

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Name change shouldn't become racial issue APRIL 29, 2004

Permit me please to plead with you not to allow the proposal to change the name of Airport Road to become a racial issue. It is definitely not a racial issue though racial overtones were brought into comments being made at the April 19th Public Forum to Consider the Renaming of Airport Road to Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard

It was disappointing to me to hear that and I felt as though I was going backward in time to when I so diligently worked toward integrating our community. It was for my efforts that I was presented "The Martin Luther King Jr. Citizenship Award" for community service to humanity by word and deed, for which I am grateful. It is hanging on my wall and I am very proud of it.

Regretfully (the newspaper) selected remarks made at the meeting about race as newsworthy! One statement was enlarged and boxed into a two column wide square. That is most unfortunate!

Another speaker said that candidates for the last election had been contacted, prior to the election, and asked to agree to support the change of the name of Airport Road. Three of the committee members appointed by Mayor Foy to the Naming Committee were elected. The fourth member was already serving on the Town Council. That also seems unfortunate to me.

Please note then that the NAACP has been working on the proposal for some time and citizens preferring that the road change not be made are just beginning. Let me urge you to express your opinions to the town manager requesting that he give your messages to the elected officials.

Please write letters to the editor, to the Town Manager, call elected officials, broadcast commentaries on WCHL and attend the "Continued Public Hearing" scheduled for May 24th at 7 p.m. On the 19th the matter was referred to the Naming Committee again and their report will be submitted prior to the May 24th meeting. Your opinions must be submitted before the meeting also

Claudia Cannady Chapel Hill

To: Rev. Pike Dear Jin

5.13/01

I am very disappointed to learn that a "racial committee" within Binkley her chosen to make the projussion to change the name of hispart Road a racial issue within the church! The statement in the bullowin and your statement from the sulpit does not represent my view now the view of many in my Binkley triands, Thembers of that committee can only speak for thempselved not for AII Members. That is not inappropriette.

COMMENTARY ON WCHL RADIO - MAY 21, 2004

Charles B. Carver

Our mayor and council members would do well to reconsider the proposal to rename Airport Road for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. There isn't anything unique or honorable about having another road named for Dr. King. According to information compiled by Town Staff for The Council Naming Committee there were already at least 650 throughout our United States as of November 4, 2003.

Why can't we all use our energy, ingenuity and influence to create interest in, and raise funds for, a statue of Dr. King? Or select a building worthy of bearing his name? Creating ill will and incurring wrath among citizens doesn't honor Dr King. To the contrary, it would disturb him greatly. We could pay real tribute to him by becoming a colorblind society as he encouraged us to do. Working TOGETHER to recognize him would be a true memorial.

I personally think it is wrong to even consider renaming Airport Road for ANYONE. To make a change would create a great deal of inconvenience and expense for the businesses and homeowners along the road. Many citizens would be very unhappy. That road has been a big part of my life and very much a part of the history of Chapel Hill.

CAN'T WE JUST KEEP IT THAT WAY?



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

APRIL 27, 2004

Renaming proposal needs discussion

I attended the public hearing on the proposal to change the name of Airport Road to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. If you live on Airport Road and didn't attend the meeting, perhaps it's because you weren't aware there was such a proposal, as the council seems to have done a good job of not publicizing the issue.

Some Airport Road residents and business owners spoke in opposition, giving as their reasons the costs involved both to the town (read taxpayers) and to the individuals and businesses, and also the historical significance of the Airport Road name.

Following this, Fred Battle was the first person to speak in favor of the change. It was unfortunate he was first because I was so disturbed by Mr. Battle's hateful harangue I really wasn't listening well when others spoke. I know other speakers gave passionate, well thoughtout remarks only because I obtained a taped copy of the meeting and listened again later.

There may be some merit to this proposal, and the committee charged with researching possible alternatives may have actually done a good job, but at this point there is no way of knowing because none of the details of what the committee did was made public. When asked they gave assurances they considered alternatives and had valid reasons for eliminating them, but very few of those reasons were articulated.

There are alternatives the committee says they considered as well as some suggested by citizens that would provide the same "major thoroughfare" exposure that is desired while causing much less disruption and expense.

The matter was tabled until May 24. In the meantime I hope more citizens will make themselves aware of what has been done so far and inform the council of their own opinions. Those who live and own businesses on Airport Road especially need to make their voices heard.

The fact the council is only now making sure those citizens who will be most affected by any change are aware of the proposal gives the appearance of an attempt to make major changes in the town with no consideration of whether or not the citizens approve of the change.

As for you, Mr. Battle, your comments did nothing to honor Dr. King and may well have hardened the hearts of those you opposed. The only racially biased remarks I heard came from you and I think that is really sad.

Jan Cosby, Chapel Hill

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

■ The Chapel Hill News

No need for King road

Every other town in the country has a Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. I do not see the need, or expense, of changing the name of Airport Road.

We can respect each other on any street in town or county with a smile. If it's returned by the other, what a brighter day it will be.

> Kathy Jorgensen Chapel Hill

Chapel Herald

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Regretfully [the newspaper] selected remarks made at the meeting about race as newsworthy! One statement was enlarged and boxed into a two column wide square. That is most unfortunate!

Another speaker said that candidates for the last election had been contacted, prior to the election, and asked to agree to support the change of the name of Airport Road. Three of the committee members appointed by Mayor Foy to the Naming Committee were elected. The fourth member was already serving on the Town Council. That also seems unfortunate to me.

Please note then that the NAACP has been working on the proposal for some time and citizens preferring that the road change not be made are just beginning. Let me urge you to express your opinions to the town manager requesting that he give your messages to the elected officials.

Please write letters to the editor, to the Town Manager, call elected officials, broadcast commentaries on WCHL and attend the "Continued Public Hearing" scheduled for May 24th at 7 p.m. On the 19th the matter was referred to the Naming Committee again and their report will be submitted prior to the May 24th meeting. Your opinions must be submitted before the meeting also.

