



TREASURES IN THE URBAN/INNER CITY

Carolyn D. Bryant

District Commissioner Chehote District

Great Smoky Mt. Council

Boy Scouts of America

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Piedmont-Appalachian College of Commissioner Science


Lees-McRae College

Banner Elk, North Carolina

Dr. Robert T. (Tom) Ladd, Advisor

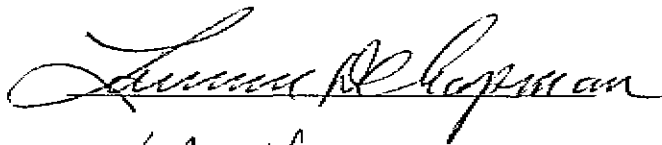
To the Graduate Council:

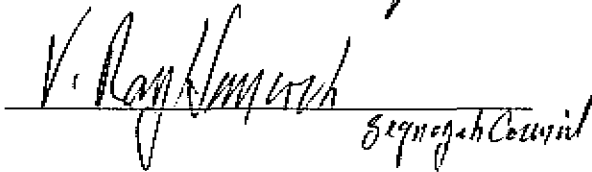
I am submitting herewith a thesis written by Carolyn D. Bryant entitled "Treasures In The Urban/Inner City". I have examined the final copy of this thesis for form and content and recommend that it be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Commissioner Service.


Robert T. Ladd

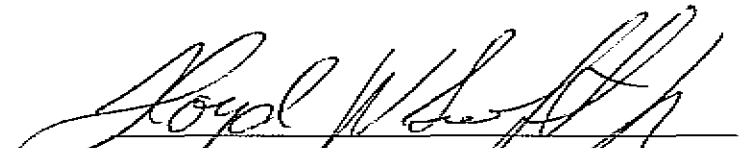
We have read this thesis and
recommend its acceptance:






_____ *Segregation Council*

Accepted for the Council:


Dean of the Doctoral Program

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

My family has been the greatest resource and support of my Scouting career. They have encouraged me in many ways to continue to influence and encourage young people in my community to reap the benefits of belonging to the Boy Scouts of America movement.

I also want to thank my church, Mount Zion Baptist Church, for their continued role in supporting the Scouting program in our church.

And lastly, a big thanks to Anthony Hancock who has made many strives to promote Scouting in the Urban/Inner City. I enjoyed working with him.

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INTRODUCTION

No one ever said that procuring vital information that can benefit a community was an easy task; especially when the community has little knowledge of the information that can benefit them.

The Scouting movement in the Knoxville urban/inner community has strived to create East to Northwest, seven years of Scouting in public assisted housing and urban communities.

This thesis will explore methods used and undeveloped ideas for boosting the relationship between the Boy Scouts of America and the urban/inner city community.

COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS

The Boy Scouts of America Scouting Program has been in the Inner City of Knoxville since the 1930s; during that era until the late 1960s, black Scouting was a separate entity from the main white division of Scouting. Many black veteran Scouters still exist in the city, especially one outstanding veteran, J. R. Ross, Jr., who is still active in Scouting after sixty years of experience.

One would think that Scouting is bursting at the seams with such a long history, but knowledge of our existing program does not have the high visibility it needs to capture all the youth that could benefit from this organization.

While the existing program council has developed under the direction of District Executive, Anthony Hancock, the Inner/Urban City was developed out of the Central District. Targeting housing communities as well as suburban communities has produced a diverse group not like any other council area.

Reaching youth and adults from East to Northeast Knoxville has proved to be challenging. Many low-income people have never seen nor experienced any kind of Scouting. Some have never been out of their neighborhood to see the mountains or visit the lakes. So, the scouting district must work at making itself visible and obtainable to the schools, churches, and business in these neighborhoods.

