

# Dr. King's Movement Still Alive, But Progress And Gains Are Slow

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BY MIKE KEATON  
Special To The CAROLINIAN

It is now 1989. If by some miraculous quirk of fate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. were to return to this house we call America, some 21 years after that fateful day in Memphis, he would not be pleased. The lack of progress exhibited by his people toward those goals he fought so hard and died so young for would dishearten him.

Yes, there have been some positive gains. More African-Americans than ever before can now attend any top learning institution of their choice. The average income per African-American household is significantly higher than 21 years ago, and the number in political office continues to grow across the United States.

But overall, gains have been few and far between, largely because African America since King has not

taken the bull by the horns to determine their own destiny.

In fact, many feel we are still wandering in a mental wilderness as to who we are, why we are, and where we're going.

Like any other household, America is a family. True, it is not the easiest household to be a member of, but nonetheless, it is a collection of different people from different origins, who by virtue of birth or naturalization share one common bond: citizenship!

While most other members of this family have enjoyed this right for dozens of years, African Americans

have really only become acquainted with it during the past 30.

For a country that is but a "youngster" itself this is virtually no time for a people to truly "make themselves at home." Yet, the time has since passed for us to realize what our duties at "home" are.

Duty number one: Clean up after yourself, as a people we must realize once and for all that we are here, it is unlikely that we are going anywhere else, so we better get it together here! "Getting it together" simply means finally realizing where we are and what it takes to survive and succeed here. A stronger cultural identity, a

clearly defined goal and plan to get there with a determined commitment from the majority of African-American people toward those ends. Dr. King wants us to clean up the trash that keeps us stagnant.

Duty number two: Do your chores! That means being fully participatory in and knowledgeable of those issues and concerns that affect your country and ultimately your people. It is virtually impossible for African-American people in America today to isolate themselves from national and international issues. Therefore, we must vote, we must run for elective (See DR. KING, P. 2)



DR. KING HOLIDAY—Activities for Dr. Martin Luther King holiday will be held throughout the week in the area and across the state. For the Official Schedule of Events Call 755-0804.

## NAACP Challenges Cities To Allow Paid King Holiday

While the NAACP is challenging North Carolina cities to allow a paid holiday on Jan. 16 in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, many communities say their opposition is strictly a matter of economics.

"I don't think it's an indication of racial tension or lack thereof one way or the other," said David Wilkinson, city manager of Shelby, which does not observe the holiday.

"I know it is important in the black community, and I respect that," Wilkinson said. "The resistance, especially in smaller towns, involves cost and the feeling that there are already enough holidays for our employees."

Dennis Schatzman, executive director of the North Carolina chapter of the NAACP, said his organization is taking a stand on the holiday because "Martin Luther King's birthday is an issue that should not be questioned."

"You don't have a better person to fight for than Martin Luther King," Schatzman said. "He is a man whose work was recognized by the Nobel Peace Prize Committee, a man of the



SCHATZMAN BLUE

magnitude of Mahatma Gandhi." Last week, Lenoir City Council members also praised King. But they told local NAACP leaders the city can't afford another holiday.

In Lenoir, as in many other Piedmont cities, officials argue that an additional holiday for employees is simply too expensive. They propose giving employees the option of trading another of their holidays for King's birthday.

But Schatzman and other North Carolina black leaders say observing the King holiday is a bellwether of racial attitudes. (See NAACP, P. 2)

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## Jamaican Ring Drug Dealer Convicted

### Facing Cocaine Charges

In the past year, according to law enforcement officials, Jamaican drug "posses" have attempted to take over inner cities with their trade. This past week, the head of a Jamaican-connected cocaine ring and three others were sentenced on drug charges in U.S. District Court.

The alleged local figurehead of the ring, Claudis W. King, a citizen of the West Indies, was sentenced to five years in prison by U.S. District Judge Terrence W. Boyle on a charge of possessing a firearm in relation to a drug felony.

A grand jury indictment described King, 25, as the organizer of the ring that operated in Raleigh during 1987 and 1988. Investigators say he operated out of a house on Dupont Circle. The indictment handed down named 11 persons on drug conspiracy charges.

King had pleaded guilty to a firearm charge in October under a plea bargain arrangement in which the other charges were dismissed, but he still faces cocaine trafficking charges in state court. King moved to Raleigh from New York in 1987, allegedly to distribute cocaine and marijuana, authorities said. He was (See DRUGS, P. 2)



ECONOMIC AGREEMENT—Peter Pestillo, left, vice president, employee and external affairs, Ford Motor Company; Rev. Jesse Jackson, founder Operation PUSH; and William Shack, Jr., chairman, PUSH International Trade Bureau, share the podium to announce a cooperative understanding between Ford and Operation PUSH for minority economic development.

## Child Support System Payments On Increase

Child support payments collected by the state's court system totaled almost \$201.7 million in 1987-88, an increase of 130 percent in the past five years, figures released by the Administrative Office of the Courts show.

The total figure compares with \$90.3 million collected by the courts in 1982-83, the year before a state law went into effect giving clerks of Superior Court a primary role to play in the enforcement of the child support program.

The law and its implementation by court officials are primarily responsible for the rapid acceleration of collections, Franklin Freeman, Jr., director of the AOC, said. Under the law, clerks of Superior Court in the state's 100 counties regularly monitor child support cases and take action when payments become delinquent.

"We're highly pleased with the progress that has been made," Freeman said. "Clerks of court and district court judges across the state can take

pride in the important role they play in making that progress possible."