Claudia Cannady Chapel Hill

Thursday

April 29, 2004

THE CHAPEL HILL HERALD

Town can do better for King
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a truly great
American, worthy of honor and respect from all
of us. As the Town Council debates the renaming of Airport Road, they should ask themselves if Dr. King really needs another street named after him.

There must be 50,000 such streets across the country, and adding yet another one seems like a small honor indeed. Surely we can do better.

Peter Aitken Chapel Hill

...SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2004

THE CHAPEL HILL HERALD

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't change road name
Although I've lived in Carrboro now for quite a few years, I was born and raised in what is now Chapel Hill. I lived near Airport Road, and my grandparents owned land, farmed, lived and died along this same road. I still have relatives and friends with an Airport Road address.

I can remember visiting Charlie "Choo Choo" Justice when he attended UNC and lived on Airport Road. I've snow sledded from Rosemary Street to the old "Steel Bridge," which used to span Bolin Creek near the now-Chapel Hill Police Department building.

I've rushed to see several plane crashes along Airport Road in years past, watched ROTC cadets march up and down this road, carried my children and grandchildren to visit the airport, and also have memories of delivering mail to residents of Airport Road when I worked for the Postal Service. If the use of the name "Airport Road" seems overused in this letter, it's intended.

Whether the airport remains at its present location or not, I will still hold fond memories of it being there, and would find it sad and difficult to know this road by any other name. I have some suggestions for a road honoring Martin Luther King Jr., which I'm sure are not original. I recall reading that someone suggested renaming South Road. This sounds OK to me, especially since it runs east to west.

Also, renaming the 15/501/54 bypasses might satisfy the evident need expressed by some Chapel Hill and Carrboro town leaders to name another street in honor of Dr. King.

Another idea is to leave the current Martin Luther King Jr, street as-is, and hundreds of people and businesses won't have to change their address, order new stationery and office supplies, or notify their many correspondents and business contacts.

> Devan Clark Carrboro

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Chapel Hill Herald

Find other ways to honor King besides Airport Road After attending the April 19, 2004 public

After attending the April 19, 2004 public forum on the renaming of Airport Road I was very discouraged.

I have lived in Chapel Hill most of my life.

Living on Airport Road for about 40 years has made me aware of its importance to the community. My home now is still on Airport Road. My children grew up on it, and now own property on Airport Road. The road has been here a long time and it is part of Chapel Hill's histo-

I would like for the elected people to consider another way of honoring Dr. King. It would be a lot better to have a new building named for him, or a statue of him, or another street.

TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2004

Faye Stinson Chapel Hill

■ The Chapel Hill News Sunday, May 9, 2004

Find another way to honor King

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> Faye C. Stinson Chapel Hill

___Sunday, May 16, 2004 __

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Claudia C. Cannady Chapel Hill

The Chapel Hill News

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Find another way to honor King

I have nothing but the greatest respect for Martin Luther King Jr. I feel, however, that renaming Airport Road in his honor is not the appropriate way to honor his memory.

I think naming the new high school after him would be far more in keeping with his legger and something he

ing with his legacy and something he would prefer, if given the choice.

We should try to keep what remains of the old Chapel Hill. There is so little left.

Please find some other way of recognizing this great American.

> Joe Patterson Chapel Hill

Citizens In Favor of Airport Road

My name is Dave Walker. Airport Rd. has been my home for thirty eight years. It has been a large part of my life. I have raised four children at that address who are now scattered throughout the U.S.A. They all relate to the name Airport Rd. This is one of the reasons I am opposed to changing the name to anything other then Airport Rd.

On April 19th, I attended the town council meeting regarding changing the name of Airport Rd. I spoke to the council and asked them to give me one good reason to change the name and to this date the only reason I have heard is because "We think it should be changed" and nothing else but that we think it should be changed to honor Dr. King.

While I have no objection to doing something to honor Dr. King. I can think of many reasons not to change the name.

First is the time and the inconvenience imposed on 600 people who live and operate a business on Airport Rd. Council woman Edith Wiggins stated that the inconvenience is minor compared to the good it would do. She will not be involved with making the changes we will have to do. And I do not think she gave it much thought before making her recomendations. Some of the things involved are going to the post office and changing our address, going to the bank and changing our checks, calling the credit card company, calling our insurance co. to notify them to change the address on our insurance policies so that if we have a claim there will not be a legal problem, contacting our attorney to have the legal description on our deeds corrected and pay them \$125 dollars per hour to do so, notifying social security and medicare of the change, notifying our supplemental insurance co. of the change, notifying the motor vehicle bureau to change our auto license, we then have to go to the driver licensing bureau and stand in line and pay them to change our drivers license, we will have to change all our calling cards and stationary, and we must notify all our creditors from phone to gas to satellite companies to electricity to newspaper etc.

The second thing is the expense of the change. There are twenty street signs on pipe poles and ten large street signs on power poles that will have to be changed. Council woman Wiggins stated that the cost would be minimal. The estimate they gave for the cost of the signs on Airport Rd. was \$16,700. This does not include changing the signs

on the existing Martin Luther King Rd. You can add another \$5,000 for the expenses. Then council woman Greene stated they were going to have the large signs on 1-40 changed to reflect the name change. These signs are very large and very expensive. Add another \$10,000 to the cost.

I was a business man in Chapel Hill for thirty years and I know from experience if the materials cost a certain amount the labor cost is almost equal. Therefore we would have a cost of around \$60,000. of tax payers money just for these items. Then we have the cost in town hall to make the changes to all town maps and plats showing Airport Rd, all records pertaining to Airport Rd. in the various departments will need to be changed. This will require many hours of paid help to accomplish. I could go on and on but I think you get the message that the changing of an existing street name is no small project. It costs many hours of work and many tax payers dollars.

