

COBB NEWS

Published Weekly By The Cobb County News Bureau
Maintaining The Spirit Of A Free Press

85% Black Businesses Destroyed

SBA Sponsored Workshop Slated

The Small Business Administration has tentatively agreed to hold a workshop on small businesses and minority opportunity in the world of business. The tentative date is June 18th, 1975. The workshop is scheduled to run a full day, complete with consultants, speakers and special guests. One of the things that will determine the outcome of the workshop is the number of black businessmen that will attend the workshop.

The Cobb County News Bureau, being a minority enterprise in Cobb County, has taken the lead in joining the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce and going directly to the Small Business Administration (SBA) for counseling and technical assistance to be better able to manage and expand business operations. We think that more black businesses should become involved in the business world of securing and managing capital.

Most black businesses are contented to remain small, one-man owned and fearful of expansion. And, perhaps some of the fears black businesspersons face are real—at least they used to be. For too long black businesspersons could not acquire the investment capital necessary to give a good business possibility a chance to succeed. General only enough money to insure continued indebtedness could be acquired. But some of that has changed.

Black businesspersons are now able to secure investment capital, management counseling and technical advice in the starting and operating of a business.

We of the Cobb County News Bureau believe that a workshop geared to the development of businesses in the black community of Marietta is of a dire urgency. For over the last few years, through urban renewal and other "progress" movements, fully 85% of black businesses have been destroyed. The

closing of Hunter's Corner is a most recent example of the toll "progress" in taking on the economy of the black community in Cobb County. The time has come for black businesspersons to organize and put a stop to the sheer destruction of the economic base of the black community.

The Cobb County News Bureau is asking all black businesses in the Marietta-Cobb County area to make provisions to have someone from every black business represented in the meeting slated for the 18th of June.

From the June 18th workshop, considering that black businesspersons will participate and it will take place, minority businesspersons need to organize and become affiliated with the National Business League and/or other business organizations working directly to develop minority businesses across the country.

We must reverse the trend and begin a continued increase in the growth and development of black businesses in the Cobb County area. This will require that black businesspersons get together, set goals and objectives, keep up with zoning and land use in the city of Marietta and Cobb County. Too many black people are giving away valuable land for little or nothing compared to what it is worth on the market - and especially what it will be worth in a few years if held onto. But, as there is no communication among and between black businesspersons, there is little chance for the interchange and sharing of information about the business movements in the community. Thus, blacks get left out.

Too few blacks know and make use of organizations that are designed and operated to aid minority businesses. As an example, finding and tapping sources of capital is a central problem confronted by black businesspersons who want to start or improve a business.

The SBA aids in this effort.

During Fiscal Year 1973, for instance, SBA minority business loans totaled \$306.7 million. The average loan size was \$36,000.00. Other forms of SBA capital support to minority business are Economic Opportunity Loans and Development Company Loans. Under the EOL program, minority business persons can acquire loans of up to \$50,000.00 with terms of 15 years.

Recognizing the enormous potential in the construction field for minority contractors, SBA has developed a bond guarantee program whereby private surety bond underwriters receive a guarantee up to 90% of any loss on a bond issued to a minority contractor. The ceiling on each contract is \$500,000.00.

Another program of special significance to minority businesses is the Revolving Line of Credit program. This program enables a business with assignable contracts for goods and services to negotiate with its bank for a line of credit, using the contract as collateral. The agency will then guarantee up to 90% of the line of credit.

Also, Section 8 (a) of the Small Business Act has been used effectively in recent years to enable small, minority businesses to contract with the Federal Government. This provision authorizes SBA to take prime procurement contracts from other Federal agencies and to subcontract with minority firms through negotiations for the required goods and services.

Under the direction of the Assistant Administrator for minority Enterprise, the Office of Minority Enterprise (OME) monitors all SBA programs in the field and gives support and guidance to local and regional staff members, all of whom have a responsibility to take affirmative actions in behalf of minority enterprise.

With the increase in the

building industry, more and more black businesspersons should consider the construction industry. HUD awards a considerable number of contracts to minority firms. But black business must become big business. There is no place in American society for mom and pop operations and one-man shows. The wave of the future is big businesses with bigger and better services and facilities. Blacks cannot afford to be left out of the market place. For this is where the game of freedom - indeed life itself - is won or lost.

