

# People

Community Calendar, Close-Up, Social Notes, Community News

## Close-Up

### RIF Week urges children to read

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Chronicle Staff Writer

An opened book means an opened mind and through the national Reading Is Fundamental program, or RIF, America's children have had the opportunity to explore adventure and learn how to cultivate their minds at no cost to their families.

All across the country this week RIF programs will highlight the advantages of reading during National RIF Week.

In Winston-Salem, the Bethlehem Community Center, Happy Hill Day Care Center and the Kimberly Park Day Care Center will host a number of activities in observance of RIF Week.

Karen Simmons, community services coordinator for the Bethlehem Center Inc., heads the RIF program in Winston-Salem. She helped the program get underway in 1978, after viewing one of the RIF public service announcements on television.

Simmons later requested more information and soon found herself writing a proposal. Funding eventually came and RIF in the Twin City was born.

"We've serviced 135 children over a five-year period," she says, "and we've given out a lot of books."

Included in the RIF program for children who wouldn't ordinarily have access to the public libraries is Project Reach Out, which, over the five-year period, has given out free books to children at numerous neighborhood centers. And, says Simmons, the added attraction is that the children are allowed to select books

without any adult interference.

"We've had good feedback from the parents," says Simmons, "and the readiness of the children to read is great, even with the 3-year-olds who can't even read yet. It's really been terrific."

Funding for the local RIF program is administered by its non-profit national agency, which is under contract with the United States Office of Education. Seventy-five percent is allocated to the Bethlehem Center and the remaining 25 percent is matched by Bethlehem.

At the centers where RIF is aimed at 3- to 14-year-olds (the national agency includes the high school level as well), Simmons says lots of time is spent entertaining the young, first, to capture their interest and then introduce them to books.

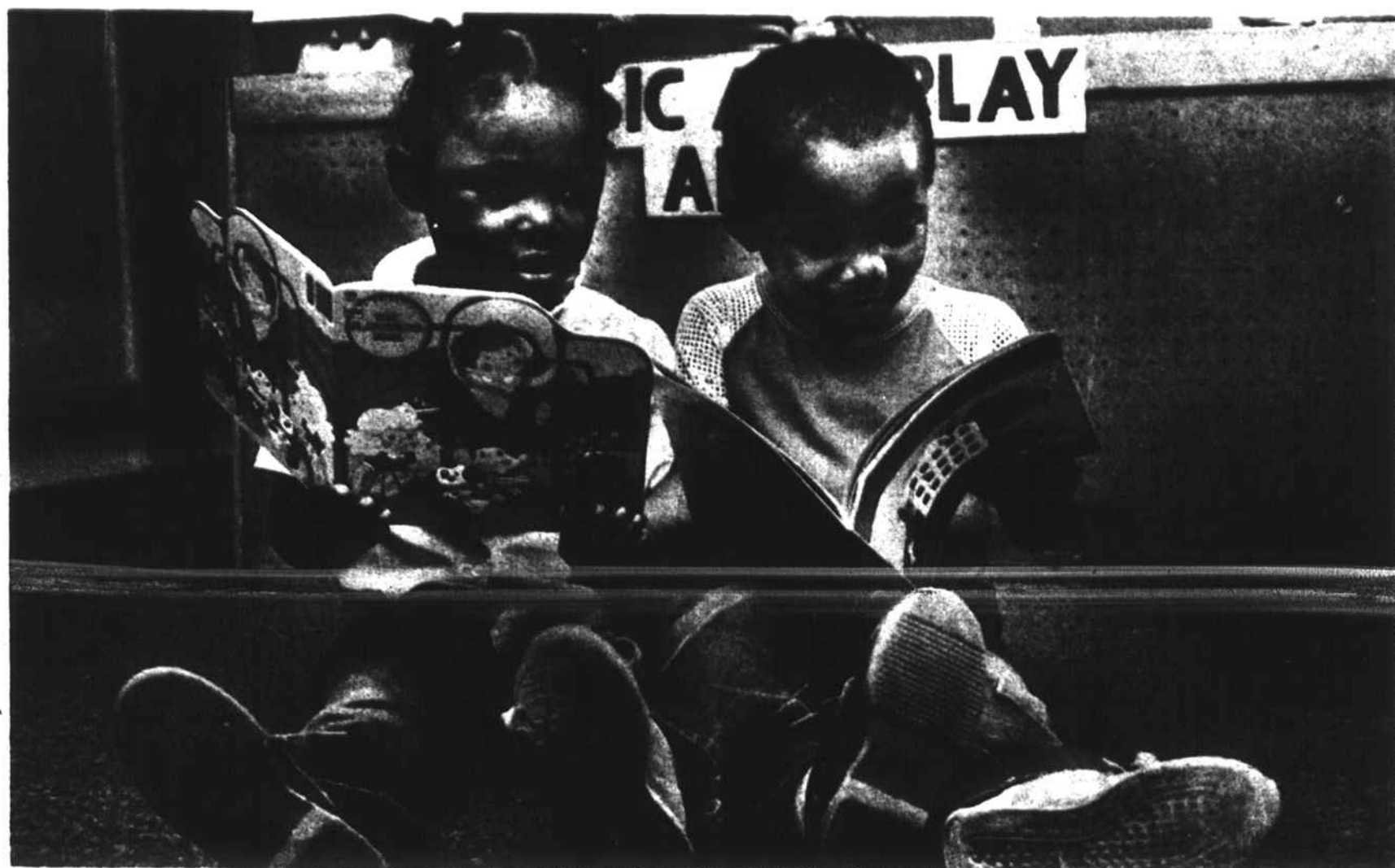
"Motivation is important," she says. "If you have good, strong and interesting activities, like reading stories to them and playing games with them, it helps a lot."