Highly untapped sources in the Northwest end of town have been the churches

and businesses. Scouts have participated in the Lonsdale Homecoming festivities, Learning for Life has been implemented into Maynard Elementary School, Pond Gap Elementary is attempting to start a Cub Scout program, but many elementary schools have yet to adopt a program even though Boy Scouts of America's "School Night" has been presented at their schools on Open House nights.

Overall, scouting's visibility can be improved by placing signs on our transportation vans and in front of chartered organization buildings, and by wearing red jackets or our uniforms, tee-shirts, etc. If possible, volunteers should wear Scout tee shirts to work, I have found this method highly effective for recruiting purposes. All district volunteers can promote Scouting by putting the Scouting emblem on their car windows.

Some of our best supporters of Scouting are family and friends. Get this group of people involved in Scout activities such as chaperons, Scout show assistants, networkers, invite them to Scout activities, such as banquets, camping trips, unit meetings and field trips. Not all adults wish to play key roles in Scouting, but they are willing to support and help the units.

THE MEDIA RESOURCES

Local community publications are available and always looking for good community news. There are two resource papers in our neighborhood: "The Enlightner" and "The Tennessee Timesaver"; these are distributed in all the grocery stores and some businesses. The urban district needs to appoint a Public Relations Chairperson to keep the media informed of our Urban/Inner City Scout activities.

Within the last year, the Chehote District participated in some highly visible projects that benefited the city.

