

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

# MAKING STRIDES



Phoenix Councilmen Michael Johnson (left) and Daniel Valenzuela hold a torch Monday as they walk with hundreds of people in downtown Phoenix in recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The civil-rights leader was killed almost 45 years ago. TOM TINGLE/THE REPUBLIC

## Marchers honor past struggles for progress

By D.S. Woodfill

The Arizona Republic-12 News Breaking News Team

Jazmine Hayes, a 20-year-old urban-planning major at Arizona State University, said she believes her generation of Black Americans will be better off than any generation before.

Still, the president of the university's chapter of National Association for the Advancement of Colored People said people her age must remember and honor the struggles of their ancestors who made greater opportunities possible.

For that reason, she joined her friends in Monday's march to honor the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., the civil-rights icon who was killed nearly 45 years ago.

"We will never have it as hard as our founders or our ancestors have had it,"

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Tommie Wilburn of Phoenix holds a placard displaying the image of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. as the march culminates at Margaret T. Hance Park in Phoenix.

Events honoring King were held throughout the Valley.

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