

BUSINESS

SHE LEAVES COMFORT OF 9-TO-5 TO START OWN BUSINESS
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ALL STAR

HIGH SCHOOL SENSATION SHOWS HIS ALL-AROUND TALENT
SPORTS

Winston-Salem Chronicle

The Choice for African-American News and Information

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"Power concedes nothing without a struggle." — Frederick Douglass

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Sigma Gamma Rho National Boule Begins Friday in City

By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS and VERONICA CLEMONS
Chronicle Staff Writers

In 1922, seven young teachers at Butler University in Indianapolis sat in a classroom and tossed about ideas of beginning a service organization that would further enhance the quality of life in their community. Although only one of the founders of what became the nation's fourth all-women, Greek-letter

organization is alive — Vivian White Marbury — the organization, Sigma Gamma Rho, flourished and is now in its 72nd year.

This weekend about 1,000 of the sorority's approximately 72,000 members worldwide will be in Winston-Salem where the 45th International Boule will be held Friday through Wednesday at the Benton Convention Center.

"We're just elated that we are having Sigma

Gamma Rho's biannual Boule in Winston-Salem," Winston-Salem chapter president Naomi Jones said. "We are overdue for a convention in the northeast region. We've worked quite hard for it and are really looking forward to participation from the public."

Toni Odom, the sorority's communications coordinator, said,

"Winston-Salem was chosen as this year's site several years ago. The local chapter jockeyed into position

and was awarded the site."

The event begins Saturday when North Carolina Congresswoman Eva Clayton will hold a public meeting. Congresswoman Corrine Brown, a Florida Democrat and a member of the sorority, and Dorothy Height, the national president of the National Council of Negro Women, will be among the award recipients.

A special community service recognition award

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Politicos Bicker, Children Suffer

Program Likely Helpful in Long Run

By VERONICA CLEMONS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Knowing their address, the alphabets and when they need to go to the bathroom are basic educational and social skills children should have before age 5.

But many of them don't.

However, 4-year-old programs that reach out to these youths can help them better prepare for public school and in many cases give them a better chance in the educational system and life.

These are the beliefs of some advocates of 4-year-old programs for disadvantaged children. They say — and studies show — that children who are labeled "at risk" and reached at an earlier age do well in school and become more productive adults. Those who are not reached, many times drop out of school, become unproductive adults and have a greater chance of entering the criminal justice system.

Forsyth County school board members are considering a staff recommendation to implement a larger program for "at-risk" 4-year-olds. Central office staff will present information to two school board committees in August and the board is expected to make a decision by early September.



Nikia Lentz and Laymond Hairston are tutored by Best Choice Center summer volunteer Phyllis Walker.

Previous interviews of school board members show that they are split on expanding 4-year-old programs. Some say they are more concerned with class size and space needs of the current 38,000 students in the system. Others say preparing a

child for entering school is the sole responsibility of the parent.

But Dorothy Graham-Wheeler, executive director of the Best Choice Center, which serves 125 youths "at risk" aged 5-15, said there must be outside intervention

when parents are not able to adequately prepare children for the school system.

"When you have dysfunctional families in the community, it becomes a com-

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Studying to Begin on At-Risk Program

By VERONICA CLEMONS
Chronicle Staff Writer

The Winston-Salem/Forsyth County school board is beginning to look into staff's recommendation to start a program for 4-year-old at-risk children in January.

Central office staff members will present a more detailed report to the board's financial and curriculum committees next month. The board is expected to decide whether to move ahead with the program at its first meeting in September.

Interim Superintendent Nelson Jessup said the school system is currently serving 48 disadvantaged pre-school age children through Chapter One programs at Easton, Forest Park and Latham elementary schools. But he said Chapter One and other programs the system has are only reaching a few of the many children who need early childhood intervention.

"We have not moved full speed ahead," he said. "There's still a large number not receiving any assistance. That's a gap we need to provide a safety net for."

