

Citywide Kwanzaa

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during the Middle Passage, but in spite of this travesty, Griffin said she is happy to be the descendant of such strong people. She said, "My ancestors shed a lot of blood to make it possible for me to be free." Griffin's fiance' Alan Doorasamy, from Durbon, South Africa, also addressed the audience.

Jonathan Sadler played a piano selection, and Cassandra McCloud, of the Burke Singers, was the guest soloist. Tori Richardson performed an African dance.

The Winston-Salem Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. sponsored the night of Ujima (collective work and responsibility) Dec. 28. It was held at the William C. Sims Recreation Center. The elders for the evening were Kwanzaa Guru Tim Jackson, from the East Winston Library, and Luci Vaughn. Jackson traced the local Kwanzaa observance back to 1978, when Dwayne and Rachel Jackson saw a celebration on the campus of North Carolina A&T State University and then brought the idea back to Winston-Salem.



Members of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Sims Learning Center and the East Winston Library participate in the Ujima processional Dec. 28 at the Sims Center.

Carolina." The First Angels Choir sang several gospel songs.

Known for her business savvy, Dr. Virginia Newell was the keynote speaker. She encouraged the parents in the audience to demand excellence of their children, especially in the area of mathematics. She admonished them to be wary of the calculator, because, she said, it can be confusing to so many youths who have not mastered the basics of math.

The East Winston Community Development Corporation (EWCDC) sponsored a village gathering to celebrate the principle of Nia (purpose). It was held at the Winston-

tion after their performance. LeShea Agnew was the featured performer. James R. Grace, executive director of EWCDC, led the libation while members of the staff served as the four winds and gathered around him.

Friends of the East Winston Library, Winston Lake Family YMCA, and the Arts Council of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County sponsored a night of Kuumba (creativity) at the Winston Lake Family YMCA. It was held Dec. 31. Marcelette Orange, executive director of the Winston Lake Family YMCA, welcomed the guests. Cheryl Harry, director of community outreach for the Arts Council, recognized the distinguished guests and elders. The Otesha Dancers and Drummers set the stage for the evening. Various performing groups participated. The Signs of the Times sign language choir from Ephesus Seventh Day Adventist Church, as well as Chris Brinson and the Freddie B. Marshall Ensemble, performed. Children from the William C. Sims Recreation/Learning Center performed the seven principles from an original composition by Courtney Daniel. The Rev. Carlton Eversley led the audience in partaking of the unity cup.

The final night of Imani was sponsored by four churches: Emmanuel Baptist Church, St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church, Dellabrook Presbyterian Church, and St. Paul United Methodist Church. The celebration was held at St. Benedict's

Salem Urban League Dec. 30. The Otesha Drummers and the staff and friends of the EWCDC participated in the processional. Special guest performers were



The Signs of the Times sign language choir interprets gospel music during the Kuumba celebration on Dec. 31.

Margaret Allen was then the Branch Manager of the East Winston Library, and in 1984 Tim Jackson came on board.



Community leaders showed their support during the night of Imani: Left to right are State Rep. Larry Womble, the Rev. Father Lawrence J. Hunt, S.J., the Rev. Donald Jenkins, the Rev. Carlton Eversley, Dr. Alton Pollard and Alderman Joycelyn Johnson.

Jackson and many other community persons have continued the tradition. It has since gone beyond a one-night celebration to a full seven-day observance.

Alderman Joycelyn Johnson was the speaker for the evening. She said, "If we work together in America and all be responsible to the community, I believe we can fly." Johnson then led the audience in a recitation of R. Kelley's song from the "Space Jam" soundtrack called "I Believe I Can Fly."

The students from the William C. Sims Recreation Center/Learning Center, The Forsyth County Public Library, QEI volunteers, Luci Vaughn and other community business persons and volunteers came forward to sponsor the night dedicated to the principle of Ujamaa (cooperative economics). Students from the Afrocentric kindergarten class made a presentation. Momma J. commented that this group is the "only Afrocentric kindergarten class in a public school setting in North

members of Montage Ensemble who presented "Ciphered Innocence," a play written and directed by Sharon Agnew. The group received a standing ova-

Church. The Inspirational Choir of St. Paul provided the music for the evening. Youth from the four churches shared the Nguzo Saba. Eversley and the Rev. Donald



The audience joined in the Umoja circle to bless the Karamu Dec. 30.



Members and supporters of the East Winston CDC were the sponsors of the principle of Nia on Dec. 30 at the Winston-Salem Urban League.

Jenkins led the audience in a community discussion on the topic "How Can Faith Help Neighborhood Problems."

Several ideas were shared during the discussion. Following are examples of what some said people should do:

- Give their talents and resources to help others.
- Have courage to stand up for what they believe.
- Remember that God is on their side.
- Do the impossible.

with the angels," she said, when she wants to feel the presence of her mother, she calls her name. "I have faith that she is with me," she said.

Eversley and Dr. Alton Pollard led the audience in the libation, and the partaking of the



The First Angels Choir were guests performers for the Ujamaa evening, Dec. 29, at the Sims Center.

• Help people cross denominational lines and realize people need each other.

• Look beyond the outside of a person and see the good in him or her.

• Have the courage to attack community problems without fear.

• Help youth deal with peer

Fleming El Amin challenged each church in Winston Salem to donate to the scholarship fund sponsored by the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Emancipation Association.

Ravonda Rann performed an original poem about faith. She expressed unquestioning belief that although her mother "sleeps

unity cup with the roll call of the ancestors. Rev. Father Lawrence J. Hunt, S.J., offered closing remarks. Hunt expressed how much he had been enriched from the experience of Kwanzaa. He said he feels at home in the African-American community, and he congratulated the leaders of the celebration for such an inspiring service.

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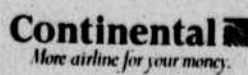
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