

Winston-Salem Chronicle

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Yes, the Chamber can help

It can be convincingly argued that the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce has not been a paragon of sensitivity when it comes to the needs of minority businesses. Indeed, in many respects it has had a country club, "good ole boy" image -- one which it does not seem eager to shed.

Most of the chamber's membership consists of well-established, big business owners and corporate managers. It is understandable that, in their presence, small and minority business owners would feel they were out of their league.

But the question is: To what should small and minority business owners aspire? If the objective is to remain small business owners, then they need not bother to become involved with the chamber.

If, however, small business owners logically seek to become big business owners, then it makes sense to get to know others who have made it happen for themselves.

Chamber officials readily concede that the greatest advantage in its membership is the opportunity to interface with key members of the city's financial and business community. We should not undervalue the benefits of networking.

Establishing a rapport with local financiers and major business owners could be a crucial link to increased commercial opportunities for small businesses, especially Afro-American businesses. At the very least, one might be made privy to a few tricks of the trade that would prove helpful.

This is not to suggest that the chamber need not take the initiative in attracting more small and minority business owners. Certainly, it is capable of devising programs which speak to the specific needs of smaller businesses.

But the chamber's failure to do so should not be viewed by small business owners as a closed door. Membership is open and if more small and minority business owners joined the chamber, they would be better able to help focus some of the chamber's activities into areas of their concern.

The Minority Business League, an organization to which many of our local Afro-American business owners belong, should try to strengthen its relationship with the chamber. Such an effort could be beneficial to all concerned. Large business owners could learn what small business ventures are available for subcontracting opportunities and, likewise, small business owners could find out what larger businesses could utilize their services.

The issue is not always "what can you do for me?" Sometimes it is more appropriately "what can we do for each other?"

The annual membership fee of \$250 is not prohibitive; it amounts to about \$20 a month. We think it's worth it for this city's business owners, large and small, to come together for mutual benefit.

As Afro-American business owners, we can not continue to operate in a vacuum. Chamber membership affords us the opportunity to broaden our business liaisons and our acquaintances. It may not be all we need, but it's certainly some of what we need.

About letters ...

The *Chronicle* welcomes letters from its readers, as well as columns. Letters should be as concise as possible and typed or printed legibly. They also should include the name, address and telephone number of the writer.

Columns should follow the same guidelines and will be published if we feel they are of interest to our general readership.

We reserve the right to edit letters and columns for brevity and grammar. Submit your letters and columns to *Chronicle Mailbag*, P.O. Box 3154, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102.

Reader opposes new shopping center

To The Editor:

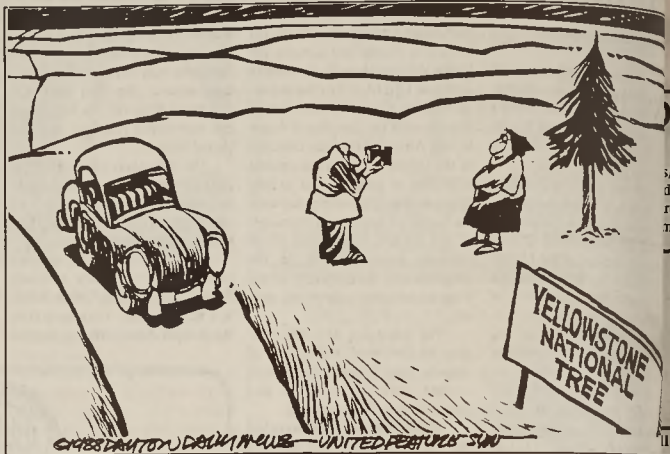
As a charter resident of the Slater Park community, my family and I are opposed to the current proposed plans of the Community Development Corp., or CDC, to build a shopping center adjacent to our property.

Slater Park has been a well-care-for and stable community for more than 30 years, and we wish it to remain that way. The Wilco Food and Service Center located at the corner of Gerald Street and New Walkertown Road has already caused some disruptions. A new shopping center will further add to the disturbance and disruptions to an otherwise stable community.

While I am not opposed to moderate-price homes for sale, I am opposed to an unneeded shopping center. A shopping center in the proposed location will not attract members of Slater Park nor surrounding communities. Residents of these areas will continue to shop at quality stores in shopping centers in outlying but easily accessible areas.

The CDC has shown no concern for the residents of Slater Park and New Walkertown Road.

Plans were already made when residents were informed of the proposal. Residents were called to a meeting with the expectation of "rubber stamping" the proposed plan. At the few meetings held, no definite answers were given to the many questions asked by the residents. Residents were told that their opinions and input were needed, but when questions were raised and feelings expressed, they were always challenged with the threat that if this project was not completed, someone would come in with a



CHRONICLE MAILBAG Our Readers Speak Out

more negative proposal. This smacks of coercion and intimidation.

What the CDC fails to understand is that the residents will have a voice before the full Board of Aldermen. We will also have a voice in the election of an alderman from this area and a new mayor for the city of Winston-Salem.

Our final opinion is that a shopping center is not needed nor wanted adjacent to Gerald Street or New Walkertown Road. I would encourage members of the CDC to look at their own neighborhoods and find a need and space for new housing and a shopping center. We desire our community to remain non-polluted, non-saturated, safe

and quiet as the communities in which members of the CDC live.

If the CDC is truly concerned about unemployment, health care and economic development in East Winston, I would encourage them to work within the present and existing systems to upgrade the needs and concerns of the residents.

I recommend that the CDC look again at their plan -- this time through a glass clearly with the desires of the residents in mind and not through a glass darkly with their own interests foremost in mind.

