneed locks in today's funeral cost for the future. This is a real advantage for families.

When financial responsibility is assumed, loved ones are relieved of this task. The funeral and burial need not be a financial burden on the family. This helps to relieve stress during a difficult time.

Our six licensed funeral directors and a licensed insurance agent are available to set up appointments at no obligation or cost. We are large enough to serve you, yet small enough to appreciate your business.



Alfonso Dawson Mortuary, Inc.
(404)691-3810
Web site: www.dawsonmortuary.com
E-mail: alfonsodawson@aol.com

WCLK continued from page 21

port the jazz in the city, so we try to highlight and showcase the jazz talent in Atlanta. We figure if jazz is vibrant and people are supporting it, then it's going to come back around to us," said Williams. WCLK plans to do that by hosting more events this year, including a boat ride around Stone Mountain and a fundraiser caravan where jazz enthusiasts take buses to four different jazz spots around town. And, of course, the station will continue its

signature events like Wednesday WindDown, which is entering its eighth year.

Williams said they also want to get a younger audience to listen in. The station's core audience demographics are ages 25 – 54, but there's a need to get more of their share of the young audience. As a training and marketing tool, the station will continue to be a training ground for the Atlanta University Center students seeking careers in broadcasting. The station is hop-

ing the students they train will help increase the younger audience. "We do a 'Jazz in the Classroom' series where we have our hosts and Atlanta-based musicians speak to students in the performing arts about the importance and legacy of jazz," Williams states.

"Our audience trusts us and they rely on us – even for information about events from other stations, because we've been a mainstay. The downside is that they think we're always going

to be here, and are not in tuned to the fact that as a public station we are member supported," said Williams, calling attention to the fact that without member support Atlanta could lose its last standing jazz station. So WCLK is trusting that Atlanta's listeners will understand the value they offer the community and keep them going for another 35 years.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

Radio Host Debuts New TV Show

The Conductor

Michelle Davis has a mission to help others that has been ingrained in her since she was a child. She has successfully found a way to combine her love for gospel music and helping others by offering medical attention to those who perform and attend the events that she hosts. Another heart service that she's created is Highly Favored Ministries that she says is not an "in the church experience, but a tennis shoe experience."

Michelle knows that she is required to serve her community by going to local neighborhoods and serving God's people. She is the daughter of a preacher but doesn't see herself as a pastor. "Pastors, sometimes, can fit into a box," she explains. "I'm not an 'in-the-box' person. I have to be able to have adventures and explore."

Many of her adventures began as the host of a WYZE 1480AM radio show "Kingdom and Community" every Thursday where she became more and more aware of various ways she could help her community.

On her show, which airs from 1:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m., she inadvertently began the first steps of becoming the host of her own television show. The purpose of the TV show is to share the word of God, just as she does on her radio show, however; she believes television gives a much needed visual between listeners/ viewers and her guests.

"Wouldn't it be wonderful to spotlight the church's praise team?" she inquires. "People hear the pastor, they preach all the time. But what about the praise and worship experience? So that's when the idea for television came about." She plans to broaden her reach

"People hear the pastor, they preach all the time. But what about the praise and worship experience? So that's when the idea for television came about."

*-Michelle Davis,
TV show host*

by bringing the praise teams and church singers to the public and letting them shine in the spotlight she feels they deserve. Nevertheless, Michelle has a mission that will also take her further in serving God's people. Now, she has ventured out even more and is also planning to start a gospel concert series that will combine health care/resources and entertainment.

While working at a concert, Michelle recalls how one of the performers was having obvious health issues after a performance. When the singer was finally "screened" by a health care expert it was decided that he needed to be rushed to a local hospital fearing that he was on the verge of suffering a stroke.

"So for 2010, the Michelle Davis Show and Highly Favored Ministries is doing a yearlong crusade called Praise and Health Awareness," she states. She explains that a large problem is that a lot of people that she serves go to church but don't have the money to go to the doctor.

This is the type of intervention that Michelle craves: to help those who are having a difficulty helping themselves. Part of her goal is

to make health care providers available at concerts featuring gospel artists where, if needed, concert goers will get health screenings and praising God good time, simultaneously.

In addition to her work with the concerts, Michelle is the host of the Michelle Davis Show airing on AIB TV and www.faithvideondemand.com, and is the founder of Highly Favored Ministries that allows her to do work and collaborate with churches in her mission to take Jesus to the streets.

"One reason I do community, is because I'm a product of the community," she says. Her experiences with struggles in her own life prompted her to create Highly Favored Ministries.

The organization was started approximately in 2002 and has grown to prompt Michelle to start her television show. The Michelle Davis Show will continue her focus on community and those who live in them. "I'm actually talking to employers who will come on my show for free and because of the favor part," she says, "[it] will allow me to bring [the employers] to



Michelle Davis

the house of prayer to be able to give those congregations an opportunity to apply [for jobs] at church." As an extension of her mission of helping others better their lives and spirit, she works for a company that offers discount cards for underserved community members that need medication. "I do a lot of community outreach where we provide a free, discount prescription program to a lot of individuals who have lost their jobs," she explains. "The name of the program is called 'Together RX Access' and what happens is that it's treated just like [any other discount] card where you can save 25 to 30 percent off of medications at pharmacies all across the United States. I bring [this program] to government agencies and now I bring [it] to the house of prayer." Together Rx Access is also available for those who have lost their insurance.

