Tears of Joy by Roger Moss

I cried the day Barack Obama was elected President of the United States. I cried tears of joy and wept tears of pain. I cried tears of joy that an American who did what America has asked by toiling for an impressive education, helping his fellow man, taking care of his family and based on a true passion to make America a better place, ran for office. I cried tears of joy in that this man speaks the English language in all its beauty and complexity. I cried tears of joy in knowing that though not accepted by some white and some Black Americans he persevered to serve all Americans. I cried tears of joy for America were

Roger Moss

finally seeing the Black family that I know.

I cried tears of pain as I drove down the street to hear a culture steeped in the rich language of George Washington Carver, Web Dubois, James Weldon Johnson, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Shirley Chisholm, Barbara Jordan denigrated to the foul swill of misogynistic, racist and violent Hip-Hop. I cried tears of pain to see a culture that prided itself on beauty and class lowered to boys and men dressing as prisoners, sans belts, and revealing inappropriate clothes on girls and women. I cried tears of pain as I watched television and read the newspaper and only saw a dim vision of what Black children could be, Hip-Hop artists, basketball players, football players and Hip-Hop dancers. I cried tears of pain as I realized that Black people are murdering each other at an alarming rate. I cried tears of pain as I saw 14 and 15 year old girls with their second and third out of wedlock babies sauntering through the grocery stores. I cried tears of pain when I see a culture that fought and died for the right to an education eschew education for the quick dollar.

My hope however is not lost. I see glimpses of the rich Black culture I remember in little moments. There can be more moments when we accept truth over the lies of media. The greatest lie out there now is that any child can become president. Why is that a lie? Look at what Barack Obama? He is intelligent, well spoken, well dressed and a great father. He does not where his pants dangling beneath boxers. He does not speak the gutter language of Hip-Hop. He accepts and relishes the responsibility and joy of marriage and family. He has embraced the value of a great education.

Parents, if you want your child to aspire to be President, pull up the pants, check their homework, march to the school and edit what goes into their lives (trash in, trash out) Tell the radio stations and the record companies that our culture is better than what they are offering.

Then we will all cry tears of joy as our children live out dreams beyond our imagination.

Miller Sworn In...

Continued from page 1

Virginia School of Law.

The professional career of Judge Miller is impressive as are the notable experiences she brings to her position. She served as an attorney with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, was a law clerk for Fulton County State Court Judge William Alexander, and later joined the Fulton County District Attorney's Office as one of its first female prosecutors. As a prosecutor, Judge Miller primarily handled serious felony rape and murder cases. She went on to represent the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) as senior in-house litigation counsel and was responsible for handling one-third of the agency's civil litigation in the courts.

Judge Miller was co-owner, general manager and general counsel of the first minority-owned new Ford Lincoln-Mercury automobile dealership in Jesup, Georgia – it one of the first such minority-owned dealerships in the state. While managing the dealership, Judge Miller developed a private legal practice and became the first female attorney to practice in Jesup and throughout the Brunswick Judicial Circuit.

The judicial career of Judge Miller began through her service as a part-time judge in the Magistrate Court of Fulton County in the late 1980's. Judge Miller also served as an Administrative Law Judge with the State Board of Workers' Compensation. When Governor Zell Miller appointed her Director and Judge of the Appellate Division of the State Board of Workers' Compensation in 1992, Judge Miller became the first woman, first African-American, and youngest person ever to hold that position. Four years later, Governor Miller appointed her to the State Court of Fulton County, and she was re-elected as a State Court judge without opposition. She was appointed to the Georgia Count of Appeals in 1999 by Governor Roy Barnes; and she has been re-elected statewide for two six-year terms.

Judge Miller has received many awards and special recognitions for her professional achievements and public service. She was recognized for her accomplishments in Who's Who in Black Atlanta.

Judge Miller is a member of Cascade United Methodist Church in Atlanta. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad N. Miller of Macon, Georgia, and she has one sibling, Conrad N. Miller, Jr., M.D., also of Macon. She is also a lifelong member of Steward Chapel AME Church in Macon.

House of Abraham...

Continued from page 1

Massie Heritage Center to bring Civil War scholar and University of Georgia professor Stephen Berry to Savannah on January 29, 2009. Berry will be leading a public discussion of his book House of Abraham: Lincoln and the Todds, A Family Divided by War. The event will take place at 7:00 p.m., at the Massie Heritage Center, 207 East Gordon Street on Calhoun Square in Savannah.

