

Astronaut's legacy lives on at his alma mater

By DAMON FORD
THE CHRONICLE Reporter

GREENSBORO — On Jan. 28, the Greensboro community gathered for the 12th Annual Commemorative Memorial Program honoring Dr. Ronald E. McNair.

McNair, who died in the Space Shuttle Challenger explosion on the same day in 1986, received a bachelor of science degree in physics from N.C. A&T in 1971 and a doctorate of philosophy in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1976.

Even though McNair is no longer with us, his legacy lives on. "Dr. McNair was not only a distinguished scientist, astronaut, explorer, teacher, husband, father and outstanding Aggie. He was a man upon doing achievement, he had the opportunity to service this entire nation in a leadership capacity," said N.C. A&T Student Government Association president Arthur Smith.

McNair, who was born October 21, 1950 in Lake City, South Carolina was married to the former Cheryl Moore and has two children. In 1978, NASA selected McNair as an astro-

naut candidate. After a year of training he qualified for assignment as a mission specialist astronaut on future Space Shuttle flights.

His first Space Shuttle launch took place on Feb. 3, 1984 at Kennedy Space Center in Florida. His second launch was on the tragic Challenger Space Shuttle, which exploded one minute and 13 seconds after take off.

McNair's life was full of achievements but honors don't always tell the story.

"I reflect back on the humility of the man, the work ethic of the man, the smile that was always on his face,"

said N.C. A&T mathematics professor Gilbert Casterlow, a friend and former classmate of McNair's. "I must say that I never heard him put anyone down, he always had that positive factor."

Others spoke of what his life means to all of us.

"Dr. Ronald McNair's life was one of courage, an example of purpose and a testament to excellence and challenge which allowed him to excel above and beyond all possibilities for he was indeed inspired not to creep

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Astronaut Ronald McNair was killed on the tragic Challenger Space Shuttle.

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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5, 1998

Winston CDC makes an effort to improve image

With the coffers dwindling, the CDC intends to raise \$250,000 annually in membership funds.

By BOMANI MAWULI
THE CHRONICLE Reporter

The East Winston Community Development Corporation, or CDC, can be all about cooperative economics.

And cooperative economics, or ujamaa, is one of the seven principles of the Nguzo Saba which is the foundation of Kwanzaa.

Kwanzaa and the Nguzo Saba are more than just a holiday. It is a value system—a guide for daily living throughout the year. And the purpose of ujamaa, or cooperative economics, is "to build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses and to profit from them together."

But developing self-sufficiency is no easy job.

"It seems to be a problem across the board just promoting economic development in the black communities here in North Carolina," stated James Grace, the executive director of the CDC.

"It is a problem," acknowledged Reginald Randolph, the CDC's vice-chairman, who joined the corporation in November. "And we have to address it here."

Randolph gave a presentation to a small group of CDC members at the Forsyth County Public Library on Fifth Street on Jan. 27.

He said, in Winston-Salem, "black individuals with annual incomes of \$100,000 or more, in our population, represent 3 per-

cent."

This low percentage, argues Randolph, is because that there is no entity in place which organizes a community pool of money for investment in the economic growth of its residents.

"A mutual fund is a coalition, or gathering, of a couple different entities," explained Randolph.

"First, you have a group of people that decide to put their money together," he added. "Then that group of people decides to go out and invest—coming together as a diversified group; then within the corporations they buy; then within the industries that they buy; and it gives you that ultimate safety of what you hear in terms of what mutual funds are designed for. Here, locally, we have no such entity. We have no such idea. We have no such practice."



Reginald Randolph

See CDC on A2



Hundreds of people joined students, faculty and staff from North Carolina A&T State University for a breakfast commemorating the 38th anniversary of the beginning of the nationwide sit-in movement, which began with four A&T freshmen at Greensboro's downtown Woolworth's. Two of those students, Joseph McNeil (left) and Franklin McCain (far right) spoke about the event. In the photo above, McNeil, A&T Transportation Institute Director Joyce Johnson, A&T Chancellor Edward Fort and McCain joined hands with the rest of those gathered to sing "We Shall Overcome."

Focus groups discuss Market Street's fate

By DAMON FORD
THE CHRONICLE Reporter

GREENSBORO — Web Hall on the campus of North Carolina A&T State University was the gathering place for the East Market Street Community Workshop, which attracted Greensboro city leaders, business owners, students and neighborhood residents.

The workshop, which took place Saturday Jan. 31, is the first step in 1998 in finalizing a plan of revitalization for the East Market street corridor. The corridor runs



Mac Sims

along East Market street starting with Friendly avenue and ending at English street. North Church street, Murrow boulevard, Dudley and Bennett streets, Laurel street, Bluford street, Benbow road, U.S. 29 and Gillespie street are the main roads encompassed in the corridor.

Focus groups were formed made up of N.C. A&T and Bennett College students, and in the rest were of community residents and business owners. The workshop serves as a culmination of the focus groups and gives the community a chance to see and suggest what areas should be addressed more intensely.

Increased black entrepreneurship, more street lighting and pedestrian friendly walk ways were a few. One area of great concern was the Cumberland Shopping Center.

Since there is not a lot of land to build on, the shopping center looks to be the best place to get some. Some leaders of the community were adamant about the shopping centers bad image in the area.

"I am not, as Chancellor, going to let up in relationship to my push for and insistence upon the fact we

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Internal strife plagues ESR

Instead of fighting poverty, the Experiment in Self-Reliance is consumed with its own problems, contends a member of the nonprofit organization's board of directors.



Dorothy Ross

By SHARON BROOKS HODGE
THE CHRONICLE Editor

PART ONE: Lynching the Leader

Three decades ago, the Forsyth County Experiment in Self-Reliance was created as a community resource. The goal, according to a 10-year volunteer with the organization, was to end poverty one person at a time.

Now however, "the business of

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Participants at a state forum held at Guilford Technical Community College acquire information about procuring state contracts.

State reaches out to small businesses

Firms owned by minorities garner only a small portion of state contracts. So officials are traveling the state to explain the bidding process.

By BOMANI MAWULI
THE CHRONICLE Reporter

On Jan. 30, the Department of Administration's Division of Purchase and Contract for the state of North Carolina held a forum at Guilford Technical Community College in Jamestown.

Minorities, women, persons with disabilities and small business owners all who own or operate businesses were invited to attend this "Partnering for Success" forum. It's

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