ALL BLACK BUSINESSPERSONS WHO WILL AT-

TEND THE ALL-DAY SBA SPONSORED WORKSHOP ON JUNE 18TH, PLEASE CALL THE COBB COUNTY NEWS BUREAU AT 424-0940 AND LEAVE YOUR NAME. WE NEED TO KNOW THE NUMBER TO PREPARE FOR. Remember everything is being sponsored by the SBA. All you have to do is come out and learn how to make more and bigger money. Can we afford not to attend such a workshop in such times as these?

At present we are requesting the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce facility for the workshop.

News In Brief

THE HOUSING MESS

Some Marietta residents are concerned that the effort to secure Day Care through the Marietta Housing Authority may in fact be an effort to do more favoritism hiring by the Housing Authority. Parents should be strongly organized to maintain surveillance and control over the lives of their children regardless of who is in charge of day care in Marietta. The precious lives of little children must not become the sole political objectives of those who seek only their self-interest.

URBAN RENEWAL SWINDLE?

Residents who put up money, one lady as much as \$500.00 in the hopes of getting a house that she could pay for, find that the real estate companies handling such transactions are building houses much out of the range of poor residents' abilities to buy. Residents are asking that these real estate companies be investigated and should they be found guilty of unethical policies toward clients their

licenses should be taken.

ALCOHOLISM PROGRAM ANYONE?

With all the drunks and winos on the corners each day, it seems that the Douglas-Cobb Alcoholism program either needs to be greatly expanded or closed. Presently, Cobb County is turning out more alcoholics than it is curing. Will someone please help, the very area where the program is located is overrun with alcoholics.

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT IN MARIETTA

The downtown area in Marietta, like downtown areas all over the country is in a state of decline. But also like other downtown area, it provides an excellent opportunity for redevelopment. Any downtown development in Marietta should certainly include black businesses, as black businesses have suffered the greatest losses in removal and/or destruction over the past few years of the urban renewal mess.

THE SPIRIT OF A FREE PRESS

Editorial Comments

by Isaac Richmond

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[L to R] - Elizabeth Bewkowsk, Mildred McMickens, Sherri Culver, Ricky Culver, and Gloria Weems.

As we said in our first edition, we are going to tell the truth on all alike, be they black, white or in between. Well, we are as good as our word. And the time has come—in fact it is far past due—for us to take a closer look at leadership in the black community of Marietta. A look that has been overlooked for much too long.

In the Kennesaw Village Apartments only a blind and deranged person would fail to see the implications for tragic human existence. Now, one could jump to a conclusion and say it is all the fault of the landlord. That is not the entire case. But Kennesaw Village suffers from the lack of care and concern that breeds slum lives and slum living. People cramped and cornered tend to live a cramped and cornered life. Soon acceptance sets in, those on the outside looking in assume that "they want this kind of existence" and the myth builds up and reinforces itself that some people "like to live like this and some like to live like that". The truth of

the matter is that all people would like the best possible life. Granted there are those who would not live better if they met better in the middle of the street. They are the exceptions. Most people want the good things in life, and will work to get them if given a chance.

One person working in Kennesaw Village is Mrs. Gloria Weems. Having become concerned with the environment of her living quarters, she has set out to do something about improving same. Making all the honest efforts to see and talk with the right people in various agencies she is being given the run-around by those who are supposed to be in the business of helping people with their problems.

she and the tenants are requesting an inspection of the Kennesaw Village Apartments to rate their compliance with the Housing Code. The Marietta Housing Authority, aided by the "goodwill" efforts of Mr. James Gober, has at-



tempted to whitewash the inspection of the units and claim them to be in top shape.

When a person has been placed in a position of public trust and fails to do his/her duty as prescribed by law, it ought to be clear that they can in fact be removed by the people to whom they are responsible. No one is above the law. The Marietta Housing Authority has certain responsibilities to tenants in Marietta, should they be found to be negligent in that responsibility they can also be brought to justice. James Gober, we think you should become a little more concerned with the people who are responsible for you having the job you have. The people involved in urban renewal tracts are your people, if they do not want you at any given time you will find it difficult to justify your present position. Working to help the people who are having housing problems would perhaps be a more representative posture for you if you are concerned about remaining in the urban renewal program.

