

MONEY MATTERS

BLACK/WHITE INCOME LEVEL GAP DOES NOT HAVE QUICK FIX

OPINION

North Carolina Room Public Library
660 West Fifth Street
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101

MIGHTY MITES

IT WAS STANDING ROOM ONLY AT SATURDAY OPENING KICK-OFF

SPORTS

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"Power concedes nothing without a struggle." — Frederick Douglass

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Officials, Students Cope With Tragedies

Burke Meets With School Officials About Boy's Death

By VERONICA CLEMONS
Chronicle Staff Writer

The city's transportation department is preparing a report that will make recommendations on how to make safer the intersection at Carver Glen and Carver School Road. City Alderman Vivian Burke met with Transportation Director Brent McKinney immediately after a traffic acci-

dent left a 9-year-old Ibrahim Elementary School fourth-grader dead.

Kenneth Wright Jr. was crossing the street to go to a bus stop when an oncoming vehicle struck him.

Burke, who chairs the public safety committee, said while the city will look for ways to make the road safer for motorists and children, the school system needs to do a

more careful evaluation of the bus stop location that was Wright's destination.

With Carver Glen being a new development, Burke said she doesn't see why the bus could not make arrangements to pick up the children within the development.

"That bus could have pulled right into the develop-

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Kenneth William Wright Jr.

First Week of School Is Plagued by Five Deaths

By VERONICA CLEMONS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Students look forward to gaining a lot of new things with the beginning of the school year, but Forsyth County students have had to deal with the death of four students and a teacher — all of whom died within the first week of classes.

"I've been here (in the school system) 13 years and I can never remember going through something like this," said Reynolds High School principal Stan Elrod.

The tragedies began to mount Aug. 29 as

Michael Nachman, a sophomore at Mount Tabor High School, was killed in an automobile accident. The next day, Kenneth Wright Jr., a 9-year-old Ibrahim Elementary School student, was killed when a vehicle hit him as he tried to cross the street to his bus stop.

Also, Temeka Wright, a third-grader at Speas Elementary School, was killed in an auto accident; Robin James, a fifth-grader at Rural Hall Elementary died following a brief illness; and Reynolds High School teacher Gay Stelter also died after a brief illness.

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Just Friends

Families, Friends Frolic at Labor Day Picnic

By DAVID L. DILLARD
Chronicle Staff Writer

Phil Jackson, a student at City College in New York, comes to Winston-Salem every Labor Day. He makes the trip because he said friends invited him to a picnic two years ago, and he has been hooked since then.

"I came to visit my cousin two years ago and he brought me here," Jackson said. "I think it's fun. It gives me something to do before school."

Jackson is one of a group of African-American families comprising nearly 300 people who gathered Sunday at Tanglewood Park Shelter No. 3 to celebrate Labor Day through their annual picnic.

The families, known as "Just Friends," have sponsored the annual picnic on the Sunday before Labor Day since 1988. Miriam McCarter, a co-sponsor of the event and designer of the T-shirts bearing "Just Friends" and a name on the back, said the event



Photos by Janet Wheeler

About 300 people were at Tanglewood Park Sunday for the annual "Just Friends" picnic. The event, co-sponsored by six local families, started in 1988 and has become an outing that many residents in the African-American community look forward to each Labor Day weekend.

started with six families and continues to grow every year.

"It started off with six couples, and every year we have more people," she said. "We're just a

group of friends who get together before Labor Day."

McCarter said when the six families reserved the shelter they didn't have an official name. They

were "just a bunch of friends." Thus the name.

The six families who co-sponsor the picnic are: Ron and

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NAACP Threatens Boycott Over Rebel Flag Flap

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. (AP) — Civil rights groups opposed to the Confederate battle flag gave South Carolina one more change Saturday to avoid an economic boycott meant to force the rebel banner down from the Statehouse dome — and the decision lies with the state Supreme Court.

"If the Supreme Court does not rule to remove the Confederate battle flag, then we have no alternative but to take this battle to a new level — a level involving economic pressure," William Gibson, NAACP national chairman, told hundreds of blacks and a smattering of whites who marched down the palmetto-lined main street of this posh island resort.

Marchers, who police say numbered 800 but organizers said totalled between 1,000 and 2,500, sang hymns and chanted "No Justice, No Peace."

Mostly they were met with bemused attention from tourists like Norma Armour of Kansas City, Mo., who snapped a photo as the procession passed.

"I don't know what this accomplishes," the 30-year-old white woman said, waiting for the march's end so she could move her car. An economic boycott won't stop her from vacationing here each summer as she has for the last five years, she said.

South Carolina is the only state to fly the rebel banner above its state capitol, though Georgia and

Mississippi include the familiar blue X, white stars and red background in their state flags' designs.

The state's high court has yet to decide if it will hear a lawsuit filed by civic and business leaders seeking removal of the flag.

Lawmakers in June failed to pass a compromise that would have lowered the flag, raised similar banners on Statehouse grounds and built a civil rights monument. Gov. Carroll Campbell refused to force lawmakers to act.

Whether for or against the flag, those on the frontlines of this drawn-out argument agree that it is a strong symbol. For African-Americans, it means slavery. For white Southerners, it means history and heritage.

"It's a symbol of white supremacy, slavery, prejudice, hatred, bigotry and treason. It has no reason to fly above the Statehouse dome," said Earl Shinhoster, the interim executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"We are demanding R-E-S-P-E-C-T," said Rupert Richardson, the NAACP's national president.

In July thousands of protesters took to the streets of Myrtle Beach, when they threatened the Labor Day weekend march and economic sanctions if the flag did not come down by August. Leaders Saturday said they would march on the state's largest cities if they have to,

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Company Donates Clothes to Students at LIFT Academy

By DAVID L. DILLARD
Chronicle Staff Writer

Students at the LIFT Academy have new clothes to wear because of a gift by a major manufacturing company.

Lee Jeans Co., located at 3201 Center Park Blvd., a manufacturer of Lee Jeans, donated pairs of blue jeans to the LIFT Academy.

Tom Nelson, Lee's plant manager, said the company is in partnership with LIFT and other high schools as part of the community outreach program.

"We always try to be a part of improving things in our community," Nelson said. "They were very excited about it and we want to make this a long-term partnership. Lee donated 32 pairs of jeans to LIFT."

Earline Parmon, director of the LIFT Academy, welcomes the partnership with Lee Jeans and said the donation was in accord with kids having clothes for school.

"Lee has shown a commitment to our youth and community," said Parmon, who is also a county commissioner. "The partnership enhances some of the things we are able to accomplish for our youths."

The partnership between Lee Jeans and LIFT was formed with the help of One-to-One Triad, an organization based in High Point that fosters mentoring relationships between companies and community groups.

Frankie Jones Sr., One-to-One Triad's executive director, said the partnership between LIFT and Lee Jeans is an example of how major companies can do more to help communities.



Tom Nelson, plant supervisor at Lee Jeans Company, presents blue jeans to LIFT Academy's director Earline Parmon. Also pictured are Frank T. Jones, Sr., Robin Smith, and Gail Manzo.

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This Week In Black History

September 9, 1968
Arthur Ashe became the first winner of the U.S. Open Tennis Championship.

WHERE TO FIND IT