Outside of introducing the prescription discount program to those in need, she has begun creating outreach programs for different churches in the Atlanta area where she offers an avenue for churches to take their ministries to the streets. This way the word and spirit of God will touch the lives of those who might not otherwise have the experience of love, life and health.

To learn more about Michelle Davis and her ministries, call (770)935-6257 or e-mail her at michellevdavis_hfm@yahoo.com.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

HR 40 IH 111th CONGRESS 1st Session H.R. 40

To acknowledge the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to examine the institution of slavery, subsequently de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African-Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African-Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 6, 2009

Mr. CONYERS (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To acknowledge the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to examine the institution of slavery, subsequently de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African-Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African-Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Commission to Study Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act'.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) Findings- The Congress finds that--

(1) approximately 4,000,000 Africans and their descendants were enslaved in the United States and colonies that became the United States from 1619 to 1865;

(2) the institution of slavery was constitutionally and statutorily sanctioned by the Government of the United States from 1789 through 1865;

(3) the slavery that flourished in the United States constituted an immoral and inhumane deprivation of Africans' life, liberty, African citizenship rights, and cultural heritage, and denied them the fruits of their own labor; and

(4) sufficient inquiry has not been made into the effects of the institution of slavery on living African-Americans and society in the United States.

(b) Purpose- The purpose of this Act is to establish a commission to--

(1) examine the institution of slavery which existed from 1619 through 1865 within the United States and the colonies that became the United States, including the extent to which the Federal and State Governments constitutionally and statutorily supported the institution of slavery;

(2) examine de jure and de facto discrimination against freed slaves and their descendants from the end of the Civil War to the present, including economic, political, and social discrimination;

(3) examine the lingering negative effects of the institution of slavery and the discrimination described in paragraph (2) on living African-Americans and on society in the United States;

(4) recommend appropriate ways to educate the American public of the Commission's findings;

(5) recommend appropriate remedies in consideration of the Commission's findings on the matters described in paragraphs (1) and (2); and

(6) submit to the Congress the results of such examination, together with such recommendations.

*Read the complete
H.R. 40 resolution (<http://tinyurl.com/orr-H-R-40>) as well as the
Atlanta resolution (<http://tinyurl.com/orr-Atl-Res>)*

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

Families, Children Get Care from Love Beyond Bars Program, Inc.

The Conductor

Children are often the victims of situations that adults create. The Love Beyond Bars Program has taken notice of youth that have been involuntarily introduced to dire circumstances resulting from the incarceration of a parent or guardian; making their mission to making separation time a little less volatile and hurtful.

As a church administrator at Woods Memorial Baptist Church, Foster witnessed various situations that families faced however, none struck her harder than when grandparents and guardians struggled to take care of children who were left alone due to parents who were serving prison time. "I just noticed that different families [would visit] after a [family member] would commit a crime and the whole family would be devastated by it. From that point on, just seeing it happen over and over again I felt that this was something we need to address," Foster said.

Foster explains how "Love Beyond Bars ... started off as a community service program for children whose parents are incarcerated" but grew into a larger support system for families. The children were in need of basic necessities including: clothing, school supplies, and with the extra strain of another mouth to feed, food. But none of the needs were as powerful as the need for love, attention and a caring touch. Therefore, in 2007 Love Beyond Bars got its initial start.

Since its inception, the program has been funded by a grant that helps support the guardians with the children's needs and with holiday gifts. With the anticipation of more funding, Foster is also planning to start a daycare center, summer camp, tutoring program and a program to assist low-income families with housing. Her mission is to ensure that these families are not considered broken in separa-

tion but whole in love. "I have many things in mind that we will do," Foster says with conviction and confidence.

Foster's life and time are sincerely dedicated to showing children in these circumstances that God has a purpose for them and that they are not to feel left out of enjoying the childhood they deserve. "Any way I can help children from all walks of life [I will]. My special, special group is the children whose parents have been incarcerated," she exclaims. "They seem to be the kids that we overlook. They are passed down to a grandmother or an aunt or a sister to raise and it's the type of thing that unexpected to them. They cannot allow a child to be left out in the cold but at the same time they are unable to really raise that child and support them and they need to be supported."

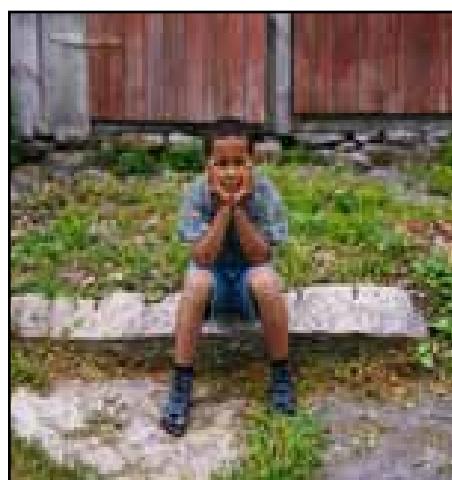
To also support the families and help the inmates, she is planning to find a grant that will accept a proposal that will assist her in helping vindicate inmates that have been wrongly accused.