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Marietta: City In Transition

The City of Marietta is undergoing tremendous change, socially, economically and politically. The old fears, hatreds and prejudices are dying out. New people with new ideas are moving into the area. New political alliances are being formed and new interests are emerging in this overall climate that may really be called the Ill Consciousness era spoken of in "THE GREENING OF AMERICA".

This climate and new awakening means unlimited opportunity for those who would seize the time. With blacks constituting a small percentage of the overall population of Cobb County and that population concentrated in Marietta, around the core of the city itself, black businessmen should take advantage of the chance to become involved in real community development. Stores that are closing and going out of business, or moving to suburban malls make room for black businesspersons to open stores and shops and shopping centers on and near the "square". Should this opportunity be overlooked the black businessperson will have no one to blame but himself/herself.

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Store Closing

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THE ROLE OF A BLACK PREACHER

This column will begin to set forth the historical and existential role of the black preacher in the life and development of the black community.

"The Sermon"

By Rev. Isaac Richmond

During the days of First Century Palestine, there emerged a young man on the scene called Jesus. His mind, heart and thoughts were tuned to one He often referred to as the Father. This man Jesus, it is said went around doing good for all sorts of people. He was found in the strangest places and with some of the most unusual people of his day. It was common to see him among the downtrodden, the outcast, prostitutes and sinners. For this man Jesus was about the business of saving people. Thus his work was not among those who were saved - for the person who is well needs no physician - but among those who needed him most.

Reading the New Testament carefully, and not just listening to a "proof text" to a sermon, we find that Jesus had certain outstanding and distinguishing characteristics. He was bold. Astounding lawyers and doctors and speaking with authority meant that Jesus not only had something to say, but he knew how to say it to have the greatest impact. He was just. When he came upon that bunch of hypocrites who wanted to stone the woman to death who had been caught in adultery, he insisted that they examine themselves to see if they were clean enough to pass the death judgment on another. The liars and hypocrites, then as now, tucked their tails and sneaked away. He knew the ways of men, for he could see that down the road, in spite of all the so-called loyalty displayed by the disciples, he would be betrayed by them. He was brave and courageous. He went before the powers that be during his day and faced them as a man of God and not as some scared and frightened weakling, as too many men who claim to serve God operate today. Claiming God's power and running scared of the world.

Jesus looked at the Law of Moses during his day and said, "thus spake men of old, but I tell you. . . he changed things, challenged things, and got things done. He was hard on the great pretenders, Scribes, Pharisees and Chief Priest. Those who like to put on long robes and make an outside show to the world. Jesus called them just what they were: liars and hypocrites. And he said that the whores

and tax-collectors would enter the Kingdom of Heaven before the liars and hypocrites.

What, then, has happened to the power of truth as spoken through the present day ambassadors of God? Why are so many men of God silent in a world filled with crime, war, hatred, racism, poverty and human exploitation? Why are churches so dull and without spirit? Has truth lost its sting? Has the power of God diminished or do we have too many called and none chosen? Men who speak words of truth and justice are men who must prepare to meet Pilate. Those who have taken up the banner but find it inconvenient to bear had best leave it alone. God is not mocked. Whatever you sow that will you also reap. Those who have sown nothing and expect a bountiful harvest will find themselves terribly disappointed. We reap only what we sow. And those who have sown the wind will reap the whirlwind.

Brothers of the cloth, let us come together and give flesh to our words, substance to our titles and meaning to our lives and the lives of the people who look to us for leadership. Too many of us have abdicated our responsibility to the ministry. Too many of us have substituted doing for the dollar, concern for the case, and living for the LIFE. But a life devoid of service is an empty life. It is a life of bones and no flesh, lamps and no oil, fixtures and no power, pretty motors and no fuel, outside show and no inside integrity, fraudulent smiles to the world and troubled inner spirits. This empty life is the kind of condition that causes rich men with "everything" to shoot themselves, movie stars to commit suicide and people who accumulate all the world's goods only to have to come to grips with the reality that life is more, much more than food and raiment, much more than clothing and shelter, something more than cars and jewelry. Life is peace of mind, getting along with and in communion with one's fellow man, doing good where there is a need and giving oneself to the world from which one has come and to which one will return.