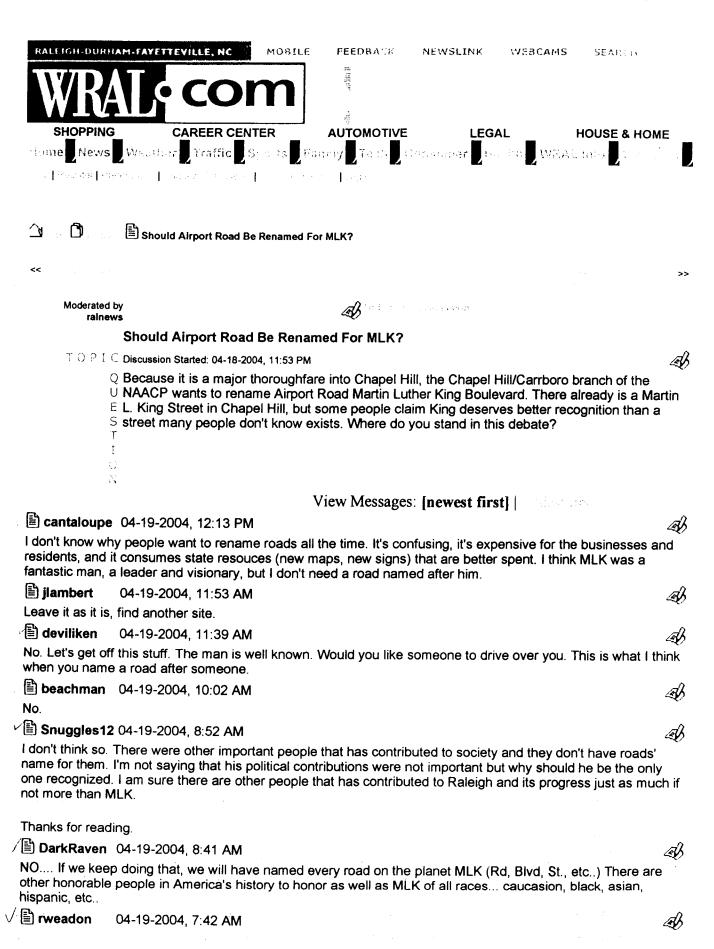
What also disturbed me was, the next day in the Chapel Hill newspaper the town manager said we need to raise taxes again because the town needs more money. If the town council spends all our tax money in this reckless manner it is no wonder they need more. I wish they would think about the residents who are retired and on a fixed income.

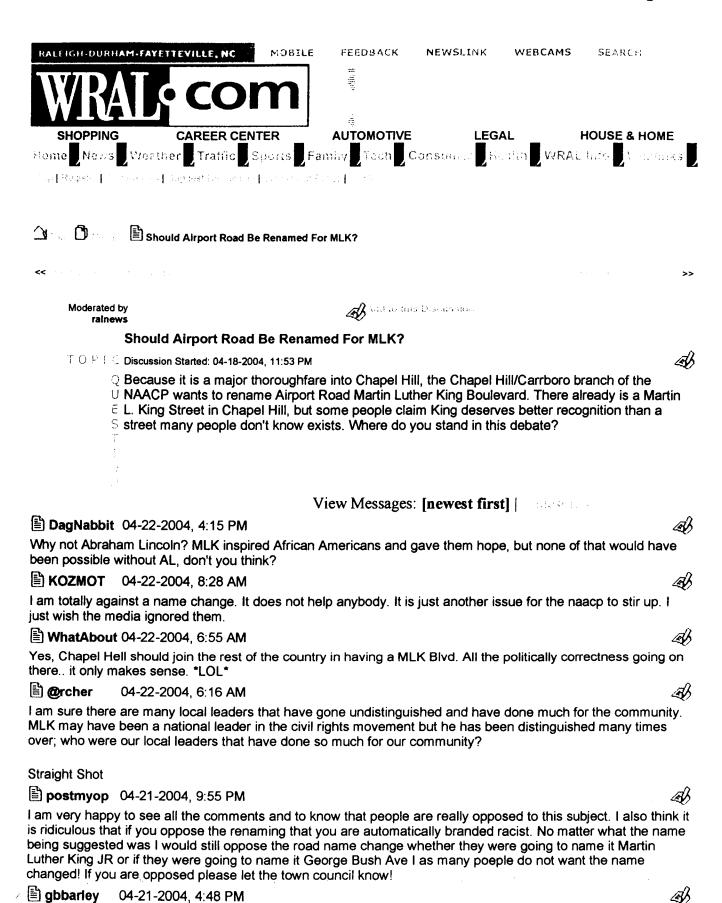
I am not against having a monument for Dr. King but I can think of several ways to do this and be less expensive and no impact on 600 to 800 businesses and residences.

We are building new schools for our Chapel Hill students and naming one after Dr. King would certainly be appropriate. We have a beautiful library in Chapel Hill where both black and white go to further their knowledge that would make a great monument. We have a new and beautiful Homestead Park where children and adults of all races go to play soccer, baseball and soft ball, walk the trails, and have picnics under the trees.

Is this not more in keeping with the vision of Dr. King rather than a street that does nothing more than assist going from point A to point B and adds to our air pollution.

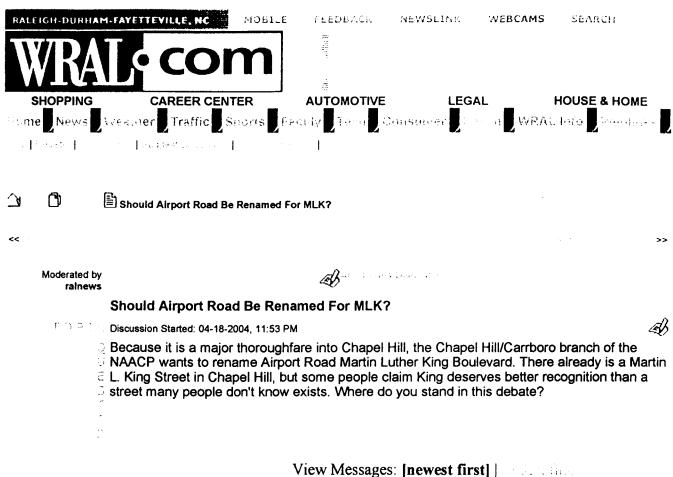
I sincerely hope that when the council meets to discuss this agenda they will give it full thought and consider the feelings and concerns of the many and not just the few who are advocating the change most of who do not live in the town of Chapel Hill.