J.P. Scarborough
Winston-Salem

Thank you

To The Editor:

Thank you for the copy given our ABCD (Addressing Challenges in Development) in the July 28 edition.

Your newspaper is widely read in our communities and we look forward to the positive articles and news items reaching residents of our communities.

We look forward to your newspaper office next to become more acquainted with staff and the inner workings of newspaper office.

Thank you very much.

Pauline
Rochelle
and Anthony
ABCD Team

Buchanan calls black equality absurd, racist

NEW YORK -- Patrick J. Buchanan has made a reputation out of being anti-liberal. Now, while broadening his audience to television, he has refocused his anti-Afro-American views.

Years ago, as a member of Richard Nixon's administration, Buchanan warned America of the influence, and therefore the danger, of his television series. Now he is warning white people that Afro-American people (and other non-whites) have an absurd desire for power.

In both cases, Afro-Americans wanting what whites want (and doing what whites do to get it) are absurd propositions. My very being -- on national television -- was absurd to him. After all, why would any Afro-American want to go on television to offer a forum for other Afro-Americans, many of whom say exactly what they think?

Buchanan's obsession today reflects the reality that some (too many for him) Afro-Americans are demanding power -- and, furthermore, they are likely to wake up the browns and the yellows (but certainly not the Japanese, who consider themselves as whites).

Ronald Reagan's former director of communications (propaganda is more like it) has also decided to fan Jewish fears of Afro-American hostility and pander to the racism among many white fundamentalists



TONY BROWN

Syndicated Columnist

at the same time.

Lu Palmer must be watched for his resurrection of "ethnic and racial politics." Buchanan warned in a column. White tolerance of the "politics of racial entitlements" has given birth to Palmer's campaign to elect an Afro-American mayor of Chicago.

If Buchanan's thinking can be followed, why would another Afro-American mayor of Chicago be so revolutionary? Two have already held office, and Chicago's progress has inclined.

But to Buchanan's paranoia, Palmer's "announced plans to hold two all-black conventions to guarantee that blacks would be united behind a single black candidate for mayor" is racist. "No whites need apply," he warned.

He added to this illogical notion a historical distortion and mis-statement of fact. W.E.B. DuBois, Buchanan asserted, "triumphed over Booker T. Washington" just as Malcolm X did "over Dr. King." By distorting what he doesn't understand, he shows his

own undereducation.

Another example of Buchanan's attempts at making sense of out white racism: South Africa "even with apartheid, is among the freest nations in Africa, if one speaks of freedom of speech, religion, press and travel."

This will come as a big surprise to the rest of the world, including "most of the Republican side" of the House of Representatives, who gave a standing ovation, according to Buchanan, to Ron Dellums' "Come hell or high water, we'll struggle 'til South Africa is free."

In a huff, Buchanan asked in his column: "Do these cheering Republicans know what Dellums means by 'free'?" He means simply black power, black rule wherever blacks have a majority. Again -- power and blacks equals treachery.

Buchanan is an advocate of majority rule in America because majority equals white. He never, however, refers to white rule in the U.S. as white power.

Even in the world, it seems

normal and most appropriate whites (he's expanded the definition to include and frighten whittians by coining a new white security: the "white West"), only 20 percent of the world's population, should dominate the other 80 percent.

Like the white South "we, too, are a small tribal" when counted against the brown and yellow peoples of the world," Buchanan explains, he means is that democracy threat to whites worldwide.

If whites in America defend racism, genocide and order of blacks in South Africa be just a matter of time before-Chris West will be on the block," he says. Buchanan's words and those of those of a man who is a patriot and a patriot. The derived from a deranged ide precipitated by cultural igit and hared.

And he asks us to be Lu Palmer because he wants Afro-American mayor of go.

Tony Brown is a syndicated columnist and television whose program, "Tony Journal," appears at 7:30 on Wednesday, on channel and 26.

WSSU attractive to freshman class for variety of reasons

Although many colleges this year are reporting declining enrollments, Winston-Salem State University appears to be holding steady with the number of freshman enrolling at the university. The school does not yet have final tallies available for this school

year's freshman class, but school officials say that there appears to be no significant or drastic decline in the freshman class.

North Carolina colleges in general are receiving more applications from minorities, partly because of more aggressive mar-

keting, better school counseling and a growing crop of students whose parents went to college, officials say.

But the higher numbers do not reflect all good news. Since federal financial aid has been decreased, fewer poor Afro-

American students are attending four-year colleges.

Officials at predominantly black schools in North Carolina say they're getting more applications this year.

But despite the problems for poorer students, applications are up

at the UNC system's five historically black campuses. Applications increased by 5 percent at Fayetteville State, Winston-Salem State and N.C. A&T State universities; 15 percent at Elizabeth City State; and 38 percent at North Carolina Central University.

Freshman surveyed at the Salem State University pointed out a variety of reasons for choosing that particular school. Some chose the school even without "calling the campus while others were convinced by the things they saw during a visit.



"I liked the marching band and I also came here to get a good education."

Tanya Crowder, Charlotte



"I thought it was a nice, quiet area. They know you not just by number but by name."

Angela Jones, Roanoke Rapids



"I liked their history department. I also liked the opportunity to meet new people."

Stacey Franklin, High Point



"I wanted to get away. Their brochures convinced me to come here. They were really nice.."

Ralph Weeks, Westhaven, Conn.



"Everyone told me it was a nice college and they had what I was looking for. I wanted to study."

Karen Washington, Washington, D.C.