

Urban Leagues officials earmark grant money

\$75,000 grant will be used for race relations program

By T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Officials at the Winston-Salem Urban League are planning to use funds from a recently awarded grant to take a popular race relations workshop on the road.

The workshop — "Bridging the Gaps in Race Relations" — has helped thousands of city residents to become more racially tolerant over the past 10 years, officials say.

In recent years, demand for the workshop has spread beyond Forsyth County. In order to accommodate those demands, the Urban League applied for a grant from the Zachary Smith

Reynolds Foundation last August.

Last week, the Foundation awarded the Urban League \$75,000. The money will be used to help defray the costs involved in taking the 20-hour workshop on a trek to towns and cities across the state.

"We've also gotten requests for the workshop from outside the state. The workshop has gotten very good feedback. It has helped to change a lot of (racial) myths that people have about each other," said Henrietta Hodge, the Urban League's director of program development.

The workshop involves a series of discussions dealing with various subjects—poverty, education, health care—where questions of race and culture can be easily interjected. Moderators

for the workshop vary with the discussion topics.

The Winston-Salem Police Department, Forsyth County Sheriff's Department and instructors with the city-county school system have all taken advantage of the workshop during its decade-long run here in the city, Hodge said.

"The whole purpose of 'Bridging the Gap' is to promote an understanding of cultural differences," she said. "We have found that if a person has a better understanding of someone else's cultural, they are more tolerant and accepting."

Currently, the Urban League has plans to take the workshop to Wilmington, Wilson and Monroe. Expanding the workshop to other southern states is a possibility that the organization is also looking into.

This latest grant is the fifth awarded to the Urban League by the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, according to the Foundation's executive director Tom Lambeth.

Lambeth said for the past two decades, the foundation has made a concerted effort to focus on issues that impact minorities and women.

"We wanted to be a foundation that focused on North Carolina and all of its people... We saw that women and minorities needed special attention," Lambeth said.

Since its inception almost 65 years ago, the foundation has granted more than \$257 million to organizations in counties throughout the state. Last year, the Foundation awarded 270 grants totaling \$13 million.

A recent rash of hate crimes

led the National Urban League to revive its efforts to bring about better race relations.

"We have always been impressed with their work, both locally and nationally," Lambeth said.

Winston-Salem Urban League Executive Director Dolores Smith developed the workshop in 1984 after she took a trip to Egypt.

She says the trip to Africa left her with many unanswered questions.

"I came to realize that I really didn't know who I was as an African American, and if I didn't know who I was, how could I expect whites to," Smith said.

In addition to fostering understanding between the races, Smith said the workshop has also helped African Americans gain a

better understanding of themselves and their culture.

But building bridges over racial gulfs requires a willingness on the part of both blacks and whites, Smith says.

"You have to check the soil on both sides before you can build a bridge," she said.

Smith added that she would like the National Urban League and chapters throughout the nation to adopt the workshop.

Tuesday, Smith was in Raleigh where Gov. Jim Hunt announced yet another grant for the Winston-Salem Urban League.

The \$25,000 Rite of Passage grant will enable the organization to train college students to become mentors to younger children who have had run-ins with the legal system.

Atkins

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it would be the smallest in the system. Marshall said if board members allowed the school to be converted, they would not be living up to their responsibility to provide students with the best education possible.

"Atkins has always been a substandard school. It was never as good as the schools on society hill... To even consider that proposal is a violation of your oath of office," he told the board.

A verbal sparring match erupted between Johnson and Marshall after the latter accused many of those who supported converting Atkins of abandoning it for greener pastures during its heyday.

Marshall said many elite blacks snubbed Atkins and sent their children to the posh Saint Anne's school and later to mostly white public high schools.

"After that (desegregation) suit, blacks knocked down the doors to get into Reynolds... Atkins was not all rosy," Marshall said.

Johnson — a lifelong resident of East Winston — retaliated by claiming that Marshall was not a native of the community and, therefore, uninformed about the

matter.

"Why did you come to this community," Johnson asked Marshall. "We didn't send for you."

After the meeting, Marshall said he came to the meeting to address his concerns to the board, not to argue with Johnson. But he says he hopes that he and Johnson will remain friends.

