Mildred Johnson Speaks

This year has been at times a rather trying period for a number of families who have lived in this particular community for a great number of years.

We believe that the following poems, entitled "The Wood Laser," by St. Francis of Assisi will provide a great deal of love and faith in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

ETERNAL LIFE

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love. Where there is injury, let me forgive. Where there is doubt, let me believe. Where there is despair, let me hope. Where there is darkness, let me bring forth light. Where there is death, let me bring life.

"It was love that made his world a better place for everyone."

"What is most important as life goes on is to have a clear purpose."

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"RIGHT is of no sex, truth is of no order - GOD is the father of us all and all we are brethren."

Frederick Douglass

PHONE 546-6076
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"My long-crushed spirit rose, cowardice departed, bold defiance took its place; and I now resolved that, however long I might remain a slave in form, the day had passed forever when I could remain a slave in fact."
—Frederick Douglass

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To: Howard W. Coles
Editor of F. D. Voice

Chaplain Juanita Elizabeth Carroll requests your presence

You are among those special to me, invited to share in the celebration of my United States Armed Services promotion to the rank of Major.

Pinning on Ceremony Wednesday 17, July 1991 1100 Hours

The Chapel
Chanteau Air Force Base, Illinois

Reception To Follow
From Bobby Johnson's latest book "mr parker songbook"
Blair is dead/long live Blair
(a-son comes home to-die...)

these words were inspired by my youngest son, Blair Marlon Johnson. He was born in Roches-
ter n.y., at the homeroom-housing project on august 15, 1952: he died at highland hospi-
tal on april 7, 1987, he struggled against the dread disease (AIDS) & lost the battle; he never saw 35.

Blair loved music: he loved to dance; he loved new york city. He liked to talk & socialize... he was
an ace on the turntables & he spun the latest sounds at the hot-
test clubs. Blair also worked around rochester as a salesper-
son — he was good at that job because he knew how to talk with
people one-on-one. he was well-
known & well-liked: he made a
difference in our lives.

1987: the idea of march; a most
dreadful night of inky dream.
my ruined-past, my old-
ness. the doctor said: "pneumonia..."
my lungs lose their elasticity/
my breathing machine, intensive
care...i visit the chapel.
fallon morning, we are elated.
spring hits town (66°F).

the hospital supplied Blair with an-oxygenmask; his breathing became more labored; he was
moved to the intensive care-unit & connected to a-breathing ma-
chine... (tubes, bells, lights, me-
ters, warning signals...)
condition: CRITICAL...

his two younger sisters & niece
arrive from hartford, conn; his
older brother arrives from cin-
cinnati, ohio... they join the
grieving mother & middle-
brother to form an unbroken cir-
cle of love & concern. the older
brother moves into the intensive
care-room & does-not budge un-
til the-end. such-devotion.

april 7 / Blair is dead /
long live BLAIR!!!...he is
gone... we are crushed & sad-
dened... it is not a bad dream... i wish it was...

65°F)

now it makes sense; his
strange, vague ailments; his dra-
tic loss of weight & energy; his
sudden return home. a cold,
a nap...apple. to die? among his
family? (surrounded by love & accept-
ance.)

"Your son has aids."
"How do you know?"
"Because anyone who develops
pneumocystis carinii pneumonia
has aids." (normally our im-
une system protects us from
this-disease... but not if it's de-
nied by HIV.)

that very first day i felt like we
were losing-him (his family & his
close friends gathered to stroke
his head, hold his hand & nourish
him with love & support.) we all
wished him well... he weakened
anyhow.

Blair loved music: he loved to
dance; he loved new York city. he
liked to talk & socialize... he was
an ace on the turntables & he
spun the latest sounds at the hot-
test clubs. Blair also worked
around Rochester as a salesper-
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til the-end. such-devotion.

april 7 / Blair is dead /
long live BLAIR!!!...he is
gone... we are crushed & sad-
dened... it is not a bad dream... i wish it was...

thank you GOD, for giving us
20 days to love our son, our
brother, our friend... thanks for
letting us attend the final
roundup before you moved him
on.

