

Cover Story

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fold approximately 2,000 people. Hours earlier, a long-standing tradition honoring King, begun well before the holiday became official, will mark its seventh year.

Mutter Evans, owner of radio station WAAA, said that her station and the local NAACP will sponsor a noon observance at the Winston Square Park amphitheater.

The observance's theme, she said, will be "Keepers of the American Dream" and will include among its speakers James "Junie" Grace Jr., president of the city's Minority Business League; Louise G. Wilson, past director of the Experiment In Self-Reliance Inc., and Dr. Ernest Wade, director of minority affairs at Wake Forest.

Local entertainment also will be featured.

A delayed broadcast of the event will air at 6 p.m. on the same day, Ms. Evans said.

In addition, her station will air special broadcasts honoring King beginning on his birthday, Jan. 15, and continuing through the national holiday, she said.

Other events in the city honoring King, listed chronologically, will include:

Jan. 15

The N.C. Black Repertory Company will hold a theatrical celebration in the lobby of the Arts Council Theater at 7 p.m. The theater company's direc-

tor, Larry Leon Hamlin, will read excerpts from King's "I Have a Dream" speech and playwright and mime, artist Nathan Ross Freeman will perform a piece dedicated to King and the plight of South Africa.

The East Winston Branch Library will sponsor "Keeping the Dream Alive" Jan. 15, the date of King's actual birthday.

Timothy Jackson, director of the library, said a film and discussion program will be led by William E. Lide, chairman of Winston-Salem State's physical education department.

"There will be spirited discussion on Dr. King's life," Jackson said.

Two films on King also will be shown, Jackson said, and King posters will be displayed in the library.

"This will be like the prelude for Black History Month in February," Jackson said.

He added that some of King's speeches are available at the library for patrons to check out.

Jan. 16

The Belview Civic League will sponsor its celebration at 7:30 p.m. at the Belview Recreation Center.

Southeast Ward Alderman Larry W. Womble, the Rev. John Mendez and County Commissioner John S. Holleman Jr. will be among the featured guests at the program. Ruby Charles,

chairman of the program, said she also expects the local NAACP chapter to present the group with its life membership as part of the evening.

Although the league's program was well-attended last year, Mrs. Charles said she hopes to see more of a racial mix this year.

"We're trying to mix it up a little more with both whites and blacks," she said.

Jan. 18

Wake Forest University's King celebration will feature guest speaker Tony Brown on Jan. 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Brendle Recital Hall on the WFU campus.

Brown is a syndicated newspaper columnist and producer of the public television talk show, "Tony Brown's Journal."

The program is free and open to the public.

Jan. 19

Area residents can start the day off with a breakfast observance at 7 a.m. at the Winston Lake Family YMCA on Waterworks Road. The Rev. Carlton A.G. Eversley will speak on "How You Can Live The Dream" at the admission-free event.

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King's widow

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Washington will be the sites of major observances this month in honor of King, including services, seminars, ceremonies and a five-minute nationally broadcast radio tribute.

Federal law sets aside the third Monday of January to honor King, who was born Jan. 15, 1929, and assassinated April 4, 1968.

Mrs. King said that at least 40 states observe the new holiday, and she will work to earn recognition in all 50. "The unbelievers will in time become believers," she said.

"We must continue to be on guard against those who would make the holiday a 'black holiday,'" she added. "Martin's life represented a triumph of all peoples ... joined together in a common struggle for justice and righteousness."

Senate Republican Leader Robert Dole, R-Kan., who helped create the new holiday, said it was in the "best American tradition."

However, Dole said his attempts to raise money for observances had brought an inadequate response from the business community and others. He attributed the problem to "lack of total understanding of the significance of this very important event. ... We're on the threshold of something that's going to grow and grow and grow in the next five to 10 years."

The theme this year, the second time the federal holiday has been observed, is "Living the Dream: Let Freedom Ring." Organizers are calling on citizens to take a symbolic "Freedom Trail" pledge to remember King.

celebrate his life and work, and continue his peaceful pursuit of freedom, justice and equality.

The radio tribute, with hosts Stevie Wonder and Kenny Rogers, was produced by Group W Radio-Westinghouse Broadcasting.

A radio documentary about King also will be made available to stations and includes reminiscences by Mrs. King, other family members and colleagues.

Atlanta plans to cap a weeklong series of events honoring King on Jan. 19 with a speech by Secretary of State George P. Shultz, a parade and a wreath-laying ceremony at King's tomb.

Other events planned in Atlanta during the week include a "Rededication of Peace and Justice" program at Ebenezer Baptist Church, where King and his father preached, and a series of "teach-ins" at city schools.

In Philadelphia, Housing and Urban Development Secretary Samuel Pierce will tap the Liberty Bell, which was last rung when the American hostages returned from Tehran in 1981. The symbolic tap will trigger the ringing of Liberty Bell replicas, church bells and school bells around the nation and the world.

In Washington, where King's birthday has been observed since 1969, bells will peal at the Washington Cathedral and the Old Post Office pavilion downtown. A parade and tribute to King at the city's convention center will also mark the day.

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