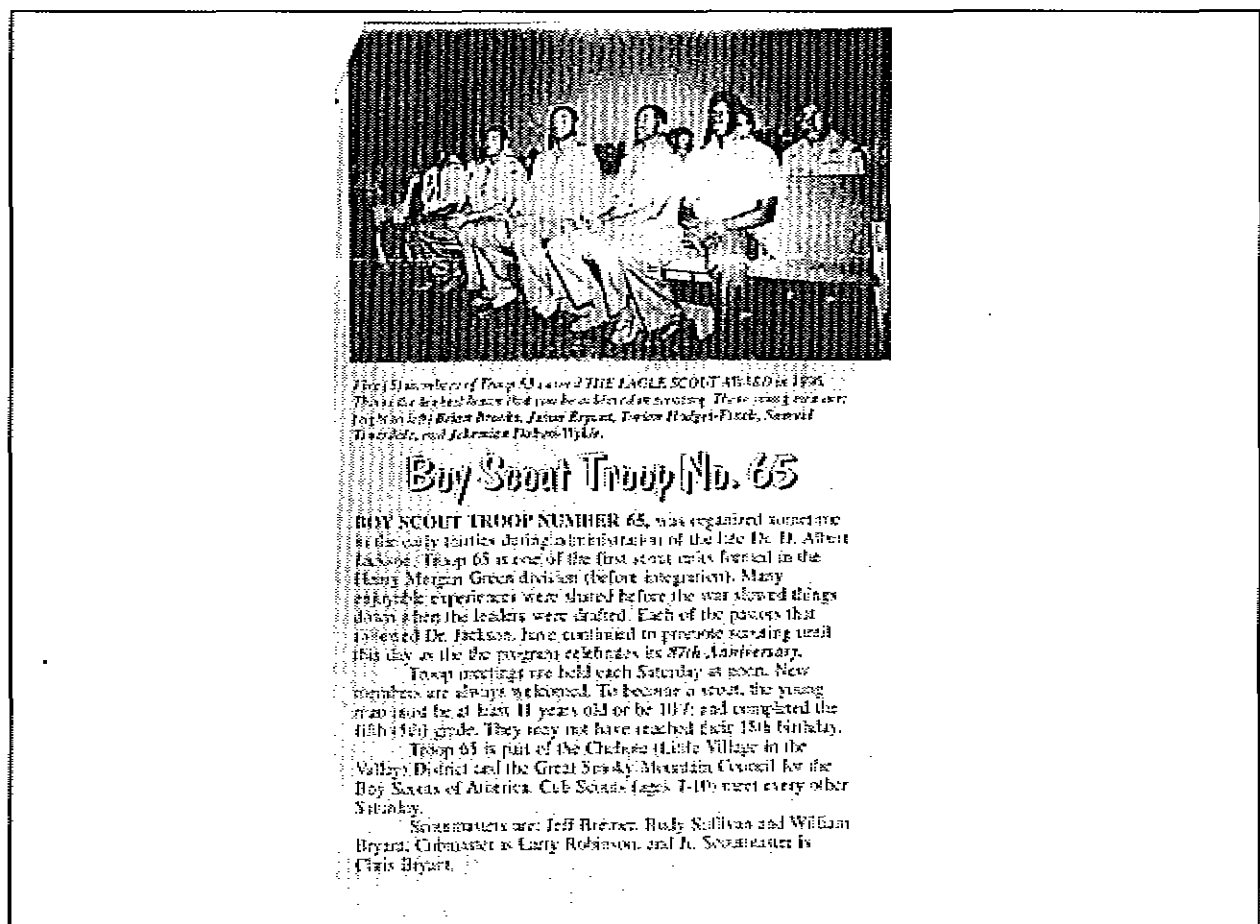



Fig 1. Picture Eagle Ceremony

In 1966, five Eagle Scouts from Mount Zion Baptist Church not only celebrated their accomplishments together, but were televised on WATE-TV. The video has been utilized by the Great Smoky Mountain Council for its United Way funding campaign.

Morningside Park was the scene of our Fall Campout. It is the first time we have ever camped in the inner city at a beautiful park. We also guarded the

**Haley Heritage Square
Community Playground
at Morningside Park**

**Ribbon Cutting
Sunday, September 21, 1997
3:30 p.m.**



**Welcome by
Masters of Ceremony
Colvin Idol and Cassandra McGee**

**Invocation
Reverend James E. Jackson
Lennon-Seney Methodist Church**

**Victor Ashe, Mayor
City of Knoxville**

**Bruce Olson, Vice President
Kimberly-Clark Corporation**


**Darell Hammond, CEO
KaBOOM!**

**Evon Milton, Project Director
AAAA, Inc.
Citizens for Haley Heritage Square**

Fig 2. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

materials used for the playground; escorted children to the daycare center provided for workers; help direct traffic into the various parking lots, and cooked for over a thousand people on the last day of the project. All Scouters eighteen and up worked on the playground all three days. The Chehote District Scout units received a beautiful patch designed by the Kimberly-Clark Corporation.

A four Year Success Story
"Learning for Life"
Program
Austin-East High School



KNOXVILLE UTILITIES BOARD

WHAT IS TEENWORK?

TEENWORK is an employment orientation program offered exclusively to Austin-East High School Juniors. It is a partnership between the Knoxville Utilities Board and Austin-East High School. The goal of TEENWORK is to help bridge the gap between school and work.

The concept of TEENWORK is attributed to Clifford Ross, former Austin-East Basketball Coach and current Commissioner of KUB, and Larry Fleming, President and CEO of Knoxville Utilities Board.

Now in its fourth year, TEENWORK continues to aid our youth in their understanding of how the classroom relates to the world of work. Through employment orientation sessions, KUB offers guidance in selecting a career, resume preparation, applying for a job and interviewing techniques. In addition to KUB presenters, TEENWORK will be assisted by the Boy Scouts of America and other local organizations.

Upon completion of the twelve week core program, students will be offered opportunities to interview for available summer internships. The number of students hired will be based on the number positions available at KUB. If hired, transportation to and from work is the sole responsibility of the student.

Enclosed is a brief outline of the TEENWORK program and guidelines for participation. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Janice Nichols at (423)558-2451.

Fig 3. TeenWork, Learning For Life, Austin-East High School

The Smoky Mountain Council has recently appointed a Marketing Director, Don Dare of WATE-TV. He is an asset to all districts. His experience as a journalist and veteran Scouter secures the promotion of Scouting throughout the county.

