

## Dingir

What is it that's really seen when open eyes are closed  
What is known in misinformation where factual lies suppose?  
When most of this is really that but this is all you see  
When climbing up is leading down, the fruit plucked from the tree  
Dysfunctional is now reality and this is now the way  
A perfect package on sale for free, gets them everyday  
What tones then notes of stones and quotes to what ears do appear?  
If spoken word you really heard then would you cut off an ear  
In this I speak, what then you seek, the truth from all the static  
May as well, express to hell, or simply just play in traffic  
Pies of lies and belly's full, and yet you yearn for more  
Caring not, the deadly plot now pimped one Satan's whore  
Of this plight who brings the fight and light to which will glow  
Who keeps it real, armor. Shield... in the valley of death will go  
Who shall ever, need not be cleaver, nor symbolic eyes  
He is almighty; he is G.O.D., beautiful, strong and wise  
Your destruction was sought, lies were taught, yet you call out friend  
One dust and earth, one fire at birth, trust now and eat your end  
What is known in misinformation where factual lies suppose?  
What is it that's really seen when open eyes are closed

— *by Edward Greensway*

towards our children, our family members, and towards friends. How we seemingly want to strive everyone we "empowered" to do for self; for them to take back ownership of the "logical thinking side" we so freely gave away; where they become their own self-responsibility. The challenge of course is doing this and maintaining a sense of humility. This is so tough, but we should see it as being born and dying. We are born by ourselves and we, eventually, will die by ourselves.

Sometime in the 1990s, I sat down and talked to my Grandmother, Daisy "Granny" Isaac [who was then 84 years young] asking her about her life in Monticello, Macon, and Atlanta Georgia but other topics as well even such issues as entitlement. I ask her a question which still resonate in my spirit to this day, "Granny, once you're gone to be with God; this house (house on 5<sup>th</sup> Street) would go to Mommy and then to us." Granny responded, "This house [nor you all living in it] is your God giving right [entitlement]. You are here only because I want you to be here not because I need you here. The house is paid for, I have savings to pay for my household expenses [food, utilities, and repairs], and I get a modest retirement and social security check for everything else." Granny went on to say, "She loved the fact that we were living with her but nothing in life is guaranteed, should be given to you for free, or should you expect anything like that." I wasn't offended at all, because Granny was right, she purchased the house and everything that was inside – we lived there. Grant you we gave Granny money for staying there but ultimately it wasn't our entitlement. Meaning, it wasn't Granny's "JOB" to cook for us, set meals aside for us, clean up after us, or even for us to live in her house. Granny said, "I am your Grandmother and Helen's my daughter; doesn't mean you have the birth right to live with me or be entitled to this house." Jimmy and I can remember vividly going to Mrs. Anderson's house [our babysitter whom our Mom paid] that lived directly across the street from Granny's house; that took care of us before and

after school. Granny said, "You are Helen's children; was I to stop my life to raise her children? No. This did not mean I did not love you dearly but a lot of my friends put their lives on HOLD to raise their children's children without giving back. I wasn't going to let that happen to me and that's not fair."

In the Gospel Outreach Community Church (GOCC) January / February 2015 Newsletter I wrote about my nephew James III whose disabilities should have warranted his parents, siblings, and us [his relatives] to become responsible for his care and well-being for the rest of his life. It was US [his parents, siblings, and relatives] who felt; James's disabilities don't merit him to be entitled to nothing more than for him to become the productive citizen of society that he has become. In other words, James III become what our Mother, Helen, did for her children, by becoming "The Independent creations the Creator wanted him to be." Don't misunderstand me; it was our responsibility to get all the doctoral advice/support, educational help, and additional care to include his "friend-with-fur" Ms. Tiffany; combining with all the knowledge that was out there. This did not mean Jimmy, Jr. [my brother] and my sister-in-law, Sheila, had to place a stamp of entitlement on James III. Again, it was their belief [Jimmy and Sheila] that James III is entitled to become the independent person we know he has become.

Every generation of parents', relatives, and even our friends' goal is to make life easier for their children, their family, or their friends – than it was for them. For instance, my daughter, Sirrena Holmes' life is infinitely better than mine. Sirrena doesn't know what it's like to have the gas, the water, the electricity shut off; she doesn't know what food stamp looks like; she hasn't been on the free lunch program; she doesn't know what it's like to get your car repossessed; and she didn't have to literally keep the food, the lights, the gas, the water going in a household as a teenager. And neither have a lot of today's generation; but that's OUR

*(Continued on page 11)*

goal – to make it easier for the present generation. In every family or in your circle of friends; there is one or two who seems to be the “go to” person to make things peaceful regardless the outcome. No I don't believe children of today are any more entitled than children in the past. Times are different, of course, because of the modern era of electronics. But look at Sirrena. She's willing to work to get funding for her education. She's worked hard for good grades in school. She remains humble and helpful to her entire family, churches she attends especially the sick and shut-ins. My nephews and nieces are the same way. James III is where he is because he hustles and if you ask him to work; there's never any hesitation.

