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SUBJECT FILE SC HOO LS - Elementary
Columbia

The DeKalb New Era
April 20, 1967

Public Is Invited To Columbia School Dedication Sunday

Columbia school, the seventh new elementary school to be completed and occupied by the DeKalb system since Jan. 1, will be formally dedicated Sunday, April 23, at 3 p.m.

The 20-classroom facility, located on Glenrock drive, cost \$442,750.

The public is invited to the dedication, at which Jim Cherry, county superintendent, will be the principal speaker. Burton Hazlerigs, member of the board of education in whose district the school is located, will represent the board.

Meanwhile, bids have been opened for the construction of a lunch-assembly room and the renovation of classrooms at Stone Mountain High school.

Capitol Construction company submitted the apparent low bid of \$189,827. Henry M. Whitehead Jr., architect, designed the addition.

Mr. Cherry said construction of the Stone Mountain facility will begin immediately.

W. R. C. D.



Congressman Lewis Visits

Lillian Harris, fourth year teacher at DeKalb County's Columbia Elementary School, introduced Fifth District Congressman John Lewis to the student body at an Honors Assembly. Lewis was the guest speaker.



All Interested In Schools

Education is what these five people have in common. Dr. Robert Freeman is shown with Columbia Elementary School teacher Jean Banks, left, who began her thirty-first year of teaching in August. Patty Griffing, right, a second grade teacher, is in her sixteenth year. Children with them are Jaletta Long, who has just started kindergarten at Briar Lake, left, and Jasmine Allen, a Columbia school first grader.

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File: Columbia Ele. School

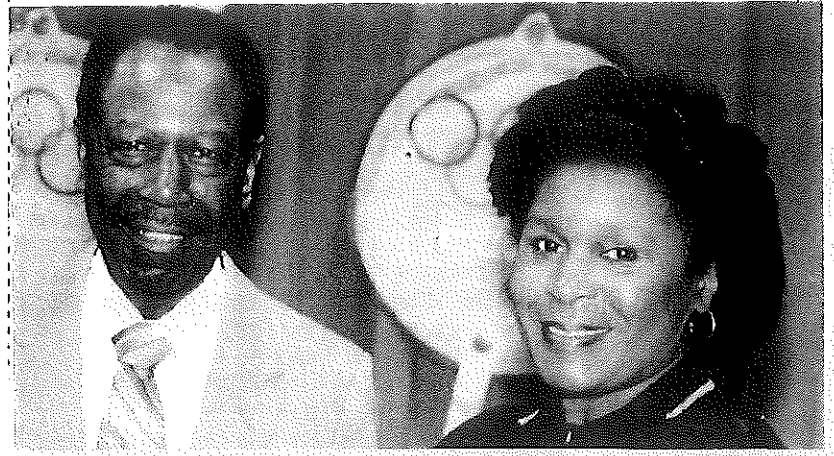


Columbia School

Chorus Performs

The DeKalb News-Sun
Music Teacher Robin Billet directs Columbia Elementary School Chorus members in a school-wide presentation of important events in the black history of America.

3/29/89



Astronaut's Father Speaks To Students

The DeKalb News-Sun 1/4/89
Carl McNair, father of Challenger astronaut Ronald McNair, was guest speaker at the Columbia Elementary School Honors Assembly for the Fall quarter. He is shown with lead teacher Barbara Barnes.



Two Speakers At Columbia

Rep. Ben Jones and third grader LaKendra McIntosh were both speakers at the winter quarter honors assembly at Columbia Elementary School. LaKendra is an honor student there.

DeKalb News-Sun 4/18/89



DeKalb News Sun 9/6/89
'The Oreo Twins' — They Stick Together

School began this year at Columbia Elementary with two first grade teachers looking after their students in nearby classes. They wouldn't have it any other way. This starts the twelfth year the two friends — who call themselves "the Oreo twins" — have taught first grades together, now at their third school. Betty Baldwin, left, drew a low number in the DeKalb lottery for veteran teachers which meant she faced transfer. Ruth Henry wasn't picked by the lottery, but volunteered to move if she could be placed with Mrs. Baldwin. They are hoping to complete cross-indexed references they have begun of resources for first grade teachers.