Radio talk news can be used to promote, say a Neighborhood Scouting Fair that would be sponsored by the Chehote District. A representative from the district could appear on air to promote and answer questions about our Urban/Inner City activities.

The active and visible participation of district scouters in the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. commemoration continues to be an important tie to the community.

(Fig 4. King Week, booklet, attached)

Sales of popcorn has improved over the last three years in our district. Many troops pick a spot at a area grocery store or Wal-Mart's, etc. This not only sells the product, but insures visibility for promoting and recruiting purposes.

ROUNDTABLES, A SOURCE OF INFORMATION

The District Key 3 plays an important role in promoting the vital programs and community support necessary to reach the District's goals. These three, the District Executive, District Chairperson, and the District Commissioner form the networking system of the Scouting program. Their contacts in the community help to provide funding resources, community awareness and adult recruitment at the highest level to ensure that the units will be successful.

Bringing in guest speakers who are aware of community activities, problems, and urban environments give the District the advantage of knowing how to target the Scouting program. Just recently, we invited Captain Randy Lockmiller, a gang expert, to tell us about the signs and symbols of groups and why young people are involved in gang activity. This kind of information is very important in helping our adult leaders cope with units and recruitment activities.

Roundtable also is a good source of providing the Best Methods for District Volunteers Serving Low-Income Urban Communities: Operation First Class has yet to be fully implemented in our Council or District! Resources for this program are available through the Urban Emphasis Division Boy Scouts of America in Irving, Texas.

A special Scout patch to be earned by young scouts for learning their ethnic

heritage and doing a small project or participating on a historical trail of their ethnic heritage, is another way of creating awareness and pride in the inner city units.

The pioneer of Scouting, Baden Powell, discovered the Zulus Warriors. He liked their methods of hunting, camping, discipline, etc. and incorporated their ideas into his Scouting movement. Chehote (Little Village), also means the African concept of taking care of its own families.

The National Afro-American colors are red, black and green. These colors are central to Chehote's heritage patch.

