James S. Arthur Byrd Passes

The Rochester community was shocked at the sudden passing of Arthur Byrd on Dec. 7, 1987. Jim, as most Rochesterians called him, was one of the happiest, pleasant people in our city. Always smiling and saying something to make you laugh and feel happy to see him. Jim will be missed by the thousands of friends he has left. He leaves to mourn his loss his devoted wife Ann Lee Byrd; one daughter, Sharon; two sons, James A. Byrd of Rochester and Barry Wornier; grandchildren James A Byrd 3rd and Justin, his mother Mary Byrd Holoman; Sisterns Beverly Watts of N.M., Rise Niller of N.J., and Barbara Brooks of Rochester; one brother of Rochester, Richard Byrd; an aunt, Mary Wallace; Aunt and Uncle, Mr. & Mrs. William Byrd of N.J.; Aunt and Uncle, Sarah & Joe Williams of California; Aunt Marye of Rochester, N.Y., Minnie Holland of Chicago, Ill., and a host of relatives and friends.

He was a member of the Rochester Police Force from 1963 until 1983. He was an active member of the U.S. Army Reserve for 29 years. He was an active member of the Elks Flower City Lodge No. 91.

Rochester has lost a great person from our community. We do offer our deep sympathy to the bereaved family.

Roland Hayes Guyton Passes of Lung Cancer

My nephew, Roland Hayes, died in the Veterans Hospital February 2nd after a short illness. Because of the failure to wear a mask to protect him from the fumes of the paint while working over thirty years in the business he founded named Guyton Enterprises. Roland was my sister Lydia's only son. He was born here in Rochester and came to D.C. to live with me when he was fourteen. While in Rochester he attended catholic school where he started his music career with the late Lewis Scott's Drum Corps. In Washington, D.C. he continued his career as a drummer and played in many nightclubs. For over thirty years he was a self-employed professional interior and exterior decorator. He did work for many top contractors in D.C. and the Maryland and Virginia districts. Because of his home town Rochester, many called him Chester as a nickname which he carried until his death.

He would spend a great deal of his time helping the youth he came in contact with, teaching them his trade and enlightening them about the Black experience in America. Many are in the painting business today because of Chester's interest in them.

The funeral was held at the Pope Funeral Home, the eulogy was given by the Rev. Albert Galligan, Pastor of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, assisted by Rev. Reginald Townsend of the National Baptist Church and Father Starling of the Catholic Church. Burial was in the Veterans Cemetery in Maryland.

STRONG UNCF SUPPORTERS — During the recent United Negro College Fund (UNCF) national telethon, Emmy Award-winning actress Esther Rolle (left) presented McDonald's systemwide donation of $429,210 along with Fran Jones (right). McDonald's owner/operator in Ojai, CA, Ms. Rolle also helped kick off McDonald's new Crew College Education Program, where local restaurants earmark 25 percent of their UNCF dollars for financial aid to McDonald's employees who attend member colleges. The first two recipients of $1,000 grants were Dwayne Williams, a freshman at Dillard University, New Orleans, and Dena Lovingood a sophomore at Clark College, Atlanta (center). McDonald's restaurants nationwide have contributed more than $3 million since 1978 to the United Negro College Fund.
Most students first learn about Abraham Lincoln in the famous legend of “honest Abe” who walked for miles to return a few pennies. But looking back, we see that perhaps Lincoln’s greatest contribution to this nation was his legacy of tolerance and forgiveness. Even as he prosecuted a war that tore this nation apart, he worked to find a common heritage and experience that would bind it together again.

A few weeks ago, when the cannons of the civil war were still firing, Lincoln took the opportunity to speak passionately against the injustice of slavery. But he also tried to instill a sense of compassion in his weary fellow citizens. He closed his famous speech with the plea: “With malice toward none, with charity for all, let us strive to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation’s wounds.”

Lincoln would be saddened today to witness a resurgence in racism and intolerance around the country; a black man beaten and chased to his death in Howard Beach, N.Y.; the hanging of a black student at the Chadwell Academy in South Carolina; the rock-throwing by Klan members at a “brotherhood march” in the all white county of Forsyth, Georgia, racial incidents in colleges in New England and show trial attacks on Haitian Jews in Brooklyn and on Cambodian refugees in Philadelphia.

While racial bigotry is making the headlines, a more subtle kind of intolerance is on the rise behind the scenes. Efforts to censor books and curricula in schools are growing, pursued by those who want to eliminate ideas with which they disagree. The notion that public school is a place for students to be exposed to opposing points of view and to learn about the wide spectrum of culture and religions that make up America is increasingly under attack.