"We've found that a lot of lower-income children have no access to books in their homes," Simmons says, "and many of them aren't familiar with a library until they start school."

The children who attend the centers are given trips to the public libraries to view movies, sing, listen to storytellers and participate in a host of other activities that will heighten their interest in books, says Simmons.

"RIF is all about choosing and owning your own inexpensive book," Simmons says, "taking it home and encouraging others to read, too."

Throughout the week, youngsters at the centers have



Three-year-old Sharricia Thompson and Antonio Patterson take a trip through fantasy land with books given to them by the Reading Is Fundamental Program (photo by James Parker).

been entertained by professional storytellers and book scavenger hunts, in which books are hidden outdoors in shrubbery and behind trees. Also, says Simmons, Project Reach Out will distribute books for ages 3-14 in the Cleveland Avenue area.

"Basically what we want to do is encourage reading,"

says Simmons. "They'll have 20 minutes to browse and look for books of their liking with no adults around."

For more information on the local RIF program, contact Karen Simmons at the Bethlehem Community Center on Cleveland Avenue at 725-2997 or 722-6264.

## The young and restless

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of youth wasting idle time is nothing new and that, although good, wholesome activities have always existed as well, they're in short supply.

"It's not just a problem in Winston-Salem," says Johnson. "It seems to be a problem all over the country. This problem, however, is not new to the nation's parks. It was happening 20 years ago."

Johnson suggests that youth become interested in outdoor activities (other than congregating at Winston Lake) by playing golf or tennis and fishing or biking.

"But there's not a whole lot to do once you get through with athletics and the prom," he says. "There's really not enough wholesome activities the

kids in Winston-Salem can be involved in, except the clubs, and then there's the problem of drinking again."

Part of the problem with youth who "hang out" in the city's parks and abuse alcohol and drugs, says James Graham, a counselor and instructor with the Experiment in Self-Reliance's Learn to Earn program, is that they lack education and employable skills.

He suggests that residents who also have free time on their hands take it upon themselves to sponsor historic and industry tours and assist in teaching remedial courses.

"If somebody would take something like that up," says Graham, "I'm sure they'd get a lot of participation."

Graham, who teaches high school dropouts who want to earn their General Equivalency Diplomas, says he also believes that the traditional school system is the root of the problem. The added burden some teens bear of not being literate hinders would-be job applicants, he says, in turn leaving them with free time to become involved in crime or drugs.

Programs like Learn to Earn, he says, can help alleviate the problem.

"There are a lot of youth who are frightened by the traditional school setting," Graham says, "so they drop out. They don't know how to look for a job. They won't come to ESR and they won't go to the employment office. But they will go to Winston

Lake or the Y."