One particular incident in the program that Foster will always remember was one little boy with five siblings, all being raised by a grandmother whose daughter was serving time after being convicted for illegal drug possession.

It was a Christmas party that was hosted by Love Beyond Bars and the little boy's gift was a pair of socks. He was so excited about the gift that many other children would have



Bessie Foster



Foster is sharing her ministry of helping those who are incarcerated by reaching out to their families and making the adjustment of losing a loved one to the legal system easier for the children and guardians.

scoffed at. This let Foster know that she was on the right track and was doing what God led her to do.

Children whose parents or guardians have been incarcerated are often left to fend for themselves with immediate family members or, sometimes, foster homes. According to Foster these children are sorely in need of love, attention and encouragement.

The Love Beyond Bars Program is an organization that steps out of a comfort zone and takes the left behind youth under their wings and lets them know that there are those who care and will watch over them. "A high point for me is to be able to turn a child's life around. They know that you care about them. Let them know that just because a mistake was made that it's not the end."

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

TRANSITION continued from page 22

away from the lifestyle that stands in the way of reaching those goals.

Strickland says the program gives young men as much, or as little help as they want. "Every individual has to pick the components in their lives they want to change," he says. "They come into the program willingly so they're honest about what they need to do. It's their program. If they do nothing, they get nothing. If they want something, they got to give something to get it."

Working with a small staff and a group of motivated volunteers and board members, Strickland is committed to offering a support system for young men who aspire to reach new heights. He estimates they have already assisted approximately 200 young men, and looking forward to reaching more. Dropping by his office during our interview, several of the young men in the program praised Strickland's motives and methods. One young man hailed him as a God-send, while another swore that he had been changed, pledging never to get in trouble again.

Relying solely on black churches, businesses and individual contributions, Strickland believes the answer to the problems in the African-American community lies in its people. He is passionate about helping these young men to succeed, and expects the same level of commitment from contributors. "We need people who want to become embedded in the program and into a young man's life. We need people to give their time and adopt them into their hearts," he states.

Strickland believes the future of the African-American community is in its young men. "If a man plays the role he's supposed to play in the family," he offers, "it should trickle down into the whole household, and subsequently the entire community will benefit."

If you're interested in finding out how you can help Making the Transition, Inc. meet its objectives, or want to know more about the program, visit the Web site at www.MakingTheTransition.org, or contact them at 404-484-3411.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

V'S CUSTOMS, INC.

3781 Campbellton Road SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30331
404-344-6687
vscustoms@aol.com
www.vscustomsatl.com

Vernon Raven, President



Specializing in
Collision Repair, Detailing,
Emission Inspections and
Complete Paint Jobs

Need a service and/or product?
Overground RR!!®
business directory provides you with a host of businesses to choose from.

ON THE AIR

THE Michelle Davis SHOW

WELLNESS, EDUCATION, RESOURCES

CONNECTED TO THE PRAISE EXPERIENCE!

TV SHOW
EVERY FRIDAY
6:30 AM - 7:30 AM
SUNDAYS
4:00 AM - 5:00 AM

RADIO SHOW
EVERY THURSDAY
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
FRIDAY MORNINGS
1:30 AM - 2:30 AM

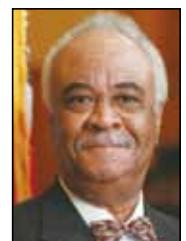
GOODY WYZE
LIVE ON LINE
WWW.WYZERADIO.COM OR
ON RADIO AT WYZE 1480 AM

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WITH US!

ARE YOU A NEW ARTIST MAIL CD TO:
4919 FLAT SHOALS PKWY, SUITE 107B - 305, DECATUR, GA 30034
770-935-6257 (OFFICE) • E-MAIL: MICHELLEDAVIS_HFM@YAHOO.COM

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF BLACK ELECTED OFFICIALS

2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



T. Brooks, President
State Representative
District 63 Atlanta

GABEO

An Affiliate of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference
"Celebrating 40 Years of Excellence in Public Service"

Suite 511 • Coverdell Legislative Office Building
18 Capitol Square • Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Phone: 404-656-6372 • FAX: 404-656-0238

Voice: 404-524-5531 • Cell: 404-372-1894 • Web site: www.ga-gabeo.org
E-mail: tyrone.brooks@house.ga.gov • madge.owens@house.ga.gov

GABEO AGENDA

February 26 – 28

Annual Winter Conference
Athens Clark County, Georgia
Hosts: The Honorable Michael Thurmond, Georgia Commissioner of Labor
Ms. Hattie Lawson, President Athens Area Human Relations Council, Inc.

