

May 2009

PEOPLE to PEOPLE

Gabe Morgan Receives *People to People* HERO Award

Every few years, *People to People* pauses to express appreciation and to honor one of its members for furthering the work of the organization.

People to People awarded its highest honor, the HERO Award, to Gabe Morgan at the April 27 gathering at CNU's Ferguson Center.

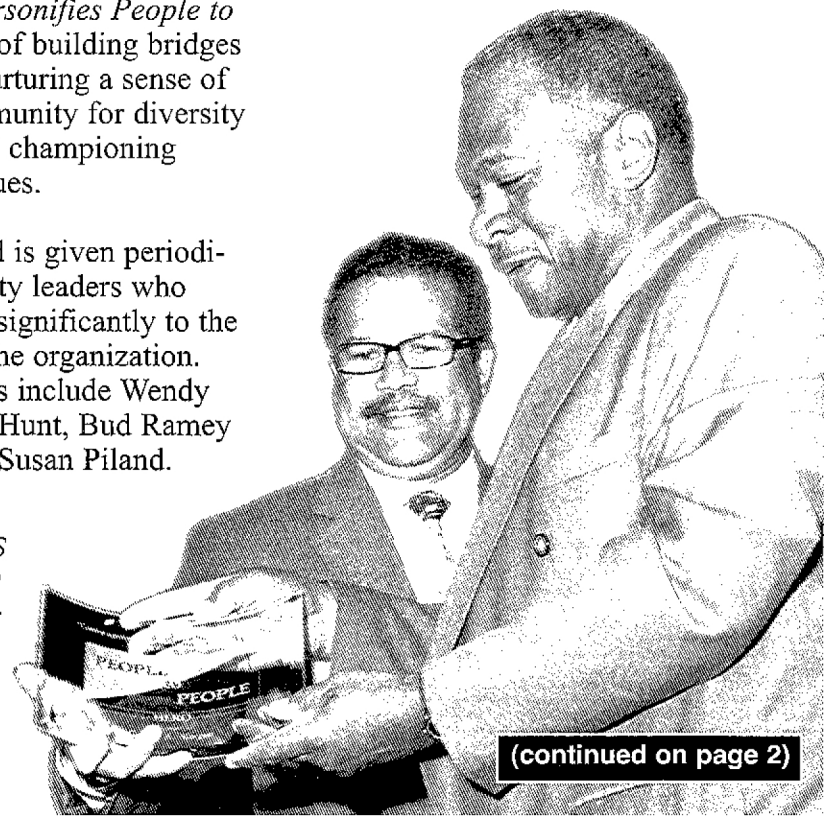
Co-Chairmen McKinley Price, DDS and Bud Ramey presented the award to Morgan for his continuous devotion to strengthening race relations in Newport News, for championing the needs of young people and for his leadership in community awareness of quality of life issues in the City.

Gabe Morgan personifies People to People's mission of building bridges between races, nurturing a sense of value in the community for diversity and inclusion and championing quality of life issues.

The HERO award is given periodically to community leaders who have contributed significantly to the advancement of the organization. Previous honorees include Wendy Malvin, Dr. Elva Hunt, Bud Ramey, Wes Wilson, and Susan Piland.

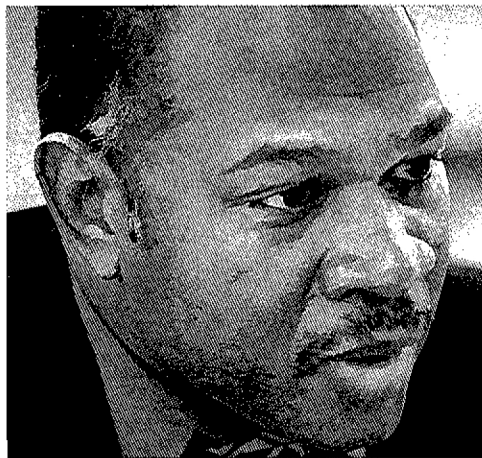
McKinley Price, DDS presents the award to Gabe Morgan (right).

The *People to People* presentation noted that "Gabe's deep involvement with the young people of this community has been a huge asset to *People to People*. His involvement with Achievable Dream, and his leadership in the *People to People* Neighborhood Centers initiative has placed him at the forefront of assuring the needs of the youth in this City are front and center in discussions about quality of life, safe environments and struggling with the gang, drugs and guns on the streets of Newport News."



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Gabe Morgan (continued from front)



“Gabe voices a higher vision for the City. He sees a future where young people are not left out because they are poor or because of where they live. He sees a future where neighborhoods are re-claimed from gangs

because the citizens are inspired by our network of Neighborhood Centers where Boys and Girls Clubs mentor the youth of the neighborhood and neighbors and mentors work together to create hope for residents who have lived in fear for years.”

Gabe has taken us inside the lock up to interview young people facing long prison terms to find out what went wrong in their lives growing up in Newport News. We asked them what could have changed them, what could have influenced them at critical moments when they were growing up.

Gabe has been a calm voice of

understanding and clarity at many community gatherings and at *People to People* meetings. He has evolved as a leading statesman for young people—acknowledging the sensitivity of emotional flashpoint issues, helping people break down their feelings as they debate confusing and difficult community issues.

Gabe Morgan helps us better understand the viewpoints of citizens in the City living in unsafe environments, people struggling with blight, poverty, lack of infrastructure, crime and loss of hope.

We congratulate Gabe Morgan and express our deep thanks to him for his abiding work in *People to People*.