The program will include a brief lecture by Dr. Berry on his book, followed by a discussion with the audience. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the event.

A Salute to Barack Obama: the first African-American President of the United States of America

"YES, LET'S TALK!"

"Real Estate 1-ON-1 Series"

dot Owens Realty, Inc
1702 Bull Street
Savannah GA 31401
(912) 236-5731 –
FAX (888)-855-6627

"NOW" IS YOUR TIME
TO PURCHASE REAL ESTATE!

Take advantage of this opportunity to talk real estate one on one with dot Owens, an experienced, knowledgeable, trusted real estate professional.

Complete the registration form below, drop it by the office, mail or fax it to dot Owens using the address or fax number above. Reservations accepted on a "first received" basis. These informative sessions will be held on Monday and Wednesday, February 2,4,9,11,16,18,23 & 25 at 5:30 PM-6:30 PM and 7:00 PM-8:00 PM. Register for one, 1 hour session only.

Have you asked……? Why is this a good time to buy? Will interest rates get lower? Are 100% loans available? Are foreclosures really good deals? Is home ownership right for me? Who is Fannie Mae and what does she have to do with my decision to purchase?

We really need to talk! Register today.

"YES, LET'S TALK" REGISTRATION FORM

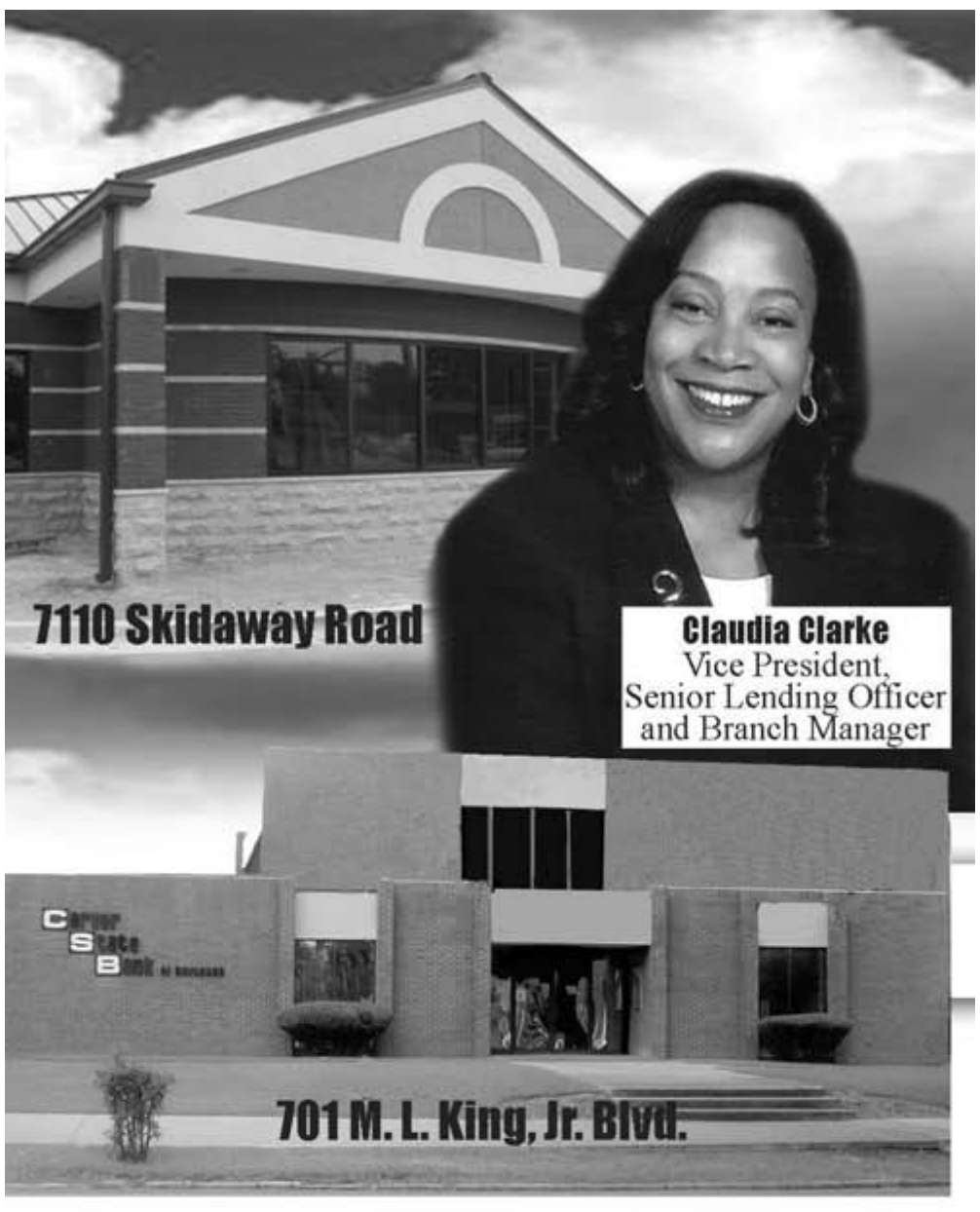
Session Date:_____Time_____

Name:_____

Address: _____

