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# THE CHRONICLE

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WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, June 24, 2021

## Larry Little delivers powerful message during Juneteenth Freedom Ceremony

BY TEVIN STINSON  
THE CHRONICLE

Juneteenth commemorates the day those enslaved in Galveston, Texas, the last geographic area in the United States to receive word of their freedom on June 19, 1865. About a month earlier, on Sunday, May 21, 1865, those enslaved in Salem (now Winston-Salem), found out about their freedom when a Union Cavalry chaplain read the orders at the African Moravian Church (now St. Philips Moravian Church). General Order #32 proclaimed that "All persons held as slaves are free." In recognition of Juneteenth, for the past 17 years Triad Cultural Arts, Inc., has hosted a festival and this year the celebration began with a ceremony in the same space African descendants occupied that Sunday morning in 1865.

The opening ceremony dubbed "Freedom Ceremony" featured several speakers and was headlined by local legend Dr. Larry Little, co-founder of the Winston-Salem Chapter of the Black Panther Party, the first chapter of the Black Panther Party to be established in the South.

Little, who is an attorney and professor at Winston-Salem State University, said we have come a long way, but there is still work to be done and history has taught us that the journey won't be easy. He said when we look back at the history of Black



Photo by Alphonso Abbott Jr.

Young performers at the Juneteenth Festival hosted by Triad Cultural Arts, Inc. on Saturday, June 19. Triad Cultural Arts, Inc. has hosted the local Juneteenth celebratoin for the past 17 years.

people in this country's history, at every juncture of the fight for freedom and progress, there has been backlash.

"After the 13th Amendment was passed, what did the Southern states do? They enacted Black Codes making it a criminal act to do plain, simple things," Little continued. "The 14th Amendment that supposedly makes us citizens of this country if we're born here ... they come up with Jim Crow laws. We get the 15th Amendment that gives Black males the right to vote and

they come up with gerrymandering, literacy tests, poll taxes. Every step when we make progress, there is backlash."

To further his point, Little went on to discuss the backlash from the civil rights movement in the form of President Richard Nixon and the response of Donald Trump to the election of the first Black president in 2008.

Despite the continued backlash and reverberations throughout history, Little said for those who believe in change, we have to keep pushing. "As Curtis

Mayfield and the Impressions used to say, we have to keep on pushing," Little said.

He said although Trump is no longer in the White House, the fight against "Trumpism" continues.

"We have withstood four years of Trump, but we have not defeated Trumpism. He's not in the White House, but his followers are in the state legislatures throughout this country and they're passing in droves at breakneck speed voter suppression laws, laws designed to

frustrate us in our efforts to use the ballots," Little continued. "Finally, I say this: Fredrick Douglass was asked, how do you make progress? And he said, you have to fight for it. He said Black people don't get all they fight for but we must fight for all that we get in this country.

"...So brothers and sisters we are not where we used to be. We're not where we want to be, but Lord knows we're going to get there. We're going to get

See Juneteenth on A5

## Local organization seeks to help end violence in the city

BY TIMOTHY RAMSEY  
THE CHRONICLE

For the 20th anniversary of the Million Man March, Minister Louis

Farrakhan, leader of the nation of Islam (NOI), called for an action agenda which included 10,000 men to go into the community to stand between the guns, the gangs and the violence by setting up conflict resolution centers to mediate issues before they resulted in some sort of negative action.

Effrainguan Muhammad, representative of Farrakhan for the Winston-Salem Local Organizing Committee, has led this action named 10KFearless and they have been putting in the necessary work to affect change in



Submitted photo

Members of the 10KFearless clean up trash in the community.

the city over the last few years. They have been trained not only in conflict resolution, but also with de-escalation techniques, physical conditioning, basic self-defense, and first aid. They offer these training programs to the community as well.

"Minister Farrakhan called for an action agenda and one of the things he called for is 10,000 fearless men who would be willing to come back into the community to set up conflict resolution centers, so we could mediate some of the beefs before they result in violence and blood-

shed," said Muhammad. "Sometimes we have actually broken up fights and violent engagements in the community in real time."

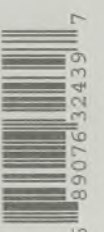
Earlier this month, the 10KFearless initiated a national day of service in the same spirit to encourage the brothers to go back to the communities, especially since there has been an uptick in gun violence in Winston-Salem and other cities around the country. This was a relaunch to the initiative that was halted due to the pandemic.

Also included in the

See Violence on A2

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