(Next Week: A New Look At Jesus)

Perhaps, when one reads the title of this article, one will undoubtedly question his mind as to ask what is meant by: "The price of life?" Normally, in order to define a phrase or statement, there are certain major terms or a term that has need for clarification to specify the message.

Now, life is one of the great mysteries of the universe. It has no simple definition. We can easily, however, recognize most things as living or non-living. We know that a bird or fish is living, and that a rock is nonliving. Then too, we identify living things or life by certain activities that nonliving things do not perform. Living things grow and produce, living things need food in order to survive, whether it be fertilizer for plants or vitamins and proteins for human beings, all living organisms need some form of food intake. Living things need to be cared for or attended to, roots need watering and a child needs feeding so that it may grow. Yet out of all the activities that living things perform one of the greatest is the ability to adapt to the environment in which they live.

Now, philosophers and other scholars have pondered the meaning of life since ancient times. With the dawn of science men began to study the different kinds of organisms. They learned how living things grow, what contributions they need to live, how they respond to their surroundings, and how they reproduce. They classified living things as either plants or animals. Scientists have

built a tremendous store of knowledge about life. But they still cannot say what life itself actually is.

Now, let us view life from a Biblical standpoint. The Bible does not divide human life into physical, intellectual and spiritual compartments, as we tend to do. But rather views it as a unity, the totality of activities and experiences of an individual or a community. To be sure we read of soul and spirit, now these are to be understood as the principle of life and not personal identity, not unlike that in animals. When the soul or spirit leaves a man, he cannot be said to continue to exist in a disembodied form. Thus, the soul and spirit, as well as the body are mortal and the presence of life is life unto death.

Now, there is a life which is higher than this mere existence, a life nourished on obedience to the word of God. And Jesus came that we might possess this life "which is life indeed". As a consequence of his redemptive activity our lives are transformed by faith from lives of rebellion and pride to lives of grateful surrender to his will. In contrast to natural human life which ends at death this new life is indestructible.

The source of all life is God, Jehovah, or Muhammad, or whatever other name one might desire to use in reference to God. The fact is that we must recognize a superior Being or Force who decided to create life in the form of this world. When, how, or how long ago it was done is immaterial to the existence of

life. The fact is that it was performed by a superior being to man; for He lets the sun shine, the wind blow, and the rain fall whenever he desires. There has never been evidence that man has made the sun shine, or rain fall whenever he desired it. Nevertheless this superior being created man and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. And out of this man he formed woman and blew into her nostrils the breath of life. He instilled into both the gift to manufacture or produce life. And all of us have this gift.

Just as our offsprings are sometimes disobedient to us the man and woman who were created by God became disobedient to their superior. Because of this disobedience to their superior, a price was placed upon them in which they had to pay to reinherit life or eternal life once again. And because of them, men are now still paying the price for life. The good times, the bad times, the happy times and the sad times, all are prices we must pay. Every man must suffer to some extent because of the disobedience by the first man to his superior.

Paul Lawrence Dunbar sums up the price of life in his poem "Life":

A CRUST OF BREAD AND
A CORNER TO SLEEP
IN, A MINUTE TO
SMILE AN HOUR TO
WEEP IN, A PINT OF
JOY A PEAK OF
TROUBLE, AND NEVER
A LAUGH BUT THE
MOANS COME DOUBLE
- AND THAT IS LIFE!

One day the price is going to end, but not life, it is eternal, if the price is right. Can you afford it?

The Price of Life

By Miss Linda J. Terrell

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RELIGION



Rev. H.H. Kenner, Minister Turner Chapel AME Church Marietta, Ga.

From this point of view

By Rev. H. "Ken" Kenner

As you live and work with the Christian Faith, there is the unending hope that the example you set will bring others into the fold. But more than that, an heir to the calling is constantly looked for to take over when your work seems to near an end.

Many ministers have had the good fortune to have more than one heir. They have been blessed with many blessings. For the gospel as having been carried, is assured of being carried on.

Today there is evidence of the need for more good to be done for and with people than ever before. A desire for material things by people nearly everywhere has taken precedence over the need for spiritual understanding and a closeness to the realm of God. For this reason, time is taken out briefly to say that this is God's World and all that is therein. Darkness is the absence of light; good is the absence of evil. All our days are numbered. If we live to be a hundred, it is but a short time on this earth.

