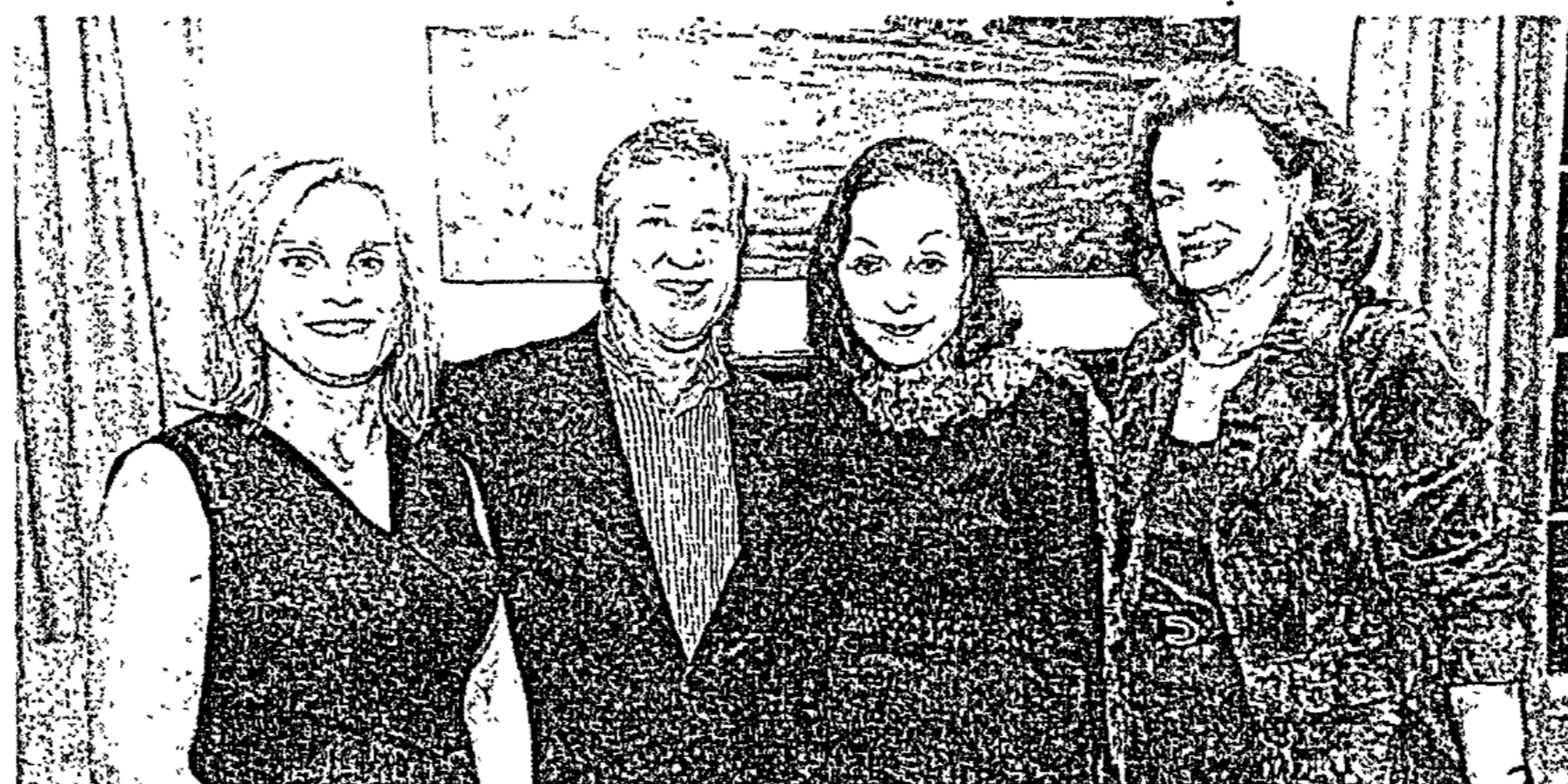


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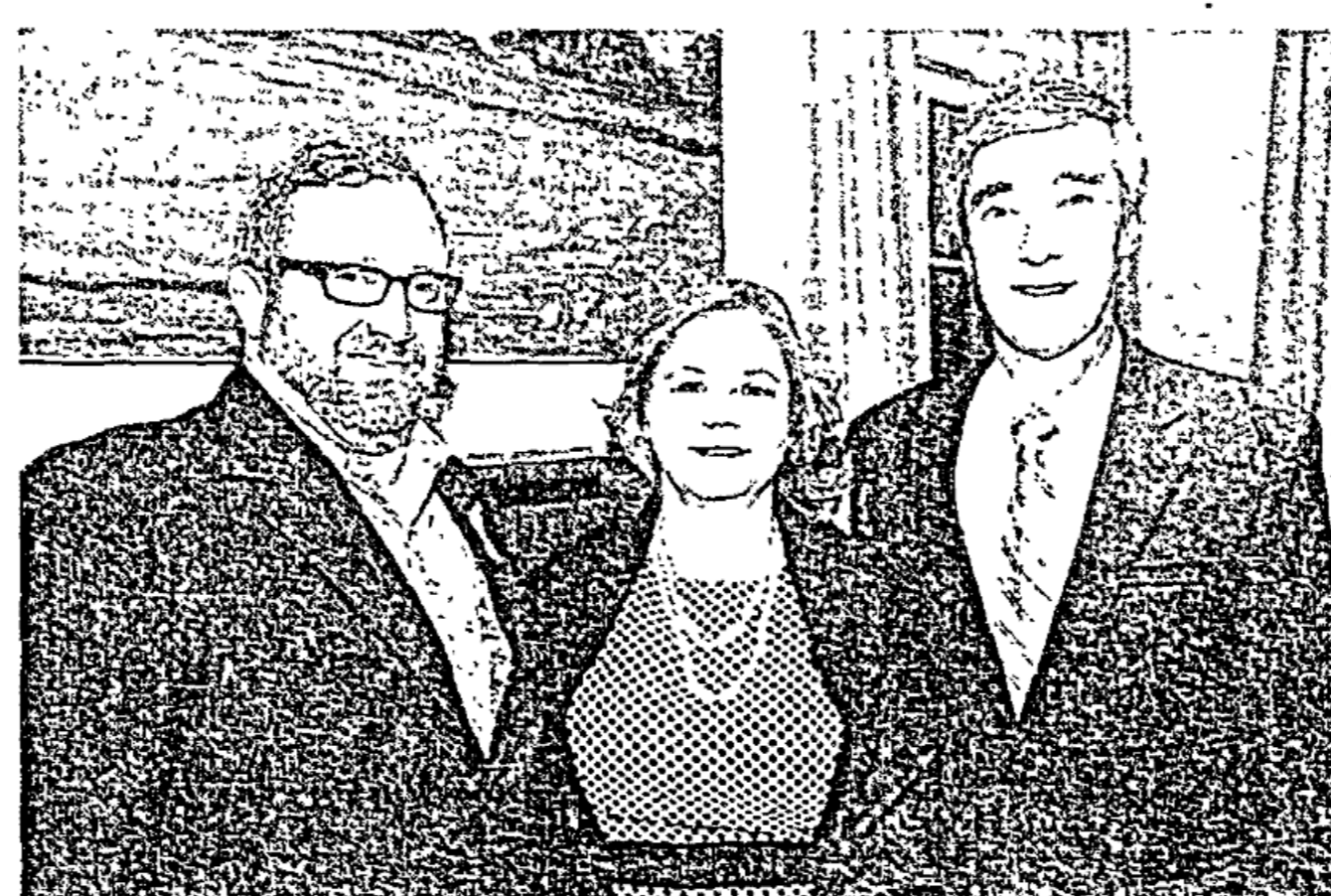


Albert and Elesha Kelleher, Jackie Madden and Holley Haag

ELIZA MORSE PHOTOS



Heather and Bruce Burglass, Carey Hammett and Marla Garvey



Brook L. Burmaster, Mary and Michael Whealdon

For more New Orleans area party photographs, visit NOLA.com/society.