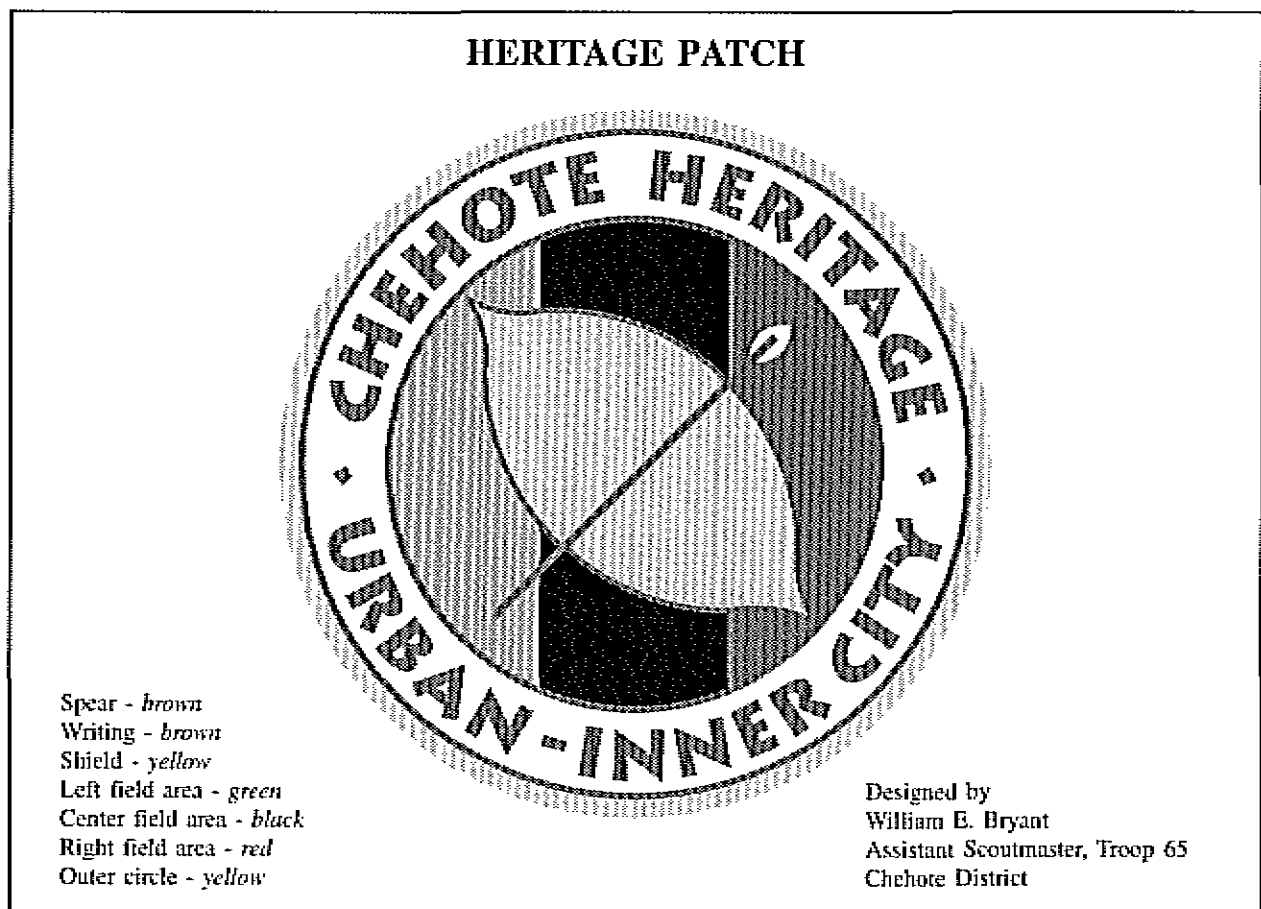


Fig 5. Heritage Patch

SCOUT VISIBILITY

The opinions and thoughts of volunteers whose combined time and experience would equal thousands of hours, speak on how public relations can be improved in our District:

Jason Bryant, Eagle Scout, Troop 65:

"As young Scouters in the urban areas, we need to be seen, heard and participate in more community activities. For example: Troop 65 before it became a member of the Chehote District, functioned under the Sequoyah District. Our troop participated in Cancer runs to parading downtown in the Gulf War Veterans Parade. The Inner City Community does not understand what Scouting is all about. They think it is primarily a white organization."

J. R. Ross, District Chairman of Chehote District:

"We have a tendency in the Urban/Inner City Community to think Scouting is costly, but in the long run its cheaper, because it keeps family members out of trouble. Need to communicate, educate and recruit churches (still strong influences in black community) the

importance of choosing representatives and chartering new organizations is crucial to the Scouting programs.”

Rev. Larry Mathis, Urban Youth Minister, New Mt. Calvary Baptist Church:

“Need Operation First Class Outreach. Traditional ways need to be offered to young people as a survival package as their lives experience today’s issues, etc. The messenger should tailor his or her recruitment in a Urban friendly way. Scouting should not be presented as a social or economic barrier to kids or adults who desire to join the movement.”

Larry Russell, Scoutmaster Troop 5, Montgomery Village, St. John’s Episcopal Cathedral, and First Presbyterian Church sponsors:

“Nothing breeds success like success! People were amazed that we could start a troop in Montgomery Village, with disadvantage young men, and produce a quality unit from 1995 until present; with enduring results of two young men obtaining their rank of Eagle.”

Rudy Sullivan, Scoutmaster Troop 65, Mount Zion Baptist Church:

“More public awareness programs are needed with emphasis on Scouting

in the Urban/Inner City. The Northwest emphasis in churches is vitally needed to produce Scouting in the Mechanicsville, Lonsdale, Beaumont, and Westview areas.”