Heck No !!! Why doesnt the NAACP stick there nose where the sun doesnt shine

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Garnet57

04-26-2004, 11:27 PM

Why name a road that name (MLK,Jr) when there are soooooo many roads named after him already? And I agree with the person who said what good will it do to name a road after MLK when there is racism all around us that we have to see each and every day? What good will that do? People need to stop the hate, and love one another, before it's too late. Forget naming a road. Enough already.

antaloupe 04-26-2004, 2:42 PM



calloway, can you point out specific racist comments that the writer isn't recognizing as racist? Or conversely, can you give us an example of how someone can oppose renaming airport road without being a racist? your comments should be supported by examples, especially when you've asserted that the "writer(s) don't even recognize that their comments are racist." I just think that the kind of broad generalizations you've made should be supported by more than just your words. How are the rest of us to know what others might perceive as racist if someone doesn't point it out specifically?

li scalloway 04-26-2004, 10:46 AM



While I don't have an opinion on the name change per se, I do have an opinion on some of the comments. They only show that we have taken 36 steps BACKWARDS since MLK's death (at least one per year since his death). I am saddened by the blatant racism in those comments. The sad thing is that it does not appear that the writers REALIZE that they are in fact being racist. Is that better or worse than 36 years ago when racist people usually MEANT to be racist? I don't know. Either way, whether or not the name is changed, our society has gotten worse, not better. What's the point in changing a name if our attitudes have gotten worse? It seems meaningless to me.

Shadrack 04-26-2004, 10:17 AM



Disagreeing that Airport Road being renamed MLK Boulevard should not be a way to "root out" bigots and evildoers. It is as though we in America have to conform to some liberal agenda in order to be "open-minded" and intelligent. Cannot the liberals see that others can disagree with their way of thinking and actually NOT be some hate-filled-redneck? Personally, these political litmus tests are getting old. People ought to spend much more time harping about being personally responsible and less about how others should feel about issues. No one

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so long and has a history behind it?? The costs involved for businesses and residents will be high and also like nother person said in their post it will not only cost the people but the city and the state since it is a Major roadway into Chapel Hill.

gregorytor 04-19-2004, 3:21 PM

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Airport Road is a traditional institution. To change it's name to ANYTHING else is wrong. But I fear if the council doesn't change it to MLK, then they'll be labeled as not sensitive to his cause. MLK is certainly worthy of all honor. So, allow a new prominant road to bear his name. There should be lots of options for that given all the growth UNC will be doing in the northern part of CH in the future. Keep it Airport Road!

√🖺 patzilla

04-19-2004, 1:51 PM

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Absolutely not! Why not find a more meaningful memorial to Dr. King. This is a useless venture that is very expensive to those who live along the road and have to change addresses, business cards etc. etc. Erect a memorial plaque in a park area with his words on them so parents can take their children, read the words and discuss what they really mean. Establish a scholarship in peaceful change. There are many more meaningful memorials than street naming.

E JERRY 41 04-19-2004, 1:39 PM



No. Airport Road at least suggest where it leads. Nearly every town in America has a MLK something. Next thing the NAACP will want to do is change the name of Baghdad Blvd., or the name of the path to the moon. Mr. King has been sufficiently honored but enough is enough.

atpower70 04-19-2004, 1:02 PM



No,I think it about time for us to let mlk die and rest in peace.

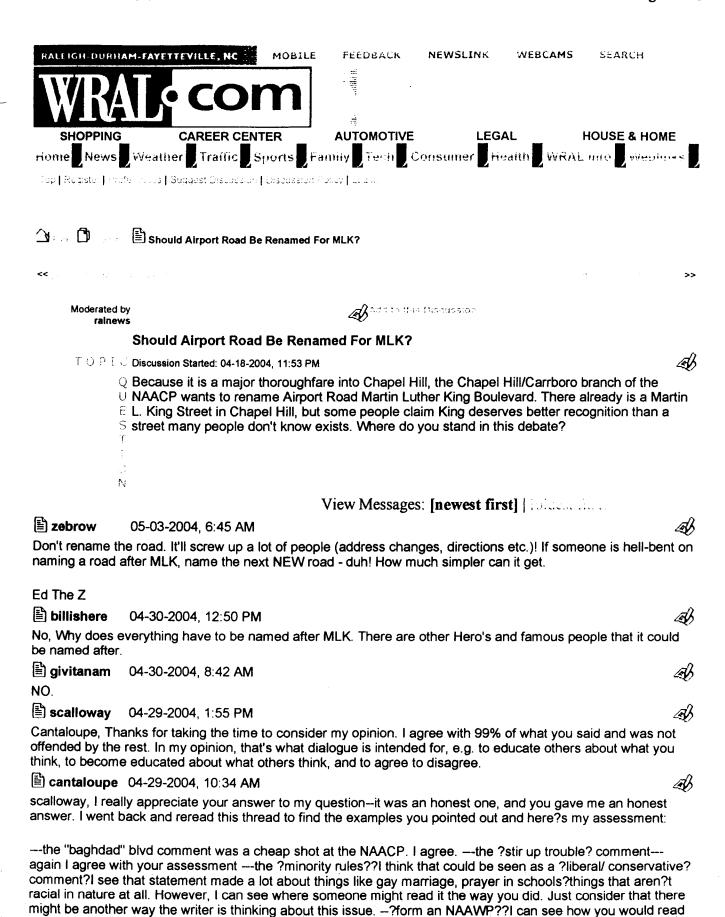
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that the way you did. However, there is a school of thought that organizations based on race, gender, or sexual

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and Leave had

There were SO many people that helped change the Civil Rights movement from a trickle to a wave across the country. MLK was the figurehead, the minister who could rally a crowd with words. But how about naming it to honor someone who was in the trenches of the fight against segregation?!! Ella Baker, Stokeley Carmichael, Julian Bond, etc. Put a plaque on either end of the road, and let people learn about more than "I have a dream", let people learn about actions taken, actions that were the real engine of change prior during and after the 1960s.