Gloria Slaughter Named School 'Teacher Of Year'

DeKalb News/Star
Gloria Slaughter represented Columbia Elementary in the Georgia Teacher of the Year Program.

The DeKalb County Chamber of Commerce and Southern Bell sponsor the DeKalb County Teacher of the Year awards program. A teacher from each school is selected and recognized at a special awards banquet.

Columbia has been privileged to count Mrs. Slaughter, a second grade teacher, as one of its own for the past nine years, according to spokesman Donna Oliver. Mrs. Slaughter has been teaching for almost twenty years, in various parts of the country.

Mrs. Slaughter has served on numerous educational committees and organizations and her community involvement is also extensive.

12/6/89
She was president of the organization of DeKalb Educators for two years.

As impressive as these credentials are, Mrs. Slaughter's greatest contributions are those made in the classroom, fellow teachers say. She is a motivator who creates a fun and stimulating learning environment. She firmly believes that every child is capable of learning, and that it is the responsibility of our educational system to bring out each child's potential.

File: Columbia Elementary School

DeKalb's elementary teacher of the year

News/eye 1-11-96
DeKalb Decatur

The process of education is more than schooling. That belief has been the heart of DeKalb Elementary Teacher of the Year Beverly McCrady's career as a musician and educator for 25 years. She defines education as a way of thinking and living and a teacher's goal as producing "lifelong learners."

McCrady, who directs music and chorus at Columbia Elementary School, views music as the "universal language." It is, therefore, one of the most powerful elements of drawing people together with bonds of understanding, respect and realization of human value and potential.

Interestingly enough, this master universal-language teacher says, "I am not in the classroom to teach music." Instead, her stated mission is to motivate her students to want to learn and to provide the physical, mental and psychological space for them to become people who are creative and gain self-esteem. "I want to give children guidance, love and encouragement. That's my role," she says.

Providing encouragement for others is a two-way street, McCrady has discovered. In enabling children to achieve fulfillment, she is herself fulfilled. "I have experienced extreme joy," she says, "when I have seen the happiness and smiles on students' faces after a performance. When they know they have worked hard to accomplish the moment, I know my teaching has not been in vain."

Lifelong activities like singing, dancing and playing games with children were natural and easy for McCrady. Teaching was a perfect outlet for her own love of music and basic love and understanding of children. Influenced by early experiences in a child-care agency and nurtured by family in developing her native talents, McCrady steadfastly pursued preparation for a professional career as an educator.

The DeKalb Elementary Teacher of the Year's record reflects her belief



Columbia Elementary School music teacher Beverly McCrady is DeKalb's Elementary Teacher of the Year.

that continual growth is essential to maintain a fresh, enthusiastic attitude toward teaching. Undergrd by a bachelor's degree in music from Mil-

igan College in Tennessee and a master's in educational processes from Maryville University in St. Louis, Mo., McCrady has continued to grow

as a learner and a music teacher in elementary schools in Illinois, Missouri, Texas, and Georgia, before joining the DeKalb faculty in 1992.

