

Garland trailblazed in field of media

Special to Sentinel-Voice
 PITTSBURGH (NNPA) - Phyllis T. Garland, first female tenured professor at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, and a former writer and editor at *Ebony* magazine and the *Pittsburgh Courier*, died of cancer Nov. 7 in New York City. She was 71.

Garland, a native of McKeesport, taught at Columbia University school of Journalism for more than three decades. Phyl, as she was known, taught Cultural Affairs Reporting and a Writing class, was a Master's Project advisor, and served as the administrator of the National Arts Journalism Program at Columbia.

Garland began her career in 1958 as a reporter and then editor for the *Pittsburgh Courier*. Throughout the years, she covered issues relevant to Blacks, including the March

on Washington, the Civil Rights Movement, discrimination in housing, education, labor, and the arts. She then worked at *Ebony* magazine as an assistant, and then associate editor from 1965-69, and went on to become the New York editor of *Ebony* in 1971.

Garland was born Oct. 27, 1935 in McKeesport, the only daughter of the late Percy A. and Hazel Hill Garland. She graduated from McKeesport High School and Northwestern University.

Her mother, Hazel was one of the first Black women to edit a nationally circulated publication. Hazel Garland, who served on the Pulitzer Prize selection committee in 1979, was editor in chief of the *Pittsburgh Courier* from 1974 to 1977. She had been with the newspaper since 1943 in a variety of jobs, in-



Phyllis T. Garland was the first female tenured professor at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

cluding columnist, consultant and writer.

Despite that impressive lineage, Phyl's first love, however, was music. She was a connoisseur of Black music, and had an enormous collection of jazz, soul, and

R&B recordings. For 20 years, she was a contributing editor for *Stereo Review*, and was the author of "The Sound of Soul" (1969), a comprehensive book on Black music.

Courier Managing Editor

Lou Ransom described Garland as a champion of the Black Press, and a good friend.

"She was always someone I could confide in," said Ransom, who worked with Garland's mother, Hazel, at the *Courier*. "She was never my teacher, but she and her mother were my mentors. When I went to Johnson Publishing Co. (to work with *Jet* magazine), she told me all the things to watch out for."

"When I think of Phyl, I think of her generosity with her time, her knowledge," said *Jet* magazine Senior Staff Editor Clarence Waldron, a student of Garland's at Columbia. "As a student, I was always impressed with the stories she would share about interviews with people like Josephine Baker and Duke Ellington. Being a Black student, to have someone like Phyl around made my days much easier. I wanted my career to be a lot like hers," said

Waldron, who is also an adjunct lecturer at Northwestern University, "and the fact that I'm doing a lot of those things, here at the same company where she worked, I'm proud of that."

Columbia School of Journalism Dean Nicholas Lemann described her as "a major presence in the life of this school for decades, and a woman of tremendous love, passion, spirit, and commitment to all the best things in journalism. Hers was a life wonderfully well lived, and that is something for us to bear in mind as we mourn her passing."

When she retired from the school in 2004, she was presented with a scroll, which described her as someone with "affection, respect and advocacy for students... a deep love of music and its interplay with culture... and a fierce appreciation of African-American artists and the essential role of the arts in American culture."

NAACP

(Continued from Page 1)

Blacks. That's not true," said Hunt.

Hunt also echoed a familiar theme of "a successful membership drive."

Nationally, the NAACP has been criticized for misstating its membership numbers, inflating them in some years.

Currently, the local branch has about 500 members, according to Hunt.

In an exclusive interview with the *Sentinel-Voice*, Ishman, spoke of three goals that are uppermost on the agenda in the coming two years.

- Continuing to build trust and increasing membership of the local branch
- Bolstering the NAACP's Legal Redress Department
- Sustaining office help to be of greater assistance to the community

"I hope with the political shift in Congress... it's time for a change," Ishman said.

For more than 95 years, the NAACP has persevered despite violence, intimidation and hostile government policies.

Ishman sees the following as community-based issues the general NAACP body needs to address over the next few years:

- Equality in education
- Jobs advancement opportunities
- Improved police department relationships

And of major concern to the local branch is the way the Coroner's Inquest hearing process is run.