Says Horace Walser, a Forsyth County juvenile probation officer and a member of the Old Hickory Boy Scout Council Board of Directors: "The Y they're going to build (the new Winston Lake YMCA under construction on Waterworks Road) will offer an alternative."

In the meantime, he says, "I can't see much recreation in smoking pot. One of the things that makes Winston Lake so attractive is that it's inexpensive."

"But if kids get direction to build their character and put positive things, such as scouting, in their lives early on," Walser says, "I think it would be the best way to deter idleness and delinquency later on."

## WSSU now offering certification in computers

The Department of Mathematics/Computer Science at Winston-Salem State University has developed an academic program leading to a certificate in computer programming.

The certificate program is open only to individuals

who have completed a bachelor's degree program with a 2.5 average or better in any field. The program is designed to assist persons who may wish to qualify for a career change by participating in a university-approved program.

Students are awarded certificates as recognition for successfully completing the series of required courses with an average of 2.7 or better.

The program will begin in the fall of 1984. Classes will be scheduled in the late

afternoon and or evenings. It is strongly recommended that no more than two courses are taken per semester if the student is employed full time.

For more information call 761-2153.

## Jones selected for tourney

Mrs. Dazelle Jones of 130 N. Graham St. was selected by the Women's International Bowling Congress North Carolina District to represent the state in the WIBC National Senior Championship bowling tournament that was held at the Centennial Coliseum in Reno, Nev., May 12-13.

From a class of 39 entries, Mrs. Jones placed ninth in the tournament.

She began amateur bowling after retiring from R.J. Reynolds in 1981.

Mrs. Jones was accompanied to the tournament by her husband, Edwin, and a bowling friend, Mrs. Magnolia Coleman.



Dazelle Jones

## Beauticians to increase price

The North Carolina State Beauticians recently held its 45th annual convention, with a number of members from Winston-Salem Chapter No. 2 attending.

Mrs. Thelma Steen is president.

Members attending went to education classes and the Miss Youth For Beauty Coronation. Minnie J. Ervin, chairperson, and Mrs. Annie Bynum entered as contestants. In the Miss Institute Coronation, Mrs. Barbara Wardlow was the local contestant.

Mrs. Wardlow served as state coordinator of the fashion show and Mrs. Ervin served as state model.

The state chapter also agreed to raise prices, the first rate hike since 1981. The prices became effective statewide April 30.

## Social Notes

### Clinic hosts festival

The Child Guidance Clinic at 1200 Glade St. held a spring festival, Wednesday, May 16, for parents of children in the Day Treatment program.

Pam Lee, assistant education coordinator for the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, showed the parents simple, inexpensive ways to take part in art activities at home with their children. She demonstrated how to carve a print from a potato or an orange, how to cut and fold pinwheels out of paper and how to create masks from paper plates.

Lee also encouraged the parents to experiment with various items around the house. Annette Hite, director of the Day Treatment program, said the festival was a social occasion designed to impart information to parents. She said that the Clinic is helping SECCA achieve one of its goals -- reaching out to help special

needs people -- while SECCA helps the clinic by making parents aware of art activities they can use with their preschoolers.

At a second session, social workers, teachers, daycare workers, public health nurses, pediatricians and others who work with special-needs children attended a showing of the children's art work and materials and met with Day Treatment staffers.

The Day Treatment program is a therapeutic preschool for emotionally handicapped children from 2 to 7 years of age. Children are referred to the clinic by social workers, play school personnel, doctors and parents. Those in the program attend for three hours a day, four days a week. Wednesdays are reserved for evaluation and planning meetings to assure maximum progress of each child.

### Winston native promoted

Marian Wilson-McGahey was recently named assistant regional manager for the American Red Cross in San Francisco, Calif.

McGahey, a native of Winston-Salem and a graduate of Atkins High School, is the daughter of Mrs. Bertha Williams of 500 Wright St.

In her new position, McGahey is responsible for the Red Cross' countywide emergency program's social and disaster services and is the Red Cross staff person on the San Mateo County

Services Committee, acting as a community liaison with support groups across the county.

Her most recent Red Cross assignment was in Caolinga and Galveston, Texas, after the devastating hurricane Alicia swept through.

McGahey holds a master's degree in social work, has teaching credentials and was in private practice as a child therapist. She is widowed and lives in Oakland with her son, who is a student at City College in San Francisco.