George White, Troop 65 Committee Chairman, Mount Zion Baptist Church:

“Why doesn’t the Council have more minority representation in its higher ranks? A provocative notion observed by contributors to the ‘S.M.E. Campaign,’ 1998. Better representation would mean more minority interest and participation in Inner City activities, etc.”

INSTITUTIONAL HEADS, KEY NETWORKING

Chartered Organizations, especially the Institutional Head, should be kept informed of all Scouting activities on the District level. They should be invited to participate in a Scouting activity such as:

1. Boy Scout camping trips or other functions
2. Viewing the latest videos on Scouting
3. Taken to lunch or dinner with the District Key 3
4. Visitations to other chartered organizational's (e.g., church service) or a special program function the organization is sponsoring
5. Visit at least one roundtable during the year
6. Speak at a major function, such as a District Banquet, etc.

I once read that an endorsement from a minister in the pulpit would be worth more than any media endorsement the Inner City Community could receive.

COUNCIL: OPERATION FIRST CLASS

Implementation of "Operation First Class" in the Great Smoky Mountain

Council Boy Scouts of America has never been implemented. Urban emphasis will never succeed unless it has full commitment from the council.

Some individuals in our District have been on a one-man campaign to build credibility, providing funding and innovative ideas to reach our treasures (minority youth) in the city. No longer can we as a District walk this trail again alone. We need to implement as many Cub Packs and Scout Troops as we can handle in the "At Risk Youth" areas.

Considerable effort should be involved in formulating the Urban Emphasis Committee: taken directly from Organizing Your Council Urban Emphasis Committee¹ booklet. The purpose would be: to help local council Scouters and others understand the environment and folkways of populations living in low-income areas; to develop a comprehensive plan of Scouting approaches that effectively meets the needs of these populations; to secure the participation of other community based

¹ B.S.A. publication, Organizing Your Council Urban Emphasis Committee, Texas: 1995, No. 11006.

organizations in the Scouting program; and to locate and develop funding sources to support the local council's outreach in these urban areas.

Those who serve on this committee should have high visibility and influence within the community. They should comprise the top leadership from such fields as public housing, city planning, urban development, juvenile justice, urban school systems, urban clergy, human services, Urban League, NAACP, business people exhibiting a genuine interest in the target area, municipal government officials, and college personnel in the social sciences. Leadership from the Scouting ranks also would be an excellent resource in analyzing Scouting needs.

CONCLUSION

Approximately eight-years ago, Anthony Hancock was a trailblazer for the newly (central) organized Inner City District. Now that the trail has been cleared, our treasures can be obtained more successfully. What does that mean for the Urban/Inner City's awareness of the Scouting program? How will Council make a joint effort to assist in escalating the Scouting program through "Operation First Class?"