Staff is proposing that initially the program serves 112 children at four sites: four classrooms at Diggs Elementary, which is adjacent to Happy Hill Gardens, and a classroom at three additional

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LIFT, Citizens Coalition Staff Join Forces

By VERONICA CLEMONS AND DAVID L. DILLARD
Chronicle Staff Writers

Citizens Coalition for a Better Tomorrow may have folded, but the mission of the organization will be kept alive at the LIFT Academy.

The board of directors of Citizens Coalition has teamed up with the LIFT Academy in an effort to continue the services of an organization

that did not have enough financial resources to keep it running.

In doing so, the coalition's two paid staff persons — Khalid Griggs and Horace Fulton — will join LIFT Academy.

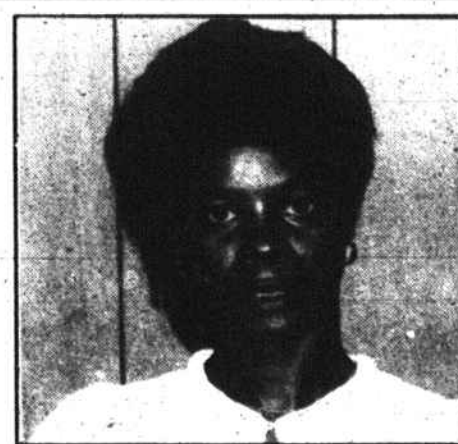
LIFT Executive Director Earline Parmon said the partnership was a consensus of both boards of directors and that she was very receptive to the collaborative effort when approached

by the coalition board.

Parmon said the coalition staff will be able to continue after-school care programs and intensive counseling.

While both boards seem to be happy with the new union, staff members of coalition are not that enthusiastic. Khalid Griggs, the organization's executive director, didn't want the organization to

see LIFT page 3



Earline Parmon



Khalid Griggs

"Family Day" to Bring Families and Neighbors Closer

▲ About 1,000 people are expected to attend Saturday's gathering at Rupert Bell Park

By DAVID L. DILLARD
Chronicle Staff Writer

More than 1,000 people are expected to reunite family ties at the upcoming "We Are Family Day" sponsored by the Winston-Salem Chronicle and the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem.

Alvonia Jackson Austin of 605 Powell St., said family day is an opportunity for family and friends to get together and have fun.

"I think it's needed because families need more outreach with each other," Austin said. "We don't have a big family, but anytime we get together we have fun."

The first annual "We Are Family Day" will be held Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Rupert Bell Park located at 1501 Mt. Zion Place.

The event will allow families to have reunions plus allow families from other residential areas to intermingle. Austin, who lives in Happy Hill Gardens, said people from housing developments usually are negatively stereotyped, but she feels positive events like "Family Day" should bring the black community closer together.

"It's good to see black people have something where nobody gets shot or hurt," she said. "It's not where you live, it's how you

live."

Art Milligan, executive director of the housing authority, said he supports the event because societal problems can be eradicated when people look at each other as family.

"You always here people talk about the times when everybody in the neighborhood looked out for each other. That was a family atmosphere and we need to get back to that," he said. "People will lay down their arms when they know that's a family member you're dealing with. All of us black and white are part of a big family and we need to pull together in order for the community to flourish."

Carol Brooks-Daniel, the Chronicle's director of promotions, said she expects a huge turnout because people see the need to unite.

"The families felt this was a wonderful idea to stimulate the family unit," she said. "What we have planned is designed to strengthen any family. It will strengthen family values and allow them to fellowship with one another."

Some of the activities planned are volleyball, tug-of-war, trolley rides, family photos, bingo, gospel music and a hot-air balloon ride. Brooks-Daniel said the event is free and registration will be held from 10-11:30 a.m.

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This Week In Black History
July 26, 1865
Patrick F. Healy, first
black awarded Ph.D.
degree.