### Links top fund-raising goal

Regina Jollivette Frazier, Southern area director of the Links Inc., announced recently that the 1,200 Southern members of the organization had exceeded their goal of \$100,000 in personal gifts to the Special Donor Project of its Capital Fund Drive.

The funds, all voluntary contributions by the membership, will be used in the acquisition of a national headquarters building in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area.

The Links, a national service organization founded in 1946 in Philadelphia, boasts a membership of more than 5,000 women in 190 chapters. The organization is committed to educational, civic and inter-cultural pursuits.

A full report of the Southern Area's achievement will be made to the 24th National Biennial Assembly of the Links Inc. in Philadelphia July 5-9.

## Tilley attends O.E.S. Conference

Mrs. Elizabeth Tilley, Grand Worthy Matron of the North Carolina O.E.S. Jurisdiction P.H.A. in Winston-Salem, attended the 65th Annual Conference of Grandmasters, Prince Hall Masons, and the 36th Annual Meeting of the Grand Chapters, Order of Eastern Star, Prince Hall affiliation at the Radisson Hotel in Wilmington, Del.,

May 6-11. Attending the conference with Mrs. Tilley were Grand Worthy Patron J.A. Carter of Durham, Grand Associate Patron F.B. Easton of Winston-Salem, Grand Associate Matron Mrs. Margaret W. Minor of Durham, Grand Associate Conductress Mrs. Olinzie D. Johnson of Durham, Grand Financial Secretary

Mrs. Marea E. Singletary of Sanford and Grand Benevolent Secretary Mrs. Veatrice Davis of Fayetteville, all members of the executive board.

Others from the state attending were Worthy Matron Mrs. Martha Eaton, wife of Grand Associate Patron Eaton and Mrs. Dorothy Sprinkle, GDD, 11th District.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## THURSDAY, MAY 24

\*The YWCA at 1201 Glade Street will present "The Advertising Game: A Portrait of Women" from 5-7 p.m. The guest speaker will be Margaret Supplee Smith, chairwoman of the Women's Studies Committee at Wake Forest University. The fee for YWCA members is \$4; non-members, \$5.

\*The Forsyth County Committee to Elect Eddie Knox will have a special reception for South Ward residents at the home of Frank Frye at 1820 S. Main St. from 5-7 p.m. A member of the Knox family will be present to speak at 6:30 p.m.

## FRIDAY, MAY 25

\*"Decorative Sewing" will be presented by Joanne Falls, home economics extension agent, at 10 a.m. at the East Winston Branch Library. The program is free and open to the public. For more information, call Barbara L. Anderson at 727-2202.

## SATURDAY, MAY 26

\*The American Legion Auxiliary No. 128 will have a yard sale from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on the front lawn of the Morris L. Slaughter Post No. 128, which is located at 1410 Attucks St.

## SUNDAY, MAY 27

\*The Ralph E. Morgan No. 220 Auxiliary will sponsor a Tom Thumb Wedding at 4 p.m. at the Post Home. The proceeds will benefit the Educational Scholarship Fund, which is given annually to a deserving high school student. For further information, contact Martha Gillis at 724-5149.

\*The Youth Chapter of the NAACP will meet at 4 p.m. at the NAACP in the Gateway Shopping Center, 1000 W. Hargett St. All youth officers are asked to please be present and on time. Other youth interested in joining are asked to attend this important meeting. For further information, contact Ann Simmons, youth advisor, at 748-1072.

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*Mt. Olive Baptist Church Helping Hands will sponsor a clothes give-away Saturday, June 9, at the Mt. Olive Baptist Church parking lot. The Rev. C.E. Gray is the pastor. In case of rain, the give-away will be held in the church basement. Mt. Olive is located at 1301 E. Belevs St. Donations will be accepted but are not required. For more information, contact Catherine Jackson at 722-6597.

\*"Aerobics: Creative Movement for Adults" will begin May 31 at the Art-Is House at 740 Cleveland Ave. and will be held Saturdays at 2 p.m. The course is free and will include muscle toning, preparation for sports activities, basic choreographic patterns and how to move freely in social dancing. Enrollment is limited to 15. For more information, contact Amarullah Saleem, the instructor, at 727-2891.

\*The Memorial Industrial School Reunion-Banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m. June 16 at the Benton Center. Please see page A12.