In the briefness of your presence, have you done all the good you can do? Do you plan to add on to it? If not, begin now. For it is with faith that you begin your calling. The example you have set before men in the name of the eternal will assure an heir for you. . .

Attend Church Sunday



BLACK HERITAGE and the American Centennial Celebration

RICHARD ALLEN

"This land, which we have watered with our tears and our blood, is now our mother country", wrote Bishop Richard Allen on November 2, 1827. Allen had been born a slave on February 14, 1760, in Philadelphia.

Converted to Christianity in 1777, he began his career as a minister three years later. Allen's master permitted him to preach in his house, and himself became one of Allen's first converts. At this point the planter permitted Allen and his other slaves to obtain their freedom. Allen then travelled with Richard Watcoat, a white Methodist minister. Bishop Francis Asbury also gave him assignments to preach, and in 1786, upon coming to Philadelphia, he was invited to speak at the St. George Methodist Episcopal Church and other white churches.

At first the young clergyman thought he would be at ease in the white people's church. But the problems facing him because of his blackness became increasingly difficult. He preached with such power and attracted so many of his own people that the church began to send blacks to the gallery to worship. Then, one morning, just as Allen and his friends were being shown to the gallery, the elder began to pray. "We had not long been on our knees, when I raised my head and saw one of the trustees pulling the Reverend Absalom Jones off his knees", reported Allen. "Wait until the prayer is over", the kneeling minister urged. The trustees refused, calling for help to force the blacks from their knees. It was then that they left the church in a body. Their withdrawal marked the birth of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME), founded in 1787 by Allen and Absalom Jones.

By 1831 Allen had attained stature as a black leader unequalled until the rise of Frederick Douglass. In laying the foundation for a national denomination, Allen founded the first interstate association of black Americans. Devout though he was, Allen thought in secular terms as well as religious. He threw himself into efforts to develop black education and was the principal organizer, with James Forten, of the Free Negro Convention Movement, of which he was elected president. Allen was particularly insistent that the black man become group-conscious; that the initiative for the crusade for final freedom come from within the black community itself in association with sympathetic whites; that group solidarity be an indispensable element in the antislavery crusade. Allen was elected Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1816

and continued to preside until his death on March 22, 1831.

PETER SALEM

[This continues our special series on Black Americans in the American Revolution.]

The encounters at Lexington and Concord in April 1775, roused the new England colonies and, in the days that followed, some sixteen thousand Americans marched on Boston to protest against and resist any further British military expeditions. The Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia, acting for the Thirteen Colonies, appointed George Washington "to command all continental forces". But before the General reached the camp forming around Boston, another collision between the Redcoats and the Patriots occurred on June 17, 1775.

The opposing armies raced to occupy the elevations which commanded the city. The colonists were first to reach and fortify Bunker Hill.

The British commanders realized they must take the hill and, more important, welcomed the opportunity to break the rebellion once and for all. They did not believe that the Americans would stand up to a full-scale assault. This contempt for the fighting qualities of Americans was coupled with a pride in the heretofore invulnerability of British arms.

A heavy cannonading from both land and sea preceded the attack. About this time the First Massachusetts Regiment hastened to reinforce the defending patriots. With this Regiment was Peter Salem (born in Framingham, Massachusetts, about 1750) who was freed as a slave to enlist and who had seen action in the Battle of Concord as a Minuteman:

Several times the Redcoats were repelled in their assault on Bunker Hill. In one attack Peter Salem reportedly killed the British commander of marines, Major John Pitcairn.

Fighting side-by-side with their white comrades many other blacks, including: Alexander Ames, Caesar Bason, Caesar Brown, who was killed in action that day; Seymour Burr, Titus Colburn, Grant Cooper, Caesar Dickerson, Charleston Eads, Pomp Fisk, Prince Hall, who was later to become a pioneer Black Masonic leader and an active abolitionist; Cuff Haynes, Cato Howe, Barzillai Lew, Sampson Talbert, Cato Tufts, Caesar Wetherbee, and Cuff Whittemore, who was also at the Battles of Lexington and Concord.

