



quet, which honors students who exemplify positive human relations in their dealings with others on such issues as anti-bullying, race relations, religion, disabilities, and cultural differences.

This year's speakers included Mayor Allen Joines, Mayor Pro Tempore/Northeast Council Member Vivian H. Burke, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools Board of Education Chair Dana Caudill-Jones, and Schools Superintendent Beverly Emory. The keynote speaker at this year's banquet was Brad Craddock of Glenn High School, the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools' Principal of the Year.

2nd Annual MLK Helping Hands Day

Almost 200 city employees participated in the city's



second Martin Luther King Jr. Helping Hands Day on Friday, Jan. 13, by spending part of their work day volunteering at local non-profit organizations.

City volunteers worked at their respective sites from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. said Wanda Allen-Abraha, the city's human relations director and who is coordinating Helping Hands Day. "We are very grateful to the City Council for supporting this initiative," Allen-Abraha said. "Since 1985, when Winston-Salem was among the first cities in North Carolina to designate

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day a holiday, our elected officials have always promoted city participation in honoring Dr. King's legacy, and this is just the latest example.

"We are especially excited that Helping Hands Day exemplifies the cooperative diversity that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. advocated. It is reflected both in the diversity of the organizations where city employees will be serving, and in the diversity of the employees who have stepped forward to volunteer" Allen-Abraha said.

Human Relations Sponsors 14th Annual March for Homeless Children

The Human Relations Department sponsored its 14th Annual March for Homeless Children as part of the Winston-Salem Holiday Parade on Saturday evening, December 3rd.

"Each year, the march raises awareness for the plight of homeless children," said Wanda Allen-Abraha, the Human Relations Director. "Homelessness does not just affect adults. Anytime a parent loses a home, their children are homeless, too."

We had a great group of youth join us from the Youth Advisory Council, the College Advisory Board, and the community at-large. We were excited to be followed by the H.O.P.E (Helping Our People Eat) truck.



Commissioners Corner



Winston-Salem has been my home for over nine years now and I am proud to be an active citizen of such an amazing city. As a Human Relations Commissioner, I have the ability to serve as an agent of change and can give a voice to the men, women, and children of my community. I have been with the commission since February 2014 and have been enlightened in so many wonderful ways.

Engaging with local students, business owners, and immigrants has given me a renewed appreciation for all the great things the City of Winston-Salem has to offer. As the new Chairman of the Human Relations Commission, I will make it a priority to advocate on matters that impact all members of the community. I am in awe at how individuals in the public domain are committed toward helping others and in choosing to live the ideals of good citizenship. The spirit of hope, goodwill, and camaraderie is truly inspiring and I look forward to continue engaging with all members of the City of Winston-Salem.

To conclude, I am proud to be part of a city that has a wonderful mix of cultures, charitable initiatives, and that serves as a model of good human relations. (En fin, me siento muy orgulloso de ser parte de una ciudad que tiene una hermosa mezcla de culturas, iniciativas benéficas, y que sirve como un ejemplo de buenas relaciones humanas.)



Winston-Salem

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City Council

Mayor: Allen Joines; Vivian H. Burke, Mayor Pro Tempore, Northeast Ward; Denise D. Adams, North Ward; Dan Besse, Southwest Ward; Robert C. Clark, West Ward; John Larson, South Ward; Jeff MacIntosh, Northwest Ward; Derwin L. Montgomery, East Ward; James Taylor, Jr., Southeast Ward; City Manager: Lee D. Garrity

Human Relations Commission

Chair: Eusebio Velez, Vice-Chair: Michael Clinton, Jeffrey Bloomfield, Joana DeBo, Sylvia Durant, Jeffrey Griffin, Sonny Haynes, Robert Leak III, Ruth Sartin, Barbara Saulpaugh, Manjunath Shamanna, Sita Somara, Kerry Wiggins

Human Relations Department Staff

Wanda Allen-Abraha, JD, Human Relations Department Director; Tonya McPhatter, Admin. Asst./Intake; Jayme Waldeck, Specialist/Outreach; Adolfo Briceño, Specialist/Hispanic Outreach; Jelani Biggs, Specialist