According to a recent study by People For the American Way, censorship of books and ideas in the classroom has doubled over the past four years. In 1986, there were attempts to remove from the classroom numerous literary classics dealing with minorities, including Harper Lee’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel To Kill a Mockingbird and Mark Twain’s Huckleberry Finn. Alice Walker’s prize-winning novel, The Color Purple, about growing up poor and black in the South, was the target of censorship efforts in two states.

Textbooks encouraging understanding and tolerance are also the subject of lawsuits. A witness in a textbook trial in federal court in Mobile, Alabama, objected to a statement in a home economics teaching guide that “people of all races and cultural backgrounds should be shown as having high ideals and goals.” In the recent “Scoopes II” trial in Hawkins County, Tennessee, objections were raised to stories that portrayed Roman Catholicism, Buddhism, and Japanese and Chinese religions. One of the plaintiffs claimed that a passage from The Diary of Anne Frank was objectionable because it encouraged religious intolerance. The series was also criticized because it gave students “a sense of themselves as individuals and participants in a national or world community.” Given the ugly racist incidents of the past few months, it was heartening to see 30,000 people join in the second “march of brotherhood” in Forsyth County a few weeks ago. But more must also be done away from the light to curb the rise of intolerance and bigotry in this country.

Increasingly, we must support and defend our schools and teachers. The public schools are a common meeting place for young people whose beliefs may seem worlds apart, but who live under the same flag. Here children from every racial and ethnic background and from every religious faith come together to become Americans. It is in the schools that children learn to accept each other as equals, to understand beliefs they do not personally share, and to appreciate and celebrate the rich mosaic of American history and culture. In a word, they learn tolerance.

If we fail to pass on to each generation the American tradition of pluralism and tolerance, then we will fail to teach them the lessons of Lincoln. In that failure as a nation, we will lose our most precious heritage — our companion and voice of justice.

Guest Editorial

Black History

Christy Macy is director of educational policy for People For the American Way.
February 25, 1988

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891-1895
The history of Second Baptist Church is rooted in its founder and first pastor, Rev. Clayton A. Coles. Rev. Coles was born a slave in Chattanooga, Tennessee in 1838. He was the personal servant of General Stonewall Jackson. As a result he learned to read and write. At the end of the Civil War he worked as a broom maker in Virginia. He was ordained at the age of forty-seven (47) in the Ebenezer Baptist church of Culpepper County, Virginia. He then migrated to Philadelphia and pastored several churches in this area.

After years of service in Philadelphia he moved to Genesee County, Belcoda, New York. As the population of tenant farmers grew Rev. Coles saw the need for religious services. The First Baptist Church of Wheatland at Belcoda was closed, Donald Purdie with the aid of Rev. A.S. Freeman, preached to the colored people at Belcoda. About 1890 the idea of a separate church took root. The pastor of the First Baptist Church of Rochester, New York — Dr. J.W. Stewart aided in organizing a colored people church society. Rev. Coles held the meetings in his home and so the Belcoda Baptist Church began. As the membership grew, they moved from Rev. Coles' home to a small school house across the road. As more Negroes moved into the area the building was moved to its present location on George Street in Mumford, New York. James and Henry Johnson donated the land, made the foundation and hauled the church on a horse-drawn wagon to its present site. The church was incorporated in 1891 as the Belcoda Baptist Church of Mumford, New York. In 1944 the name was legally changed to Second Baptist Church of Mumford, New York. Rev. Coles retired in 1905 and died in 1926. There is a headstone in Belcoda Church yard marking the gravesite of Rev. Coles. The headstone was erected by John Harmon family and friends as a symbol of gratitude to this man of service. A grandson, Howard Coles resides in Rochester, New York. There are several current active members who are direct descendants of Rev. Coles and other members of the earlier church.

"A Message From The Pastor"
Nov. 8, 1986
Dear Members and Friends:
One of the singular joys of this year, has been the preparation, organization, cooperation, and now, culmination of the 95th Church Anniversary Banquet Celebration of Second Mumford. A lot of dedication, hard work, and commitment has been given to this great endeavor. This has been a year of much reflection, thoughtfulness, and thankfulness, which has both challenged and inspired us to work even harder. Each event — worship service, concert, play, etc. as personalities minister, singer, visitor all added luster which shall perpetually glow within our lives. My mind reaches back to times past, from the first ex-slave who sought to worship in our present-day children "singing the songs of Zion", from the creepy horse-drawn wagons to our new carpeted sanctuary, truly God, has been a blessing and a "rock", to which we are anchored.

