

Randolph gives, gives and gives

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of Wake County. She eventually moved to Charlotte to teach at West Charlotte High School when schools were legally segregated. After 14 years there, Randolph became an administrator as principal of University Park Elementary School.

"I have had the wonderful opportunity of working with students, faculty, administration, and parents and I have loved every bit of it," Randolph said. "My career has made me very happy."

Randolph moved up the administrative ranks, serving as administrative assistant for school operations and associate superintendent before retiring in 1982. Well, sort of.

"She is retired on paper," said Gerson Stroud, a retired teacher who worked with

Randolph professionally and socially. Stroud, whose friendship with Randolph started before they taught together at West Charlotte, said Randolph's schedule is so hectic that she has to carry an appointment book. It's "her second Bible," he says.

"Even in my retirement, I am still connected with the school system in some way," Randolph said. Randolph volunteers to go around and speak with children and she also reads with children. "I'll do anything I can do to help. I think that it is important for me to give what I can give to schools for education because education is my thing."

Randolph has provided a helping hand to her family, paving the way for her younger siblings to go to college. Her accomplishments at

home are as important as the public ones.

"We've always been proud of her, just as family members," Schmoke said. "I'm glad the entire city and county are proud of her, too."

Randolph is still very involved in the community. The list is long - and impressive. She is vice chair of the trustees of the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and a board member of the Museum of the New South and Foundation for the Carolinas. She is on the board of trustees at Queens College, Davidson College, and Shaw. She is on the board of Christian Education at First Baptist Church and former co-chairperson of Friends of Johnson C. Smith University. "I am a professional volun-

teer," she says.

Randolph's home reflects her achievements. Her walls are decorated with numerous awards, including WBT Woman of the Year, Association of Black Women in Higher Education, the U.S. Office of Education and UNC Charlotte.

Now add the Whitney M. Young Jr. Award.

"I am very proud that Elizabeth Randolph is the recipient of this prestigious award because she has worked over and beyond the call of duty for the past 46 years," Stroud said. "Having served for the period of time that she has served and in the capacity that she has served, there is no doubt that she is deserving of this award."

Celebrating Women's History Month is a must for blacks

MELODYE MICERE STEWART

In the spirit of Ma'at



On the occasion of "Women's History Month," In the Spirit of Ma'at will highlight the considerable contributions of African and African American women to world civilization.

Historian and scholar John Henrik Clark writes that, "In Africa, the woman's place was not only with her family; she often ruled nations with unquestionable authority..."

Long before they knew of the existence of Europe, the Africans had produced a way of life where men were secure

enough to let women advance as far as their talent would take them."

The list of talented women of ancient Africa includes the mighty Candaces, a line of African warrior queens, as well as Makeda, Queen of Sheba, whose extraordinary life story is told in the Talmud, the Koran, the Bible and in the legends of Syria, Israel and Ethiopia.

Their stories follow Makare-Hatshepsut, the first queen in history, who ruled Keme Vancient Egypt during the 18th dynasty. Her fierce stance gave her the reputation of a warrior queen, but she was a lover of peace and waged no war abroad. Instead of military campaigns, she concentrated on civic building and organizing successful commercial expeditions.

According to scholar Diedre Wimby, Hatshepsut "created a new science of rulership, the essence of which was the female manifesting male attributes."

Hatshepsut wore traditional male attire, including a beard and insisted upon male reference as the "living Horus" or pharaoh. A controversial visionary, Hatshepsut reined for 13 years with her husband Thutmose II and then for 21 years after his death for a total of 33 years of peaceful rulership.

Peace ended with her rein, but her legacy was cherished, as Hatshepsut reined with courage, beauty, ingenuity and intelligence.

Like Pharaoh Hatshepsut, Queen Nzingha dressed in male attire as she led her troops to battle and preferred

to be addressed as king. Nzingha serves as a near modern-day example of the courage, boldness and determination of African women. Born in 1583, Nzingha relentlessly fought against the Portuguese invasion of Angola and their perpetuation of the enslavement trade of the 1600's.

An astute leader of her country, Queen Nzingha fought the Portuguese most of her adult life and although she did not succeed in expelling them, she is credited with awakening the first stirrings of nationalism in West Central Africa.

It is in the context of powerful and self-actualized African women, one can understand the foundation from which African American warrior women rose and continue to rise.

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UNC lawsuit filed

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"Martin Luther King had it right," Daly said, referring to King's contention that people should be judged by their character, not their color. "I am the rightful heir to Martin Luther King's mantle."

"Why should the government discriminate based on race?"

UNC spokesman D.G. Martin said university officials had not seen the lawsuit. "But we believe the minority presence program is an important effort on our part to continue the efforts to desegregate the university," he said.

Because the grants can go to both black and white students, they are different from other racially directed grants that have been rejected by the federal courts, Martin said.

Everybody is eligible," he said. "It's an effort to open doors, and give all of our students a chance for an equal and diverse education."

The lawsuit was filed by

Daly and seven white students from UNC-Charlotte, Appalachian State University, Western Carolina University and UNC-Asheville. They want the grants stopped, or opened to all students.



The students are represented by Nate Pendley, a Republican attorney running for state Supreme Court.

Daly described the students as "conservative activists. Many of them hold leadership positions in the Republican Party."

In addition to the racial discrimination claim, Daly also contends that the UNC Law School violated his first amendment rights by excluding "those who hold traditional Christian beliefs from favorable consideration for the Alan Berman Memorial Scholarship."

That scholarship, Daly said, is limited to gays and lesbians, or those interested in homosexual rights.

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