



# THE EAGLE'S EYE

THIRD EDITION, APRIL 12, 2019

## EVENTS

- Grand Reunion Sept. 20-22, 2019. Event cost is \$75. Partial payments are accepted  
Please make money order or cashier's check out to the GW Carver High School Alumni Association, PO Box 644, Kannapolis, NC 28081
- Reunion Packets may be received by calling one of the following:  
Willie Ruth Berry (704) 857-6450  
Georgia Harris (980) 432-0335 or  
Sadie Thompson (704) 938-1904
- 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
- Souvenir journal fees are due August 26, 2019.



"Spring adds new life and new beauty to all that is."

-Jessica Harrelson

## A Note from the President

The George Washington Carver High School Alumni Association has been busy working on ways to make this year's reunion a memorable one. We are still looking for names and addresses of graduates and attendants of Carver. We do have a meeting room at G. W. Carver Elementary School. Please send all correspondence to GW Carver Alumni Association, PO Box 644, Kannapolis, NC 28082.

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

Regards,  
Georgia Harris, President

## EAGLE UPDATES VALERIE CALDWELL GRAY

### ALUMNI ROOM

The GW Carver Alumni Association is excited about the Alumni Room which is located at the GW Carver Elementary School. Beginning this month, it will be our official meeting space. Please donate copies of items to be displayed in the room. We will have a meeting schedule published in the upcoming newsletter. Please call Georgia Harris, (704) 432-0335 or Leon Thompson, (704) 699-4102 to obtain meeting dates prior to the July newsletter publication.

### SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Scholarship Fund has been re-established and will be issuing scholarships to deserving students. The guidelines and eligibility information will be outlined in the upcoming publication. Please begin to share this information as our students will benefit from this financial assistance as they attend an accredited college or institution of higher learning.

### SPRING IS IN THE AIR!

Leo Tolstoy said "Spring is the time of plans and projects!" The 2019 Grand Reunion Committee is excited about the upcoming festivities planned! Our theme is **Reuniting and Reflecting: The Legacy Continues 1936 – 1967!** As always, it will be a wonderful time to reunite with old friends and make new ones. Reflecting upon wonderful memories makes our hearts glad and our souls smile! **We will see you in September!!!**

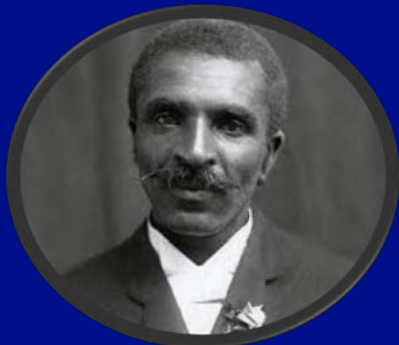


“Education is the key to unlock the golden door of Freedom!”

“Where there is no vision, there is no hope.”

“Do what you can, with what you have, and do it now!”

-George Washington Carver



## THE ENTREPRENEURS LEON THOMPSON

In the late forties through the seventies, out of necessity, there were many black businesses scattered around Kannapolis. One of the first people that comes to mind is Mr. Will Massey. What started out as a Saturday get-together became quite a business. Mr. Will lived on the corner of Lowe Ave and East “C” Street. On Saturdays there was a fish fry. The cast iron wash pot cooked some of the best fish around. Mr. Will moved to Rutledge Town where he had a small building with wash pots. The fish fry brought black and white people from all over the area for his delicious fish.

During the summers there was always a baseball game played somewhere in town. Mr. Willie “Shug” Johnson and Mr. Ratliff sold popcorn, snowballs, and drinks. The two did quite well. Mr. Ratliff expanded into selling ladies’ stockings and other small items. In the two thousands, Mr. Ratliff sold drinks and candy in the neighborhoods.

Centerview seemed to be the place where many of the teachers lived and businesses flourished. Mr. Reid, Mrs. Kirk, and Mrs. Keno-Allison all owned homes in the Centerview community. Mr. Bus Farney rented rooms and several teachers lived there. Across the street from Marable Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church was a group of building that house black businesses. Dr. Gibson’s office and a pharmacy were the first businesses. Dr. Gibson worked out of his office and made house calls. He was the first black doctor in town and for the record, was not allowed to have patients at the hospital. Mr. J.B. Rose has his insurance business in one of the buildings. Mr. Will Reid had a cleaners and tailor shop in the complex. Mrs. Peg Rose had her beauty shop there also. Mr. Robert Thompson would come later.

