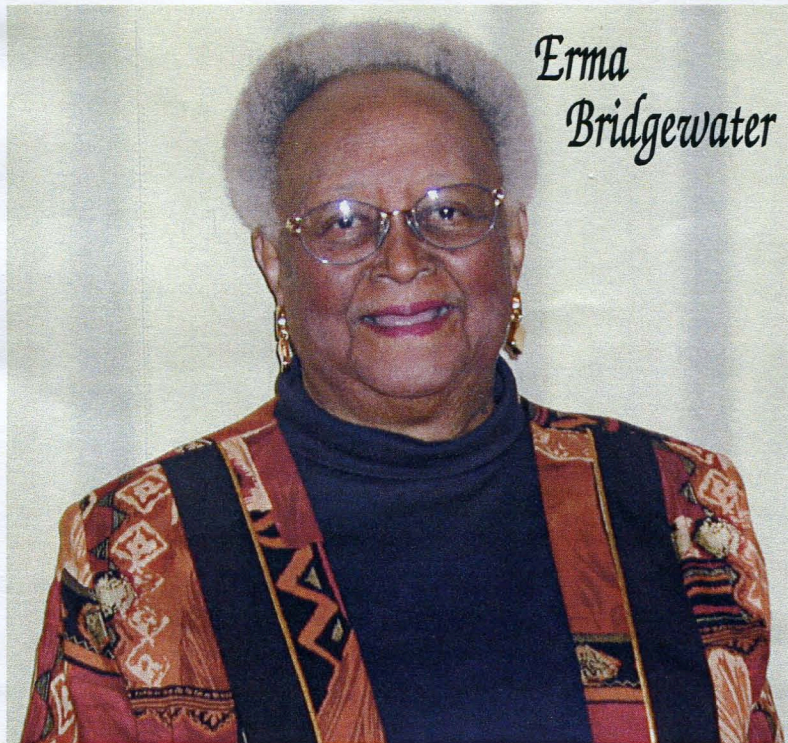


Mrs. B. Day



*Erma
Bridgewater*

"We Remember When..."

BETHEL

African Methodist Episcopal Church

Sunday, February 13, 2011, 3:30 p.m.

Sis Jackie McCall, Program Coordinator

Rev. Larry D. Lewis, Pastor

"We Remember When.."

A Celebration of the Community Service Rendered by

Erma Scott Bridgewater



Prelude.....Community Celebration Choir

Directed by Minister Deborah K. Banks

Mistress of Ceremony

Gloria Hendricks

Invocation.....Blake Donaldson

Hymn.....Lift Every Voice And Sing

(words on back of program)

Scripture.....Nya Turner

Philippians 4:13

Welcome.....Shirbie Faulkner

The Occasion.....LeeRoy McCall

Proclamation

From the City of Champaign

~Program Continued~

Musical Selection.....Community Celebration Choir

I Remember When (2 min).....Betty Nesbitt Rowell

Musical Selections.....Mo' Betta Music

Nathaniel C. Banks, Co-Director

I Remember When (2 min).....Mrs. Ruth Latham

Musical Selection.....Community Celebration Choir

Poem.....Elaine Harmon

Musical Selection.....Community Celebration Choir

Video Presentation.....Eugene & Polly Washington

Church Presentation.....William V. Renfro

Musical Selection.....Banks-Bridgewater Ensemble

Family Tribute

Musical Selection.....Community Celebration Choir

Remarks.....Erma Bridgewater, Honoree

Jackie McCall, Chairperson

Rev. Larry Lewis, Pastor

Benediction.....Rev. Larry Lewis

Erma Scott

Bridgewater

Mrs. Erma Scott

Bridgewater was born on November 24, 1913 at the home of her paternal grandparents at 305 E. Tremont Street. She was the daughter of Raymond Mac and Sarah Wilson Scott. Mrs. Bridgewater and her younger brother Ramon, attended Lincoln School located at the corner of State



and Healey Streets. Mrs. Bridgewater graduated from Champaign Senior High School (now Edison Middle School) and is a 1937 graduate of the University of Illinois with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and a minor in Psychology. She married Cecil Bridgewater of Tuscola, Illinois and raised three children: Cecil, Ron and Cassandra. She has nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

