



John L. Stewart Jr. leads the Links-sponsored workshop, entitled "Youth and the Law."

Links sponsor youth law workshop, draw almost 100

The Winston-Salem Chapter of the Links Inc. sponsored the workshop Youth and the Law, on Saturday, March 15, at First United Baptist Church in High Point, N.C., where the Rev. William Falls is minister. The workshop leader was John L. Stewart Jr., vice president of the Winston-Salem Urban League and director of public policy mediation at Guilford County. Stewart's presentation was informative and interactive. Youths were ani-

mated in their responses and asked pertinent questions.

The workshop, especially designed for youth, was enthusiastically received by nearly 100 youths, parents and residents of High Point and Winston-Salem. Included among the attendees were youths from Washington Terrace Enrichment Center, members of First United Baptist Church Girl Scout Troops 3966, 968, and 976, and scouts from First United

Baptist Church's Cub and Boy Scout Troops.

Following the presentation by Stewart, youths, parents and guests enjoyed refreshments.

Coordinators for the workshop, an umbrella project of the chapter, were Links Barbara Tillman and Gwendolyn Davis. Members of the chapter in attendance included Rosa Wilson, president; Carolyn Black; Faye Carter; Kay Clark; Laverne Gaither; Constance Johnson;

'Community of Hope' proclaimed in Winston-Salem

The Honorable Martha Wood, mayor of Winston-Salem, announced by proclamation that March 26, 1997, will be named Winston-Salem Community Economic Development Day. The proclamation is in recognition of the outstanding community development exhibited in Winston-Salem through community development corporations (CDCs) and other community organizations using the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

Winston-Salem Community Development Day will occur in concert with hundreds of other cities across the country citing March 26, 1997, as National Community Economic Development Day. The National Congress for Community Economic Development (NCCED) in Washington, D.C., is the official sponsor of National CED Day. Mary Nelson, chairperson of NCCED, said, "The effects of community-based development, often with great help from the CDBG program, have created a revolution of positive change in cities and towns around the country. This day of recognition is a way to spotlight that growth in Winston-Salem and coordinate it with other efforts nationally."

Enacted into law in 1974, CDBG is the principal federal program providing grants to states, cities and towns to devise neighborhood approaches that will improve the physical, economic and social conditions in communities. It is administered nationally by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and locally by the City of Winston-Salem's Housing/Neighborhood Development and Housing & Neighborhood Services Departments. According to Monica Lett, Ph.D., director of both city departments, Winston-Salem expects to receive \$1.9 million in new CDBG funds in fiscal year 1997. These funds will directly affect the lives of low- and moderate-income residents throughout the City of Winston-Salem.

All churches are asked to pause for a special moment of prayer on Sunday, March 23, for "Community of Hope," the theme for this year's commemorations. It is the belief of community development professionals that communities die because

of a lack of hope. Crime, the blight of abandoned or unkept properties, poverty, and little or no economic development, leave the residents of these communities feeling abandoned, powerless and disenfranchised. An essential part of community development, but often overlooked, is the human development aspect. "If you don't uplift the thinking, skills, personal wealth, and dreams of the people, there's no use in rehabilitating or building new brick and mortar," stated James Grace, executive director of East Winston Community Development Corporation. "If you can't improve people's lives, give them hope for the future, present evidence that their outlook is brighter than the present, something dies inside. Giving everybody an equal place at the table, taking on projects because the community will benefit where there is no profit is our job," he concluded.

The Church & CED Partnership will sponsor a luncheon for community ministers who support community economic development on Tuesday, March 25. The 11:30 a.m. luncheon will provide an opportunity for local pastors to discuss possibilities for church involvement in local community development, and to hear presentations to update them on existing and planned community development projects. The luncheon will be held at First Baptist Church, 700 Highland Ave. (across from Forsyth County Mental Health). The Church & CED Partnership, formed in 1995 to support community development in East Winston, is an alliance among the Economic Development Committee of the Ministers Conference of Winston-Salem & Vicinity, East Winston Community Development Corporation, and local ministers who may not belong to The Conference.

On Wednesday, March 26, the City of Winston-Salem will sponsor the second of two Community Development Forums. Scheduled to be held at 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room on the second floor of City Hall, this forum will provide an opportunity for citizens to learn about various ways in which CDBG funds will be spent and allow a channel for residents to give their input.

Throughout the week, anyone interested in learning more about community development and what it entails, or who may want to learn more about East Winston Community Development Corporation specifically and what it does, is invited to drop by during regular business hours for a brief tour of their facilities.

Acknowledging the contribution to the City of Winston-Salem through community development, Mayor Wood emphasized the importance of partnerships at all levels of government to create successful community development projects. "The CDBG program enables cities such as ours to address the physical, economic and human services needs of our low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. CDCs evaluate and respond to these needs through innovative and inclusive projects and programs such as housing, job creation, and commercial development," said the mayor. "Community Development Day provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the significant role that community economic development plays in making Winston-Salem a more viable place to live," she continued.

Community Development activities held across the nation for the week of March 23-29, 1997, will be attended by federal, state and local officials, as well as housing and community development advocates, organizations and neighborhood residents. Local activities will include the following:

Sunday, March 23 — A moment of prayer for "Community of Hope" (all churches throughout Winston-Salem)

Tuesday, March 25, 11:30 a.m. — Free luncheon for local ministers who support Economic Community Development, 700 Highland Ave. (First Baptist Church)

Wednesday, March 26, 7 p.m. — Community Development Forum, City Hall.

For more information about community revitalization efforts and the use of CDBG funds in Winston-Salem, contact City Housing/Neighborhood Development and Housing & Neighborhood Services at (910) 727-8595 or East Winston Community Development Corporation at (910) 723-1783.

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