Racism will never be erased while ignorance is rampant, while Hollywood and TV spur devisive views just to make a profit, while misinformation and hate spread like wild fire across our new collective conscience, the internet.

This country has a scarred and imperfect past, and will never be a utopia of racial harmony. But we can each take the time to open our hearts and minds to people on a daily basis. Some will respond positively, some otherwise. We're not talking about the internet, but actual real world contact and communications!! It becomes far to easy for the closed and clouded mind to hide behind text on a screen, just as talking heads hide behind phospher dots on the TV

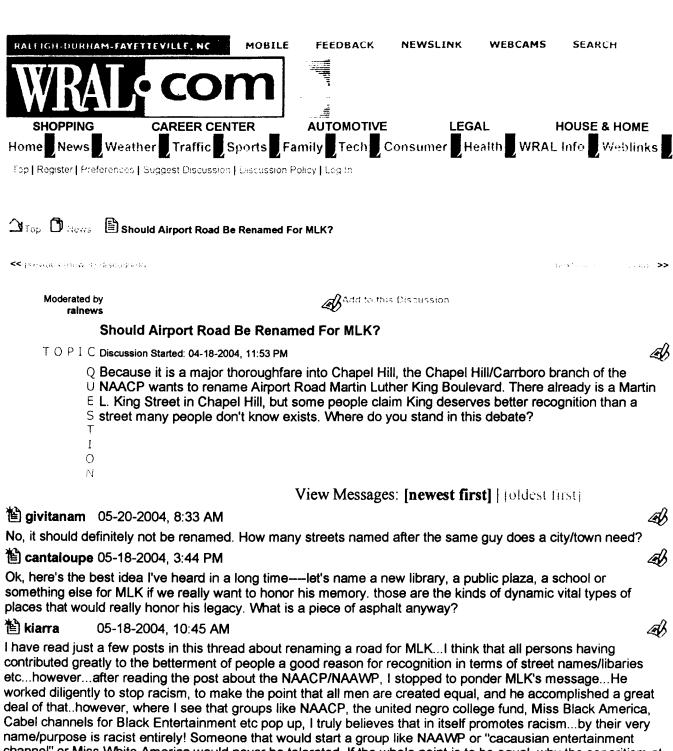
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I have read just a few posts in this thread about renaming a road for MLK...I think that all persons having contributed greatly to the betterment of people a good reason for recognition in terms of street names/libaries etc...however...after reading the post about the NAACP/NAAWP, I stopped to ponder MLK's message...He worked diligently to stop racism, to make the point that all men are created equal, and he accomplished a great deal of that..however, where I see that groups like NAACP, the united negro college fund, Miss Black America, Cabel channels for Black Entertainment etc pop up, I truly believes that in itself promotes racism...by their very name/purpose is racist entirely! Someone that would start a group like NAAWP or "cacausian entertainment channel" or Miss White America would never be tolerated. If the whole point is to be equal, why the separitism at all??? I attended my daughters 8th grade graduation a few years back and was astounded to hear a speaker get up and offer a scholarship of \$100 for a black student only! I have to admit that that portion of the ceremonies enraged me. I cannot even fathom someone getting permission to stand up and donate a scholarship for a white only student! Does it not seem racist? It sure did to me! I have even seen a "black only yellow pages"! the schools here are equal in race, (at least where I am) and yet I continue to hear that black children are offered substandard education...it is the same education offered to the caucasian children! Why does there have to continue to be a race war? Groups like mentioned above, coupled with angry people, instead promote racism. Many groups of people have withstood racism from the beginning of time, not only blacks were slaves, jews were slaves long before that...does that make it right? heck no! Lets work to stop segregation and separitism, and see people for who they are, what they do, and not for their color, religion or nationality. Its about time!, Then someone like MLK's dream will become reality instead of a dream.

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should have their arm twisted or bullied by the liberal nightstick and made to feel a particular way about an issue We've got plenty of diversity and equal rights and level playing fields and sensitivity for God's sake! Why don't we all drop the silliness and get to work actually PRODUCING something for this country besides division.

schaf006 04-23-2004, 11:27 PM

Martin Luther King is rightfully honored as a leading figure in the civil rights movement. He led many marches. surrounded by thousands of his followers. Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus, and she was alone. To my way of thinking, she was the greatest hero of the civil rights movement.

🖹 ap1010 04-23-2004, 3:27 PM

Under no circumstances should the Airport be named after MLK. There are so many other people who have directly contributed to our state, maybe even born here, lived here all their lives that would better represent the entire population.

当 smartmom39 04-23-2004, 9:49 AM

I am an woman of mixed race, african-american and white, while I do not believe Airport Blvd. should not have a name change, I am very sad at the threads that I have read. Some of you have made the statement that you are not biggoted just because you don't want MLK, while I would like to believe that, some of the comments I have read sound so prejudice. It's awful. I don't want the name changed one it is a waste of tax payers dollars and two it would just confuse me! (ha-ha) But, if I could touch ONE person in here, it is not your opinion of not wanting it changed it is the way you have expressed why you don't want it changed. Someone also made the comment where are the AL Blvds and George Washington, etc... please tell me you have seen these streets? If not, you haven't left the town you live in! I am from California, all our streets are spanish names, (not all), hard to pronounce, read and follow, but we have a George Washington, same as Nevada, and other states I have been in. Leave your town, travel, get a map look up presidents street names, you will find them. Let's not mention Ted Williams Pkwy. or other famous sports players or coaches that have their own names on buildings and other things, we as african-americans (that is what i mark on my applications), aren't even asked an opinion. We should be thankful people ask what we feel about things, in some countries, they don't have that luxury. There are far more other important things to think about than whether MLK should get another name on a street. He is well deserving of whatever becomes of his name, but as far as tax money spent, leave it alone.

rsmathers8 04-23-2004, 9:31 AM

I think MLK already has a lot of recognition in the Triangle area. There are several major roads bearing his name.