The community meeting the night before, was tame in comparison to the two men's spat. More than 300 hundred people attended the forum and listened as Marshall, Johnson and nearly 17 others gave their spin on the Atkins situation.

The idea for the forum came during a school board session on the proposal. The forum provide the board, which has been criticized for being too sheltered, with an opportunity to get up close and personal with the community they have alienated the most.

The two sides of the debate were easily recognizable, with many Atkins teachers and parents pushing to keep the school as is and Atkins High alumni lobbying for the change.

One Atkins teacher said changing the school to a high school, three years after it underwent a \$9

million dollar renovation to become a "high-tech" middle school, would be problematic for the staff.

"This is the only newly renovated middle school in the inner city... Our teachers need a stable environment, (changing the school) would disrupt that environment," said Natalie Kimbrough.

Womble told the crowd that school officials have purposely avoided creating high schools in the black community.

"This is a conspiracy to keep our people from being knowledgeable and educated," he said.

By the end of the forum, it had become apparent that a new movement had developed, and had already, perhaps, gained more support than the original proposal. The movement involves a plan to build a brand new high school in close proximity to Atkins.

A proposal is currently before the board to build a new high school in the western part of the county. The school would help to alleviate overcrowding at West Forsyth High School, which could have more than 1500 students in few years. The school would also have a student body that is overwhelming white.

But many say the inner city has been neglected for much too long when it comes to new school construction. Speakers sent board members home with a clear message.

"Dr. (Donald) Martin, you must realize and understand, we want a high school in the East sector of this city," the Rev. Jimmie Lee Bonham said, addressing the superintendent.

Now, that the future of Atkins Middle is safe, Brown says she will support a new high school if it is determined that one is needed. Though she says a school in the Lowery Street area would be a more ideal location because it would be far enough away from Carver.

Johnson has also endorsed the plan. He says his endorsement isn't a change of heart.

"I've always wanted either a new school in this area, or to have Atkins back as a high school," he said.

To gauge if there is enough support in the East Winston community for a new high school, board members discussed the possibility of conducting polls in the area or holding more community forums.

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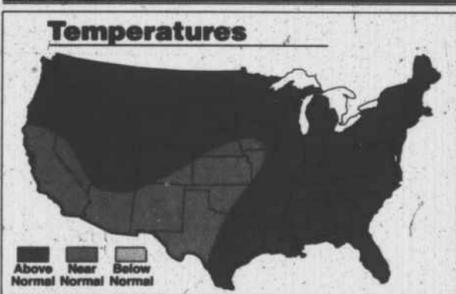
Forecast for Winston-Salem

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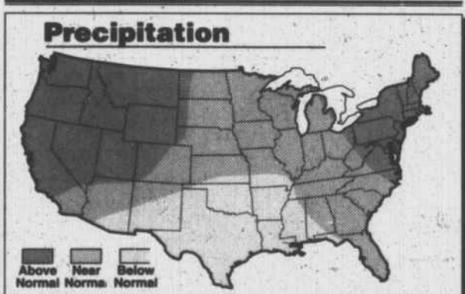
LOCAL 7-DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
39	31	49/36	57/38	58/39	59/35	57/37	57/37

