

Winston-Salem Chronicle

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Carl Matthews, standing right, is shown here with fellow demonstrators Victor Johnson, left, Rev. Fred Shuttleworth, Billy Bright, Everett Dudley, kneeling left, and Jefferson Davis Diggs III.

Local Blacks Recall Sit-In

◆ Matthews Staged One-Man Rally on Feb. 8, 1960

By JOHN HINTON
Chronicle Senior Staff Writer

A little known anniversary will occur in Winston-Salem on Feb. 8. That's when Carl W. Matthews, a 27-year-old African American, entered a S.H. Kress department store, sat down defiantly at its lunch counter, and asked for service.

"The waitress told me repeatedly that they didn't serve colored (people)," Matthew said. "The white people sitting there got up and left. I stayed all there all day."

Matthews, who was a

dock worker for a local trucking company, staged the one-man protest a week after four black students from North Carolina A&T State University staged the historic sit-in at the Woolworth's Drug Store in Greensboro to integrate its lunch counter.

Matthews and other African Americans recalled the protests in Winston-Salem in the early 1960s. Last week, Greensboro residents celebrated the 36th anniversary of the sit-ins, which energized the Civil Rights Movement nationwide.

"I was inspired by what they did," Matthews said. "I heard many troubling things during the week of the Greensboro sit-ins. Many people were saying that those niggers were crazy."

During his protest, several whites in the store threatened him. "They were saying, 'Nigger, you better get out of here. An old white lady threatened to spit on me.'"

Matthews said the store manager and owner told him to

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Leaders and Educators Visit Afrocentric Schools

By MAURICE CROCKER
Chronicle staff writer

Community leaders and educators are still exploring the possibilities of an Afrocentric school in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County school system.

"The bottom line is how do we create an educational system for our children," said the Rev. Carlton Eversley, pastor of Dellabrook Presbyterian Church.

Eversley, along with nine others leaders and educators, recently took a trip to visit two Afrocentric schools in Philadelphia and Trenton, New Jersey.

Everyone was impressed with how each school operates and the discipline of the children in each school, Eversley said.

The school's educators visited were The African Peoples Action School, in Trenton, N.J., which is celebrating its 20th anniversary, and The Children's Village at Harity Elementary School, in Philadelphia.

The Children's Village opened in September of 1993. The school is a three year model and will operate until June of 1996, at which time the schools progress will be evaluated.

Ninety students from Harity Elementary have been selected to participate in the Children's Village. The student population is comprised of 90 students ranging in age from six to nine years.

"The thing that impressed

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The Chronicle to Recognize Local Work in the Community

By JOHN HINTON
Chronicle Senior Staff Writer

The Winston-Salem Chronicle will honor several local people at its 13th Annual Award Banquet on Saturday, March 9 at 6:30 p.m., at the M.C. Benton Convention Center.

"We believe that there are many people who do a lot of good things in the community," said Ernest H. Pitt, publisher of *The Chronicle*. "Not all of them are getting proper recognition. This is an effort on our part to bring recognition to people who contribute significantly in our community."

The Chronicle is recognizing

people in 10 categories. The Local Organizing Committee has won the Man of the Year Award for its contribution to the Million Man March to Washington, D.C., in October 1995.

Northeast Ward Alderman Vivian Burke has received the Woman of the Year title honor.

Dr. Charlie Kennedy and the Flow Family were selected for their community service. Annette Beatty and Dr. Richard Groves were cited for their leadership with the Coalition on Race Relations.

Police Officer Priscilla Thomas was recognized for her

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Award Winners



Pictured are Frank Dullin, left, Cloys Cecil, Leroy Nelson, Mary Sharpe, Janis Gooding, Dollean Johnson, Crystal Pearson, Hedy Rice, Kenneth Brown, and Imedia Dixon. Simon Johnson, right, director of QEI, recognized these people at last week's ceremony.

QEI Recognizes Residents for Contributions

By JOHN HINTON
Chronicle Senior Staff Writer

The Quality Education Institute (QEI) recently recognized several people for their contributions to the program, which enrolls African American students in kindergarten through fourth grades.

More than 200 people - parents, friends, and church members - attended the awards presentation at the Carver Road Church of Christ last week.

"We are on the right track," said Simon Johnson, the director of QEI. "We do the right thing with our children."

The purpose of QEI is to maximize the education of children in small group settings by providing an environment that develops the students' intellectual, spiritual, emotional, physical, and social potential.

QEI recognized Marjorie Gregory as a grant writer, Dollean Johnson as an editor, Cloys Cecil as a visionary, Hedy Rice as a staff person, Mary Sharpe for her daily contributions, Frank Dullin as a friend of the school, and Leroy Nelson for leadership.

About 30 children performed three acts in the play, "Gazing at Our Past, Greeting Our Present and Gleaning Into the Future."

Johnson praised the children for

their efforts. "Storytelling is a great form of learning," he said. "They are telling a very meaningful story. They are telling a great story of God's liberation of our people."

Many of the children wore Afrocentric clothes during the ceremony. "We believe in unity; we believe in ourselves; and we believe in our work."

Johnson said he was grateful for the corporate sponsors of QEI and local black businesses such as Special Occasions. He recognized the contributions of Wachovia Bank, R.J.

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Hairston's Condition Heightens Awareness of Diabetes

By JOHN HINTON
Chronicle Senior Staff Writer

The life and death of Curtis K. Hairston, a famous rhythm and blues singer and native of Winston-Salem, may heighten awareness of people who are living with diabetes.

"People just don't know enough about this disease," said Shirley Holloway, Hairston's mother. "I am sure that people aren't aware of childhood diabetes."

Hairston, who died of kidney failure in N.C. Baptist Hospital on Jan. 18, was first diagnosed with diabetes when he was 12-years-old. "He had suffered for a long time," Holloway said. "I give all the

credit to Baptist Hospital. They worked on him for 20 years. I'm am really grateful to the doctors there."

Dr. Jimmy Jones, a local pediatrician, first treated Hairston in 1974.

"I thought Curtis had a sinus problem," his mother said. Jones referred Hairston to Forsyth Memorial Hospital, where tests revealed that the future singer had diabetes, a condition in which the body's immune system destroys insulin cells in the pancreas, lowering blood sugar levels. It slowly damages the body's major organs.

As a youth, Hairston was pleased when he found he had the disease. "He told his grandfather, 'I'm a diabetic just

like you. We have something in common.'" His grandfather later died of diabetic complications, Holloway said.

"Curtis went into a diabetic coma when he was 14," she said. "We almost lost him then." Hairston recovered, developed his singing talents, and became a renowned rhythm and blues artist performing on three continents.

He first sang "We Are All God's Children" in front of an audience when he was only three.

In his early teens, Hairston was asked to join the Winston-Salem Arts

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Curtis Hairston

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This Week in Black History
February 12, 1948

First Lt. Nancy C. Leftenant became the first black accepted in the regular army nursing corps.



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