

Black WFU women law school grads win awards

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Wake Forest University School of Law conferred hoods on 181 graduates, including 13 African-Americans.

Four African-American women in the class of 2015 received awards.

***Jasmine Michelle Pitt** of Clemmons received the Forsyth County Women Attorneys Association Award. This award is presented annually to an outstanding female graduate based upon her academic achievements, leadership, service to community, professionalism and commitment to the legal profession.

Pitt has been executive editor of the Wake Forest Law Review; Student Bar Association vice-president in 2014-15 and previously secretary, 1L Class representative; National Trial Team for Moot Court; Domestic Violence Advocacy Center fundrais-



Photos by Erin Mizelle for the Winston-Salem Chronicle
(L-R) Jasmine Pitt, Bray Taylor, Elizabeth Bahati Mutisya and Gelila Selassie are award winners. They are members of the Wake Forest Law School, Class of 2015.

ing and event co-chair; Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity; Marshall; Moot Court; Co-Chair 1L Walker Competition.

***Elizabeth Bahati Mutisya** of Raleigh received the E. McGruder Faris Memorial Award and \$200 cash, which is given to the student exhibiting the highest standards of character, leadership and scholarship.

As editor-in-chief of the Wake Forest Journal of Law & Policy and presi-

dent of the Immigration Law Society, Bahati Mutisya has not only served as a leader during her time at Wake Forest Law, but in the university's spirit of Pro Humanitate, she has also given back to the local community by volunteering with the Big Brothers, Big Sisters program.

***Bray Taylor** of Paterson, New Jersey, received the American Bar Association's Section of Intellectual Property Law

and Bloomberg BNA Award for the student who achieves the highest grade among the courses of Intellectual Property, Copyright and Trademarks.

***Gelila Anbesaw Selassie** of Charleston, South Carolina, received the North Carolina State Bar Student Pro Bono Service Award, which is presented annually to a student who has contributed time and talent to law-related service.

B.B. King reigned in blues kingdom

BY KEN RITTER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAS VEGAS — B.B. King believed anyone could play the blues, and that "as long as people have problems, the blues can never die."

But no one could play the blues like B.B. King, who died Thursday night, May 14, at age 89 in Las Vegas, where he had been in hospice care.

Although he kept performing well into his 80s, the 15-time Grammy winner suffered from diabetes and other problems. He collapsed during a concert in Chicago last October, later blaming dehydration and exhaustion.

For generations of blues musicians and rock 'n' rollers, King's plaintive vocals and soaring guitar-playing style set the standard for an art form born in the American South and honored and performed worldwide.

King played a Gibson guitar he affectionately called Lucille. The result could hypnotize an audience, no more so than when King used it to full effect on his signature song, "The Thrill is Gone."

Riley B. King was born Sept. 16, 1925, on a tenant farm near Itta Bena in the Mississippi Delta. His parents separated when he was 4, and his mother took him to the even smaller town of Kilmichael. She died when he was 9, and when his grandmother died as well, he lived alone in her primitive cabin, raising cotton to work off debts.

A preacher uncle taught him the guitar, and King didn't play and sing blues in earnest until he was in basic training with the Army during World War II.

His first break came with gospel, singing lead and playing guitar with the Famous St. John's Gospel Singers in Mississippi. But he soon split for Memphis, Tenn. where his career took off after Sonny Boy Williamson let him play a song on WKEM.



King



Tina Carson-Wilkins, WSTA marketing director, speaks during a presentation of bus route changes.

Routes

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whether that route is ridden during the day, night or weekend.

She went over several proposed routes for the East Winston community.

The new circulator, which is proposed Route 13, combines parts of the current Routes 1 and 2, providing access to places like LaDeara Crest, Cleveland Avenue Homes, Fourteenth Street Community Center, Winston-Salem Preparatory Academy, Rupert Bell Community Center and the Malloy Jordan East Winston Heritage Center. It will run day and night during weekdays and also on Saturday and Sunday.

Proposed Route 7, which combines the current routes 10 and 17, will go from the Department of Social Services down Patterson Avenue, turn on University Parkway and end on Hanes Mill Road, providing access to Northside Shopping Center, Forsyth Tech Transportation Technology Center, Cook's Flea Market, Sam's Club and Walmart.

Route 16, a new version of Route 1 that will run along Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, New Walkertown and Carver School Road, and go by Burger King, CVS, the Boys and Girls Club International Corps, Carl Russell Sr. Community Center, Jetway Shopping Center, Carver High School and the Forsyth Tech Mazie Woodruff Campus. It will connect to Route 18, a new route that will travel the length of Liberty Street out to Lansing Drive.

Also, proposed Route 23, a combination of current Routes 3, 14 and 26, will go by Old Salem, Happy Hill Gardens, Gateway YWCA and Stoney Glen.