Friend at bullshead & bobby johnson
—The Poet—
OBITUARY

Catherine Audrey Frazier was born in New Castle, Pa., to Rev. Archie C. Bell and Louise Regina Farrow Bell. She grew up in AME Zion Parsonages in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia and New York. She received her BS Degree in Library Science from Virginia State and earned a Master's Degree in Library Science from Syracuse University.

Anne worked as a teacher-librarian at Douglas High School in Leesburg, Va. for four years. While there, she took groups of students to Williamsburg and Richmond to see a view of government in action. In 1953, she married Theodore Thompson and joined with them in a single-person demonstration before the Supreme Court of the United States of America.

Andrey and Charles Frazier were married in the Favor AME Zion Church (where they met) in 1957. They became the proud parents of Charles and Audrey.

Andrey worked as a teacher-librarian at Douglas High School in Leesburg, Va., for four years. While there, she took groups of students to Williamsburg and Richmond to see a view of government in action. In 1953, she married Theodore Thompson and joined with them in a single-person demonstration before the Supreme Court of the United States of America.

In the 1970s, Andrey and David Thompson developed a reading skills tutorial program at Phyllis Wheatley and Lincoln Branch Libraries for students to attend after school. Andrey retired from the Rochester Public Library after 27 years of service as Children's Librarian, Branch Head and Head of the Extension Department. the first black person to hold such positions in the Rochester Library system.

An active member of Memorial AME Zion Church, Andrey has served as Christian Education Director and has taught in several choir. Andrey enjoyed her work, traveling, reading, singing, playing the piano and classical music, studying African American History and sharing her faith with many friends. She was also a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the NTLS Library Association.

Preceding Audrey were her mother, father and brother, Theodore Bell. Surviving Audrey are her husband, Charles W. Frazier (Hartford, NY); two sons: Charles W. III (Huntington, NY) and Carlton A. (Buffalo, NY); an aunt: Eula Robinson (Buffalo, NY); three brothers: Henry Bell (Philadelphia, PA); Paul Bell (New Castle, PA) and Thomas Frazier (New Castle, PA) and two sisters: Eunice Fair (Deer Park, NY); a niece and two nephews: one son, one daughter and one sister. Some day, in Heaven you'll understand.

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UDC APPROVES LOAN TO MINORITY-OWNED FRANCHISE IN ROCHESTER

NEW YORK — Vincent Tese, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the New York State Urban Development Corporation, today announced Directors' approval of a $60,000 loan from the State's Entrepreneurial Assistance Program for the expansion of Norrell Temporary Services, a minority-owned personnel franchise in Rochester.

"Franchises help entrepreneurs gain a foothold in the local economy, while providing essential services to the public," said Mr. Tese. "We’re especially pleased to extend financing to an expanding small business as it meets the demands of its growing clientele."

Norrell Temporary Services is a franchise division of the Atlanta-based Norrell Corporation. Ronald Kimbrow, its sole proprietor, purchased the franchise in 1989. The business, which currently employs two people, supplies employees for temporary staffing assignments in the Rochester area.

The $60,000 entrepreneurial assistance loan, which comes from UDC's Minority and women Revolving Loan Fund, will be used to hire and train four new employees and purchase office equipment.

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"With an education, the future is yours."

That’s the message from football great Alan Page. He delivers it, in person and on videotape, to youngsters in the nation’s urban schools through a program sponsored by Kodak. "As a student, you can dream. You can imagine yourself doing great things," he tells fifth graders during one of his in-person visits.

"Your future is in your control. But whatever you decide, you need an education," says Page, who speaks from experience. After football at Notre Dame and 15 years with the NFL, he traded in his uniform for a law career. "I got tired of using my head as a battering ram," he tells the kids. "It was time to put my education to work." Page can talk firsthand about the passing glory of a pro football career. "I’ve seen too many good players drop out of school. When their playing days are over, they’re not prepared for anything else."

"Sports can get you started," says the Hall of Famer, "but your education will keep you going." That’s a major reason why Page devotes himself to reaching today’s at-risk kids and urging them to stay in school.

How do the youngsters respond? "He inspired me," says one 10-year-old. "I can dream about being somebody famous, but I’ve got to get an education first."

Another says she now understands why school is important. "Once you have an education, nobody can take it away from you."

Breakthroughs start with imagination.