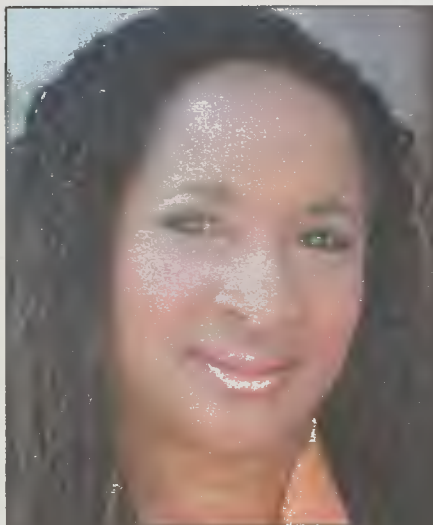


LISC CELEBRATES SUCCESSSES AS OFFICE CLOSSES



Paula McCoy

By Gordon Walek

*They say that breaking up is hard to do
Now I know, I know that it's true
Don't say that this is the end
Instead of breaking up I wish that we were making up again
-Neil Sedaka and H. Greenfield*

Ordinarily, the closing of a business office is not a cause for celebration. And when staff and partners of the Winston-Salem office of Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) gather

at the Piedmont Club on the evening of June 19, there'll be little back-slapping or high-fiving. There will, however, be a few toasts of quiet celebration. Because although the LISC office, which helped jump-start neighborhood revitalization in Winston-Salem, is closing at the end of the summer, its legacy — in the form of new affordable housing and stronger communities — will endure.

Continued on Page 10

PASSING OF JOSEPH RODNEY LAWRENCE, SMSi EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT



Joseph Rodney Lawrence

Winston-Salem, N.C. — It is with deep sadness and great sorrow that the partners, headquarters and field staff of Segmented Marketing Services, Inc. (SMSi) announce the passing of Joseph Rodney Lawrence, SMSi executive vice president and Urban Call publications associate publisher. After a very brief illness, Mr. Lawrence, 59-years-old, passed on May 10 at his home in Kernersville, N.C. following a short stay at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Sharon, and 13-year-old son, Christopher, and adult children Krystyn Johnson, Marshall Wade and Harold Johnson; a sister, Sharon Julian; and brothers, Dillard Lawrence and Brandon Burt.

"For the past 30 years Joseph Rodney Lawrence and I worked as a team, in the entrepreneurial and corporate sectors, and his business acumen and natural ability to work with others was invaluable" noted Lafayette Jones, president of Segmented Marketing Services, Inc. (SMSi), publisher of Urban Call. Lawrence became a partner in

Continued on Page 8

"CALLED BY HIS GRACE"



Dr. Nathan E. Scovens

Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. Before you were born, I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations. Jeremiah 1:5 (NIV) Even the threat of death could not prevent God's promise from being fulfilled on February 28, 1972, in Baltimore, MD, when Nathan Edward Scovens was birthed into this world.

For Jerri Ann Jones, the painful experience and extreme complications during childbirth gradually began to fade when a healthy six-pound baby boy was placed in her arms. With much gratitude and appreciation for the gift that God bestowed upon her and through much fasting and praying, she named him Nathan. The name Nathan is of Hebrew origin and means "gift from God". It was her desire to provide the proper nurturing and to establish a solid

foundation in raising this child up to be a servant of the most-high God. She instilled in him that prayer is the key to continuous power, and that through prayer, there is nothing that the people of God cannot accomplish together.

Even in her passing, her legacy and spirit continues to live as

Continued on Page 19

INSIDE...

Life & Style:	
Modeling 101	
Q & A	3
America Should Believe in a Second Chance	9
Politicians: Blacks, Minorities are the Victims of Your War on Drugs	9
Saving Our Black Males	16
Juneteenth: A Celebration of Black Emancipation	30
I'm Not Ready to Buy in the Demise of the Black Male	39