July 24 – 25

Saturday, July 24 – Annual Reenactment of the Lynchings at the Moore's Ford Bridge Monroe, Georgia
Sunday, July 25 – Worship Service
Guest Speakers: Mr. Benjamin Todd Jealous, National President, NAACP – Invited
Sen. Charles Steele, Former President, SCLC

April 3 – 4

Saturday, April 3 – Annual March on the Moore's Ford Bridge, Monroe, Georgia
Sunday, April 4 – Worship Service
Commemorating the Anniversary of the Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
(Demanding the arrest and prosecution of the killers of the Malcoms and Dorseys on the bridge) Special Guest Speaker: The Honorable Ambassador Andrew Young

October 29 – 31

Annual Fall Conference
Atlanta, Georgia
Unity Leadership Summit: Partnering with Rainbow/PUSH Coalition and other organizations

June 24 – 27

Annual Summer Convention
Savannah, Georgia
Saluting the Legacy of Rev. Hosea Williams
Guest Speakers: Congressman John Lewis, Judge Penny Brown Reynolds

Note: GABEO meets with the Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda every Tuesday, 12 Noon, APEX Museum, 135 Auburn Avenue at Courtland, Atlanta, Georgia

Please Mark Your Calendars Now!

For More Information Contact: Rep. Tyrone Brooks, 404-656-6372 and 404-372-1894 or visit www.ga-gabeo.org

Fulton County Residents Now Eligible for Stimulus Funds Through FACAA

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act [ARRA] stimulus money that has come to Georgia is complicated and spread to many agencies. Only a few agencies are providing Direct Assistance to families/persons that are unemployed, dispossessed and/or about to lose their homes.

find that someone can assist the monetary challenge to catch up and save foreclosure or keep the modifications that were made. We have no information about a 300 percent poverty line allowance in these programs.

FACAA assists all residents of Fulton County who are eligible and we are the largest provider of direct financial assistance to those we are referring to in this action. Sadly, there are many folks who have fallen upon hard times and still don't qualify for the services. That may not reach the numbers of the actual poor but it's more now than ever.

For those who come in and need help – beyond the poverty scope – FACAA has utilized "unrestricted" funds to assist them. We've set aside donations from charitable gifts for that purpose and extend that assistance to those who live outside the county if no other help can be found in Georgia. Believe me, there are people who can find no where to turn, though once affluent or self-reliant at best. Every donated dollar is used for families in destitution.



Joyce Dorsey is the president and CEO of the FACAA. She has worked for the organization for more than 30 years.

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com

Congratulations to Our Graduates

Romar Academy

Amani Nowell
Dewayne Baker
Cameron Robinson
Jonathan Wynn
Mathieu Ambroise
Maya Johnson
Nigel Powell

Woodward Academy
Christina Gordon**Clark Atlanta University**
Samantha A. Wallace

www.overgroundrr.com

Connecting the Church, the Business and the Community

Get on Board!!!
Call today 404-346-0808 and visit us online at
www.overgroundrr.com



To learn more about the ORR church and business members, please visit www.overgroundrr.com



BLUEST EYE continued from page 21

University Center, School Daze where the now infamous beauty salon scene is still relevant today, Guy asks "aren't we done? Haven't we overcome it yet?" All these ideals come together to tell an age-old story of love and self love.

"This play is a little complex because it is a Toni Morrison adaptation and her writing, I think, is layered in ways that we've had to work on, understanding the text, talking a lot about where the words are coming from and then the actors are narrating at the same time; going back and forth, so that's been a challenge." She compares the creative process to the students by trying to bring them to a place that would cause them to "break the fourth wall" as she states. Her comparison of the hit television series, The Twilight Zone went over some of the students' heads as the generations were some years apart. Nevertheless, they quickly began to see the significance and understood the story and process of growing into their characters.

The students are more than grateful to have the chance to act in this play as well as be directed by an actress that has proven her talent and staying power to the difficult world of entertainment. Joy Brunson, who plays the main characters' best friend, Claudia, has learned so much from her four years of acting on the Spelman stage and is excited that her journey has led to her finale play that is directed by a legend of her generation who she, among others, considers Guy a mentor. "This is my last production at Spelman and it's really special. I feel like it's a culmination of everything I've been working for before I got to this school. ... Now I feel much more comfortable and I

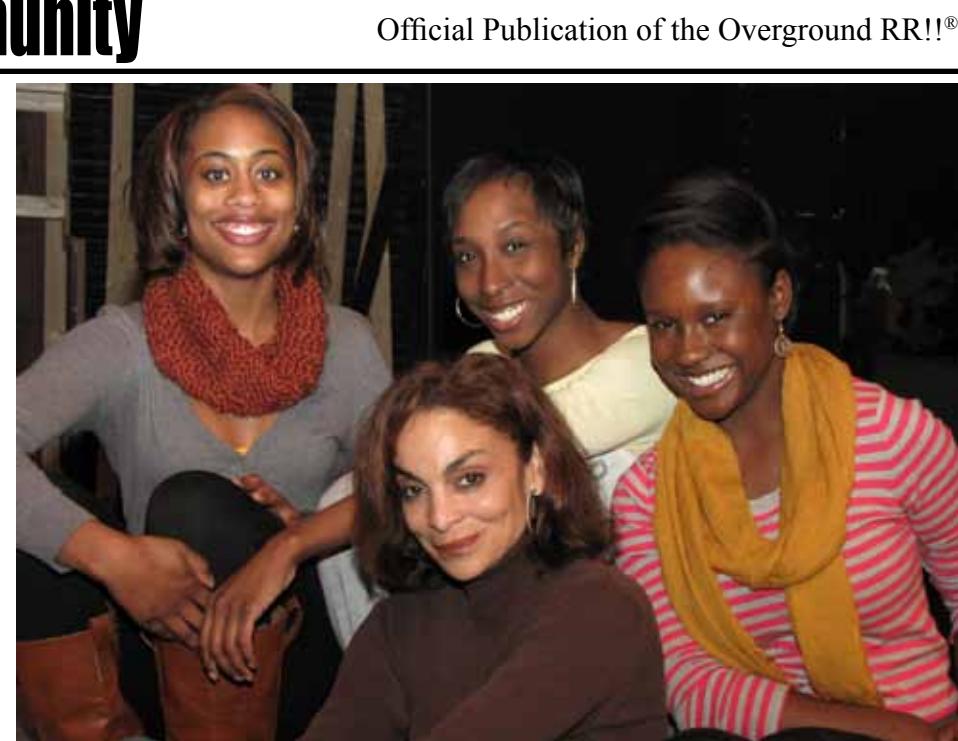
feel honored for this opportunity and I know it's going to be something big and shed a big light on the school," Brunson said.

