



Photo by Courtney Gaillard  
Ben Piggott (right) lights the kinara with students from Diggs Elementary School as businessman Yusef Suggs looks on.

# Black-on-black economic support pushed during Kwanzaa program

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD  
THE CHRONICLE

Business owners, families and children came out to the William C. Sims Recreation Center on Monday evening to celebrate the fourth day of Kwanzaa — Ujamaa, meaning cooperative economics.

Ben Piggott and family along with Salaam Scents, an African fragrance and skin care products store, hosted the festivities, which focused on building and maintaining black businesses in the community.

Ujamaa is one of seven principles commemorated each day during Kwanzaa.

Kwanzaa, meaning "first fruits" in Swahili, is a seven-day celebration following Christmas that promotes family, community and culture. Maulana Karenga, who chairs the department of black studies at California State University-Long Beach, created the African holiday, which is also celebrated in other parts of the world.

The fourth candle on the kinara was lit by several students from Jefferson Diggs Visual and Performing Arts School under the guidance of Piggott. The children also recited the seven principles of Kwanzaa, which represent the origin of the holiday.

The evening began with a procession of all the business owners. Some were dressed in traditional African garb. All the business owners sang an old freedom song as they marched around the gym. Piggott invited several entrepreneurs from the community to showcase their products and success stories to those in attendance.

"We're bringing business out to express to the community and also to the children ways of making money by creating your own jobs legitimately and be of service to the community," said Piggott, who is the director of the Sims Recreation Center.

Yusef Suggs, owner of Salaam Scents, may be a prime example of Ujamaa being put into action. He explained how his busi-

ness grew from a table on the street to a store at Marketplace Mall.

"Through the grace and mercy of God and the support of the people we kept growing, and the next thing you know we were putting on lectures, book signings, tai chi classes; these things continue to go on," said Suggs. "When you do business with me I want you to hold me accountable. In today's economy you don't want to (spend) your hard-earned money on garbage."

Queen Olufemi Elom, another featured vendor for the evening, began making jewelry as a hobby 20 years ago. She now sells hand-made jewelry along with oils, skin-care products, clothes, incense and other items through Egyptian Queen Designs at Cook's Flea Market. Elom appreciated the opportunity to show the youngsters that they can go into business for themselves, like her, one day.

"I took a hobby and made it into a career. This gives kids an

idea of what they can do with their lives outside of school and books.

They can use their creativity to build a business and network," said Elom. "I celebrate Kwanzaa all the time. It brings family and community together."

The Kwanzaa celebration on Monday was the first time Meshia Miller had ever participated in the holiday. She said she enjoyed the connectedness that seems to exist among everyone who attended the program.

"This is a new experience for me, and I'm still getting in touch with the principles, but I enjoyed it," said Miller. "Everyone seemed happy and spirited and really getting in touch with their families."

People had the chance to shop the vendors who were on hand after everyone joined hands and gathered in the Umoja (unity) Circle for a prayer.

"Right there (in the circle) we become a family, and we're letting people know that Winston-Salem becomes one family," Piggott said.



File Photo  
The Community Care Center on New Walkertown Road serves people with no health insurance coverage.

# Local agencies get their share of state health grants

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Community Care Center, the Crisis Control Free Pharmacy and the Medical Society Doctors Care were among 20 agencies across the state to be awarded \$7.9 million in grants from N.C. Attorney General Roy Cooper.

The funds come as part of a court-approved settlement with vitamin manufacturers.

Attorneys general from 23 states, including North Carolina, claimed that manufacturers conspired to fix prices and limit supplies of vitamins. A number of vitamin manufacturers, such as BASF Corp., Eisai Co. Ltd. and Aventis Animal Nutrition, denied any wrongdoing but agreed to pay states and companies a total

of \$225,250,000.

North Carolina's settlement has been distributed to nearly 100 community health organizations to support health and nutrition programs. Cooper announced the awards recently during a visit to Community Care Clinic in Salisbury, which has been offering free medical care and medicine to former Pillowtex employees and their families.

"The flu season hit North Carolina early this year, putting even more pressure on local clinics and nonprofits," said Cooper. "For the families who turn to community health programs, this grant is an extra shot in the arm when it is needed most."

The March of Dimes, also a recipient of the multimillion dollar grants, will use \$3 million to support a statewide folic acid campaign to encourage women to use prenatal vitamins. About 200 children are born with neural tube defects each year in North Carolina because their mothers did not get enough folic acid during pregnancy.