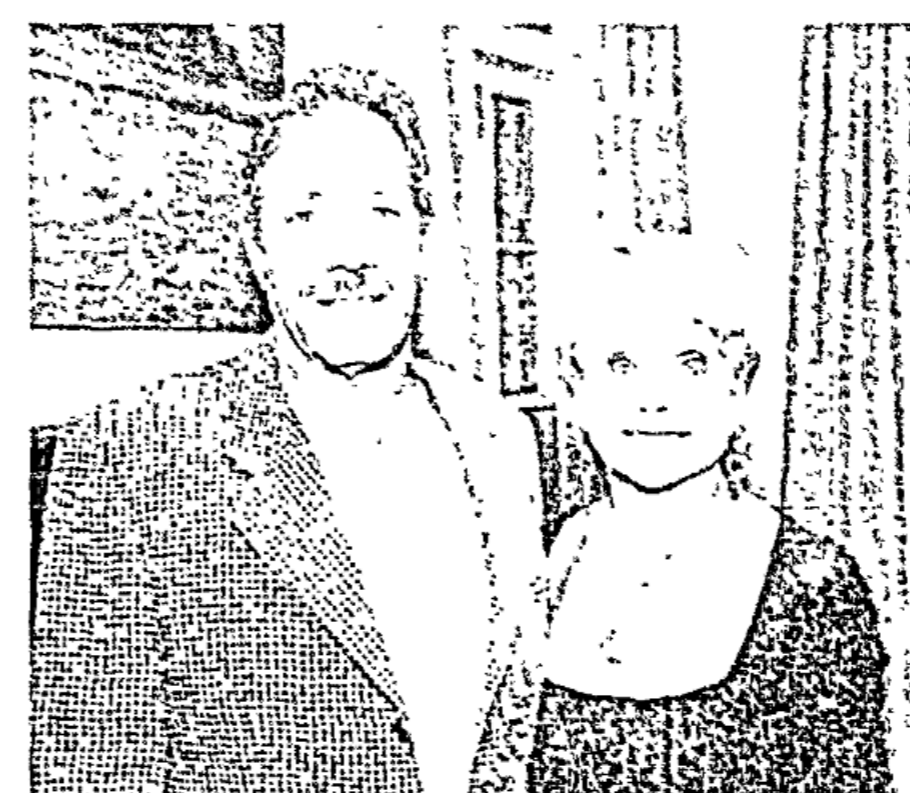
nola.com

COCKTAIL SOIREE CELEBRATES THE GROWING WORK OF FRIENDS OF JEFFERSON THE BEAUTIFUL

On a quiet street in Old Metairie, members of Friends of Jefferson the Beautiful gathered Thursday for the group's annual "The Autumn Affair" celebrating another year of keeping Jefferson Parish green. The parish, named in honor of President Thomas Jefferson, has developed through the years to encompass both commercial and residential areas, and this group's mission is to ensure that the landscape maintains its trees and greenery, as well as promotes projects that enhance it, such as public art. The Old Metairie home of Heather and Bruce Burglass was the party place, where cuisine and cocktails were served inside and out, and a silent auction offered gift certificates to restaurants, tennis lessons and more packages to bid on. Event co-chairs Holley Haag, Elesha Kelleher and Ashley Price Swanson were on hand, as were Board President Jackie Madden, Susan Wormser, Albert Kelleher, Dessa Rutter Giffin, Carey Hammett, Bobbie Gattuso, Mike Cotter, Mary and Michael Whealdon, Jefferson Parish President John Young, and Jerri and Jack Stumpf, to name a few.