I'm perfectly okay with the road's name being changed to honor a minority or Civil Rights leader, but isn't there anyone else who deserves recognition?

How about "Rosa Parks Blvd" for example.

aloc211 04-22-2004, 11:24 PM

TO:dredwolff, I see we still have a long way to go in this country. Just think it was only 40 years ago the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was passed. I?m a Law Student At Duke Univ., and I?m trained to scrutinize everything. We are still divided as a nation. We are not educated as a nation. If we where we would know that even Abraham Lincoln used blacks for political expediency. We vote for two parties that do represent the minority in this country. That minority is the wealthy.

Antonio L Merrick

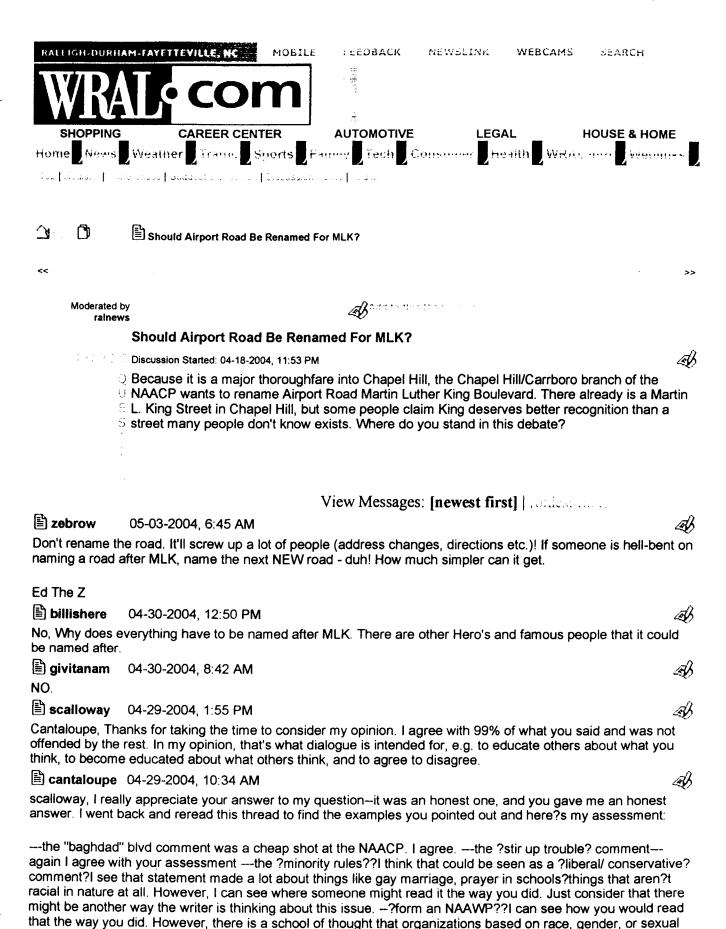
🖹 dixiechick29 04-22-2004, 11:20 PM

Βļ OK, I think MLK has gotten enough attention, he has a road named after him in every single city! Why can't the NAACP fight for the name of the road being changed to Bill Clinton Blvd? I mean come on people, the NAACP is going a little overboard on this issue. Give em an inch and they want a dang mile. I agree with the previous post that the NAACP is just stirring up more issues. Somebody should found the NAAWP for the white people and fight for the names of roads being changed to Robert E. Lee Drive. That's what I think.

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orientation segregate people and promote the very thing they are trying to fight and make race, gender, or sexual orientation mean more than it really should. I?m not saying I personally agree with this train of thought, but that discussion does not necessarily a racist make. In fact, there are some prominent black people (generally conservative thinkers) who believe that the NAACP actually props up discrimination against blacks. I do agree however, that the poster was being very hostile and it bothers me too. ---?name the road after Lincoln?---if you read that post carefully, the person is suggesting this name because of his/her understanding that Lincoln helped black people. How is that racist? I hear you loud and clear that you believe Lincoln really shouldn?t be honored. but the poster?s comment is better seen as ignorance of the information you brought up and an educational opportunity, not as an example of racism. I don't think in this context, given the other stuff that person said, that this was either intentionally or unintentionally a racist statement. ---?it will cost too much? ---here?s where I disagree most strongly with your opinion---the leap you have made in your thinking to make this a racist comment is in my opinion unwarranted. It completely closes the door to any dialogue. For example, I am totally opposed to renaming the road at all because I don?t think it?s warranted. However, I am totally open to naming a new road, or naming a new building to honor someone who has made a big contribution to civil rights and justice, be it MLK or someone else. Our financial resources are limited, and I want to see them used to provide for needs in the community, and I don?t think that renaming a road is high up on the list of needs.

Thank you scalloway because you did help me see some things I hadn?t before. I hope my comments will do the same for you.

fuddyduddy 04-29-2004, 5:31 AM

B

I agree. Let's keep it local. There are already enough MLK this and MLK that around. How about the Wright Brothers Memorial Road since it is for the "airport". That would make more sense than MLK blvd/road since MLK had "NOTHING" to do with the airport or air travel.

schaf006 04-29

04-29-2004, 12:37 AM

AB

To my friend Prinzowale- what an excellent idea! I salute you!

prinzowale 04-28-2004, 11:23 AM



Why not honor a local person of note? Its a shame that people must always look to the same few people of note on the national scene instead of people and things in their own locales...Another alternative would be to designate it a '_____ Memorial Road' and fill in the blank with a battle in which North Carolinians or local units of the Guard served the nation?

regards, prinzowale

scalloway 04-27-2004, 2:07 PM



First of all, let me clarify, I DO NOT think that everyone is against renaming the street is a racist, nor have I a strong opinion one way or another.

