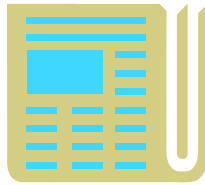




**Henry County Branch of the NAACP
Newsletter
March, 2008**

Website: www.hc-naacp.org



Dr. Jack Parish to receive President's Award

Dr. Jack Parish will be honored with the Henry County NAACP's President's Award at the February 29, 2008 Freedom Fund Banquet.

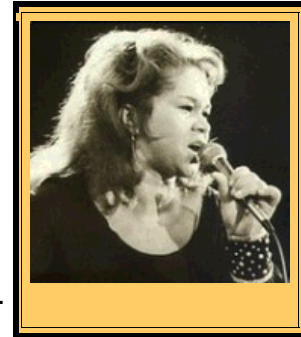
Dr. Parish will relinquish the duties of Superintendent of the Henry County School System in June, 2008, but will assist in the orientation of his successor, scheduled to be chosen by the Board of Education at its meeting on February 6, 2008.

Dr. Parish has served in various capacities within the public education arena for more than thirty (30) years. His dedication to crafting a public education system reflective of the growing diversity of the county's population will go a long way in cementing the vitality of public education in Henry County for years to come.

Congratulations Dr. Parish!!

Who Am I?

I was born in Los Angeles. I received my first professional vocal training at the age of 5, from James Earle Hines, musical director of the Echoes of Eden choir at St. Paul Baptist Church in Los Angeles. Though brought up in the place of worship, I was drawn to rhythm & blues and rock and roll. My family moved north to San Francisco in 1950, and in 1952 the trio (the Crelettes) I had formed with two of my friends came to the attention of Johnny Otis. Otis reversed the syllables of my first name to give me my stage name and began recording me.



My first record (1954) was my own composition, "The Wallflower (Dance with Me, Henry)," an answer song to Hank Ballard's "Work with Me, Annie." I released several duets with Harvey Fuqua (of The Moonglows) that became major R&B hits, as well as my signature classic "At Last". In 1967, I recorded "Tell Mama" and "I'd Rather Go Blind", with "At Last" perhaps my most enduring songs, in Muscle Shoals.

I won the Grammy for best jazz vocal in 1994 for my CD *Mystery Lady*, a collection of songs associated with Billie Holliday, and in 2003 I received a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, and a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. One year later I won the Grammy for best contemporary blues album with "Let's Roll". I am also known for the Muddy Waters song "I Just Wanna Make Love To You".

Drug-related and romantic problems interfered with my career, but I have managed to endure. Through the latter half of the 20th century I was inducted into both the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the Blues Hall of Fame.

Who Am I?

Last month's "Who Am I?" figure: Legendary jazz alto saxophone player, Julian "Cannonball" Adderley.