Under the law, clerks of court send notices of delinquency to individuals who fall 30 days behind in their child support payments. If overdue amounts are not paid within 21 days of receipt of the notices, delinquent (See CHILD SUPPORT, P. 2)

## Parent Group To Help Fathers In Prison System

Planned Parenthood of Greater Raleigh is initiating a parent education program for incarcerated fathers and fathers-to-be at Wake Correctional Center, Connie Domino, community health coordinator, announced last week.

"We are currently working with Lutheran Family Services in planning a comprehensive parent education program for these inmates," Ms. Domino said. "We will focus on (See FLESTIVAL, P. 2)

## Black Colleges And Universities Taking Lead Educating Community

BY KEITH O. HILTON  
Contributing Writer

Most black people are aware of many outstanding colleges, from Hampton to Howard, Morehouse to Meharry, Southern to Shaw.

There are more than 100 strong historically African colleges and universities in these United States.

These colleges and universities have led the movement in educating the black community at home and abroad. In fact, these schools have also educated a large number of white and other non-black students as well.

In 1969, these historically black colleges and universities formed an independent association called NAFEO.

NAFEO, the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, proposed, through the collective efforts of its memberships, "to promote the widest possible sensitivity to the complex factors involved and the educational commitment required to create successful higher education programs for students from groups buffeted by the racism and neglect of the economic, educational and social institutions of America."

NAFEO's four major specific objectives are to serve as a (1) voice for historically black colleges; (2) clearinghouse for information on black colleges; (3) coordinator in black higher education and (4) presidential resource.

What most people don't know is that there has been an increase in numbers in recent years by 13.

The 13 additional predominantly African schools are Atlanta Junior College, Chicago State University, Compton Community College (Calif.), Cuyahoga Community College, Charles R. Drew University (Calif.), Highland Park Community College (Mich.), Kennedy-King College (Ill.), Lewis College of Business (Mich.), Medgar Evers College (Ill.), Roxbury Community College (Mass.), Sojourner-Douglass College (Md.), the University of the Virgin

Islands and Wayne County Community College (Mich.).

There are now 117 NAFEO institutions, consisting of private two- and four-year institutions, as well as

graduate and professional schools located in 14 Southern states, six Northern states, three Midwestern states, one Western state, the District (See COLLEGE, P. 2)



HOUSING PROJECTS—The Raleigh Housing Authority under the direction of Floyd T. Carter receives able support from Patricia T. Christmas with employees. The agency is recognized for its outstanding performances and progressive nature. (Photo by Tall Saba-Calloway)

## Fair Share Groups Toys 'R' Us Strikes Pact

BY CHESTER A. HIGGINS, SR.  
NAPA News Editor

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—The giant national chain store Toys 'R' Us has signed a letter of intent to enter a Fair Share agreement with the Philadelphia Fair Share Committee by Feb. 10. The move caused PFSC to call off its scheduled boycott of Toys 'R' Us stores. PFSC was joined by the NAACP's Fair Share program and Operation PUSH in a national effort. The company agreed to return a fair share of dollars it receives from the African-American consumers in various forms of affirmative action, awarding "senior and executive positions" and other sweeping activities involving blacks with the stores.

Onah Weldon, chair of the committee, said the coalition of major leadership organizations in the Delaware Valley was "effectively canceling our call for a boycott... all pickets will be canceled and all leafletting activities will be stopped." Massive demonstrations were scheduled for before Christmas at the Cedarbrook Mall, Cheltenham Avenue and Easton Road, where pickets were on hand while meetings were going on between Toys 'R' Us officials, PFSC officials said.

In a Philadelphia Tribune story headlined "Toys 'R' Us to meet: Boycott is Suspended," staff writer

Kendall Wilson said PFSC and Toys 'R' Us officials met and jointly hammered out a letter of intent, stating:

"It would serve no purpose to escalate the tension in the African-American community against Toys 'R' Us. We have agreed to negotiate a national Fair Share agreement to demonstrate that Toys 'R' Us values and appreciates the consumer support of the African-American community.

"This comprehensive program will identify specific commitments by Toys 'R' Us to return a fair share of the dollars the company receives from African-American consumers back to the community in the form of enhancing corporate sensitivity and positive community relations, establishing an aggressive affirmative action program (and) placing African-Americans in senior and executive positions."

Other programs, according to the agreement, include the establishing of African-American vending programs and advertising schedules in African-American-owned newspapers, magazines and electronic media; increased use of African-American financial institutions and insurance companies and the development of ethnic representation on the corporate board of directors

Toys 'R' Us spokesman Michael Goldstein, who signed the letter of intent, said, "The situation should not have reached this stage. Basically, it was a breakdown in communications. Most of the key people are away from office headquarters; some, including the chairman, Charles Lazarus, are out of the country."

Weldon said earlier, "The bottom line is Toys 'R' Us is willing to accept our dollars, but give practically nothing back to the black community in terms of meaningful jobs and business opportunities. We were very disturbed when we looked at the company's figures—their sales and profits and could not see where blacks were sharing in any of these profits despite their great input as consumers."

Some committee members told of visiting several stores and being surprised "that many of the black employees were only temporary people... Some have remained temporary for 19 or more years. They work during the peak season, then are laid off... Some have to go on to other jobs to supplement their incomes and take care of their families," said Catherine Godbolt, assistant pastor of Salem Baptist Church, Jenkintown.

Rev. William B. Moore, chairman (See TOYS 'R' US, P. 2)