

# COMMUNITY FOCUS

Winston-Salem Greensboro High Point

SECTION C

JANUARY 7, 1999

## Three honored at Emancipation Proclamation Day



From left, Atty. Harvey L. Kennedy, Chairman scholarship committee, presented Lamara King, Joycelyn McCummings and Leroy Butler with plaques and \$500 scholarships.

### Event celebrates document

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For hundreds of local residents, Jan. 1 doesn't just mark the dawning of a new year - it marks the beginning of the end of slavery.

On Jan. 1, 1863, Abraham Lincoln affixed his name and official seal to the Emancipation Proclamation a seminal, but often forgotten moment in American history. The document paved the way for the 13th Amendment to the Constitution which formally abolished slavery.

The 13th Amendment was ratified on Dec. 18, 1865.

More than 400 attended the annual event held at Mount Zion Baptist Church. Throughout the program, which featured a reading of the Proclamation, there was a mix of the old and new. While students were awarded scholarships, choirs sang traditional hymns like "We Shall Overcome" and "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

According to the organization's president Robert Long, for the members of the group, "education is liberation."

One of the major functions of the offering taken up during the service is to provide two \$500 scholarships to deserving high school seniors in the community.

According to Harvey L. Kennedy, chair of the Scholarship Committee, Crossing 52 Supper Groups helped raise money to provide an additional scholarship this year.

Annie Brown Kennedy noted that all nine of the finalists will receive a monetary award toward the purchase of college textbooks.

The finalists and winners were selected based on grade point average, class rank, leadership, character, and extra-curricular activities.

The winners of scholarships included Lamara Michelle King of Carver High School, Leroy Butler of North Forsyth High School, and Joycelyn Deloris McCummings of North Forsyth High School.

King is the daughter of Earline King. Ranking 4 out of a class of 173, King is the vice president of the National Honor Society, captain of the volleyball team, a member of the track team, student government, NASA SHARP PROGRAM, and Carver Against Drinking and Drugs in Youth.

She is also very active in her church. King plans to attend South Carolina State University next year where she will study computer science. Earline King, a single mother, is thrilled that her daughter won one of the awards.

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Eddie M. Black of Piney Grove Baptist Church greeted Oscar Hines of the Camel City Elks Lodge #1021 before entering the church service.



From left, Robert Long, President of Emancipation Association, met with the ministers the Rev. Gloria Gerald, The Rev. James D. Ballard and the Rev. J. Ray Butler before joining the procession.



The audience rose to congratulate the scholarship recipients.