

# Winston-Salem Chronicle

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Forsyth County Public Library  
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The Choice for African-American News and Information

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Power comes to us without a struggle — Frederick Douglass

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## Racial Unbalance Could Be Result of Redistricting

▲ Neighborhood schools could result in segregated system

By VERONICA CLEMONS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

At the first redistricting work session of the Forsyth County School board, administrative staff gave board members a look at what the system would look like if neighborhood schools, which is what many campaigned on, were implemented without any satellites.

The result? A system that has more than 30 racially identifiable schools, with possibly four

new middle schools and the conversion of three middle schools in the city to elementary schools.

Superintendent Donald Martin cautioned that the discussion Saturday was preliminary and that in the following sessions board members will probably change some and could change all of what was presented.

"If you divided this process into three parts, we're still in the first," he said.

see SCHOOLS page 14



School board member Walter Marshall and W-S Urban League CEO President Delores Smith give update on redistricting process in Happy Hill Garden Community.



▲ Education Coalition airs concerns in Happy Hill Garden

By VERONICA CLEMONS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Although the first school board redistricting work session was as preliminary as it gets on Saturday, it still sent red flags up in Delores Smith's mind.

It bothered Smith, president of the Winston-Salem Urban League, that the renovation plans for Atkins Middle School, part of a 1985 bond referendum, are still not complete. Atkins is a former black high school.

It bothered her further that the school administrative staff talked about the possible construction of four new middle schools in the county; and asking the community to approve possibly another bond referendum to finish Atkins.

She brought these concerns and shared them with others at the first Coalition on African-American Education community meeting held in Happy Hill Garden.

see EDUCATION page 11

## Businesses Waffle On King Day

▲ Major Employers not totally supportive of giving workers day off

By VERONICA CLEMONS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Fifty-five percent of the major businesses in Winston-Salem are not giving their employees the day off for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

An informal survey of 11 of the top 15 employers in the greater Winston-Salem area showed that five employers are observing the holiday by closing and giving the day to employees as a holiday. The other six companies remain open for business. Some allow employees to take personal or vacation days to observe the holiday, and one company is sponsoring events internally for employees.

Three of the employers that are closing, the school system, the city of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County have the holiday mandated by the state legislature and are required to take it off. The banks are also closed because the holiday is mandated.

Of the employers that are closing, Wake Forest is the only one that does not have it mandated. However, only the students and the faculty have the day off. Staff members are expected to report to work.

In addition to RJ Reynolds, Integon Corporation, Winston Placement, Griffin Services and

see BUSINESSES page 11



Janet DeCreny, the city's economic development coordinator holds one of the banners that hang from the light posts on Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive.

## Improvements for CIAA

▲ MLK Drive Center of Winston East

By DAVID L. DILLARD  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Officials are working to beautify a segment of Martin Luther King Jr. Drive from U.S. 52 to Interstate 40 by February to court visitors when the CIAA Tournament comes to town.

The city has adopted a two-part streetscape plan for the area that will have increased lighting and crosswalks, banners, more trees, and benches.

Janet DeCreny, the city's economic development coordinator, said the beautification

project will increase the viability of East Winston. "We're just doing some improvements to the street to make visitors feel

safe and welcome in East Winston. We want them to know

see IMPROVEMENT page 3

## Community Wants Street Improvements Extended

Despite improvements being made to Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, some think the beautification plans should extend throughout the length of the entire street.

Norma Smith, chairman of

the East Winston Economic Development Task Force, said they are proud of the improvements but want more.

"It's not all that we want,"

see COMMUNITY page 3

## FTCC's Carver Campus Still Moving Ahead

▲ Concerns about Kernersville site not affecting East Branch

By VERONICA CLEMONS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

The concerns the state board of community colleges has about the Kernersville satellite campus for Forsyth Technical Community College has no connection with the other proposed satellite site that will be located at Lansing Drive.

"Everything is going as scheduled," said James Rousseau, vice president for planning and development for FTCC, on Tuesday. "We will begin the process of interviewing and reviewing architects (January 11)"

And although there are concerns about the Kernersville site, it has nothing to do with the construction of the site but about what will be offered to potential students once the building is in operation. In fact, Rousseau said the process is continuing for both sites and FTCC staff will be looking at architects for both.

"They (the state board) didn't say you're not going to build. They said we got some concern about what you're going to offer," Rousseau said.

The state board will continue its discussion on the Kernersville site Jan. 19 at its next meeting. FTCC officials will be on hand to explain to the board that the classes that will be offered in Kernersville will not affect programs that are offered in neighboring community colleges.

"We're offering courses not entire programs

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This Week in Black History  
January 15, 1929 Martin Luther King Jr. born in Atlanta.

▲ Soup Kitchen Staff volunteers and guest enjoying new floor. See story page 4



## Theatre Festival Gets \$20,000 from State

▲ Mrs. Kennedy spearheads effort to support 1995 event

By DAVID L. DILLARD  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Annie Brown Kennedy has sponsored and pushed a number of important bills throughout her 20-plus years as a state legislator, but she wanted to end it by showing her dedication to the arts.

On behalf of a bill sponsored

by Kennedy, The North Carolina General Assembly gave \$20,000 to the North Carolina Black Repertory Company in December to help sponsor the 1995 National Black Theatre Festival.

"I have sponsored many bills to help the local community and

see THEATRE page 11



Former State Rep. Annie Brown Kennedy presents a check for \$20,000 to Larry Leon Hamlin, director of the National Black Theatre Festival.