Morehouse College junior, Patrick Jackson is taking on the role of Soaphead Church. His character is a "reader, adviser and interpreter of dreams" and is the one to convince Pecola (or usher her into madness) that she has blue eyes. In this role he says that "I've been gunning for this show every since last semester," he recalls. So when auditions came around, he was prepared and his hard work paid off. "After I read the script I was like 'wow!' Every character is so three dimensional. It's been such a journey trying to find my character and Jasmine's just great," he said. "I'm ready to graduate and just get out there."

Some of the students in the play are making post-graduation plans that may or may not include an immediate jump to Hollywood or the stage. Brunson, a Texas native, is contemplating graduate school at Columbia University in New York to study acting or start auditioning to get her feet wet on the professional acting stage.

On the other hand, Guy is learning from the students as well and is inspired by what she sees in them with every rehearsal and show. "I see their growth. I said it early on that everyday we're growing and getting deeper and further into the piece so don't try and do what you did yesterday," she recalls. "I want you to do what you do now with everything that we did yesterday and go up. So every day we have to evolve."

Guy sees every bit of progress that each stu-



(Left to Right) Zuri Ray-Alladice, C'2012, (Pecola Breedlove); Jasmine Guy; Jazmine Dinkins, C'2010 (Frieda MacTeer); Joy Brunson, C'2010, (Claudia MacTeer)

dent reaches and possesses with each rehearsal and each scene. "I love it when the actors get that little light; and they 'get it.' Sometimes it takes a couple of different ways of saying something to them or doing it for them, which I try not to do [because] that's a last resort," the Atlanta native states. "But there's a lot of physicalities in the play that I had to do for them because of the violence in the play is kind of choreographed in a stylistic way and we have a fight scene, we have a rape scene, we have love-making scenes so those we did physically in a slow motion kind of way." Another avenue that Guy has used to bring life to the play is voiceovers that set the stage, so to speak, for the feeling of particular scenes as well as mu-

sic. The music took the audience to a time and place where they got the feeling that they are right there with Pecola and feel the wide range of emotions she experiences.

"I look at the whole arc of the show and where I want the play to end but then there are little mini arcs for each character; and as they develop in their own journeys and what they discover along the way," Guy says. "I've had a wonderful experience with them."

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit
www.overgroundrr.com

'Their Memories, Our Treasure' Tells of Wisdom, Survival

The Conductor

Wisdom is something that is gained not bought or borrowed. A selected group of Spelman College students have recently learned that it is something that is also studied. In the book, "Their Memories, Our Treasure", students interviewed and recorded the words of wisdom that came from the mouths of elderly African-American women of the South. Their words became immortalized in the book that is expected to tell the untold stories of how they've lived through heartaches and pains as well as the laughs and joys that make life bearable.

As the founding director of Spelman's Independent Scholars, Gloria Wade Gayles, Ph.D. is extremely excited about the doors that this book and program will open for the students who are taking away more than book knowledge from their studies. She also noted that the book, which has been in existence for nine years, is the first and only book that celebrates African-American women elders of the South.

The stories in the book are told from the perspective and memories of the women who lived through the Civil Rights Movement and well beyond. Their stories are funny, educational, astounding, breathtaking and, most importantly, full of wisdom; the years that show on the women's faces are full of life lessons that they willingly and eagerly share with the students at Spelman.

Some of the students are seniors and shared their experiences of speaking with their elders. One story told was of a trip to an interview and the students were questioning how they should address and treat their subject. Upon arriving to her home, she ran downstairs to answer the door and then ran back upstairs to grab a camera to take a picture of the young students. This showed them that she was not a fragile elderly woman who needed assistance from them. Nevertheless, this quelled their anxieties.

Gayles stated that the experience will make an obvious impact on the students because in today's world of technology and rush, there is lit-

tle time set aside to speak with those who have lived long, full and rewarding lives. "It takes them on a journey into the past where they come to a deeper understanding of African-American women's culture of the South," she says. "There is no way you can understand the present unless you fully experience the past. And there's no way you can journey in form to the future without understanding the relationship there is between the present and the past."

