

February 25, 2011

# PRINCEVILLE PROGRESS REPORT

TOWN OF PRINCEVILLE – PRINCEVILLE, NC

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY PRINCEVILLE!

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**PRINCEVILLE CONTINUES TO ASSIST CITIZENS WITH WATER BILL ISSUES, RECENTLY CELEBRATED 126 YEARS OF OPERATIONS AND EXISTENCE, and Memorialized an original "Buffalo Soldier" Martin Carney**

Mayor Priscilla Everette-Oates, Town Commissioners, and Town management continue to work overtime on re-shaping and re-focusing the resources of the Town of Princeville. A very special effort continues on securing funds to bring a water plant to the Town of Princeville. Mayor Everette-Oates and Team have accomplished this along with many tasks by bringing the town of the "red" into the "black" budget-wise in the first six (6) months of her newly elected term beginning December 2009.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY PRINCEVILLE!

**"126 Years, That's a long time for anything and we're still Standing Strong"**

*Princeville Mayor Priscilla Everette-Oates*



**(Reprint from the Daily Southerner Newspaper)** Princeville citizens gathered in the Town Hall, local and state officials came tighter to reflect on Princeville and its place in history. "126 years, that's a long time for anything and we're still standing strong," said Princeville Mayor Priscilla Everette-Oates. Looking back on the history of Princeville through a trivia session was the Princeville Museum and Welcome Center Curator Maggie Boyd. "I will always remember Princeville," she told the crowd. "No matter where I went or who I met, Princeville had my roots.

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"We are a people who encourage and invite people to our city," Boyd continued. "You are family when you come here. That's what we're about, making it better for the next generation." Questions were asked about Princeville's past and present, including the year Freedom Hill was founded and who donated the most items to the Princeville Museum and Welcome Center. Prizes were given to those who answered correctly.



On behalf of Gov. Bev Perdue, Angella Dunston, director of the governor's office of citizen and faith outreach, addressed the crowd, asking what Princeville wanted as a birthday gift. "The early residents of this area came together to create a town to symbolize all that we dreamed of," Dunston began. "I want to ask the residents and all of the surrounding counties, what do you want for your birthday? What do you want for your 126th birthday?" "Princeville is a gift that freed slaves gave to us 126 years ago," she continued. "This is an example of how people have come together on one accord to pursue a higher goal. Princeville has come a long way and faced many obstacles. You should continue to celebrate the fact that Princeville is still here and still standing despite all of the change. "The only way we can continue to work together is hand in hand," added Dunston. "I know that you will get what you want when you decide what you want to be your gift."

Assistant Secretary for Community Development Henry McKoy followed Dunston, commenting on the town's longevity and the power of unity. "126 years really is an incredible feat," he said. "If you think about the conditions in which this town was created, this is even more significant. People came out of slavery and were able to come together and found a town. "Who could imagine in 1885 that this community would exist," McKoy continued. "It's communities like this that are most important to our future." McKoy advised Princeville to continue on through the 21st century healthy, wealthy and wise. Everette-Oates presented Dunston with a plaque for her participation in the Princeville birthday celebration. Dunston accepted on behalf of the Perdue. Milton "The Golden Platter" Bullock led the crowd in a verse of "Happy Birthday" before McKoy cut the first piece of celebratory cake.



## **SALUTING BUFFALO SOLDIER MARTIN L. CARNEY (Princeville, North Carolina Native)**

The Town of Princeville and its leadership salutes the Martin L. Carney Family. In tribute to the civic and military work of the Mr. Carney, we are grateful for his countless contributions made to the rich history of Princeville. Mr. Carney was 89 and passed on Wednesday, February 16, 2011. Funeral services were held at noon Wednesday at Mayo's Chapel Baptist Church. Burial followed in the Carney Family Cemetery in Princeville.