_____

Phones: Home: ( )_____Cell ( )_____



*Free Checking
*Great CD Rates
*All Types of Loans

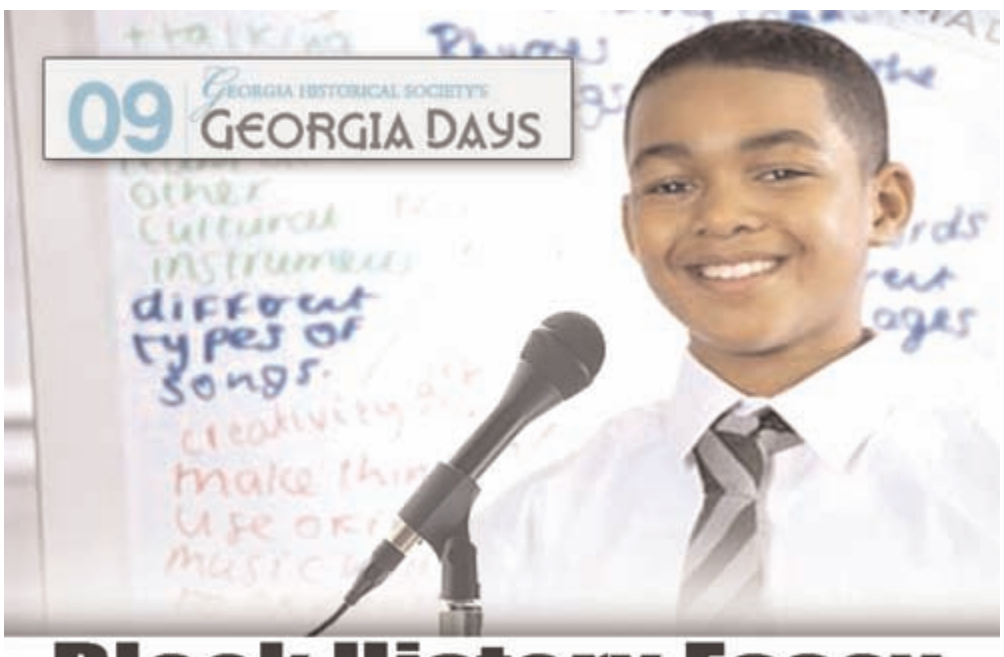
*Contact One Of Our Financial Services Specialists For Details

Carver State Bank

FDIC

www.carverstatebank.com

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER



Black History Essay
& Public Speaking Contest

PRIZES TO BE AWARDED

The Georgia Historical Society is sponsoring a Black History Essay & Public Speaking Contest.

Open to area middle and high school students, the 2009 contest will focus on Savannah in the Civil Rights Movement. Students, parents, and teachers should visit www.georgiahistory.com and follow the Georgia Days link for more information on the contest. Finalists from the essay portion will compete in a public speaking event to be held at the Georgia Historical Society and judged by an independent panel representing the academic and media communities. Prizes to be awarded. Reception to follow. In partnership with The Telfair Museum of Art.

Essays must be received at the Georgia Historical Society, 501 Whitaker Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401, by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 22, 2009.

Georgia Days Signature Sponsor: ep Southern LNG an El Paso company

Additional support provided by:

at&t Your world. Delivered. The Savannah Tribune WSAV 3 On Your Side