

By RUTHELL HOWARD Staff Writer What would have been the 54th birthday of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Jan. 15 brought renewed dedication in Winston-Salem to black economic, social tivism. and political progress in America. While certain state and local government officials were lobbying to make King's birthday a statewide holiday --Winston-Salem's Mayor Wayne A. Corpening proclaim-1984," Mrs. Wilson said. ed Jan. 15 a day of remembrance and the state Senate and House passed a bill to make Jan. 15 a state holiday --

Maya Angelou

Clifton Graves

Louise Wilson

Larry Womble

They Keep His Dream Alive...

local black leaders celebrated the day with vows to make King's dream of equality for all races in America a reality.

At a pep rally/memorial ceremony last Saturday at

noon in Mechanics And Farmers Bank parking lot, sponsored by radio station WAAA and the local NAACP, the intent was to commemorate King's birthday, but the message was a clear and concise one to the black community: keep King's dream alive through political ac-

"What are you going to do in 1983?" Experiment in Self-Reliance Executive Director Louise Wilson challenged a predominantly black audience of approximately 300. "We've got to get smart in 1983 and get ready for

Mrs. Wilson continued: "Malcolm X asked us what will we have, the ballot or the bullet, and I'm here to tell you that if we don't go to the ballots, we'll have the bullet. And we won't be shooting them because we don't

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The Neighborhood Justice Center's executive committee is looking for a director.

The center's Board of Directors met last Wednesday in City Hall and decided to accept resumes and to recruit volunteer mediators for the center, said Norma Smith,

chairperson of the board as well as head of the East Winston Crime Task Force, the center's sponsor.

The center, patterned after a similar project in Atlanta that resolves community disputes out of court, recently received a \$10,000 grant from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, \$35,000 short of its original request. But Smith said the organization has enough money to fund a six-month director's position, and is soliciting \$20,000 from the Winston-Salem Foundation in addition to requesting money from other funding agencies.

Once the program is fully established, money to continue financing the director's position will be secured, Smith said.

Smith said a director applicant should be "a person with administrative experience and somebody who really wants to see this program successful. He has to be com-

mitted.

The written job description calls for a four-year degree in sociology or a related area, at least three years of work experience in the social services field and preferably a year's training in law.

Initially, the director will establish relationships with the city's district attorney, Donald K. Tisdale, and with See Page 3

-Black Teen Fathers: 'No, This Can't Be Happening To Me'

Although the stigma of teen-age pregnancies is a burden largely borne by the young mother, there is another half to this disturbing phenomenon among Forsyth County's youth: the young father.

More often than not, the teen-age mothers take the blame for their predicament while the fathers go vircan be particularly disturbing. "When I first found out, I was very depressed,"

> **Children Having Children** By Edward Hill Jr.

> > Part IV

"What do I know about being a father? My father wasn't around with us, so I have no example to follow as a father. I don't think we're as inconsiderate as people think."

Briton adds that he is not surprised by the high incidence of pregnancy among black teen-agers in the county.

education is a heavy contributor to this everincreasing problem.

"Many young guys feel that it's the girl's responsibilty to take the pill or some other birth control device," says Wayne Ray, an 18-year-old father-tobe. "What they've got to realize is that they share in the act also. They have to make sure they use some kind of protection if they aren't ready to shoulder the responsibility of being a father. It's not as easy as they might think." Leslie Burgess, father of a seven-year-old daughter, feels that the absence of a prominent See Page 3

tually blameless. "Nobody puts enough responsibility on the males," charges Dr. Jonathan Weston, a local obstetrician/gynecologist. "It's a bigger factor than we are willing to admit." Reginald Briton says that, from his point of view, the experience of becoming a father at an early age

recalls Briton, 18. "I said to myself, 'No, this can't be happening to me; I'm too careful to let this happen. Here I am 18 and going to have a child. I'm still a child myself.'

"It's like an epidemic," he says. "Every time you turn around, you're hearing about someone getting pregnant. They're getting younger and younger all the time. If you're out there doing something and not protecting yourself, it's bound to happen." For most teen-agers, the lack of adequate sex