

Winston-Salem Chronicle

The Twin City's Award-Winning Weekly

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Ernest H. Pitt • Ndubisi Egemonye
Editor/Publisher Co-Founder

Member in good standing with:



Endorsement

Clinton's Our Man

With only 12 days left until Election Day, some people are still undecided. Even with three candidates, they don't see one they really like. "Bush has done us wrong," they say. "Perot doesn't understand African-Americans, and you can't trust Clinton."

The Republicans have done a good job of convincing some voters that there is a trust issue with Clinton, but where is the evidence? Consider what we know about Bill Clinton. Of the three candidates, it is Clinton who has consistently named African-Americans as high-level advisors. In his state, Arkansas, he has strongly supported the creation of an effective civil rights bill. Listening to the debates these past weeks, it has become even more clear that Clinton is most familiar with the deepest concerns of African-Americans.

Clinton understands the needs of black Americans and is committed to meeting them

Not that Perot hasn't effectively expressed the average citizen's concerns. Perot speaks in plain language. Under pressure, he has responded with honesty and grace. He has forcefully raised the very questions that we all fantasize about asking our politicians: Why are you always so secretive? What are you hiding? Who will be hurt if that information becomes public? We suspect that in many cases, it would not be the interests of this country.



Bush said, "Read my lips." Clinton asks us to read his plan. He has thoughtfully developed an economic plan for revitalizing the country. He is eager to enact that plan and adjust it as needed. As he said during Monday night's debate, "I want the voters to know that the person in charge of the budget plan will be Bill Clinton."

All three want to cut the deficit: the difference is in how they plan to do it. Perot talks a good talk about wasteful spending and saving us money; and he went so far as to finance his own campaign to the tune of more than \$16 million. "I took my wallet out and laid it on the table for you and your children," he said Monday night. But nary a word is said about salvaging programs for the children living in poverty, or about the jobless rate among African-American men. The Center for the Study of Social Policy has projected that by the year 2000, in the absence of intervention, 70 percent of black families will be headed by single women and fewer than 30 percent of black men will be employed.

At this point, Bush has had his chance. We've endured not just four years but 16 years of Reagan's trickle-down economics — a plan which was questionable at first and finally proved itself to be a failure. Profits from big business have failed to trickle down to the unemployed and underemployed. Tax breaks for the rich have failed to yield any benefit for the poor.

For 1992, the choice is clear. Clinton/Gore: Leadership for a change.

A Good Example

A significant difference in presidential campaigning this year has been a reduction in the candidates' enthusiasm to throw personal barbs at each other. Sure, we heard plenty of insults, but for the most part, the viciousness was greatly reduced until these final, tense weeks. Perhaps the voters have made it clear that they are enraged over the state of this nation and are demanding answers, not insults.

Sadly, the same cannot be said for the vice-presidential race and state races including the governor and Lt. gov. race. Perhaps they, too, can soon take up the challenge to run a clean race.

About letters . . .

The *Winston-Salem Chronicle* welcomes letters from its readers, as well as columns.

Letters should be as concise as possible and should be 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 1636
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102

Rev. Mack Says It's All Up To God Now

To the Editor:

First, I want to thank The Chronicle and its staff for how you all have been open to the citizens of Winston-Salem who has sent letters of support for me into the newspaper. You all keep putting them in your paper. I just want to say thank you very much.

But I want you all to know that I consider it all joy because of all the trials that I had. I know that it is test, a testing of our faith in God. You see, we are developing into what God has planned for us. I wish I had a better pen to write with. But I am doing the very best I can with what I have to write with.

I just want to tell our community and all the community that it is not about Lee Faye Mack — it about us, where do we as a community go from here?

So therefore, community rid yourselves of all malice, and all deceit, all hypocrisy, entry and slander of every kind. Let us build a spiritual community because I may not know all that there is to know. But I know that God IS. And that is all I need to know, that every thing is what it is, and God is all that it is.

Signature
Yours in Christ,

Minister Lee Faye Mack
Mecklenburg County Jail

Thanks to you

To the Editor:

This is in reference to the fiftieth class reunion of the Atkins High School Classes of 1942. It was a grand and memorable occasion for everyone who attended. We are pleased that it was noteworthy enough for you to publish the event in the Chronicle.

The news report was very good. We are grateful to Carole Ragins for her very helpful suggestions to Joseph Williams and me as to how to compile and bring the activities together for publication.

On behalf of my fellow classmates, I thank you for printing our story.

Allette H. Crump
Class President

We Need You

To the Editor:

This invitation is extended to everyone in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County. Each Tuesday from Oct. 20 - Nov. 17, the Baha'is of Winston-Salem, with the endorsement of the Human Relations Department, will present a series of dialogues on Healing the Disease of Racism. Open to the public, these five meetings will be held at Wake Forest University in Wingate Hall, behind Wait Chapel, from 7-9 p.m.

We know that many people feel there is no race problem, while others feel it is one of the worst problems facing America today. What-



CHRONICLE MAILBAG Our Readers Speak Out

ever you think, we need your input. And we welcome your participation. To make this a success we need representation from every church, synagogue and mosque in the area. We need the support of the media, all concerned citizens and government officials. We need you.

Please join us with finding ways to heal our differences and celebrate our diversity.

Linda Anderson

Gallaher Family Says Thanks

To the Editor:

On behalf of my family and myself I wish to express our appreciation. Without the love, thoughts and caring of everyone in this community and throughout the state the last few days would have been worse than the horror that it was.