### **Helen Bobbie Taylor**

I am the youngest in the family. I loved being the youngest to where the generational gap between the oldest and I is 14 years. I felt, and a lot of times, I should get the opportunities that I felt was true; which **was** all the perks entitled to the youngest child. I say **WAS** because this is definitely not the case. True, as I was growing up I was showered by Helen, Granny, and my siblings where I truly never knew we were poor. Meaning, if I needed and/or wanted something Helen, Granny, or my siblings would provide; almost to the point of fighting over who would do what. I didn't realize the responsibility of my “entitlement” was my own until the two people who protected me the most; Helen and Granny passed away. Helen on February 18, 2000 and Granny three years later. Connotation, my oldest siblings – Jimmy and Jeanie – would literally fight over who was going to do whatever it was for me with the connectivity of making sure I was an “extremely happy well-rounded child-to-young-Adult” from Helen and Granny. I did a lot with Jimmy, at first, and then Jeanie. Jimmy would take me [or the group of cousins around my age] to the movies, to the national memorials, and/or to visit relatives. Jeanie was the, at first, provider of what I needed, e.g., clothes, books, and discipline. Then Helen was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's and that all changed. Like I said the giving didn't stop but the focus was more on Helen, and then Granny—with the loss of her eyesight and Dementia. Don't get me wrong, I was working and

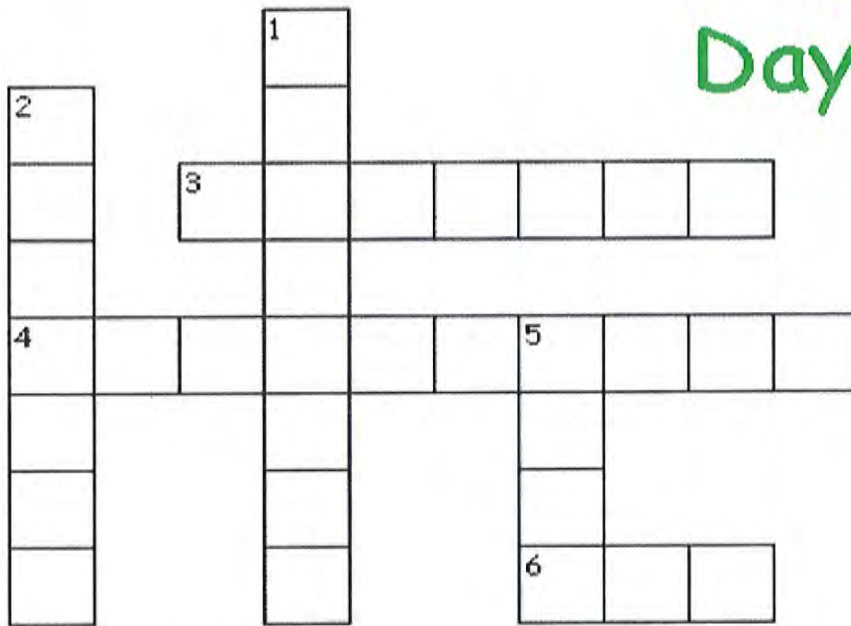
contributing to both Helen and Granny's care; but dinners Granny would fix and leave for me; the conversations Granny and I shared; the “Jeanie get whatever Bobbie wants from the store...”, and Granny just being Granny – was gone.

So I learned several points but these three points stand out: 1) Everyone who let someone do for them; be it let them stay at their house, cook for you, clean up after you, and so forth; you need to ask yourself one question: **Who would do it all if that person(s) not here anymore?** 2) The responsibility of Entitlement is shown by **Humbling** respecting those who help you by full-circle through helping my loved ones without – I repeat – without having to be ask. And 3) there aren't many things in life today that's free; if someone should do something for you, say give you a card, help with your homework, or give you some advice; respectfully say Thank You. That person took the time to do whatever for you and, quite frankly Thank You is **FREE**; so show some respect. Bobbie entitlements lead her to work at O'Connor and Hanna as the Senior Office Manager and now at the U.S. Senate Office as an Office Services Administrator.

*(See April Newsletter for conclusion starting with OTHER PERSPECTIVES)*



# Saint Patrick's Day Crossword



## Across

3.



4.



6.



## Down

1.



2.



5.



*"As you slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point in the wrong direction." — Unknown*

# Answers From January / February Newsletter

## (continue on 16-17)

Connect-the-Dots Answer from January/ February Newsletter  
Who is this Great Leader?

**Nelson Mandela**



January /February

TRIVIA Question

Answer:

Who quoted the below Bible verse in a speech:

*"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."*

**Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in his "I have a Dream" Speech.**

## Who Am I and what did I Invent?



Frederick M. Jones:

Creator of the air conditioning Unit



Madame C. J. Walker

Creator of the straightening Comb and Hair Care products



GRANVILLE T. WOODS.

Granville T Woods

Creator of the auto cut-off switch



Bessie Blount Smith

Creator of an apparatus for amputees to help them feed themselves



Henry T. Sampson

Creator of the Cellular Phone



Mary Beatrice Davidson Kenner

Creator of feminine and bathroom products

### Person:

- A. Bessie Blount Smith
- B. Frederick M. Jones
- C. Mary Beatrice Davidson Kenner
- D. Granville T. Woods
- E. Madame C. J. Walker
- F. Henry T. Sampson

### Invention:

- A. Cellular Phone
- B. Air Conditioning Unit
- C. Feminine & Bathroom Products
- D. Feeding apparatus for amputees
- E. Auto Cut-off Switch
- F. Straightening comb/hair care products

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## Gospel Outreach Community Church

### YOUR WALK...OUR JOURNEY

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We're on the Web!  
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"May your neighbors respect you, Troubles neglect you, The angels protect you, And Heaven accept you. — *Irish Proverb*