Special thanks to the Anniversary Committee, its hardworking and diligent leadership, who have forged ahead in success of the various programs this year and the Banquet Celebrations. Likewise, to the many friends, who have supported us in each of these activities, a hearty thank-you, without which would not have been possible.

Finally, to the Second Baptist Church Family, may God in His Infinite Wisdom and Presence continue to be Gracious Unto You. Remember to keep Him first in your life for, "He is the Rock of Our Salvation. Until such time I shall be... Yours in Christ,
Rev. Charles A. Thurman and Family
Pastor of Mumford Second Baptist Church
February 25, 1988
THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS VOICE

The Honorable Marion Barry, Jr.
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William Penn Mott, Jr.
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"Don't be foolish," she said.
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She didn't have to say anything. But she made me see things in a different way.
Teachers do that for people sometimes.

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Susan B. Anthony

Susan B. Anthony is Rochester's most famous citizen. She is known throughout the world for her struggle for women's rights. Her house, at 17 Madison St., is a national landmark. The 19th amendment to the Constitution bears her name. And there is talk that if the $2 bill is revived, Miss Anthony's picture should be on it.

Joseph E. Hall
DIRECTOR

EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY

Many people desire to express their sympathy by sending flowers or some other memorial in addition to extending their condolences in person. Others do this because they cannot attend either the visitation or the service.

For the most part, those who wish to demonstrate their feelings should be able to do so, in the way they prefer and which is most natural for them. Flowers, for example, have a message all their own—one which is universal. They also add beauty to the casket setting and to the funeral service.

While it is considered proper for the family to suggest a certain memorial (such as a donation to a particular charity), this should not be done in such a manner as to exclude alternative expressions of sympathy. It should also be presented in such a way as not to be construed as a tangible solicitation of sympathy. The funeral director can advise on these and similar matters.

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Dear Editor:
The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service is taking a leadership role in the "Just Say No" to drugs campaign. Part of our effort includes the distribution of reproducible public service advertisements to print media throughout the country encouraging the formation of "Just Say No Clubs."

Charles De Julius
Public Affairs Director

Boy, could I go for a Genny now.
Shedding Light on the Dark Continent.

Tiye—The Nubian Queen of Egypt (ca. 1415-1340 B.C.)

Hannibal—Ruler of Carthage (247-183 B.C.)

Cleopatra VII—Queen of Egypt (69-30 B.C.)

Akhenaton—Pharaoh of Egypt (1375-1358 B.C.)

Askia Muhammed Touré—King of Songhay (1493-1529)

Sunni Ali Ber—King of Songhay (1464-1492)

Taharqa—King of Nubia (710-664 B.C.)

Osei Tutu—King of Asante (1680-1717)

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Budweiser salutes Black History Month with this special series commemorating the Great Kings and Queens of Africa.

Kodak Donates $1,000,000 to UNCF

Eastman Kodak Company has announced a $1 million commitment to the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). According to Colby H. Chandler, Kodak Chairman, the gift emphasizes and extends the company’s legacy of support for historically Black colleges and universities.

During the award ceremony on Capitol Hill, Chandler said: “Our entire education system and the future of Black colleges face tremendous challenges that must be met with innovation programs and perseverance. For all sectors of our society, this initiative requires ‘staying power’.

“Kodak’s $1-million-dollar commitment over the next ten years is a long term investment in UNCF and is our shared conviction that a mind is a terrible thing to waste.”

UNCF President and Chief Executive Officer Christopher F. Edley received the contribution on behalf of the fund’s 42-member institutions.

“Expanded educational opportunities for disadvantaged students will be key to America’s success in the decades ahead,” noted Edley.

“That is why the commitment Kodak is making to the United Negro College Fund is so important. It helps assure that historically Black colleges and universities will be strong and competitive for the challenges ahead.”

Kodak’s commitment to Black higher education is among the most longstanding in American industry. It has been traced to 1902, when company founder George Eastman made a $5,000 contribution to Booker T. Washington’s Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute (now Tuskegee University). Washington’s granddaughter, Margaret Washington Gilford, received an engraved plaque featuring her grandfather’s handwritten letter to Eastman, thanking him for the generous donation.

During George Eastman’s lifetime, he contributed more than $100 million toward various civic, cultural and arts institutions as well as educational concerns.

For a complete set of 22 prints at $15.00 send your name, address and a check payable to Anheuser-Busch, Inc., Dept. GK, St. Louis, Mo 63118. Offer expires December 31, 1987. Void where prohibited.

William Warfield recalls The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. in New Morning for the World.

Monday, April 4 9 p.m. WXXITV

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