

# Race relations work is long-term

## Schools take bold new direction

By SHERIDAN HILL  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Perhaps the most important work of public schools is quietly being carried out by a soft-spoken woman who is getting down to the meat-and-potatoes of racism, touching the origin of failure for many African-Americans: misunderstandings with white teachers that result in bad experiences for the child.

In a new pilot project initiated by the central school administration, Dr. Eileen Wilson Oyelaran is working intensively with 30 teachers from four schools: Hill and South Fork Middle, Mineral Springs Elementary, and Glen High. She explores cultural differences, studies teaching styles, and suggests new ways of reacting to children of different cultures.

Dr. Ann Shortt, elementary division director, initiated the pilot program. Excitement bubbles in her voice when she talks about it.

"We constantly try to work in bits and pieces to combat racism, but this is the way I believe we will bring about change. We can only change from within, and this is a long-term, two-to three year program to really change behavior. We're not saying our teachers are doing anything wrong, but if we are more aware of how different people respond, black people or poor people, anyone who is different, we will be more successful in the classroom."

Teachers from each school volunteered recently to attend an introductory two-hour awareness workshop conducted by Dr. Oyelaran, a Winston-Salem State education professor. Eight teachers will take part in a 30-hour intensive program and use Dr. Oyelaran as a resource for the next several years. She insists that each teacher be a volunteer, not forced to attend.

"Change doesn't come from listening once," she says. "If you force them to go, they sit there and nothing happens for children. We want a core of volunteers who want to continue to do the hard work of dealing with diversity."

Dr. Oyelaran aims to give teachers a philosophical foundation and then deal with how to change classroom behavior. She wants

**"We constantly try to work in bits and pieces to combat racism ..."**

— Dr. Oyelaran

teachers to feel comfortable in looking at their behavior and their expectations. She will also help teachers make their curriculum more culturally diverse.

"We don't need to spend any more time talking about what children don't bring to the classroom, identifying their deficits and making excuses for what the children don't do," says Dr. Oyelaran. "We need to identify what he can do, what does he need to be able to do, and what do I as teacher need to do to get him there."

Dr. Shortt is clearly excited about the program. "It's a program we need to have in every school. I know it will make a difference, because Dr. Oyelaran makes a thousand percent commitment. She prefers a long term program that will have a lasting effect, not just a quick fix."

The entire plan includes creat-



Dr. Eileen Wilson Oyelaran

ing a culturally diverse management team or coordinating committee to support teachers who want to continue their growth in understanding children of different cultures. Dr. Oyelaran also plans to work with parents in gaining a better understanding of cultural differences and racism and how each impacts teachers.

Dr. Oyelaran was graduated from Mona College in California and received her Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate School in California. She has always been interested in the education of African-American children, "the absence of their historical experience in curriculum, and the failure of social science literature to deal with the African American experience."

She spent 14 years in Nigeria researching the culture and its impact on development. Four years ago she returned to the states and conducted in-depth observations of schools in eastern North Carolina for Wesleyan College as a visiting scholar in the education department. After gathering baseline data, she designed an intervention model and worked with local schools for two years before coming to Winston-Salem State University.

## Milligan named Housing Authority Director

By YVETTE N. FREEMAN  
Community News Editor

The Winston-Salem Housing Authority Board of Commissioners announced Tuesday the selection of the Authority's new executive director.

Arthur S. Milligan Jr., 35, of Rocky Mount, was unanimously chosen by the Board to succeed David Thompkins, who retired Oct. 1. Pat Cranfill has been the acting director in the interim.

Milligan, who is currently serving as Executive Director of the Rocky Mount Housing Authority, will assume his new position on Feb. 1.

The Board chose Milligan from 72 other applicants from around the country, and according to Commissioner Larry Little, it was Milligan's track record for getting things done that led to his selection.

"Specifically, we liked the efforts he had made in Rocky Mount to organize the community, to combat drugs, working with youth, and legal services in the community," said Little.

"We wanted someone we thought could take charge, who's innovative, who is creative. And who really cares about public housing and the residents of public housing," he added.

Other members of the Board agreed that Milligan was the perfect choice for the job.

Commissioner Chairman, Dr. David H. Burr, said, "He has charisma. And he is the type of person that we, as a group of Commissioners, would be proud to take to City Hall, to the Chief of Police, to anyone else, to introduce as a vital personality of public housing."

Commissioner D.D. Adams agreed and said that the residents of public housing will also feel that the Board made the right decision.

"He has charisma, but he has compassion," she said. "You feel it in his presence. And I think not only is he going to be the type of person that you can take to City Hall and meet the Mayor, he is the type of person that our residents will be very comfortable with. And he's not intimidating in the least bit."

