



Curtis Canty (second from left) says the Greenway neighborhood is experiencing a rebirth. The members of the Canty family are, from the left, Christopher James, Curtis Leo, Michael Alexander, and Valerie and Curtis Kit (photo by James Parker).

## Our Neighborhoods

### There's new spirit and energy in the Greenway community

By EDWARD HILL JR.  
Staff Writer

After experiencing a relatively smooth transition of going from a predominantly white to a predominantly black neighborhood, Greenway began to face a mini-crisis.

"The neighborhood began to slowly deteriorate," says Rannel McCullough, who lives in the 2700 block of Patterson Avenue. "People started to let their property go down and the absentee landlords didn't help the situation."

"I moved over here about four years ago and I began to observe certain sore spots in the neighborhood," says Curtis Canty, who lives in the 2800 block of Bon Air Avenue. "It seemed like a certain spirit or feeling of community pride was missing. Something needed to be done."

Greenway is located in the northwestern section of the city and is bound on the east by Patterson Avenue, on the west by the Milbrook apartments, south by 27th Street and north by Indiana Avenue.

The majority of the houses are single-family brick structures, with a few rented wood-framed houses. The Greenway Apartments is the only apartment complex in the neighborhood.

Residents say that although the problems still exist, they've noticed a change in recent months.

"Since we formed the Greenway Neighborhood Association and the Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS) has come over here, there have been some positive things taking place," says Roslyn Holmes of 28th Street. "Some street lights have been added; they've cleaned away some of the standing water; and they've put in a bathroom over there in the park."

"The Neighborhood Housing Services has definitely made a difference," says Roslyn Matthews

of Gilmer Avenue. "You can see the improvement in things like the street lights, and people seem to be taking a little more pride in their lawns."

"It's been a little slow, but there is some improvement," says McCullough, grudgingly. "The Neighborhood Housing Services is getting some things done."

The neighborhood association, composed of 327 families who live in Greenway, acts as a community body. The NHS is an experiment in neighborhood development that is funded through a grant and is designed to build a working partnership between the city government, financial institutions and the residents.

Curtis Canty, who formed the neighborhood association and acts as chairman of the NHS, says the neighborhood has many good resources that need to be tapped.

"Greenway has a sort of quiet pride about it," says Canty. "If you look at the neighborhood, you will find that its planning was well thought out. The streets are wide, the landscaping is unique and the parks are conveniently located. The people over here are beginning to realize that this is a special neighborhood, and they are working to help improve it."

Residents have the luxury of using Bon Air, Greenway and Blume parks for recreation.

The neighborhood voting precinct is located in the Winston-Salem Coliseum, and Canty says that the residents are politically involved.

"The majority of the residents are middle-aged or senior citizens," says Canty. "For that reason, many of them have had a tradition of being involved in things that have affected them politically."

McCullough says the NHS is presently surveying the neighborhood and identifying specific problems, particularly with housing, that need to be rectified.

## Black family focus of conference

By EDWARD HILL JR.  
Staff Writer

In an attempt to address the problems that affect the black family, a local task force is planning a six-day conference that will feature a series of workshops.

The first annual Black Family Conference, which gets underway Sunday and runs through Aug. 19, is the result of two years of work by Marcella Oglesby, who heads up the effort, and other concerned black social workers.

"Two years ago, I was asked to be a keynote speaker at a black social workers' conference," says Mrs. Oglesby, who is adult director at Forsyth Mental Health Center. "During my research, I found that when you talk about mental health as it relates to the black family, you also have to include basic things like housing, employment and medical needs. So I said, 'Why not do a workshop on the black family that would encompass the whole spectrum?'"

Mrs. Oglesby says that for six months the idea searched for some direction until the task force grew to six members. Made up of mostly black social workers who work in strategic areas of mental health, child development and family counseling, the

task force has now doubled to 12 and includes individuals from other professions.

"We wanted to get as broad a spectrum as possible," says Johnetta Huntley, an original task-force member and a social worker in child development with Family Services. "We tried to get people who are concerned and who understand the makeup of the black family in Winston-Salem."

Mrs. Oglesby, the mother of two daughters, says the task force sent out questionnaires with 150 questions and found that the three major topics of concern were employment, housing and education.

The conference then adopted a five-point objective for the workshops: to stress the importance of the family; to identify the needs of single parents, single persons and extended and traditional families; to explore ways family members can develop self-help skills; to help the community become more aware of community services; and to address the mental health and medical needs of the family.

The conference will kick off with Family Fun Day in Rupert Bell Park on Sunday. The activities will include choirs, speakers, artists, readings and music. On Monday, an employment workshop will be conducted at the East Winston Library. Tuesday will be

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Johnetta Huntley (left) and Marcella Oglesby, members of the Black Families Conference Task Force, go over some last minute preparation for next week's conference (photo by James Parker).

## The Class of '73 remembers

By ROBIN ADAMS  
Staff Writer

Cecil Summers started school with the hope of graduating from all-black Carver High. In Greensboro, Sally Hayes had big dreams of graduating from James B. Dudley Senior High School.

Two young children with dreams. But changes in 1971, mandated by the courts and put in operation by the local school boards, shattered or changed the dreams for both of them.

"I was looking forward to completing my education at Carver," says attorney Summers.

Hayes' dream was not changed as drastically as Summers'. She got the opportunity to graduate from Dudley, but it was a different Dudley from the one she had dreamed of.

Dudley was one of the few predominantly black high schools before desegregation that remained a high school after desegregation. But Carver, like the other three all-black high schools in Winston-Salem, became a lower-grade school.

Hayes and Summers are both members of the class of 1973. Summers' class celebrated its reunion several weeks ago. And although the event was well-planned, says Summers, very few blacks (approximately six out of a possible 300) attended the reunion.

The 1973 class from Dudley will be celebrating its class reunion Aug. 12-14, but, in this case, the white students will be in the minority. "If the whites show up," says Hayes, "I would be surprised, but I would be pleasantly surprised."

Reunions are a time for remembering the good and bad and to wonder about the future. When the two groups get together, what kinds of things will they remember and what will they choose to forget?

"I can remember that first day," says Howard Tyrone Moore, a Dudley graduate, who now lives in Winston-Salem. "Everybody had their guard up. Everybody was very sensitive. The whites were in their huddle and the blacks were in their huddle."

Hayes, employed at Ivey's in Greensboro, agrees: "My junior year (the first year of desegregation), was kind of like the twilight zone. I was drifting around trying to feel my way."

"All of a sudden, there were these little white faces," she says. "They took away some of the pride. But I was still a Panther (Dudley's mascot). The black students unconsciously feared that if we didn't stay together, we would lose our blackness."

"All this was going on during the time when afros were coming into style," she says, "and it was becoming popular to be black. Well, here I was considering myself a militant, promoting my blackness and caught up in integration."

Chronicle Executive Editor Allen Johnson was also a member of the Dudley class of '73. "Apparently a lot of the white students weren't used to being around that many black students," Johnson says. "They were checking us out to see if things they had heard (about black people) were actually true or false."

Although not a major issue, Johnson says that he noticed a conflict brewing between the black and white women. "The white women would have long

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Sally Hayes and Cecil Summers reflect on the early days of desegregation at Greensboro Dudley High School and North Forsyth Senior High School (photos by Joe Daniels and James Parker).