I believe I should clarify which comments I personally (as a minority) found offensive or racist: -comment suggesting that someone found NAAWP for white people- (NAACP like it or love it has been an invaluable vehicle for fighting for rights of black people when it is politically incorrect or unpopular to do so.) -comment suggesting naming the street after Abraham Lincoln (Blacks have been taught early on in secondary schools that Abraham Lincoln was a savior to blacks and freed them because of some humanitarian belief. However, his papers tell us that he regularly used the "N" word to describe the slaves and could care less about slaves as humans, but rather cared about what was necessary to save the union. Anyone who thinks that naming a street after Lincoln somehow isn't a smack in the face to blacks is either ill-informed or racist.) -comment that this is another issue for NAACP to stir up trouble (I'm sure that nearly any issue they have brought up in the past on behalf of people of color, SOMEONE thought was merely stirring up trouble, e.g. the rights of blacks to vote, the rights of blacks to go to white schools, etc... It's never been a troubleLESS venture for NAACP to defend rights of blacks.) -comment that "minority rules" in this country (Came across to me as an opinion that minorities always get what they want and the majority [whites?] always have to take a side seat for the benefit of blacks. Perhaps I misread this one, but that's how it came across.) -comment inquiring about why we should we as taxpayers go to the expense and what's the point (It seems to never been worth the expense to do something to honor a black person.) -comment that the next hing you know, NAACP will want to change it to Baghdad Blvd (Knowing about all of the political controversy about Iraq unfair to juxtapose black issues with Iraq. Futhermore, unfair to Arab Americans to make that statement.)

chicoflaco 04-27-2004, 9:27 AM



There were SO many people that helped change the Civil Rights movement from a trickle to a wave across the country. MLK was the figurehead, the minister who could rally a crowd with words. But how about naming it to honor someone who was in the trenches of the fight against segregation?!! Ella Baker, Stokeley Carmichael, Julian Bond, etc. Put a plaque on either end of the road, and let people learn about more than "I have a dream", let people learn about actions taken, actions that were the real engine of change prior during and after the 1960s.

Racism will never be erased while ignorance is rampant, while Hollywood and TV spur devisive views just to make a profit, while misinformation and hate spread like wild fire across our new collective conscience, the internet.

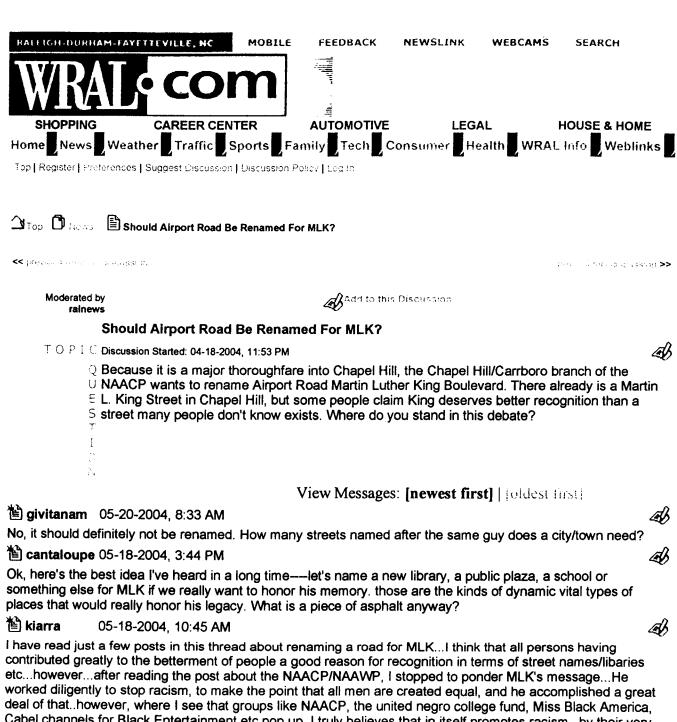
This country has a scarred and imperfect past, and will never be a utopia of racial harmony. But we can each take the time to open our hearts and minds to people on a daily basis. Some will respond positively, some otherwise. We're not talking about the internet, but actual real world contact and communications!! It becomes far to easy for the closed and clouded mind to hide behind text on a screen, just as talking heads hide behind phospher dots on the TV