The women in the book, Gayles says, were chosen by the Spirit. She believes that the elders were sent to her throughout various spirit-led people and experiences that culminated into this publication. Her love and passion for wisdom, education and her ancestors allows her to obtain a knowingness that placed the seed of "Their Memories, Our Treasure" in her heart.

She knew that the stories and the book would be best written by the students, the next generation. "It is a rich education experience for the students," she explains. "Where does this generation sit at the feet of elders and hear stories? So, what they learn is a history that rarely, if ever, makes its way to the history books. They are empowered with that history."

Louise T. Hollowell, who was interviewed for the book and is 101 years old, attended an event announcing the next volume of the book. She is very proud to be included and is quite excited about the publication. "I participated in [this project] because I have written a book and I thought that it was nice of [the students] to ask me ... because I've always had high regards for Spelman." Before his death some years ago, Hollowell's husband was a trustee at the college.

Since the start of the book project Gayles has been encouraged by the outpouring of love and support that she is getting from the Spelman family as well as the African-American community. Willie Watkins, of Willie Watkins Funeral Home and Spelman supporter says that he was very pleased to assist in any way he could with the book. He noted that the stories of the women were valuable to the community



The SIS Oral History Project: Spelman's Independent Scholars

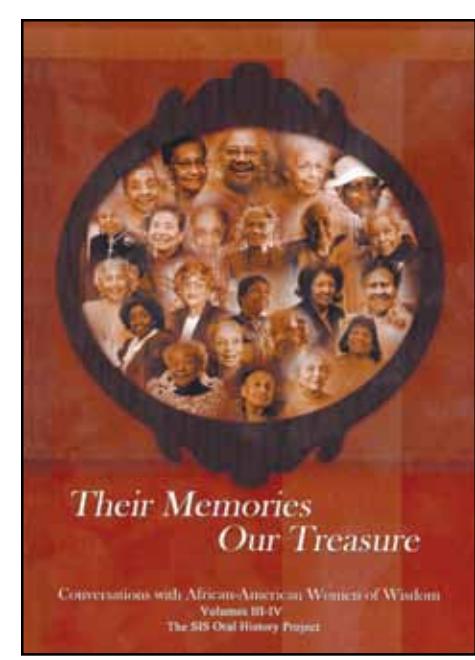
The SIS Oral History Project: Spelman's Independent Scholars, was created by Dr. Gloria Wade Gayles. She united Spelman students with elderly women in the South to collect, record and publish their stories of life and wisdom in the book, "Their Memories, Our Treasure" (right). Gayles says the book is the only book of its kind that tells the story of elderly African-American women of the South in the 21st Century.

and that their place in history has sorely been missed. Therefore, he is proud to be a part of the project by offering support by helping with the launch.

The stories, wisdom and encouragement that students gather from these women who have, in many ways, heard and seen it all, are what Gayles was anticipating when she started this book project at the beginning of the decade.

When asked what readers should expect to get from this book Gayles says: "[Readers] can expect memories that challenge traditional notions about who we were as a people; how we survived; how we went beyond survival to achievement; how we defined ourselves as very special people. What can they learn? They can learn about the richness of our people."

To learn more about the ORR business and community members, please visit
www.overgroundrr.com



"Their Memories, Our Treasure" book project donations are being collected by Willie Watkins Funeral Home. Contact Symenthia Dearing at 404-758-1731 or Dr. Gloria Wade Gayles at 404-270-6432 to learn about how you can help.

[Disclaimer: This is paid advertisement and does not necessarily represent the position or ideas of the publisher, the organization publishing this media, or any of its members.]

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 dishonor 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

[Disclaimer: This is paid advertisement and does not necessarily represent the position or ideas of the publisher, the organization publishing this media, or any of its members.]



