

# Kitsap County Chronicle

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Voice of the African American Community

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## BHS Student Resigns Council

The chairman of the Bremerton High School student council resigned last Monday, after his alleged participation in a vandalism incident several weeks ago on the home of BHS principal Marilee Hansen.

His resignation came after members of the student body began a petition drive and a staged protest to overturn a recent decision by a 12-member impeachment panel who found no basis for impeachment.

On January 2, 1993, five youths, four of them Bremerton High School students, allegedly vandalized the home of Marilee Hansen. Specifically, they egged her home and put up a sign that said "African-American sympathizer" and signed it "KKK." It is now said that the three K's meant Knights, Knights, Knights, the school mascot.

The school principal found out who the alleged vandals were after she launched an investigation of her own when it was not clear whether legal authorities, whom Hansen had reported the incident to, were either still investigating the incident or could not determine who the perpetrators were.

The students (one a college and former BHS student) confessed. Hansen then met with the students and their parents. All claimed nonracial intent. The parents assured

Hansen that they were not in agreement with these acts committed by their children.

According to Phyllis Eagans-Molina, a teacher at BHS, who took part in meetings regarding the incident, it was supposedly agreed upon that the students would participate in a voluntary "cultural awareness" education program.

Part of which was to meet with the Olympic College Multi Cultural and Affirmative Action Director and NAACP President, Kwame McDonald. According to McDonald, he has neither seen, nor heard from anyone connected with the act.

But the students were just not satisfied with that arrangement, said one BHS student. Because of the nature of the act, they felt the alleged vandals were getting off with just a slap on the wrist. Where, if it had been an African American or person of color, they would have been dealt with in a harsher measure.

According to a story in the *Sun*, Kitsap County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Clem said, "the youths will be charged with third degree mischief, a gross misdemeanor punishable by up to a year in the county jail and fines."

At press time, meetings continue to go on concerning racial tensions at the high school.



## 8th Annual Black History Program

The Black Historical Society of Kitsap County will hold its 8th Annual Black History Month Program this Sunday, February 28, 3:30 p.m. at Olympic College's Bremer Student Center. This year's program theme, "What's Going On?" will highlight the 1940s in Kitsap County—it's fashions, music and families. The event is open to the public at no charge. Pictured above in a photo from the 1950s, and one of the many pictures that will be on display throughout the program, are members of the Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church's choir. Many of whom still reside here and will share their experiences as early African American families in Kitsap County.

—Photo donated to Black Historical Society of Kitsap County by Mary Brown.

## Lions To Host Annual Radio-Thon

For the 15th consecutive year, the Bremerton Central Lions Club will be conducting a *Radio Thon* to raise money for the Lion's Sight Conservation Foundation—the foundation that funds the Lions Eye Bank at the University of Washington.

Since it opened in 1969, the Lions Eye Bank has provided over 9,000 corneas for transplantation and has provided valuable, necessary research. According to Bremerton resident Marge Stone, executive

secretary of the Sight Foundation, many of the corneas over the past 23 years have been given to residents of Kitsap County.

The *Radio Thon* will be held on Thursday, March 4 and Friday, March 5 on 1400 AM KITZ radio.

An on-air auction of over 50 items contributed by area businesses will be conducted.

To make a pledge or bid on an item, call 692-8863. Donations to the Radio Thon Sight Conservation Foundation are tax deductible.

## Senior Services Available

Do you know of or are concerned about an older person who is spending much of their day alone and away from social contacts?

Senior Outreach Support Centers currently has openings at our six sites located in Bremerton, Silverdale, Poulsbo and Port Orchard. We offer seniors a chance

to meet new friends, take part in creative activities and enjoy a hot nutritious noon meal.

For more information, contact Lutheran Social Services, 377-5511.

## It's Time Celebrates 1st Anniversary With Unity Celebration

"Celebration of Unity—A Salute to African American History in Music" will be held this Sunday, February 28 from 7:30 to 10 p.m. at the Kitsap Mall (North end entrance by Grace Pentecostal Church and It's Time African American Clothing Store in conjunction with the store's 1st anniversary.

The celebration will feature fashions and music. Tickets are \$10.00, available at It's Time in the Kitsap Mall. Proceeds from the event will be awarded to several local community organizations.

For information, call 692-9951.

## Sinclair Church Holds Black Heritage Event

"Celebrating our Black Heritage: A Renaissance of Achievement," will be held this Saturday, February 27, 6 p.m., at Sinclair Missionary Baptist Church, 4708 Kean Street, Bremerton.

The event will be an acknowledgement, salute and remembrance of the rich history of our African American ancestors, said chairpersons Christopher and Sandra Polk.

For more information, call 373-1874.

## Historian, Acie Grimes To Speak At BHS

Black history historian Acie Grimes II, founder and president of Ebony Pride, will speak at Bremerton High School (BHS) today at 2:15 p.m.

He has constructed a series of programs specifically designed for young African Americans (YAA). His mini seminar sets down the basis for a positive portrayal of black history extending over some four (4) million years.

Since February 1986, when Ebony Pride began, his program has been presented over 100 times.

Mr. Grimes also offers programs on drug prevention, anti-gang, self esteem and teen pregnancy.



**Shirley Chisholm Visits Whitman College**  
At Whitman College's African American History Month celebration kick-off, former New York Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm addressed overflow audience that crowded into Whitman's Maxey Auditorium January 28. Kathy Utz, left, of Richland, Washington, came to Whitman College to hear Shirley Chisholm (right) speak. Utz, who worked on Chisholm's 1972 campaign for the Presidency, wore her Chisholm campaign sweatshirt and carried her Chisholm campaign poster. See story on page six.

**Emmanuel Apostolic Church Celebrates 15th Anniversary**