

# Group celebrates 64th anniversary

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Members of Winston-Salem Beauticians and Cosmetologists Chapter 2 worshipped March 14 at Shiloh Baptist Church (Dr. Paul Lowe is pastor), during the 11 a.m. service as part of the group's anniversary celebration. President Dr. Mary D. Holmes awarded faithful members Rosie L. Feemster and Maxine Simmons 50 consecutive year pins. Each woman also received a history book (volume II), which was published this month.

Feemster and Simmons stayed the course year in and year out, working to maintain this organization, which was led by capable black women with a desire to succeed.

Dr. Delores Scales and Dr. Rachel Todd reviewed the group's history. The group worked during February and March to complete this book, titled "Yesterday's Dreams Are Today's Reality," volume II. It was a miracle considering the time, materials and equipment that were available to use.

The group gave a donation to Shiloh. After the service, members fellowshiped over lunch.

On Founders Day, scheduled for April 14, the group will worship at Emmanuel Baptist Church, where Dr. John Mendez is pastor, during the 11 a.m. service. A donation will be presented to



Dr. Hazel Gaston, Maxine Simmons and Rosie L. Feemster

the Sunday school department because the chapter believes in education.

The state convention will be in Winston-Salem at the Adam's Mark Hotel April 27 through May 1. This is the

63rd state anniversary celebration. Come join us at the festivities.

For more information, contact Dr. Delores Scales at 723-3853 or Dr. Rachel Todd at 785-0189.

## Gates

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Jimmy Carter, decried the high cost of managing HIV/AIDS, especially in developing countries such as Kenya.

According to Health Ministry statistics, some 700

Kenyans die daily from AIDS-related complications, while more than half of public hospital beds are occupied by patients suffering from related ailments.

The younger Gates has been campaigning for more spending by developed nations toward tackling the

pandemic in the developing world, especially Africa.

At the recent World Economic Forum, the software billionaire was quoted as urging the United States to increase its spending on health programs in developing countries.

## Suicide

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The study, which uses data collected by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, found that suicide by gun among 15- to 19-year-old black males rose from 3.6 per 100,000 in 1979 to a peak of 13.9 per 100,000 in 1994. The rate for 1997, the most recent year studied, was down to 8.4 per 100,000.

Guns were used in 54 percent of all black suicides in that age group in 1979 and in 74 percent by 1997.

For whites in the same age group, the gun-related suicide rate was 9.7 per 100,000 in 1979, peaked at 13.6 per

100,000 in 1991 and dropped to 10.4 per 100,000 in 1997. Guns were used in 68 percent of all 1979 suicides in the age group and in 65 percent in 1997.

The study appears this month in *Psychiatric Services*, a journal published by the American Psychiatric Association. The figures show similar but less dramatic rates of increase among 20- to 24-year-old black men.

The study did not look at causes for the suicide rates. But co-author Sean Joe, an assistant professor of social work at the University of Pennsylvania, speculated that young blacks feel more pressure to succeed than older generations, who could point

to segregation or other obstacles.

"There's a greater expectation within the African-American community that younger African Americans should be able to do more with the opportunities in front of them," Joe said.

Donna Holland Barnes lost her 20-year-old son, Marc, to suicide when he drove his vehicle into a river in 1990. She later founded the National Organization of People of Color Against Suicide.

"The problem with firearms is the impulsivity," said Barnes, a sociology professor at Southwest Texas State University.

"Not a lot of thought goes into it," Barnes said.

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or

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**Prices Effective Through April 2, 2002**

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