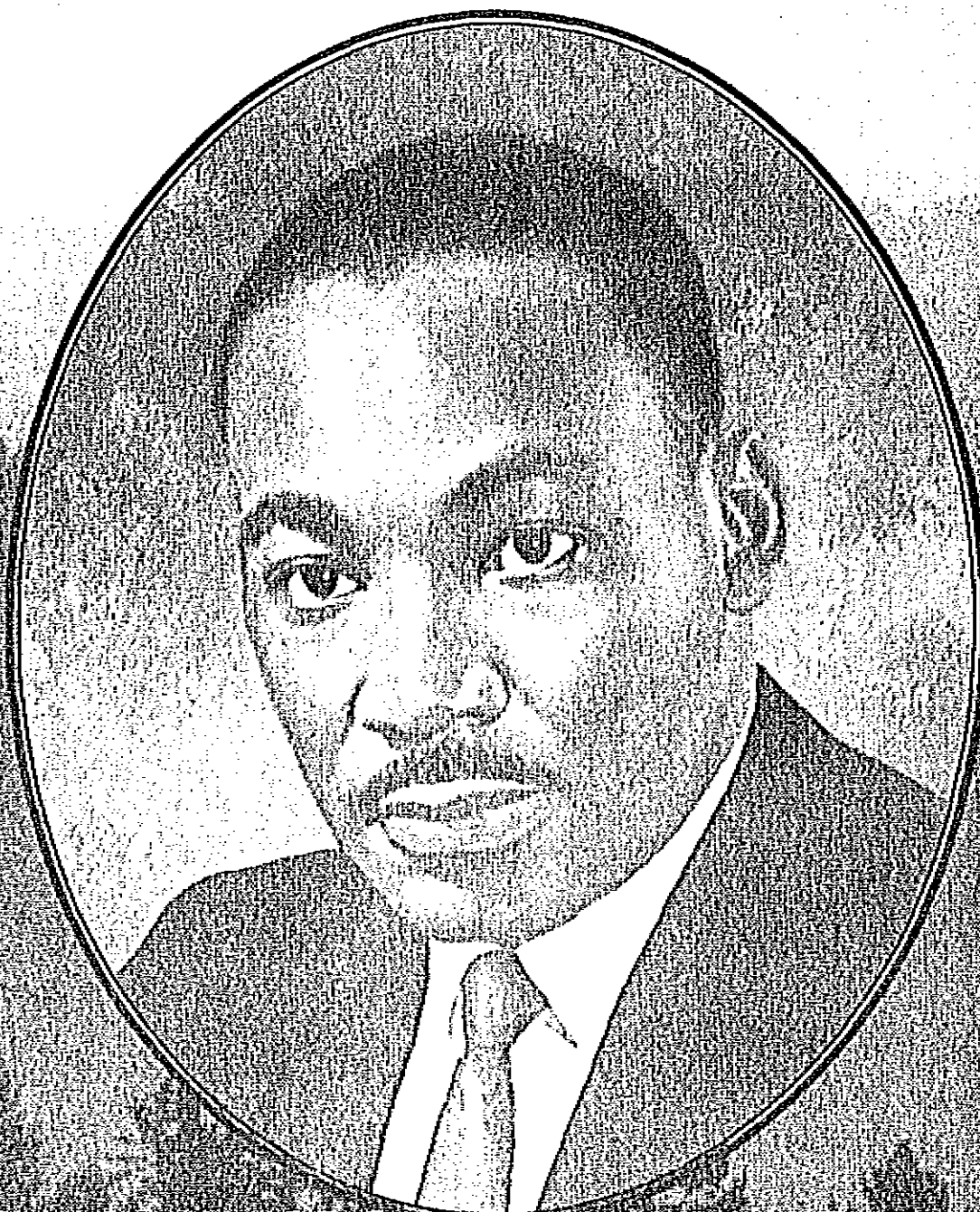
Public Relations efforts on behalf of the Council, city, business, and community people will no doubt booster our image, education and activities in the entire community.

"A successful Scouting program is based on a partnership between the adults and the young men in a particular neighborhood. Inner City Scouting means building new ties with businesses, churches and other organizations in a cooperative manner. That process, in turn strengthens the bonds of a community." ²

² Glendon E. Johnson, Chairman & C.E.O., John Alden Financial Corporation, Miami, Florida - Best Methods For Urban Scouting Growth

KING WEEK



“CPR: Community Pride Revitalization”



January 8-19, 1998

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Commemoration Commission of Greater Knoxville, Inc.



