

THE CHRONICLE

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THURSDAY, January 23, 2020

‘Cling to King’s dream’

20th annual Prayer Breakfast kicks off festivities for MLK Jr. Day



Photo by Alphonso Abbott Jr.

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

The more than 1,000 people from every walk of life in attendance at the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Breakfast earlier this week were

spurred to “cling to King’s dream,” work together, and continue to fight for change by exercising their right to vote.

“Dr. Martin Luther King’s words had power and they gave us hope and hope is defined as joyful, confident expectations,”

said Brigadier General James Gorham while delivering the keynote address.

A native of Pitt County, Gen. Gorham joined the Army right out of high school. He later continued his education at East Carolina University be-

fore he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the N.C. National Guard, where he served for more than 30 years. In 2009 Gorham made history when he became the first African American to reach the rank of General in the history of the N.C. National Guard.

He retired in 2012 with nearly 40 years of military service.

Gorham also had a successful civilian career in banking and served as director of special projects for the N.C. Department of Public Safety.

“Dr. King planted the

trees where under the shade we now sit. I and many of you here are direct beneficiaries of Dr. King’s dream and thereby part of his legacy,” he continued. “Like Dr. King, we as leaders have to be

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THE PEARLS PROGRAM *“Preparing Eager Achievers to Redirect their Lives Successfully”*



The PEARLS program is designed for young women between the ages of 12-17 who are at high-risk for domestic violence and substance abuse.

PEARLS Activities: Horseback Riding, camping, access to trauma counseling and support group, yoga, swimming lessons and much more.

APPLICATIONS WILL START JANUARY 3, 2020 AND END FEBRUARY 3, 2020. SPOTS ARE LIMITED.

For more information, please call Tenika Clark at (336) 865-0388 or visit our website at elizashelpinghands.org

“I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. This is why right, temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil triumphant.”

—Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, 1964

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