



THE EAGLE'S EYE

SECOND EDITION, JAN. 22, 2019

EVENTS

- **SAVE THE DATE!**
18th Biannual GW Carver High School Grand Reunion Sept. 20-22, 2019 at Kannapolis/Concord, NC
Information to Follow.
- **Meeting Dates:**
Jan. 25th
Feb. 8th
Feb. 22nd
Mar. 8th
Mar. 22nd
Meetings are currently held at Marable Memorial AME Zion Church at 2:00 PM
- **Alumni Yearly Dues are \$30.**
Please make money order or cashier's check out to the GW Carver High School Alumni Association, PO Box 644, Kannapolis, NC 28081



“Lightning makes no sound until it strikes.”

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

A Note from the President

The George Washington Carver High School Alumni Association has begun the year with energy and excitement! We have acquired the use of a room at the GW Carver Elementary School. We are also working to acquire artifacts to display in the Alumni Room.

The Alumni Association needs your help! We are currently seeking to secure names and addresses of all graduates and attendees of Carver. This information can be emailed to Mayo Caldwell (diatstat7@aol.com) or Leon Thompson (mtchar@aol.com).

Keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we are Keeping the Legacy Alive!

Regards,
Georgia Harris, President

NEW YEAR: NEW OPPORTUNITIES VALERIE CALDWELL GRAY

January 1, 2019, ushered in a new year! The George Washington Carver High School Alumni Association wishes each of you: peace, prosperity, joy, health and most importantly, love.

A new year gives us new opportunities to set new goals and dream new dreams. Our hope for each of you is that you look forward to this New Year with confidence and courage, giving wings to those new dreams you're dreaming. Hope springs anew! Each of us is given numerous chances to try *novel* things and accomplish *novel* things. We are also given occasions to shed sunshine in the lives of others by helping them write small and large pieces of their stories.

On behalf of George Washington Carver High School Alumni Association, may 2019 be a great year and hold for each of you all that your heart desires!!!

WHAT'S GOING ON? VALERIE CALDWELL GRAY

The Alumni Association continues Keeping the Legacy Alive! The board is doing great things that enable us to keep George Washington Carver High School in the minds of the people in our community and beyond. It held a Christmas party at the Copperfield Event Center in December. A group of alumnus also participated in the Kannapolis Christmas Parade. A big Thank You to participants in both events!



WHAT'S GOING ON? CONT...

We have secured a room at the GW Carver Elementary School that will house historical material as well as serve as a meeting place.

Several alumni have joined other adults in the community and are serving as mentors for students at the school.

We are striving to **Keep the Legacy Alive!!!**

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF Ms. MAGGIE P. BRYANT COMPILED BY LARRY B. JOHNSON (CARVER, CLASS OF 1966)

Maggie Poole Bryant was born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina to R. Kelly Bryant Sr., and Maggie Lee Poole. Her two brothers predeceased her. Ms. Bryant graduated from Booker T. Washington High School (Rocky Mount) in 1934 and then attended North Carolina College at Durham, now North Carolina Central University, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts, a Bachelor of Science in Library Science, and a Master of Arts in Library Science. Her first career position was as a teacher-librarian at G.C. Hawley High School, Creedmoor, NC where she taught English for grades 8-11.

In 1944 Ms. Bryant accepted a library position at George Washington Carver High School, Kannapolis, NC. In connection with the library, she taught history and civics. In 1962, she became a full-time librarian. She established five libraries, including a Media Center for Language Arts and Social Studies for George Washington Carver Seventh Grade Center; and she assisted in replacing the same library when the school was destroyed by fire in 1975. Subsequently, she organized the Kannapolis Middle School library and served as a librarian at J.W. Cannon Junior High School and at A.L. Brown Senior High School. Also, in 1967 and 1968, she was a librarian for the summer program sponsored by the Cannon Memorial YMCA for the G.W. Carver School. Ms. Bryant retired on July, 1, 1982, after forty-three years of service in education, thirty-three of those years in the Kannapolis City Schools.

Ms. Bryant resides in Durham, still spending much of her time researching family history and compiling historical data about G.W. Carver High School. In July 2015, the Carver community honored Ms. Bryant on her 100th birthday. To this day, she beams at that celebration being one of the major highlights of her life. In fact, she is always speaking so proudly of Carver, its staff and students. She comments that teachers took a whole lot of little to make a whole lot of something, and she is so very proud of her students who made great strides, whether they pursued great careers or became good citizens. For the Gran Reunion booklet in 1998, Ms. Bryant wrote: "Carver can be compared to a family. Some of us did well, exceptionally well. Carver showed love, friendship, and inspiration, shaping us into the fine men and women we are today. As I look back, I recognize that I have thoroughly enjoyed the experiences, and I am exceedingly proud to have been a member of the Carver family."



“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically.”

“Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.”

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



“Faith is taking the first step even when you can’t see the whole staircase.”

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



“I have decided to stick to love...hate is too great a burden to bear.”

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

QUIET PLEASE! **LEON THOMPSON**

While reading the wonderful piece on Ms. Bryant, I could not help but think about the impact that she and the many wonderful G.W. Carver teachers had on our lives. We were short-changed in many ways, but we were blessed with some exceptional educators. Most of the teachers had advanced degrees from some prestigious institutions of higher learning. There was a sense of urgency in the way our teachers taught. It has taken me years to figure out why. They knew what obstacles we would face in the years to come.