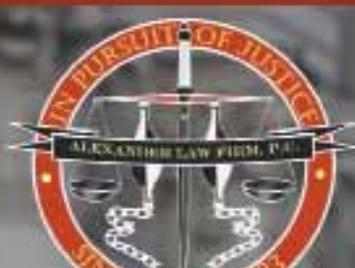
THE CONDUCTOR CIRCULATION LOCATIONS

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 4 Corners Market | Clean & Brite Laundry | Golden Kitchen | Mt. Carmel Church | St. Paul Lutheran |
| A & A Market | Cleveland Ave. Library | Gold Crust | Mt. Olive Church | St. Phillip AME |
| A New You Beauty Supply | Clover Cleaners | Good Phellaz Barber Shop | Mt. Zion Methodist | St. Mark Lutheran |
| A Taste Of The Islands | Cloud Nine Store | Gospel Of Faith Ministries | Mt. Zion Second Baptist | Styles By Delores |
| Adams Park Branch Library | Clifton UMC | Grace Community Fellowship | Muhammed's Mosque | Sunny Garden Chinese |
| African American Book Store | Club 665 Barber Shop | Greater Ephesus MBC | NTRC Tax Services | Super Nails |
| Abdullah's Restaurant | Christ Our Hope | Greater Faith Family Ministries | NAACP | Sweet Auburn Festival 3 days |
| Abundant Life Church | Christians For Christ | Greater Heights | Nail Love | Tabernacle Of Faith |
| Aicha Hair Braiding | Cobb Bethel AME | Greater Leavy MBC | National Action Network | Tania's Gallery |
| Alexander Law Firm | Columbia Drive UMC | Greater Mt. Zion Baptist | New Beginning Full Gospel | Tes Laundry Mat |
| Alfred D. Wyatt Jr. D.M.D., P.C. | Community Church Of God | Greater New Life Baptist | New Beginning Worship Center | The Aloe Man Health |
| Alibaba Grill | Corrective Skin Care | Greenforest Community Baptist | New Covenant Metro | The Amazing Cakes Bakery |
| Allen Temple AME | Covenant Ministries | Green Sprout Vegan Restaurant | New Covenant Missionary Baptist | The Beautiful Restaurant |
| All Risk Insurance | Concerned Black Clergy | Haby Hair braiding | New Hope Seventh Day Adventist | The Bazaar |
| All Stars Barber Shop | Creel Road Park | Hallelujah Church | New Jerusalem Church | The Faith Church Of Believers |
| Ameri Bistro | Crossroads Church | Han's Express | New Life & Faith Christian | The Grounds |
| American Deli (2) | Crusade Dominion | Hapeville Branch Library | New Life AME Zion | The OG Nappy Cutz |
| Ana's Dominican Salon | Crystal Clear Emissions | Happy Market | New Life Community Center | The Original Jamaican Restaurant |
| Angie's Beauty Supply | Da Vido's Pizza | Hair Express Dominican Salon | New Life Presbyterian Church | Total Wave Car Wash |
| Anointed Word COGIC | Dawg Country | Hair Prescription | New Life Baptist Church | Total Esteem Barber Shop |
| Antioch AME | Decatur Seventh Day Adventist | Hair To Dye For | New Life Tabernacle Cogic | Trancending Glory Ministries |
| APEX Museum | Deeper Life in Christ | Harriet Darnell Multi Purpose | New Piney Grove Church | Tranquil AME Anneewakee |
| Arden's Garden (4) | DeKalb Public Library | Headland Heights UMC | New Unity Mission | True Light Baptist |
| Ariel Bowen | Destinee Soul Food | Heatherwood Baptist | New Westside Baptist | True Word and Praise |
| Atlanta's Best Wings | Dirty South BBQ | Heaven Bound | Old Land Mark Church | Truly Blessed Salon |
| Atlanta Family Church | DIVAS Thrift Store | Hemlock Church | Omega Holiness Church | Tupac Amaru Shakur Foundation |
| ATL Fulton Public Library (5) | Divine Deliverance | High Praise Baptist | One on One Hair Salon | T & C Barber /Beauty Salon |
| Atlanta Detailer | Dodson Christian Church | Higher Hope Church | Paradise Caribbean Cuisine | T-Shirt Spot |
| A Nu-U Barber & Salon | Dodd-Sterling UMC | Hillside International Truth Ctr. | Paula Bates & Associates | Underground Street Supplies |
| B-Aware Foundation | Dollar King | Holy Temple Deliverance Church | Peachtree Branch Library | Union City UMC |
| Barbershop (The) | DFACS Stone Wall Tell | Home Health Care | PineTree Park Baptist | Urban League |
| Barlow's Restaurant | Dream Girls Salon | Hope Of Glory Church | Planet Smoothie | Unity In Faith |
| Beauty & Beyond | Druid Hills Church | Housing Authority Fulton | Pleasant Grove MBC | VibeZ Barber Shop |
| Believer Bible Church | Earth Runnings Food Market | House Of Faith | Pleasant Hill AME | Victory Baptist Church |
| Ben Hill Package Center | East Atlanta Branch Library | Humsang Foods | Pleasant Hill Baptist Church | Victory Cathedral Church of God in Christ |
| Ben Hill Recreation Ctr. | East Point Library | Ida's Kitchen | Prestige Car Care Center | Victory Praise Catheral |
| Ben Hill UMC | East Point Mallalieu UMC | Ideal Biz Center | Providence MBC | VIP Nails |
| Bethel Baptist Church | Ebenezer Baptist | IHOP (Greenbriar Mall) | Prince Hall | Vision Of Faith Church |
| Beulah Baptist Church | Ephesus Missionary Bap | International Christian Fellowship | Publix (3) | V's Customs |
| Berean Church | Elizabeth Baptist | J.J. Cleaners | Ragarama | Wachovia |