THE WEEK AHEAD



THE WEEK AHEAD



U.S. TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday			Monday		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	50	38	sh	56	41	sh	60	45	sh	62	45	sh	58	37	pc
Boston	24	18	pc	36	29	i	43	33	pc	49	34	pc	48	33	sh
Chicago	27	20	pc	38	32	pc	46	36	pc	42	28	sh	38	24	sf
Cleveland	29	20	pc	38	30	pc	46	34	pc	47	33	pc	44	27	sn
Denver	52	29	s	58	26	pc	52	21	pc	50	23	pc	55	27	pc
Des Moines	28	20	pc	45	30	pc	44	27	s	43	26	sh	38	22	s
Detroit	24	18	sf	35	30	pc	43	32	pc	43	31	pc	42	25	sn
Houston	60	42	sh	62	44	c	68	48	c	69	50	c	65	46	pc
Indianapolis	32	24	sn	41	33	pc	49	34	pc	49	34	sh	43	26	sn
Kansas City	34	23	pc	48	33	s	50	31	s	47	29	sh	45	28	s
Los Angeles	76	49	pc	72	48	pc	71	47	pc	71	48	pc	68	34	pc
Miami	78	66	pc	78	67	r	80	66	sh	80	64	sh	78	61	sh
Minn.-St. Paul	23	16	pc	37	21	pc	37	20	pc	39	20	sn	32	14	s
New Orleans	60	47	sh	62	47	sh	67	50	sh	68	52	sh	65	47	pc
New York City	28	24	pc	40	36	r	48	36	pc	40	30	pc	42	32	r
Omaha	33	21	pc	47	29	pc	47	26	s	45	24	pc	42	22	s
Phoenix	75	50	s	76	51	pc	76	48	s	72	46	s	75	45	pc
San Francisco	60	47	sh	57	45	c	57	44	c	58	43	sh	44	31	sh
Seattle	52	40	r	45	36	sh	45	36	sh	46	36	sh	37	24	sn
Washington	34	32	c	44	38	r	50	36	pc	44	34	pc	44	34	r

THE NATIONAL SUMMARY

The overall pattern across the country will revert back to what was going on in November. Warm Pacific air will flood the country with the northern tier and Southeast receiving above-normal temperatures. Along with warm air, storms will again penetrate the West Coast, bringing rain. Storms will also frequent the Northeast, bringing precipitation. The Southwest will continue to be dry.

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

WORLD TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday			Monday		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Amsterdam	38	31	sn	36	30	pc	42	32	r	38	28	pc	42	35	r
Berlin	35	23	sn	27	18	s	38	33	s	34	22	s	31	29	s
Buenos Aires	83	63	s	84	66	pc	85	66	pc	86	65	sh	86	65	sh
Cairo	67	51	pc	68	53	pc	69	51	pc	62	44	s	61	46	s
Jerusalem	60	42	pc	55	42	pc	57	43	pc	53	31	pc	48	34	pc
Johannesburg	82	61	pc	85	63	pc	84	64	pc	84	63	pc	84	64	pc
London	40	37	sh	44	43	s	53	28	pc	55	28	pc	40	32	pc
Madrid	47	34	c	54	38	s	57	38	s	54	36	s	55	38	s
Mexico City	68	41	s	67	40	pc	67	41	pc	65	40	pc	65	40	pc
Moscow	26	18	c	28	27	pc	31	23	sn	32	21	sf	28	20	sf
Paris	36	29	sf	35	33	s	49	32	s	33	25	s	37	34	s
Rio de Janeiro	82	73	pc	83	73	pc	84	74	pc	85	76	pc	86	76	pc
Rome	52	36	pc	53	35	pc	53	39	s	57	42	sh	57	44	s
San Juan	81	71	c	83	72	pc	84	72	pc	84	72	pc	84	73	pc
Seoul	28	15	pc	31	17	pc	36	21	s	39	22	pc	38	14	pc
Sydney	75	63	c	85	74	s	88	76	pc	88	77	pc	89	77	pc
Tokyo	46	36	pc	52	36	pc	50	34	pc	48	36	s	50	40	pc
Toronto	29	18	pc	36	31	pc	47	34	pc	45	32	s	43	30	r
Winnipeg	18	12	pc	27	8	pc	21	5	s	22	4	pc	21	3	pc
Zurich	35	24	sn	29	22	s	42	36	s	37	26	s	36	35	s

SUN & MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset
Thu., Jan. 14	7:31 a.m.	5:29 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 15	7:31 a.m.	5:30 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 16	7:31 a.m.	5:31 p.m.
Sun., Jan. 17	7:31 a.m.	5:32 p.m.
Mon., Jan. 18	7:30 a.m.	5:33 p.m.
Tue., Jan. 19	7:30 a.m.	5:34 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 20	7:30 a.m.	5:35 p.m.

	Moonrise	Moonset
Thu., Jan. 14	4:45 a.m.	3:13 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 15	5:39 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 16	6:31 a.m.	4:52 p.m.

	Phase
Jan. 17	New
Jan. 24	First
Jan. 31	Full
Feb. 8	Last

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