Milligan is a native of Columbia, S.C., and a graduate of the Citadel at Charleston, S.C. He has served with the First Wachovia Corporation in Atlanta and as an Industrial Engineer in Wilson, N.C.

Before assuming his position as Executive Director with the Rocky Mount Housing Authority, he served as assistant director of the Wilson Housing Authority.

Among his awards and achievements is the Distinguished Service Award presented by the Rocky Mount Jaycees, and the nomination by the Jaycees as one of the five outstanding young North Carolinians for 1990.

The Winston-Salem Housing Authority Board of Commissioners are Dr. David H. Burr, chairman; D.D. Adams; Louise Davis, Phoebe Satterwhite, William Andrews, Ross Gaffney and Larry Little.



Arthur S. Milligan Jr.

## Kappas donate Christmas baskets

The Winston-Salem Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity recently ended 1991 by giving Christmas food baskets to several needy families and senior citizens.

The Fraternity gave the baskets to families in the Carver Road, Lakeside Apartment, and Happy Hill Gardens areas on Saturday, Dec. 21.

The baskets, which were prepared by members of the Fraternity,

included turkeys, canned goods, potatoes, flour, and variety of fresh fruit, and more.

Money for the baskets was collected by each member of the Fraternity, which donates the baskets each year to needy families in the community.

"We as Kappas, feel that we need to do something for the community. By giving during Christmas, we think it strengthens the community, develops trust in the neighborhood, and lets our people know that we are all blessed," said Fraternity member Ronald Buchanan.

In addition to the Fraternity's annual Christmas giving, the group also provides a scholarship fund for Winston-Salem State University, and donates money to the United Negro College Fund, the NAACP, the YMCA and other organizations.

## Security officer training to begin at GTCC

The American Society for Industrial Security is endorsing a Basic Security Officer Training School at Guilford Technical Community College in Greensboro.

Applications are now being accepted for the school, and enrollment is limited to 50 students. The fee is \$30. Financial assistance is available to qualified applicants.

Basic Security Officer Training Program graduates will receive cer-

tificates upon successful completion of the program training activities. Graduates will also be awarded Advance Standing for three Criminal Justice Curriculum courses at GTCC: CJJ-173, Juvenile Law, Theory and Practice; CJL-109, Introduction to Law Enforcement; and CJL-295, Seminar in Legal Problems.

Advance Standing will entitle the Basic Security Officer Training

Program graduate up to nine hours of Criminal Justice Curriculum credit in a Criminal Justice Associate Degree program at GTCC.

The school is being sponsored by the GTCC Criminal Justice Department in cooperation with the Greensboro/High Point/Guilford County Training and Employment Services program.

For more information, call 334-4002.

wishing you a happy new year

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
REZONING OF PROPERTY  
CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM**

The Board of Aldermen will consider requests to amend the City of Winston-Salem Zoning Ordinance by rezoning property as shown below:

DATE: January 6, 1992 TIME: 7:30 p.m.  
PLACE: Board of Aldermen Chamber, City Hall

- Petition of The Medical Center of N.C. Baptist Hospital, Inc. and Bowman Gray School of Medicine of Wake Forest University; property consists of the main campus of Baptist Hospital bounded by Beach Street on the north, Hawthorne Road on the east, Queen Street on the south, and Medical Center Boulevard on the west; from R-1-S (Hospitals or Health Welfare Centers, including Medical Colleges) to R-1. W-1732.
- Petition of Barbara H. Simmons; property located on the east side of Nicholson Road approximately 286 feet north of a northward bend in Nicholson Road; from R-5 to R-6-S (Dwellings: Single-Family; and Manufactured Homes not in a Manufactured Home Park). W-1748.
- Petition of Henry Lee and Betty Carroll Falls, Jr.; property located on the north side of High Street between Spruce Street and Marshall Street; from R-1 to B-2. W-1749.
- Petition of Carver Rudolph for property owned by Lindsay S. Wall, Sr.; property located at the northwest corner of Stratford Road/US 158 and Mission Road; from B-3 and R-4 to B-3-S (Eating Establishments; Medical, Dental or Related Offices; Offices; Printing or Binding; Services; Stores or Shops, Retail; and Wholesale Sales - Two Phase). W-1750.
- Petition of Lawrence Joel American Legion Post 453 for property owned by G.W. Myers Trading Post, Inc.; property located on the west side of an unopened portion of Peachtree Street between Simmons Street and an unopened portion of Morrison Street; from R-2-S (Dwellings: Multi-Family) to R-4-S (Clubs or Lodges, Private). W-1751.

Prior to the hearing, interested persons may obtain any additional information which is in the possession of the City/County Planning Board in that office at City Hall on weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Interested citizens will be given an opportunity to be heard.

**THIS MEETING WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON CITY TV-33.**

Marie Matthews, Secretary  
to the Board of Aldermen

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