In the weeks ahead we will try to reach everyone to express our thanks for their thoughts, prayers and love. However, we did not want time to pass without you knowing of our appreciation.

Law enforcement agencies, here and across the state, performed with the highest level of expertise, competence and compassion throughout the entire ordeal. Their work culminated with the anxiously awaited call bearing the prayed for news of Chrissy's life. Their training, experience and high standards should be applauded.

Chrissy's ordeal has caused her many grave injuries. We continue to hope and believe she will completely recover. We hope it will be soon we see the improvement that will give us the comfort we seek.

The person responsible for

Chrissy's painful ordeal, the pain her family and friends have experienced, and the anguish everyone has felt is a cruel and heartless person. Fortunately, the few people who cause this sort of tragedy are singular and not representative of our community.

Our community is special. It has a heritage of caring and uniting in times of need. We are grateful for living in a hometown so full of love. We hope that the love shown from friends and the community will continue to override any animosities people may feel.

We have been told of the kind thoughts for Chrissy expressed in prayers in every corner of this community. The prayers from all people combined to save Chrissy's life. She continues to need everyone's thoughts and prayers. Together, Chrissy's life was saved. We thank everyone and hope that the expression of love that brought us all together will keep us all together.

John K. Gallaher Sr.

Wishes For Continued Success

To the Editor:

As one who is active in a variety of community programs, I often seek the cooperation of the Winston-Salem Chronicle to help publicize our plans and achievements. I have always been reasonably pleased with the newspaper's efforts, but I am especially grateful to Ms. Carole Ragins who has provided invaluable assistance with my most recent ventures — the Carver High School Alumni Association Ninth Annual Reunion Roundup and the Atkins High School 50th Anniversary Celebration for the reunion classes of 1942.

Ms. Ragins was cooperative,

courteous and most professional. She does an excellent job of covering the life and the lifestyle of the African-American people of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County. I make particular note of that point because I firmly believe that superior (even adequate) coverage of an ethnic community's life requires a special knowledge of and appreciation for the heritage of the residents. Ms. Ragins has such knowledge and appreciation.

I commend her personally and you as her employer for outstanding coverage of the reunion events. Best wishes for continued success!

Joseph D. Williams Sr.

To the citizens of Winston-Salem:

To the Editor:

The City of Winston-Salem is extremely pleased and honored to have been selected as the site for the 1994, 1995 and 1996 CIAA tournaments. I want to take this opportunity to express appreciation and thanks to the many local people who have given freely of their time and energy in their efforts in making this dream a reality. Also, I want to express thanks and gratitude to those who voted, labored and lobbied their time and skilled expertise in making these events possible to be here. Without your total cooperation, all of this would not have happened. We are looking forward to these tournaments having a robust impact on our community.

We will look for the years 94, 95 and 96 to be very successful with total community support. Who knows... Winston-Salem could be the future homesite for the CIAA tournaments.

Larry Womble,
Alderman Southeast Ward

Developing 21st Century Citizens

The coming of the high performance new world of the twenty-first century offers a window of opportunity for African Americans.

The new world we are entering requires more than technological skills. It requires self-confident mastery of knowledge, and life-long development and learning.

In such a world, what you know and how you perform will be more important than class and race.

So a United African-American community directing its energies and its resources to preparing our children to become model twenty-first century citizens can secure a brighter, more prosperous future.

Failure to do so could doom us to continued second-class citizenship and economic disaster far into the future.

So, I believe the African-American community's priority in the 1990s must be to build a movement dedicated to developing our children into twenty-first century citizens.

The same children who are bombarded with messages of racial inferiority, shunted into special education classes, and prepared for lifetime of failure, can be helped to excel and to lead the rest of the

nation into a bold new future.

That's not a fantasy. It is a realistic goal, because our children are a compable of learning and of developing their talents as any in the world.

Just consider: American rode to world leadership though the efforts of a population largely drawn from immigrant peasants from the backwaters of Europe.

And Japan, Korea and Taiwan took people racked by poverty and devastated by war and molded them into a global economic powerhouse in one generation.

What will it take for our children to develop into outstanding twenty-first century citizens? Let me suggest four basic criteria based on what we know of the challenging demands of the future:

Every African American child should graduate from high school with the ability to do calculus.

Every African-American child should be fluent in a foreign language.

Every African-American child should be able to research, organize and write a 25-page essay

I know about the tremendous obstacles to that task, but we already have all the power, all the resources, and all the laws to create an America that can produce twenty-first century children.

But right now, our society is on a downhill course because it refuses to develop all of its children.

It still thinks that it can get away with categorizing and stereotyping children...with developing a small white elite and writing off African-American children.

That won't work any more. It's a prescription for suicide in the world of the twenty-first century.

So we have to pioneer an alternative way. And African Americans have to show that a community can take charge of its own destiny and nurture success in its children -- all of them.

That doesn't mean letting white America off the hook--if anything, it means we'll have to fight harder to secure a society that is more just and fair.

But the priority has to be our children and what we can do to help them meet the highest standards of excellence.

That's what it will take to make it in the twenty-first century. Not just for African-Americans, but for all America's people.



TO BE EQUAL

By JOHN E. JACOB

So why can't a committed, dedicated African-American community help its children develop into the most intelligent and skilled people on the face of the earth?

If we believe we can do it, and if we direct effective efforts toward that goal, then we will do it.