RE: CHEHOTE DISTRICT
PAGES 14 and 17

*The Knoxville /Knox County
Community*

Celebrates the 69th Birthday

and the

12th Holiday Celebration

for

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MEMORIAL SERVICE PROGRAM



Sunday, January 18, 1998

Greater Warner Tabernacle AME Zion Church

- Co-Presiders Mr. Bobby Hargis, Northwest Middle School
Ms. Jessica Watson, Austin-East High School
- Recognition of Parade Marshal Mr. Raleigh Wynn, Sr., Parade Chairman
- Response & Greetings The Honorable Joseph Armstrong, Member, TN General Assembly
- Congregational Hymn *"Lift Every Voice and Sing"*
- Invocation Rabbi Shlomo Lavine, Knoxville Ministerial Association
- The Occasion Mr. Sherman Wilson, Chairman Knoxville Area Urban League
- Greetings Dr. Barbara Hatton, President, Knoxville College
The Honorable Victor Ashe, Mayor, City of Knoxville
The Honorable Thomas Shumpert, Knox County Executive
- Musical Performance Genesis & Agape
- Offertory Appeal Elder Alfred E. Williams
Knoxville Interdenominational Christian Ministerial Alliance
- ✓ Presentation of Community Service Award Mrs. Margaret Gaiter, M.L.K. Commission
- ✓ Recipient Chehote District Volunteers, B.S.A.
- Presentation of Distinguished Service Awards Mr. Thomas Strickland, City of Knoxville
- Recipients Rev. C.W. Matthews, Pastor, First Calvary Baptist Church
Rev. J.H. Breedlove, Retired Pastor, Sentertown Baptist Church
- Presentation of Chairman's Award Dr. Harold A. Middlebrook, King Holiday Chairman
- Recipient Mr. William V. Powell, Jr., former Knoxville City Council member
- Musical Selections Vine Middle School Choir and Orchestra
- Introduction of the Speaker The Honorable John J. Duncan, Jr.,
United States House of Representatives
- Musical Selection Mr. & Mrs. Robert (Mary Cherry) Marks, Mt. Olive Baptist Church
- Speaker The Honorable Harold Ford, Jr., United States House of Representatives
- Remarks and Recognitions Dr. Harold A. Middlebrook
- Closing Hymn *"We Shall Overcome"*
- Benediction Rev. Eric Leake
Pastor, Greater Warner Tabernacle AME Zion Church

Ushers:

Tanasi Cadet Girl Scout Troop 923, Chehote District, Boy Scouts of America, MLK Commissioners

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



First Row (left to right): Jefferson R. Ross, Jr., District Chairman; Carolyn Bryant, District Commissioner; Judy Whiteside, Lynda Lewis.

Second Row: Christopher Bryant, Leo Whiteside, William E. Bryant, Maurice Waters, George White.

Third Row: Anthony Hancock, District Executive; Ben Garlington, Jason Bryant, Andy Moore.

NOT PICTURED

(CHEHOTE'S DISTRICT VOLUNTEERS)

John Jordan, George Anna Yarbrow, Carl Wheeler, Vince Venable, Hugh Ray Wilson, Jr., Theodore Chandler, Brenda Chandler, Gary Napier, Danny Lewis, Anne McGinnis, Rudy Sullivan, Thomas Strickland, Avon Rollins, Fred Kimber, Debra Kimber, Peaches Dickerson, Cynthia Manning, Vivian Williams, Woodrow Henderson, Theondrad Jackson, Shawna Williams, Dennis Upton, Zenia Higgins, Rosemary Durant-Giles, Larry Russell, Missy Russell, Dorothy Jones, Wes Stowers, Alex "Bo" Shafer, Jeff Bremer, Frank Robinson, Frederick Erkins, Ann Marie Tugwell, Andrey West, Sheila Waters, Kim Kearney and The Maynard Elementary School Staff.

* We APOLOGIZE if your name was not listed or we misspelled your name.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1. Eagle Ceremony, December 28th, 1996. Troop 65, one of the oldest Scout troops existing.

Fig. 2. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Haley Heritage Square Community Playground at Morningside Park

Fig. 3. TeenWork, Learning for Life Program, Austin-East High School was the pilot program for the Boy Scouts of America's first Learning for Life program in corporation with Knoxville Utilities Board and other local organizations.

Fig. 4. King Week, booklet (attached), The Chehote District volunteers were awarded the Community Service Award for the many community projects over the last eight years.

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