

Winston-Salem Chronicle
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Commitments needed for United Way campaign

To The Editor:

The United Way community volunteers are working harder than ever this year to raise funds needed to support our 49 sponsored agencies.

Your support and commitment to the United Way are needed this year more than ever to assure that individuals and families in need will be able to receive the level of service and professional training that the agencies are currently providing. A missed goal would mean missed opportunities for our community. Your participation could make the difference.

This community has always responded in times of need, and I am confident that with your continued support and dedication, the United Way Campaign goal will be achieved and the needs of our community will be met.

Thanks to each of you from the staff and volunteers of Goodwill Industries and the Center for the Hearing Impaired.

Billy G. Whitaker, President
 Goodwill Industries

Mayor Wood, it's your move

SOME healing must take place now that the mayoral election is over, and there are some amends to be made on both sides of the fence.

Those community leaders who supported Martha Wood and those who opposed her should sit down at a conference table and figure out how we can move forward together.

It is in the best interest of our community that we find a way to reach each other despite our differences. Those who will lead Winston-Salem into the next decade must be big enough to build bridges that connect even the most diverse groups of people.

Wood's campaign supporters were nothing if not diverse. She proved her ability to appeal to a broad cross-section of citizens. She built a coalition that landed her into the mayor's seat.

Unfortunately, while launching her into the mayor's seat, Wood's supporters also managed to slander the character and reputation of her opponent, Dee Smith.

Dee Smith did not deserve the kinds of personal attacks that came from Wood's camp. Neither did Wood deserve the attacks made against her. This is not to suggest that either camp was more wrong or right than the other, but the attacks against Smith clearly came from Wood's camp. It is not so clear that the attacks against Wood came from Smith's camp or were sanctioned by Smith.

In any event, as the victor, Wood should be gracious enough to call for "peace talks." Instead, she does not acknowledge that any harm was done, and she appears to naively believe that she is in for a honeymoon with city staff and other community leaders.

This is not likely to happen unless Wood is willing to take on the role of peacemaker. If she continues to absolve herself and her supporters of any blame for the viciousness of the campaign, she will only succeed in driving a greater wedge between herself and those people whose help she will need in running this city.

We supported Wood's candidacy and we will support her as mayor, but we believe she has a responsibility to help heal the wounds. Of course, that is a decision that only Wood can make.

Her opponents, on the other hand, also have a decision to make. In fact, it is probably more accurate to say they have a challenge before them. The level of support that Len Sale received is a sad indication of the level of aversion to Wood.

Whether they like it or not, Martha Wood is the next mayor of Winston-Salem. Their challenge is to accept that fact and work with her as best they can.

The adjustment period for new administrations is never easy. Wood has the added burden of taking control of a city that is struggling to reidentify itself along several lines.

Those who opposed her and who may still be smarting from her victory could easily undermine her administration. Wood is likely to be severely scrutinized by these factions. In fact, we expect that, for some in our community, Wood will never be able to do anything right.

But we owe her a chance to make good. The majority of the voters who went to the polls last week chose Wood to lead this city. Unfortunately, those who voted for her may not be in a position to protect her from unnecessary criticism or give her the support she needs to make things happen for Winston-Salem.

We hope that everyone in a position to influence the growth of our city will search their hearts and ask themselves the question: "Have I, personally, done something to restore harmony and move us forward in a more positive manner?"



CHRONICLE MAILBAG

Our Readers Speak Out

na following Hurricane Hugo is due in large part to people like you and your news organization.

Thanks to voters

To The Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to express goodwill and thanks to all of the constituents who are responsible and made it possible for me to be re-elected as alderman of the Southeast Ward again.

Your support is highly appreciated and I will continue to serve in the best way possible in representing you and your concerns.

I will continue to strive for better housing, the enforcement of stricter housing codes, adequate police/fire protection and keeping an open mind to citizens' input which is of a high priority.

Your vote made a difference. Again, thank you.

Larry W. Womble
 Alderman, Southeast Ward

When a major disaster is declared by the president, our public information effort focuses on providing the facts people need to know in order to apply for disaster assistance. Understandably, it is during such trying times that the public can easily become confused and the overall recovery effort be hampered.

You have been a tremendous help in keeping the public informed. I commend you for the professional manner in which you have reported the disaster recovery. I am sure the people of North Carolina appreciate the work you've done in helping them through a difficult period.

Thank you for a job well done.
Tom Credle
 Federal Coordinating Officer

volunteer as they can. This leaves little time to raise the money needed to operate the agency.

This brings it down to what you can do. Give your "fair share" to the United Way. You may not be able to donate your time or other resources, but you can give money.

Every time the Kernersville Rescue Squad responds to an emergency, it is because you cared enough to give. Your dollars turn into equipment which is used by our volunteers to return our services right back to you. Come on! Time is short! Give to your United Way today.