Attendee Sarah Davis inquired about 10th Street,



Keshawn Mosley asks a question during the WSTA presentation.

which is currently serviced by Route 1. She was told the new routes won't go through that same street, requiring longer walks to bus stops by passengers.

Davis had concerns about people in her community with disabilities, such as visual impairment or those using a wheelchair, having a longer trek to get to a bus.

(When reached for comment this week, WSTA Director Art Barnes said the new routes will be catered to best serve the majority of passengers. Some will end up farther away from a bus route, while others will be closer. He said Trans-AID, a WSTA service that lets handicap passengers arrange a direct ride from their home to a destination, is an option for some passengers with disabilities who have difficulty getting to a bus.)

Davis also had concerns about the safety of female passengers having to walk longer distances at night.

"Being a woman in this day and age it's not safe to be walking three blocks," she said.

Attendee Keshawn Mosley asked whether there were plans to expand Sunday hours. There currently aren't, he was told. Mosley works at packaging company Sunoco, which will continue to have bus service in the proposed routes. He said more than half of the workers at his location rely on the WSTA for transportation, so the company plans its hours around bus ride availability.

Mosley used the bus system until he got his own vehicle recently. He said he felt once riders got used to the new routes, they'll enjoy things like the increased transfer points and the new East Winston circulator. He felt the more numerous, shorter night routes are especially needed.

"If you go from the TC (Transportation Center) to the end of the lines, it's almost like an hour and 15, hour and 20 minutes," he said. "That's going to be phenomenal for those night workers."



Attendees listen to presentation at New Jerusalem Baptist Church during a town hall meeting.

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— Keshawn Mosley, attendee



The WSTA is holding many other comment meetings on the new proposed routes:

- May 21, 4-7 p.m. — Carl Russell Community Center, Carver School Road, 27105
- May 22, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. — International Boys & Girls Club @ 2850 New Walkertown Road, 27105
- May 26, 4-7 p.m. — Sprague Street Community Center @ 1350 E. Sprague Street, 27107
- May 27, 3-6 p.m. — MLK Community Center @ 2001 Pittsburg Avenue, 27101
- May 28, 10 a.m.-noon — Hanes Hosiery Community Center @ 501 Reynolds Boulevard, 27105
- May 29, 1-4 p.m. — Alders Point @ 590 Mock Street, 27127
- June 1, 5-7 p.m. — WR Anderson Community Center @ 2450 Reynolds Park Road, 27107
- June 2, 5-7 p.m. — 14th Street Community Center @ 2020 E. 14th Street 27101
- June 3, 10-noon and 3-5 p.m. — Forsyth Tech West Campus @ 1300 Bolton Street, 27103
- June 4, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. — Gateway YWCA @ 1300 South Main Street, 27127
- June 5, 2-6 p.m. — Reynolda Branch Library @ 2839 Fairlawn Drive, 27106
- June 8, Noon-4 p.m. — Clark Campbell Transportation Center @ 100 West Fifth Street, 27101

The proposed routes can also be viewed by going to www.wstransit.com and clicking on "Proposed Route Changes."

Town Hall

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by the police currently. He also said that officers recently went through additional training on racial and cultural biases administered by two Winston-Salem State University professors. He said the police have numerous trust talks with the community, local clergy and college students and will hold a Youth Police Academy in July.

Captain Chris Lowder added that

the WSPD also participated in Talk and Walk last week, where city officials went door to door in a neighborhood off of Kernersville Road so residents could tell them what's going on in their neighborhood.

Also discussed was the proposed rezoning of a property on Cleveland Avenue that would let the Salvation Army transform it into a homeless shelter for women and families. Several voiced opposition to it based on concern that the shelter doesn't fit into the Cleveland Avenue Initiative

Master plan to develop the area.

The City's incentives for Herbalife moving one of its facilities from California to Winston-Salem were also discussed.

The facility would have 300 jobs at an average salary of \$61,000 with an estimated 70 percent of them being local hires. City Council Member Derwin Montgomery assured constituents that if Herbalife failed to deliver the promised jobs, it would have to pay the City back, just like Dell did when it closed its local plant.

Correction

The Chronicle apologizes for some errors made in a story written by Felecia Piggott-Long and printed in The Chronicle on May 7. The article stated that Elaine Green Luke had a troubled relationship with her mother. The pronoun reference for "you" in the poem Green Luke uses as her introduction piece alludes to her mother, her boyfriend and the devil as the enemy, which raised some confusion. The person who criticizes her about her weight is her boyfriend rather than her mother. The person who gives her material things instead of love is her boyfriend rather than her mother. Green Luke blames the devil as the enemy for her sexual abuse as a child.

The Chronicle regrets any misunderstanding that may have resulted from the errors. The Editor

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