Cooper

## ACCU WEATHER Forecast for Winston-Salem

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### LOCAL 7-DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Mostly sunny; warm, nice.	Partly to mostly cloudy.	Drizzle.	Mostly cloudy.	Clearing.	Sun yielding to clouds.	Cloudy; a chance of rain.	Cloudy; a chance of rain.
62	39	58/45	61/50	59/40	60/44	52/30	60/28

### 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	62	44	s	64	50	c	62	50	c	60	44	pc	59	43	c
Boston	48	32	s	45	34	c	48	38	c	50	32	pc	36	21	c
Chicago	44	34	c	48	36	c	38	24	c	32	22	pc	30	14	pc
Cleveland	40	36	pc	48	40	c	52	32	c	34	29	c	34	20	c
Denver	53	26	pc	50	24	pc	40	18	pc	36	16	pc	38	9	c
Des Moines	50	34	pc	50	27	pc	34	17	c	27	15	c	25	6	c
Detroit	42	34	pc	46	36	c	44	26	c	31	24	c	29	16	c
Houston	74	61	c	72	59	pc	74	56	pc	72	53	pc	66	38	c
Indianapolis	47	38	pc	53	43	c	55	37	r	37	26	c	37	20	c
Kansas City	53	37	c	61	35	pc	47	27	c	32	18	c	31	14	c
Los Angeles	62	46	pc	62	48	pc	62	46	pc	62	46	pc	60	48	c
Miami	78	65	pc	79	67	pc	80	67	pc	79	68	pc	79	63	s
Minn.-St. Paul	34	26	c	36	21	c	28	8	pc	18	5	pc	15	-3	c
New Orleans	70	60	c	75	59	pc	73	58	pc	71	55	pc	68	48	c
New York City	47	35	s	44	40	c	53	42	c	52	40	pc	44	33	c
Omaha	48	32	pc	50	25	pc	36	16	c	28	14	pc	26	4	c
Phoenix	68	45	pc	70	46	pc	65	42	pc	65	40	s	64	38	s
San Francisco	56	48	r	56	42	pc	52	44	c	53	43	c	54	39	c
Seattle	36	32	c	38	32	c	40	32	c	38	30	pc	38	28	c
Washington	55	36	s	50	40	c	58	46	c	56	40	pc	45	37	c

### THE NATIONAL SUMMARY

Cold air will sink southward across the West and the northern Plains through the period. Temperatures in the single digits and teens are expected across Montana and the Dakotas. Storms will bring rain to the Southeast and the Middle Atlantic. A strong jet stream will push storms into the Pacific Northwest and over the Great Basin.

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	29	22	sn	36	28	c	35	25	pc	39	30	pc	41	37	c
Berlin	27	20	pc	27	18	sn	28	17	c	30	17	pc	27	23	c
Buenos Aires	78	62	s	84	67	s	91	71	s	94	71	pc	91	72	pc
Cairo	70	49	s	66	44	s	69	54	s	70	46	s	66	45	s
Jerusalem	62	45	s	56	39	s	60	48	s	64	44	s	57	41	s
Johannesburg	79	56	pc	80	60	pc	82	57	pc	81	54	pc	81	56	pc
London	43	31	r	40	35	pc	45	36	pc	50	40	c	48	41	c
Madrid	56	38	r	50	39	pc	54	45	pc	52	40	pc	54	41	c
Mexico City	68	45	pc	72	49	s	74	50	s	73	48	s	73	47	s
Moscow	26	14	sn	25	2	c	4	-6	pc	2	-5	c	5	-3	c
Paris	33	24	sn	34	28	pc	39	29	c	42	31	pc	42	32	pc
Rio de Janeiro	78	63	t	73	60	c	70	61	c	74	64	pc	78	65	c
Rome	51	37	pc	43	35	r	45	37	c	45	31	pc	42	32	pc
San Juan	82	71	pc	82	72	pc	83	71	s	83	72	s	83	71	pc
Seoul	37	20	pc	35	19	pc	32	9	pc	27	10	pc	28	13	s
Sydney	90	68	c	86	65	s	86	70	s	90	74	s	94	71	s
Tokyo	51	40	pc	54	43	pc	52	38	pc	47	27	s	41	29	pc
Toronto	39	24	pc	44	36	c	48	28	c	29	17	c	26	12	c
Winnipeg	16	8	c	14	0	c	4	-12	c	-4	-18	c	-2	-16	c
Zurich	35	27	c	30	25	sn	33	25	pc	34	24	pc	33	30	c

### SUN & MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset
Thu., Jan. 1	7:32 a.m.	5:17 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 2	7:32 a.m.	5:18 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 3	7:32 a.m.	5:18 p.m.
Sun., Jan. 4	7:32 a.m.	5:19 p.m.
Mon., Jan. 5	7:32 a.m.	5:20 p.m.
Tue., Jan. 6	7:32 a.m.	5:21 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 7	7:32 a.m.	5:22 p.m.

  

	Moonrise	Moonset
Thu., Jan. 1	1:19 p.m.	2:08 a.m.
Fri., Jan. 2	1:47 p.m.	3:06 a.m.
Sat., Jan. 3	2:17 p.m.	4:04 a.m.

  

Phase	First	Full	Last	New
	Dec. 30	Jan. 7	Jan. 14	Jan. 21

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