Ashley Price Swanson, Jack and Jerri Stumpf



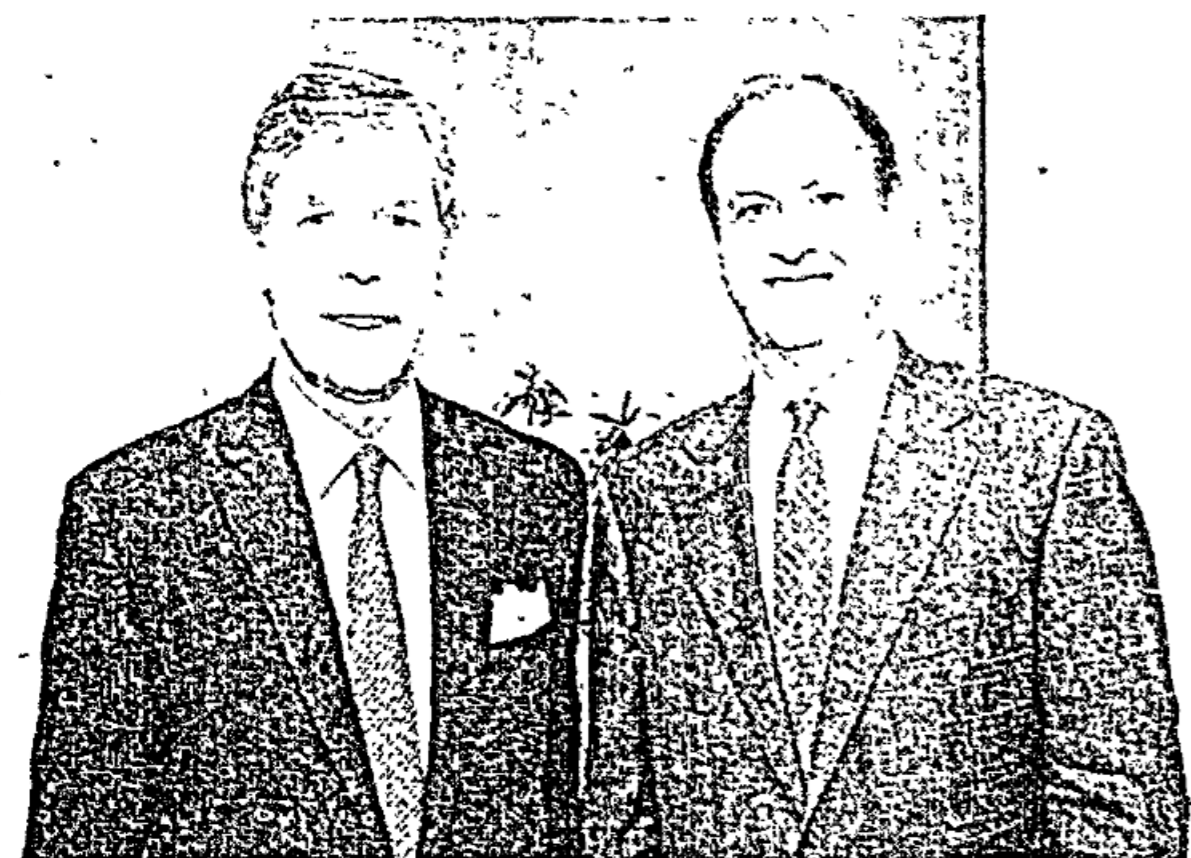
Mike Cotter and Bobbie Gattuso



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Social columnist

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J. Kelly Duncan and Merritt Lane