It has come under fire for its one-sided process. That process nearly always favors the police officers involved in a shooting incident where an alleged suspect is killed. The Coroner's Inquest process has a Master who serves as a judge. However, attorneys for the victim's family and friends cannot cross examine police officers. Instead, written questions must be submitted to the Master. It is the Master who decides which questions will be read and, thus, the ones that will not be introduced.

Your Horoscope Says... Nov. 23-Nov. 29

ARIES

Creativity comes from a deep source. Take the chance to pursue creative goals. Others will understand later. You and a child can come to an unmatched understanding. Use the week to celebrate the love you have rather than looking for love.

Soul Affirmation: I do not allow demands to be placed on me this week.

Lucky Numbers: 27, 31, 52

TAURUS

This week is a week to let your diplomatic side work for you. Forcing will get you nowhere. No man or woman is an island; focus on togetherness even if you are annoyed with people. Let your positive side be seen by all.

Soul Affirmation: Charm is my middle name this week.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 2, 8

GEMINI

Take advantage of a burst of energy. Body and mind are in sync. Don't take things too personally this week, or you might get your feelings hurt. If you do, tonight is a great time to make-up. Make the call.

Soul Affirmation: My hunches are right often this week.

Lucky Numbers: 6, 16, 36

CANCER

You have wonderful ideas about interior decorating. Be ready to accept a great opportunity at work. Money doesn't matter tonight. Don't make finances more important than they need to be.

Soul Affirmation: I appear to others what I know myself to be.

Lucky Numbers: 20, 29, 30

LEO

The influence of someone close can make all the difference in the world. Don't go alone. Your achievements are closely tied to someone who might not have agreed with you in the past. Thank the universe for what you have.

Soul Affirmation: The grandeur of my presence reflects the sunshine of my soul.

Lucky Numbers: 22, 45, 51

VIRGO

You and your honey have so much to talk about, listen! He or she is trying to come out of a whole new bag. Accept! Change is a good thing this week. Expect to travel soon. Savor the thought. Take your honey with you if you can.

Soul Affirmation: What I've been waiting for has been here all along.

Lucky Numbers: 16, 24, 35

LIBRA

If nothing much is happening on the job, remember that chilling is good sometimes. Use this week to return phone calls and answer letters. Be low key. Wonderful things flow from what you don't do.

Soul Affirmation: All things work together for good.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 6, 27

SCORPIO

You can turn that obstacle into an opportunity at work. Check out the players carefully. Watch your back and hold your tongue around workplace rivals. Aggressively seek agreement. You can find it by giving ground.

Soul Affirmation: The slowness of my week gives me time to refresh my energy.

Lucky Numbers: 9, 17, 38

SAGITTARIUS

Don't let your outer space infringe on your inner peace. Control situations that might affect your ability to get that important job done. Remember people are only human. Forgive and forget. Good things will come to you.

Soul Affirmation: I find many things about myself that I really love.

Lucky Numbers: 5, 9, 16

CAPRICORN

Mail, e-mail, or telephone brings news of a matter that demands more attention than you might think. Opportunity knocks at work this week. Spend some quality time with your family. Someone who loves you needs your support.

Soul Affirmation: I keep in mind the practical side of life this week.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 10, 30

AQUARIUS

Listen well for the indications that money can be found in an unusual place. Social and romantic interest should be your focus this evening. Love comes from what you do not say. Bend a little. Being happy is more important than being right.

Soul Affirmation: I let my mind go slack and tighten up my body

Lucky Numbers: 20, 37, 38

PISCES

Some people may not "get" where you're coming from, but ask your family and significant other to give you time to explain your way of looking at life this week. Do it calmly and confidentially.

Soul Affirmation: I let go and let the Spirit take control.

Lucky Numbers: 45, 49, 54

Capture The Moments
 PHOTOGRAPHY
 by Marty Friarson
 ph: 702-205-0874
 ctmomentsphotography@yahoo.com
 www.martypics.com