

A WAKEUP CALL?

BLACK MEN NEED TO REPLACE GOVERNMENT AS FATHERS

EDITORIAL

PIONEER

A TRIBUTE TO DR. CHARLOTTE HAWKINS BROWN

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Winston-Salem Chronicle

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"Power concedes nothing without a struggle" — Frederick Douglass

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AFDC: A Catch-22

▲ "It wasn't feasible for me to work when day care was taking half of my check. . . at the time it was the best option"

By DAVID L. DILLARD
Chronicle Staff Writer

Cassandra Hill, 31, has been off and on welfare for the last six years.

She has four children ages ranging from ages 14 weeks to 18 years old. Hill is currently still on welfare but is struggling to get off permanently by working part-time and taking classes at

Forsyth Technical Community College part-time. She once worked as an assistant manager at a women's clothing store, but after the birth of her second child, day care became too heavy a burden.

"I needed day care," she said. "I was wondering who's going to take care of my child."

Hill admitted that after working temporary jobs she settled for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) because it was economically feasible. However, she credits her mother Cynthia—who once was on assistance for 13 years and worked her

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Mothers Susan Russel, Tonya Spease and Betty Shults discuss difficulties in getting off AFDC.

FROM VIOLENCE TO VICTORY



Hundreds of African-Americans commence MLK Day March from File Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive to Beneath The Elms last Monday.

Winston-Salem Celebrates King Legacy

▲ Kennedy, Erwin Honored for Contributions to the Community

By VERONICA CLEMONS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Former state legislator Annie Brown Kennedy grew up a block away from Martin Luther King, Jr. She said if he were alive today he would tell the people, "where there is no vision the people perish."

"We must be a people of vision," she said. "We must not allow ourselves to become so angry that we can't think clearly."

Kennedy and Senior N.C. District Court Judge Richard Erwin were recognized for their contributions to the African-American community at the King birthday celebration held at Beneath the Elms.

The 15th annual event was sponsored by WAAA radio, the NAACP and the Human Relations Commission.

Erwin thanked the people of Winston-Salem

for supporting him when he first came to the city as an attorney. Having received many honors and award during his career, Erwin said this was most special.

"This award was most important because it does not come from an organization but it comes from the people," he said.

Both were referred to as trailblazers making marks in history in their fields.

Kennedy was the first African-American female to practice law in the state of North Carolina. Erwin was the first African-American in the state to win a state-wide election.

At Beneath the Elms, celebrators of King's life talked about the things he stood for and how they are relevant today.

WSSU Professor Larry Little said King was about justice, but that justice did not exist in Winston-Salem for Darryl Hunt. Hunt, now 30

years old, is serving a life sentence for the murder of Debra Sykes. Hunt went to jail at age 19.

"When we live in a city ad county where a young black man's life means absolutely nothing to the powers that be, Dr. King's work is not finished," Little said.

Little expressed the irony in the fact that the DNA test that showed Hunt was not the depositor of the semen found in Sykes body was not enough to free him, but in Los Angeles the prosecutors on the OJ Simpson trial are building a case with DNA as its primary evidence.

"Let us remember Martin Luther King, our history and keep fighting," Little said. "None of us are free until we all are free."

In giving the community charge, NAACP President Bill Tatum said the community must be

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Post Office Clams Up On Investigation

▲ "We decided enough has been in the media"

By DAVID L. DILLARD
Chronicle Staff Writer

Officials from the U.S. Postal Service refuse to release information regarding an investigation of alleged discriminatory practices against African-American employees in the Winston-Salem post office.

Ron Campbell, the post office's district manager in Greensboro, said he and representatives from Congressman Mel Watts office decided not to release any information to the public.

"We all decided that the issues would remain internal," Campbell said. "We discussed that (discrimination) and other issues but we decided that enough has been in the media."

Campbell said Matics formed a focus group to hear employee grievances but it was never intended to directly examine postmaster J. Mark Matics or the management's treatment of employees.

"That wasn't the purpose of the focus group. It was not a fact-finding session," he said. "We wanted to hear their complaints and it was what we had heard before through (employee) surveys."

Don Baker, Watt's district director, said he met with post office officials last month regarding an alleged targeting of African-American employees and overall service the post office provides. He said the investigation was not complete but said his staff feels management will correct the problems after the investigation.

"I felt very positive about the meeting," he said. "I think it addressed the problems and I feel like we're coming to a positive conclusion in the matter."

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Black Aldermen Want Liberty Street Given Same Consideration as Southeast Gateway

▲ Burke, Malloy say funding should be equal for both projects

By DAVID L. DILLARD
Chronicle Staff Writer

Alderman Vivian Burke is not opposed to the Southeast Gateway plan but she said if the city allocates funds for the Southeast Gateway, it should also allocate funds—the same amount or more—for the Liberty Street Corridor.

Burke said many businesses along Lib-

erty Street are have been established for years and more beautification needs to focus on the Northeastern areas of the city.

"My concern is that the same consideration should be given to the Liberty Street," Burke said. "We're talking about an area that has one of our historic churches (Shiloh Baptist Church) nearby and Gilmore's Funeral Home as well as some established

white businesses."

The Board of Alderman approved both projects Tuesday night.

Last November, the city/county planning board voted to approve the Liberty Street Corridor after seven months of planning and working with businesses in the area.

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This Week in Black History
January 20, 1788 Pioneer African Baptist church organized in Savannah, Ga., with Andrew Bryan as pastor

Author Evelyn Coleman reads from her book. See story page 3

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