Members
 Kernersville Volunteer
 Rescue Squad
 Dean Penry, Captain

Here's to you

To The Editor:

The success of the disaster recovery operation in North Caroli-

Help needed now

To The Editor:

As I read the latest figures for the 1989 United Way Campaign, I came to the realization that unless we dig deep and give our fair share, someone may not receive the help they need. The United Way goal is not simply a dollar goal to strive for, but a gauge to see how many people we can help next year. Your dollars are what more than 50 local agencies depend on to provide the much-needed services they provide. Many times the only help a person can afford is the free help provided by these agencies. Some agencies are all volunteer, which means that the staff must work full time and

About meeting our nation's economic needs

The terrible earthquake in California has exposed some fatal flaws in the way America is using its resources to meet national needs.

As commentators focused on the billions necessary to rebuild damaged freeways, the realization came that simply rebuilding earthquake-damaged highways and bridges represents just the tip of the iceberg.

Even without natural disasters to account for damage, time and neglect have led to a deterioration of the transportation infrastructure this nation depends upon for its economic well-being.

The Department of Transportation estimates that it will take almost \$400 billion to repair or replace aging bridges and highways and modernize the air traffic control system.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development says that it will take about \$20 billion just to restore deteriorating public housing, and it will take many billions more to increase the housing stock so that poor people and the homeless have decent housing.

The human infrastructure needs repair, too. Education and job skills

training are crucial to America's ability to compete in global markets. But federal support for education and for job training declined sharply in the

from? Some of it will have to come from tax hikes. The tax cuts of the 1980s were so deep that government



TO BE EQUAL

By JOHN E. JACOB

The boom of the 1980s bypassed the poor and the cities, and resources will have to be found to reduce inequality, provide access to health care for the poor, and to end the intolerable poverty that afflicts one-fourth of all American children.

Clearly, the 1990s will see massive federal investments in the nation's physical and human capital. Those investments have been deferred for so long that within a couple of years it's going to become a crisis situation -- and it often takes a crisis to finally get government to meet its responsibilities.

Where will the money come

has plenty of latitude to raise taxes in the highest bracket. America's affluent pay far lower taxes than those in other countries and, while the tax system became less progressive, they sharply increased their share of national income.

There are other sources for increased tax revenues, too -- closing loopholes that survived the 1986 tax reform, ending deductions for mortgage interest on second homes, and a consumption tax on luxury items are among the possibilities.

But many of the needed resources can come from shifting budget priorities.

With the Cold War winding

down, we've got to ask whether we still need to spend \$300 billion on the military. The Soviets say they want to cut their defense spending by half, and even Cold Warriors here say that if we take them up on the offer, our own defense budget can be cut by a like amount without harming national security.

Part of the reason for Japanese and German economic dominance lies in their low spending for defense -- proportionately one-third to one-half less than ours. In effect, we're paying for the privilege of defending them.

A close examination of the budget would yield other resources that could be shifted to more productive uses. Expensive manned space flights, for example, have been attacked as more dangerous and less useful than cheaper, unmanned missions.

The national bottom line is to invest in the future so that our economy flourishes for all. Instead of trying to cut the capital gains tax, government should raise more resources and use them better.

John E. Jacob is president of the National Urban League.

Chronicle Camera

Do you think the justice system is fair to blacks and other minorities?

With the Supreme Court's recent overturn of the murder convictions in the Darryl Hunt case, many Afro-Americans are again voicing their concerns about the fairness of the country's justice system.

Hunt case despite the protests of District Attorney Warren Sparrow and District Attorney H. Dean Bowman.

Both argued that Mr. Hunt remains a threat to the community and were worried that if he is released on bond, he will pose new

threats to the community.

Members of the Darryl Hunt Defense Fund Committee believe the bond was finally set because the judge in the case, an Afro-American, was sensitive to the issues surrounding the case.

Hunt's defense committee was

formed to help insure that justice prevailed in the case in light of the controversy that has surrounded the case for years.

Observers of the justice system across the country believe that sitting more Afro-American judges in courtrooms will go a long way

towards making the system fairer for all citizens.

Today, 11 Afro-Americans sit on the United States Court of Appeals. They are among 152 judges stationed throughout the country in 12 federal jurisdictions.

However, few Afro-American

judges were appointed to federal courts during the Reagan administration.

This week's Chronicle Camera asked residents to share their opinions on whether the justice system is noticeably unfair to Afro-Americans and to other minorities.



"No. It seems to be more pressure on blacks because more blacks return (to court) than whites."

Kenneth Patten



Henry Gregg

"No. If a man says he didn't do it, it's not up to a man to punish him."



James Little

"This system is not designed to be fair to minorities. It's designed to cater to people with money."



Thomas Drake

"No."



Garry Oliver

"No. It goes back throughout our history. Whites still look at a man based on his skin color"