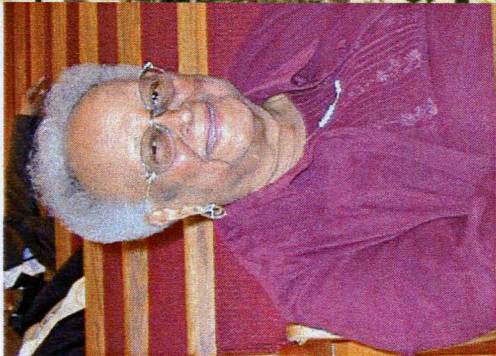
Mrs. Bridgewater was employed in 1939 by the City of Champaign's Department of Recreation as the Director of Douglass Center, established by the WPA (Works Progress Administration). Mrs. Bridgewater stopped working to raise her three children and returned to Douglass Center when all of her children were in school. She remained as Assistant Director and Director of Douglass Center until 1963. She later worked as a proof reader for the Courier Newspaper; an Outreach Worker at Frances Nelson Health Center; Relocation Officer for the Urban Renewal Program; and, Housing Specialist for the Community

Development Program. She retired in 1984 after twenty-four years of service to the City of Champaign. She has traveled to West Africa, Trinidad and Tabago, toured Italy and Mexico, and visited Barbados and the Panama Canal.

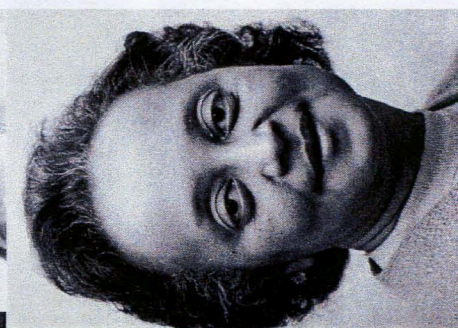
Mrs. Bridgewater has served on various boards and committees (Regional Planning Commission, Family Services of Champaign County, Head Start, Urban League, Community Chest, Council on Aging, and the City of Champaign Housing Commission and Fair Housing Board). She is a charter member of the local graduate chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and a charter member of the local chapter of the National Council of Negro Women. She has received numerous awards including: A mini park named in her honor on the corner of Bradley and Market; the Living Legend Award presented at the UIUC Black Reunion, Martin Luther King Day Award, and the National Council of Negro Women Award. She was also one of the Commencement Speakers at the Black Graduation Ceremony at the University of Illinois in 2009. She swims 5 days a week at the YMCA, volunteers for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, and is a pen pal to grade school children in the Unit 4 Schools. Mrs. Bridgewater has been a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church since age 12 and a member of the Bethel Choir for over 70 years.



Erma Scott Bridgewater



Swimming laps around most folks
 Local women log 5 miles at pool



Acknowledgements

Rev. Larry D. Lewis
 The City of Champaign
 Clarence Todd Taylor
 Cecil, Ron & Cassandra Bridgewater
 Mo' Betta Music

Rev. Robin Barrow
 Deacon Willie T. Summerville
 Washington Investments
 Carlos Donaldson, Sr.
 Ludwig Warner

The Community Celebration Choir

St. Luke CME Church
 Mount Olive Baptist Church
 Church of the Living God (Love Corner)

Salem Baptist Church
 Canaan Baptist Church
 Bethel AME Church

Program Participants

Gloria Hendricks
 Shirbie Faulkner
 Ruth Latham

Blake Donaldson
 LeeRoy McCall
 Elaine Harmon
 Nya Turner
 Betty Nesbitt Rowell
 William V. Renfro

The Planning Committee

Jackie McCall ~ Chairperson
 Nathaniel Banks
 Elaine Carter
 Deborah Banks
 Jeanette Donaldson



Lift Every Voice And Sing

Verse 1

Lift every voice and sing 'til earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty. Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies; let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us; facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on, 'til victory is won.

Verse 2

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn has died; yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet come to the place for which our parents sighed? We have come over a way that with tears has been watered; we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered, out from the gloomy past, 'til now we stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

Verse 3

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, Thou who has brought us thus far on the way; Thou who hast by Thy might led us into the light; keep us forever in the path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee; lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee' shadowed beneath Thy hand may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

washington



investments