Little did I know how important a role Ms. Bryant would play in our lives by teaching us how to use a library. I don't remember the exact grade, but I can visualize the day when my class was taken to the library and shown around. One of the most important and lasting things that she taught us was how to use the library. Although they were old, we had two complete sets of Encyclopedia Britannica. We learned about reference books, periodicals and the other materials that were available to us. Learning how to research whatever material we needed enabled us to “Google” before there was a Google. As we look over the many instructors that impacted our lives, Ms. Bryant is among one of the most important because she taught us how to access information that would be of great benefit in our future endeavors. On behalf of G.W. Carver students, THANK YOU MS. BRYANT!

THE GLORY YEARS **MAYO CALDWELL**

Last year, we produced the first “Glory Years” feature story: stories about students that loved, supported and prospered from matriculating at G.W. Carver High School. During the sixties, Carver continued to develop educationally and athletically – with meager resources- to produce bishops, military officers, pilots, doctors, skilled laborers, preachers, and businessmen. Larry Shivers is one of those successful entrepreneurs that was groomed both academically and athletically at Carver High School. Larry played football and threw the shot put during track season. He played and lettered on that great football team with William “Neesey” Kennedy, William Brown, Leonard Johnson, Leroy “Bug” Clowney, Marshal Johnson, James Lee Johnson, and Robert “Teeny” Barnes. According to his fellow linesmen, Larry was tenacious at tackle. He was known for his calculating ability to open holes on offense and his strength, -which when coupled with quick-step speed enabled Larry to avoid blocks on defense. Carver only lost one conference game that year (1964). The Eagles lost to a powerhouse (Lexington, NC) 6-0. In addition, Robert Barnes was a three year starter at center and handled both the kick-off and punting chores. No question, we had a great team! We were known for beating teams by 40 points on any given night. We beat Carthage High School 92-6.

After graduating from Carver, Larry became a successful businessman and voting citizen. He is also the proud father of two boys: Walter and Joel Stafford. Larry, born on December 18, 1946, is the son of the late Eugene and Murtie Shivers from Cleveland County, NC. He has four siblings: Margaret (played basketball), Sally, Charles, and Lloyd.



DOWN IN THE HEART OF THE
 DEAR OLE NORTH STATE.
 IT'S A SPOT THAT
 WE CHERISH TODAY.
 FOR THERE STANDS A SCHOOL,
 WHOSE IDEALS AND RULES
 WILL SOON BE A GUIDING RAY,
 TRUTH AND HONOR
 IN HER HALLS,
 THAT'S CARVER HIGH SCHOOL!
 FAITH AND LOVE
 WITHIN HER WALLS.
 THAT'S CARVED HIGH SCHOOL!
 IT'S THE SCHOOL THAT WE
 ALL LOVE THE BEST.
 IT'S THE SCHOOL WHERE WE
 STAND ALL THE TESTS.
 GLORY WILL SOON BE OURS
 FAITH WILL STAND HIGH ABOVE
**THAT'S CARVER
 HIGH SCHOOL!**



New Mission:
 Cultivate growth.
 Embrace differences.
 Inspire creativity.

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THE GLORY YEARS CONT...

Like many other Blue Eagles, Larry started at the Lutheran School in Little Texas under the direction of Ms. Wilma Lindsay, then transferred to Carver High School in the fifth grade where Ms. Ora Wesley was his teacher. According to Larry, his favorite subjects were art and math. He noted Mr. Martin and Mr. Bridges motivated him to seek other jobs beyond Cannon Mills. While working on third shift in the mill, he studied welding at Rowan Technical College during the day. Larry developed an appetite for saving money, so while working for Martin Marietta and Republic Steel, he accumulated enough savings to buy his first house. Then, under the influence of his brother, Charles, Larry became determined to be a successful real estate broker.

How did he do it? He paid his notes on time, saved his profits from each house that he bought, and used those profits to purchase additional houses, thereby gaining the trust of local bankers. He has used this system to accumulate over 35 houses and has proudly brought his two sons into the business.

Look for Brother Larry at our next event. He is a proud "Blue Eagle" and an asset to our community, but if he asks you to dance while the music is pumping and everyone is having a grand old time – well that's on you!

EAGLE SNAPSHOTS MAYO CALDWELL

David Perry

David attended Carver from 1962-1966. He worked at Cannon Mills from 1966 – 2000 and he is a voter. David is married to Corlean Wilkerson, a native of Mt. Pleasant, NC. They have been married for forty eight years and have two sons. David sings in the choir and is an elder at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Little Texas, Kannapolis.

Hazel Johnson

Hazel attended Carver from 1960 – 1964. She has two children, two grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. She worked at Cannon Mills/Pillow Tex for thirty-three years from which she retired. She currently works at the polling sites during election seasons. Hazel also works for Comfort Keepers. She attends Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Little Texas, Kannapolis. She also attends Bible Study and sings in the choir. Hazel was formerly married to Marshal Johnson, one of the great running backs in Carver's football history. Hazel describes herself as a dedicated care giver.

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

FOR PUBLICATION IN THE EAGLE'S EYE CONTACT:
 Leon Thompson, Mayo Caldwell, or Valerie Caldwell Gray