Another black patriot received a special commendation for his heroism at Bunker Hill. The citation was signed by fourteen of his white fellow

Continued on Page 7



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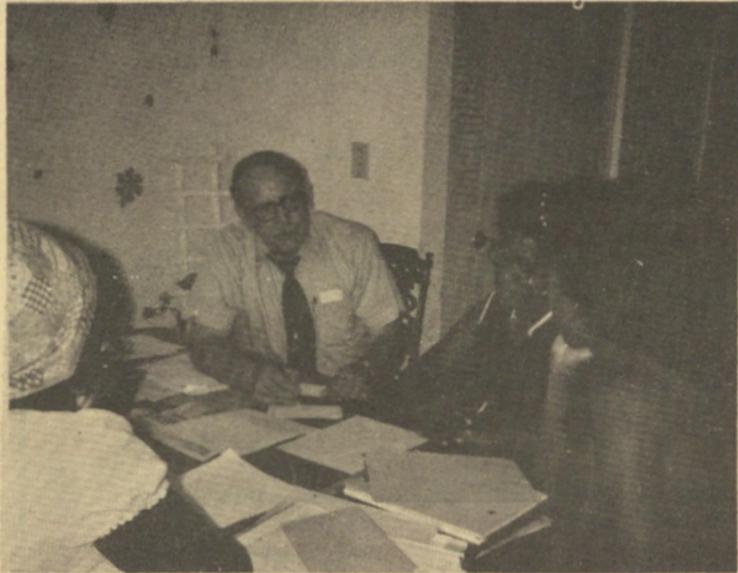
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COBB NEWS WELCOMES RELIGIOUS NEWS AND ARTICLES OF SPECIAL INTEREST.

KENNESAW VILLAGE RESIDENTS ORGANIZE



Kennesaw Village residents and HUD official, Mr. Crawford Hix.

A D H O C COMMITTEE



Elizabeth Bewkowsk, Mildred McMickens, Sherri Culver, Ricky Culver, Gloria Weems.

HUD Official Helps? HUD's Role Questionable

Tenants in the Kennesaw Village Apartments are meeting and organizing for improvements in housing. Characteristic of their seriousness is indicated by regular morning meetings of an ad hoc committee to develop plans and a program for the organization of tenants. More and more tenants are becoming involved in the much-delayed and put-off question of housing for the low income and moderate income person in the Marietta-Cobb County area. Finally something is being done. And, fortunately, it is being done by those who have the problems: tenants.

An official from HUD, Mr. Crawford Hix, has been out lending "assistance" to the organizing of a tenants association. Mr. Hix is in the area of "technical assistance" from HUD, the agency that has given its approval to the housing conditions in the Kennesaw Village Apartments. Mr. Crawford expressed concern for "working something between tenants and management". His solution appears to be a long and drawn out process of "getting everybody together". Tenants expressed feelings that they are already together, and that what they need is immediate action on recreational facilities, playground equipment, repairs and upkeep, and open communication

about things like leases, rent assistance, and who wants a street!

Tenants had stated in an earlier report that the city of Marietta would clean the street if the owners of the apartment complex would dedicate the street to the city. It seems that management would be more than glad to dedicate the streets, but now it appears that the city does not want the streets - or did not want them in the first place. Somebody is not quite squaring on the street deal.

From reports brought by people in housing complexes, public housing and in Urban Renewal tracts, the Department of HUD is not living up to its full responsibility in making certain that housing and living conditions are up to par. The HUD department approved Kennesaw Village Apartments in their present form, without any provisions for recreation and play, and other services that one should be able to take advantage of in a living environment.

A case in point is that of a woman who gave \$500.00 to a real estate agency in Marietta on the assumption that she would get a house built to her specifications and within her income level. As soon as the real estate agency got the right to

build the house they put it in a market-value level beyond the ability of the low-income person to pay. That person to date is uncertain about her house and \$500.00 Local officials in housing and HUD seem to be playing a very dangerous game with the lives and money of people who have to work hard to earn a living.

There needs to be a citizen's board to work with the programs set in motion by so-called Urban Renewal. At present nobody knows just what the housing plans are for residents who are constantly being uprooted and displaced on the pretense of something called "progress" that has not been, in the housing area, clearly defined. Citizens, black and white, must band together to put an end to the destruction of housing and businesses and not replacing them as specified by law. Under Urban Renewal and other programs that have to do with uprooting, the citizen has a right to be replaced, with appropriate compensation for losses and expenses incurred as a result of being moved. CITIZENS SHOULD GET ON THE PHONE AND CALL HUD IN ATLANTA UNTIL THEIR PHONES JUMP OFF THE HOOK. PERHAPS THEN THE BUREAUCRATS WILL DO THEIR JOBS!!!