I am going to name as many people as I can and their professions. YOU tell the story about them!

- Barbers – Mr. Crawley Hollis, Mr. John McCree, Mr. Robert Thompson, Mr. George Long, Mr. Freeman Hollis, Mr. Jerry Brown, and Mr. Florence Black
- Beauticians – Ms. Mattie Anthony, Ms. Peg Rose, Ms. Antoinette Stowe, Ms. Ophelia Wilson, Ms. Esther Long, Ms. Jeanette Bailey Thompson, Ms. Geneva Johnson, and Ms. Ella Jones
- Builders – Mr. Early Willie and Mr. Dan Morehead
- Brick Masons – Mr. Raymond Anthony, Mr. Nathaniel Lockett, Mr. Tim Johnson, Mr. Bill Smith, Mr. Charles and Willie Douglas, and Mr. A.J. Curry
- Linoleum Layers – Mr. Boyce and Herschel Bridges
- Plasterers – Mr. Orange Sr., Orange Jr., and Mr. Herman Umphery
- Paint Contractors – Mr. Jerry Mingo Sr.
- Upholsterer – Mr. Namon Smith
- Mechanics – Mr. Doc Mingo and Mr. Donald “Snake” Russell
- Garbage Collector – Mr. Willie Davis
- Paper Contractor – Mr. Cuff Kirkland
- Pool Room Owner – Mr. Anthony “Mint” Curry
- Café Owners – Mr. R.B. Durham and Rev. John Wesley



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!**



"The eagle has no fear. It has a fearless spirit of a conqueror!"

-Joyce Meyers  
 (Paraphrased)

*Rhythm Band* Director, Mrs. Nancy F. Miller



## THE ENTREPRENEURS CONT...

- Club Owners – Mr. Walter Richardson, Ms. Lorene Smith, Mr. John “Big Boy” Adams, and Mr. Curt Moore
- Teenage Club Owner – Mr. Tim Johnson
- Transportation/Bail Bonding Business Owner – Mr. Emmanuel Stowe
- Dry Cleaner Owners – Mr. Columbus “Slim” and Ms. Mildred Stewart
- Mortuary Owners – Mr. Leroy “LC” Hill and Mr. Herman Johnson
- Oil Business Owner – Mr. Rayford Johnson
- Insurance Company Owners – Mr. J.B. Rose and Mr. William Farney
- Convenience Store Owner – Mr. Roy Russell, and Mr. Tim Johnson

The people that are named above are all pioneers who paved the way. Mr. Walt Richardson and his club are on a select list: the “Chitterling Circuit.”

We would love to hear a story about some of the people at the “Grand Reunion” in September!

### 1960 DISTRICT 3 CHAMPIONS ERNEST BROWN

One of Carver’s best football teams! This team lost a close Western District Championship game to Hickory’s Ridgeview High. Also beat Lexington’s Dunbar High on a touchdown pass from Willie J. Gibson to Mason McCollough to secure the District 3 Championship. Team starter were Will J. Gibson-QB, Chalmers Bankhead-RB, Bobby Gray-RB, Arnold Richardson-RB, Harry Campbell-C, Richard Thompson-G, Jerry Griffin-G, Donald W. Rose-T, Billy R. Stanback-T, Mason McCollough-E, and James Campbell-E. Billy Reid was the backup quarterback. Coaches were Louis Martin, Milton Taylor, and Ben Dupree. Willie Gibson and Chalmers Bankhead (Winston-Salem State), Harry Campbell and Donald Rose (Livingstone), and Billy Reid (North Carolina Central University) went on to play college football. This was a very talented team that deserves a lot of recognition.

**“If”**

**RUDYARD KIPLING**

If you can keep your head when all about you  
 Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,  
 If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,  
 But make allowance for their doubting too;  
 If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,  
 Or being lied about, don’t deal in lies,  
 Or being hated, don’t give way to hating,  
 And yet don’t look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;  
 If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;  
 If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster  
 And treat those two impostors just the same;



Leon Thompson, Editor  
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Ernest Brown

If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken  
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,  
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings  
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,  
And lose, and start again at your beginnings  
And never breathe a word about your loss;  
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew  
To serve your turn long after they are gone,  
And so hold on when there is nothing in you  
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,  
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,  
If all men count with you, but none too much;  
If you can fill the unforgiving minute  
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,  
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,  
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!



I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it.  
The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.

-Nelson Mandela

**FOR PUBLICATION IN THE EAGLE'S EYE CONTACT:**  
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