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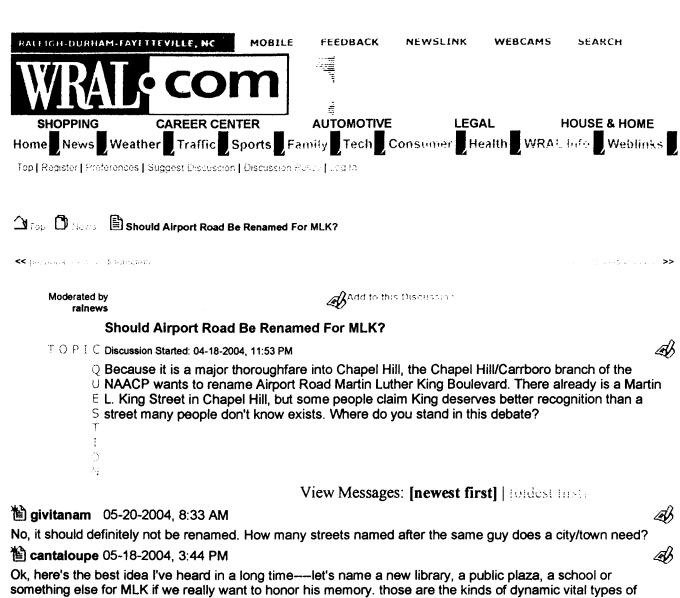
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I have read just a few posts in this thread about renaming a road for MLK...I think that all persons having contributed greatly to the betterment of people a good reason for recognition in terms of street names/libaries etc...however...after reading the post about the NAACP/NAAWP, I stopped to ponder MLK's message...He worked diligently to stop racism, to make the point that all men are created equal, and he accomplished a great deal of that...however, where I see that groups like NAACP, the united negro college fund, Miss Black America, Cabel channels for Black Entertainment etc pop up, I truly believes that in itself promotes racism...by their very name/purpose is racist entirely! Someone that would start a group like NAAWP or "cacausian entertainment channel" or Miss White America would never be tolerated. If the whole point is to be equal, why the separitism at all??? I attended my daughters 8th grade graduation a few years back and was astounded to hear a speaker get up and offer a scholarship of \$100 for a black student only! I have to admit that that portion of the ceremonies enraged me. I cannot even fathom someone getting permission to stand up and donate a scholarship for a white only student! Does it not seem racist? It sure did to me! I have even seen a "black only yellow pages"! the schools here are equal in race, (at least where I am) and yet I continue to hear that black children are offered substandard education...it is the same education offered to the caucasian children! Why does there have to continue to be a race war? Groups like mentioned above, coupled with angry people, instead promote racism. Many groups of people have withstood racism from the beginning of time, not only blacks were slaves, jews were slaves long before that...does that make it right? heck no! Lets work to stop segregation and separitism, and see people for who they are, what they do, and not for their color, religion or nationality. Its about time!, Then someone like MLK's dream will become reality instead of a dream.



places that would really honor his legacy. What is a piece of asphalt anyway?

05-18-2004, 10:45 AM

A)

I have read just a few posts in this thread about renaming a road for MLK...I think that all persons having contributed greatly to the betterment of people a good reason for recognition in terms of street names/libaries etc...however...after reading the post about the NAACP/NAAWP, I stopped to ponder MLK's message...He worked diligently to stop racism, to make the point that all men are created equal, and he accomplished a great deal of that however, where I see that groups like NAACP, the united negro college fund, Miss Black America, Cabel channels for Black Entertainment etc pop up, I truly believes that in itself promotes racism...by their very name/purpose is racist entirely! Someone that would start a group like NAAWP or "cacausian entertainment channel" or Miss White America would never be tolerated. If the whole point is to be equal, why the separitism at all??? I attended my daughters 8th grade graduation a few years back and was astounded to hear a speaker get up and offer a scholarship of \$100 for a black student only! I have to admit that that portion of the ceremonies enraged me. I cannot even fathom someone getting permission to stand up and donate a scholarship for a white only student! Does it not seem racist? It sure did to me! I have even seen a "black only yellow pages"! the schools here are equal in race, (at least where I am) and yet I continue to hear that black children are offered substandard education...it is the same education offered to the caucasian children! Why does there have to continue to be a race war? Groups like mentioned above, coupled with angry people, instead promote racism. Many groups of people have withstood racism from the beginning of time, not only blacks were slaves, jews were slaves long before that...does that make it right? heck no! Lets work to stop segregation and separitism, and see people for who they are, what they do, and not for their color, religion or nationality. Its about time!, Then someone like MLK's dream will become reality instead of a dream.

a	tovokorn	05-10-2004.	Q-10	ΡМ
I≡I 51	tevekerb	05-10-2004.	9.10	PIVI



Let's open all those records the FBI compiled, and any other SEALED RECORDS pertaining to this "hero" and see if he really deserves all this recognition.

Because I don't think he does. Has nothing to do with race, and everything to do with his real loyalties and the "content of HIS character."

Steve RogerShermanSociety dot com

(a) Gomez13 05-05-2004, 12:31 AM



A thought for all. If it were not for the many veterans that have served this country over the many years of its existance Mr. King would not have had the opportunity to speak any of the inspiring words he spoke. Maybe we should consider nameing roads after people who dedicate thier lives in defense of or rights to speak as we wish!!!!

WilliamW 05-04-2004, 3:44 PM



Heck, double dadgumed NO!

Name change only if Necessary and then to someone conributing to the History of the Community or State...

Wright Brothers, Clay Akin, Charlie Justice A known Amercian War Hero from North Carolina......!

FREEDOM BLVD So many have contributed to the State and Nation from North Carolina that are far more deserving — So much has been named, renamed and over named for the Late MLK — It may surrise the NCAAP. But Many others have contributed... What has NASCAR Contributed to North Carolina, Ned Jarret, was the First National Champion form North Carolina. This State is so rich in History; Musch has been forgotten and overlooked... Make a Statement that consideres ALL!

MAL1960 05-03-2004, 6:57 PM



Absolutely NOT!!! There are more than enough things named for MLK already. Agree with naming it after the Wright Brothers, or someone who has SOMETHING to do with AVIATION.

Let the people vote on it, and see how far it gets. While they're at it - there are other things that the citizens of NC are qualified to vote on, such as the lottery, and forced annexation - although we all know how NC politicians feel about allowing their constituents to vote on anything.

tom7165 05-03-2004, 3:56 PM



He** NO! Mlk was a great man and is a hero to many, but another road nameing ranks right up there with limiting # of cars in driveways and "pay as you throw" trash collection. Its amazing how these people get into positions of authority and manage to stay.

Archduke 05-03-2004, 12:24 PM



I think it only appropriate to make the point more cliche. NO, we DO NOT need another MLK slab of asphalt. NO, NO, NO, NO!

ncborn77 05-03-2004, 11:08 AM



I have to agree with the majority of the posters in here. DO NOT name another road in nc after mlk. I feel that if the road is to be changed it should be changed to something that reflects the wright brothers since they were the founders of flight not another mlk boulevard

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a Brown Gregor Lagrange Dagger and

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