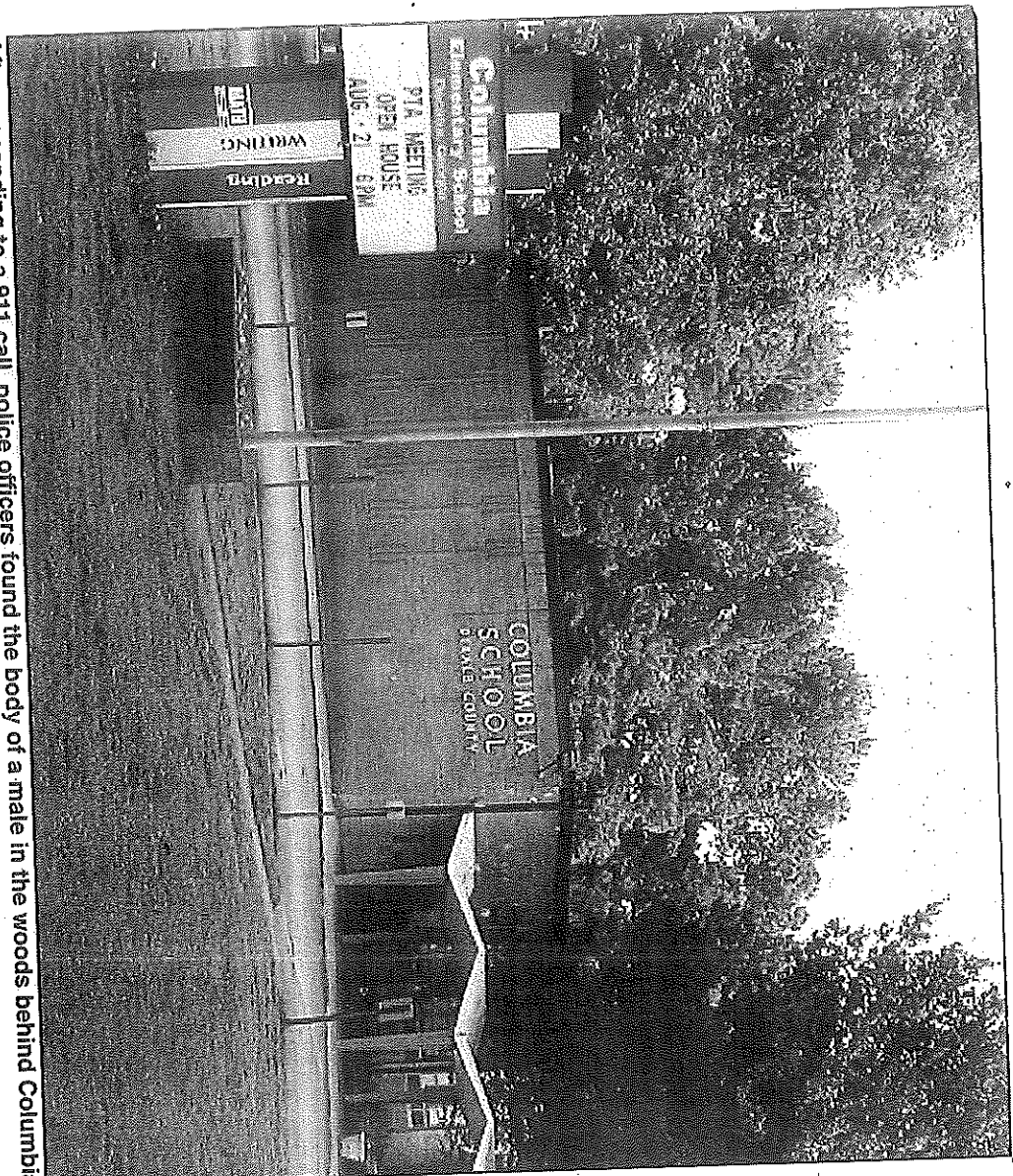
Throughout her 25 years of service, McCrady has continued to grow as a professional and achieve notable success. Among her experiences are completion of a certification in Orff-Shulwerk, Level 2; and 35 graduate hours beyond her master's degree in computer music, multicultural education, and motivation of the disadvantaged student. She is certified to teach computer literacy and has incorporated this skill with musical activities, as well as, participated in the 1994 International Choral Festival at Stone Mountain Park.

During her career, she has had three student teachers who have since become successful music educators in other states. She was selected to work with the music education department of the University of Illinois and Washington University in St. Louis. She has served on several districtwide committees for textbook adoption and was named Outstanding Educator of the Year at the Garden Villas Music Magnet Academy in Houston, Texas, as well as a life member of the Texas PTA.

McCrady feels that sharing her love of music has been a valuable resource in achieving sensitivity and respect for diverse cultures and lifestyles. She credits her husband and the mutual community activities they share for teaching her to grow in this area.

"In my opinion, teaching music offers the best in life," McCrady says. "Because I interact schoolwide with all teachers and have contact with all the students, I have a broad conceptual picture and can empathize with every situation. This allows me a unique advantage which I regard as a great opportunity to serve children day by day."

After responding to a 911 call, police officers found the body of a male in the woods behind Columbia Elementary School. Photo by Connie Ray.



"The Champion"
August 28 - September 3, 2003

SUBJECT FILE
Box 82

10/17