JOSH BRASTED PHOTO



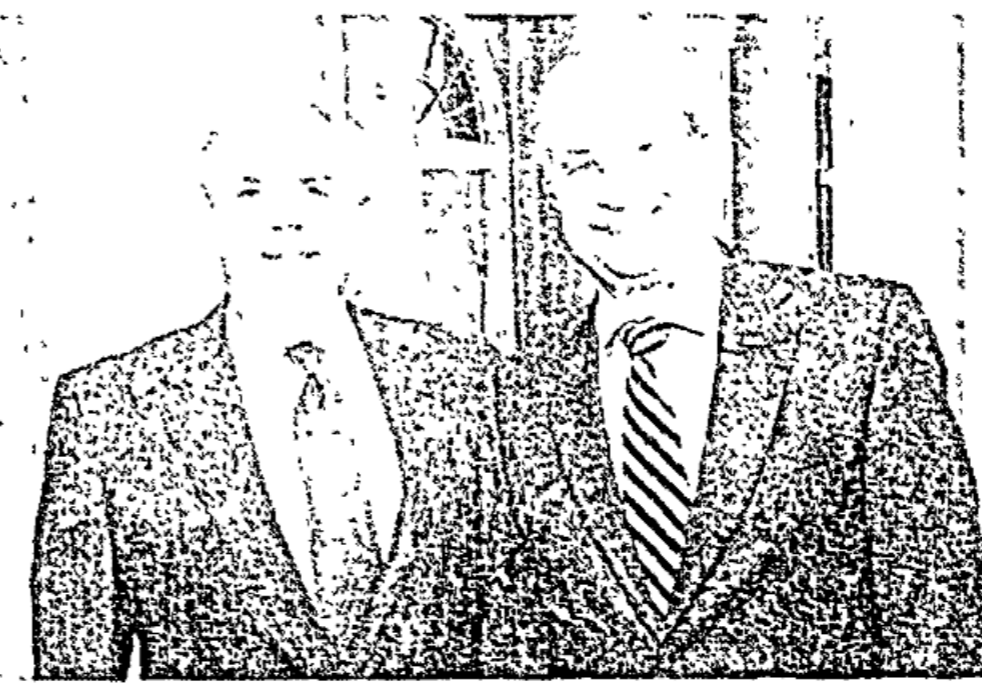
Alan J. Yacoubian, John Young, Thomas Stone and Janet Howard

BUREAU OF GOVERNMENTAL RESEARCH PRESENTS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Since 1994, the Bureau of Governmental Research's Excellence in Government Awards have recognized government employees and private citizens for their performance and ability to creatively solve problems to improve the government for New Orleans area citizens. On Tuesday at the Westin Canal Place, BGR Board Chair J. Kelly Duncan welcomed to the luncheon attendees including Audubon Nature Institute President and CEO Ron Forman, Canal Barge Co. President and CEO Merritt Lane, Port of New Orleans CEO Gary LaGrange, Chris Bonura, Rusty Barkingding, Norma Grace, Michael Kearney, Betsie Gambel, Andy Kopplin, Almee Adatto Freeman, Ailyn Maklansky, Toya Barnes-Teamer, Edgar Chase III, Jefferson Parish President John Young and BGR President and CEO Janet Howard, to name a few in the crowd. Also speaking was Alan Yacoubian, event chair of the selection committee that included J. Storey Charbonnet, James Favrot, Joseph Glarusso III, Glenn Hayes, John Hope III, Shelby LaSalle Jr. and Ann Thorpe Thompson. Sponsored by Canal Barge Co., the awards ceremony, emceed by Fox 8 WVUE's John Snell, honored seven New Orleanians. The awards and honorees are as follows: The Merit Award (recognizes outstanding performance by public sector employees): Katherine L. Cain, manager of strategic performance and partnerships for New Orleans' Health Department; Jared Munster, director of the city's Department of Safety and Permits; and James Ruckert, CFO, Port of New Orleans; Innovation Award (given to employees who have innovative solutions for an immediate problem): Charles West, director, Mayor's Innovation Delivery Team; Lifetime Achievement Award recipients (recognizes sustained performance, more than 15 years, in a public service career): Robert Becker, CEO, New Orleans City Park; and Thomas Stone, Fire Chief, St. Bernard Parish. And, finally, the Citizenship Award (given to a private citizen who works to improve the quality of government): Michael Teachworth, founder, StopTheTolls.org.