Black Business Persons In The Marietta-Cobb Co. Area Plan To Be Involved In The Small Business Workshop June 18th

The Cobb County News Bureau urges all black businesspersons in the Marietta-Cobb County area to make provisions to attend the Small Business Administration sponsored workshop to be held on the 18th of June. The workshop will be designed to involve black and other minority persons in the business world. But the workshop will not be limited to black businesspersons. The workshop is for all persons interested in, operating or considering going into business. A wealth of information will be provided, along with speakers and consultants - and the entire workshop is paid for by the SBA. Cobb News will be one co-sponsor of the workshop, and minority representation will be on the panel of speakers and consultants.

The workshop will be a day-long session with appropriate breaks for meals and refreshments. You should come prepared to spend the entire six hours during the workshop, so as to get the full benefit of the seminars. Make plans to have someone attend your business on June 18th. Full participation is needed in order for the workshop to be a success.

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BLACK HERITAGE & THE AMERICAN BICENT.

Continued from Page 5

officers and men, including Colonel William Prescott - ("Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes."), the field commander of the battle: "Under our own observation, we declare that a black man called Salem Poor. . .behaved like an experienced officer, as well as an excellent soldier.

. . .In the person of this said black centers a brave and gallant soldier. The reward due to so great and distinguished a character, we submit to the Congress". In effect, Peter Salem Poor was really nominated for this Nation's first "Congressional Medal of Honor".

Under repeated assaults and because their ammunition was exhausted the Americans retired. Although the British carried the day, it was a Pyrrhic victory: the king's casualties were about one thousand one hundred and fifty out of a total of two thousand five hundred men engaged; Patriot losses, about four hundred out of one thousand six hundred. The "invincibility" of British arms had been exploded and a republic

was born.

After Bunker Hill, Peter Salem continued his military service for seven years, seeing action again at the crucial Battle of Saratoga in 1777. Back to civilian life, he settled in Leicester, Massachusetts, plied his trade of basket making, and in 1783 married Katy Benson. Subsequently returning to Framingham, he died on August 16, 1816.

In John Trumbull's great historic painting of the Battle of Bunker Hill, in the Rotunda of the Capitol at Washington, D.C., Peter Salem is one of the conspicuous figures. In 1882, the town of Framingham voted to place a memorial stone over his grave and appropriated one hundred fifty dollars for the purpose. The Daughters of the American Revolution honored his memory in 1909. They acquired possession of the site of his home in Leicester, beautified the spot and caused to be placed in a stone fence by the roadside a large boulder bearing this inscription: "Here lived Peter Salem, a Black soldier of the Revolution".

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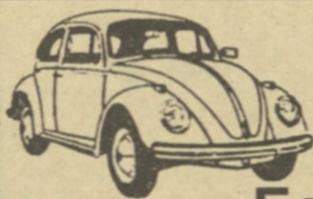
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YOUTH DAY PROGRAM

Wright Street Baptist Church invites you to its Youth Day Program Sunday, June 8, 1975. Mrs. Alfreda Hill, formerly Mrs. Alfreda Coleman, will be the Guest Speaker. The program begins at 11:00 A.M.

Rev. A. Booker, Pastor — Amelia Phillips, Program Dir.

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**TO ALL COBB NEWS SUBSCRIBERS,
ADVERTISERS AND SUPPORTERS**

We would like to thank you for your consideration and patience during this period of our efforts to stabilize the internal organization of operating a newspaper with limited re-

sources and staff. Your response assures us that COBB NEWS services are needed and appreciated. We will make every effort to always respond in kind.

CONTACT THE EDITOR

Should any subscriber, advertiser or would-be supporter or just an interested individual desire knowing the policy, program or procedures of COBB NEWS with regard to staff, subscription rates and advertising, please get in touch with the

COBB NEWS Editor, Isaac Richmond, at 424-0940 or 344-3827. Our desire is to serve the community with a quality news service program. Should that not be taking place in the name of COBB NEWS we want to know about it.

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