| Best Cleaners | Emmanuel Lutheran Church | Jackson Memorial Bapt. Church | Rainbow Park Baptist Church | Waffle & Chicken |
| Bethesda House of Faith | Emmanuel Tabernacle | J&M Beauty Supply | Ray Of Hope Christian Church | Wal' Mart Gas Station |
| Big A Food Mart | Emmaus Road MBC | J.R. Crickets | Resurrection House | Wang's (China) Restaurant |
| Big G Grocery | Emiaca's Laundry | Just Jerk Café | Restoration Ministries | Wash n Fold |
| Big Daddy's (3) | Enon Church | Kaiser Health Center (Panola Rd.) | Rick's Barber | Washington Food Mart |
| Big Bethel AME | Enon Baptist Fellowship Church | King Center | Riverdale Christian | Washington Park Branch library |
| Big Momma Rosa Grocery | Events Marketing/Membership | Kirkwood Branch | Rose Nails | Wayfield (2) |
| Big Miller Grove Church | Exotic Nails | Kroger (7) | Royal Crown | Wheat Street Baptist |
| Black To Eden Events | First Baptist | L & B Tax Service | Ruch Da Wings | Welcome All Park |
| Blessed Beauty Supply | First Baptist Church of Red Oak | L.A. Nails | Salem Bible Church | Wesley Chapel Library |
| Bobby Hurd Ent. | First Wesley Center | Laundry Mat | Salem Bible Church on Baker St. | Wesley Chapel UMC |
| Bouldercrest Baptist | FACAA | Laundro Max (2) | Salon National | West End Branch Library |
| Burnadett Park | Factory Shoals Zion View | LavaDoria Laundry | San Juan | West Georgia Dental |
| Bussey Florist | Fantastic Tires (3) | Leisure Locks | SCLC | Whosoever Will Let them Come Church |
| Butler Street CME | Fairburn UMC | Leonardo Hair | Shadnor First Baptist | White Oak Baptist |
| Canaan Baptist | Fairview Public Library | Leone Salon and African Braids | Shalom Evangelistic Ministries | Willie Watkins Funeral Home |
| Cascade Auto Service | Fatou Hair Braiding | Les Laundry | Shamari Hair Salon and Spa | Will's Flowers |
| Cascade UMC | First African Presbyterian | Life Changing Min | Shop-N-Go Store | Windjammin |
| Cash & Carry Store | First Pres. East Point | Life's Essentials | Sevenanda | Woods Memorial Baptist |
| Center Of Faith | First Victory Baptist Church | Light of Life Church | Sheltering Arms | Word Of Love |
| Calvary UMC | Fluff-n-Fold | Light of The World | Shrine Of The Black Madona | Work Force Stone Wall Tell |
| Capitol City Bank (2) | Food For Life Supreme | Live Oak Baptist Church | Sickle Cell Foundation | Work Solutions |
| Citizens Trust (3) | Formosas Chinese Buffet | Lock & Key | Siloam Church | World Changers Int. |
| City Buffet Sushi | Foundation Of Faith MBC | Love Life | Simmons Chapel AME Zion | World Covenant Christian Center |
| Chapel of Christian Love | Foundation Of Truth | Lovin it Live Restaurant | Small Stop Store | WRFG 89.3 |
| Chelsie's Bakery | Fountain of Life | Lutheran Church | Smiley's Barber Shop | Yeager Street |
| Chevron Gas | Fine Nails | Masjid Al Salam Inc | Smoothie King | YMCA Campbellton Rd. |
| China Way Restaurant | Finish Line Laundry | Messiah's Temple | Solid Rock Church | Zion Christian Center |
| Cedar Grove Church | First Class Barber Shop | Metropolitan Lofts Studio2107 | Soul Food Museum | Zion Hill Baptist |
| Central Christian Church | First Iconium Baptist | Michon's Loft Restaurant | Soul Vegetarian | Zion Hill Missionary Baptist |
| Charles Steele & Associates | Fish-n-Chips/ Laundry Mat | Maranatha Seventh Day Adventist | South Fulton Regional Library | 24 Hr. Laundry |
| Chosen Generation Church | Flavor's Grill & Seafood | Master Wigs & Luxury Hair | Spa On Demand | 20 West Barbershop |
| Christ Disciples Church | Food For The Spirit | Medu Books | Spread The Word Church | <i>The Conductor is distributed in 491 locations in Atlanta. For more information on our circulation locations call our office at 404-346-0808.</i> |
| Christian Fellowship Baptist | Fried Rice King (Chinese Rest.) | MLK Branch Library | S & J's Automotive | |
| Christian Missionary Baptist | Friendship Community Church | Moods Music | S & S Cafeteria | |
| Christians For Change Baptist | Fuller's Memorial Tabernacle | Mountain Seventh Day Adventist | Star's Laundry | |
| Christians Living For Christ | Fulton County Foster Care | Midway Missionary | St. James Missionary Baptist | |
| Church Of Christ | GABEO | Mini Mart Grocery Store | St. John Baptist | |
| Church Of Christ Bouldercrest | G B's Barber Shop | Mission on The Move | St. Mark AME | |
| Clayton State University | God's Acre Missionary Baptist | Mt. Calvary Baptist | | |

Alexander Law Firm, P.C.



ALEXANDER LAW FIRM, P.C.
H.J.A. Alexander, ESQ., C.P.A.
ATTORNEY AT LAW
(404) 346-0834
email - HJAA@alexanderlawfirm.com
www.alexanderlawfirm.com



Specializes In:
Wrongful Death
Personal Injury
False Arrest
Wills and Estates
Contract Disputes
Commercial Litigation
Insurance Claims
Tax Matters
Corporate and Church Representation