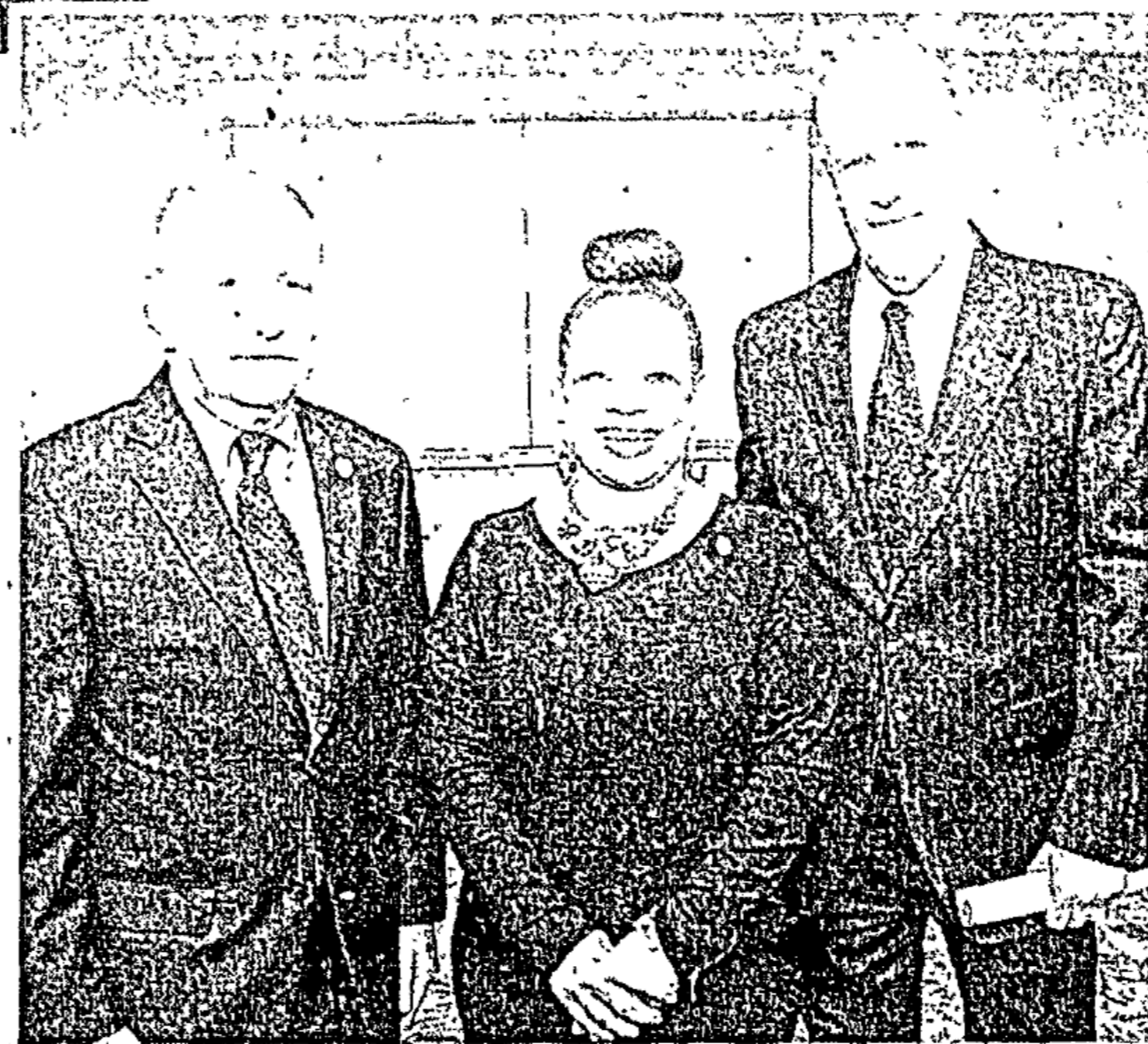
Andy Kopplin, Katherine Cain, Charles West and Jared Munster



Glenn W. Hayes and Robert Becker



Michael Teachworth, Norma Grace and John Hope



James F. Ruckert, Toya Barnes-Teamer and John Snell