

 <p><b>Little leaguers crowned champs</b> - See Page B1</p>	 <p><b>Liberians pray for peace at home</b> - See Page A3</p>	 <p><b>Residents fight to save rec center</b> - See Page A4</p>	 <p><b>Modeling troupe comes to Winston</b> - See Page C1</p>
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# THE CHRONICLE

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THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2003

## Offended blacks walk out of local card store

Owner says her comments not racist  
BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

Not even the soothing, melodic words of Hallmark cards were enough to distract several African-Americans from hearing what they believe was a racial slur last week in a Winston-Salem store.

Sarah Barge was one of seven African-Americans in Rosie's Hallmark store on Robinhood Road the morning of June 12 who overheard the store's white owner telling her husband over the telephone that there were "B-L-A-C-K" (the word was spelled out) people in the store.

*"I was shocked. I was reading cards when I heard her spelling it out. I was saying to myself, 'Is she spelling 'black'?"*

- Monica Smith, offended customer

that implied that the black customers could not comprehend what was being said.

Barge and at least one other customer approached Spicer to ask her what she meant by her comment. Spicer insisted that her words were not racial but said out of excitement because her store never gets African-American customers.

The black customers, however, did not buy her explanation or her products. They left the store without making purchases, and some are vowing to take up the issue with Hallmark's national office.

"You can't tell me that she is not accustomed to seeing blacks in her store," said Barge, who said she had shopped in the store before and was treated well.

A tearful Spicer accepted The Chronicle's request for a reporter to come to her store to discuss the incident a few hours after it occurred. She insisted that her comments were not racist and that she did not call her husband because she was uncomfortable that the only customers in the store were black.

"This region around here, we don't have a lot of black people. And since Bea's Hallmark (once located on Summit Boulevard) has closed, I am getting a

See Store on A4



Photo by Courtney Gaillard  
**Vivian Burke has been a member of the City Council for more than 25 years.**

## Council matriarch says racial balance a concern

About 70 percent of the people who would be annexed are white

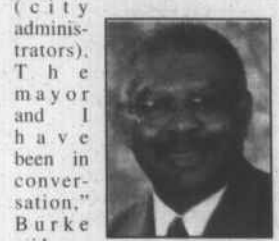
BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

The longest serving member of the City Council said last week that she has made it clear to the mayor and city manager that she does not want the city's proposed annexation to dilute the black vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Vivian Burke said she has opposed past annexations during her 26 years on the council out of concern for black voter strength.

"I have supported (annexation) when people requested to be annexed. My concern has been the dilution of representa-

tion by minorities. I have spelled that out real clear with all of the (city administrators). The mayor and I have been in conversation," Burke said.



Terry

The City Council got its first look at a trimmer annexation plan late last week. After people who would be annexed complained that their

livelihood as farmers would be jeopardized under the original plan, the council sent city planners back to the drawing board to come up with a scaled-back annexation proposal that would exclude explicitly rural areas. The new plan would annex about 17,500 people into the city as opposed to the nearly 24,000 who would have been added under the old plan.

If annexation passes, the majority of new city residents will be white, which has some concerned that African-American council members in wards where now black voters have a

See Annexation on A9

## Expressing Freedom

Juneteenth celebration incorporates good health

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

Sharon Haney checked the woman's blood pressure twice to make sure that the first reading wasn't a fluke. The second reading was abnormally high as well.

"Are you on blood pressure medication?" Haney, a registered nurse at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, asked the woman, who nodded back a "no."

"You need to see a doctor about this," Haney said, pointing to the woman's reading and explaining why it was considered high.

Members of Sisters of Bivouac Chapter 530 had antici-

pated that people like the woman with the high blood pressure would come to their first-ever Juneteenth celebration to not just enjoy the food, music and games but also to learn more about their health.

"We wanted to make black men and women more aware of some of the health threats out there," said Jean Nunn-St. Preux, the chapter's worthy matron.

To that end, a health fair was integrated into the Juneteenth event. There were areas where blood pressure and glucose screenings were done beside areas where bingo was played and where eye-brow arching was taught.



See Juneteenth on A11



Photo by Kevin Walker  
**A.J. Harris of Engine Three shows Trey Fulton some of the gadgets on a firetruck. Left: a volunteer shields herself from the sun.**

## Teens looking for work get assistance

Urban League hoping to draw attention

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD  
THE CHRONICLE

The Urban League and the Mayor's Office are helping local teens such as Lashaunda Tomlin land jobs for the summer. Tomlin, 15, a rising sophomore at Glenn High School, has applied for several jobs now that school is out. But Tomlin and other youths like her are being turned away by businesses who say they can't afford to hire them.



Solomon

"I feel that while I'm young I need to get as much training as possible before I go out in the real world," said Tomlin, who also is running into problems because of her age. Most employers, said Tomlin, prefer

to hire someone who is at least 16 years old.

The 2003 Summer Youth Job Program is attempting to remedy the summer blues for willing and able teens who wish to join the work force. The program matches youths aged 14-17 with employment opportunities that correspond to their interests, skills and abilities. Program participants also receive basic job-skills training on the interview process, work attire, first impressions and how to obtain a work permit.

Other partners in the program include the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce, Kid Commerce, Housing Authority of Winston-Salem, the Ministers Conference, the Department of Social Services, the Winston-Salem Police Department and Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools.

According to Cleo Solomon, vice president of program operations for the Urban League, more than 400 applica-

See Jobs on A5

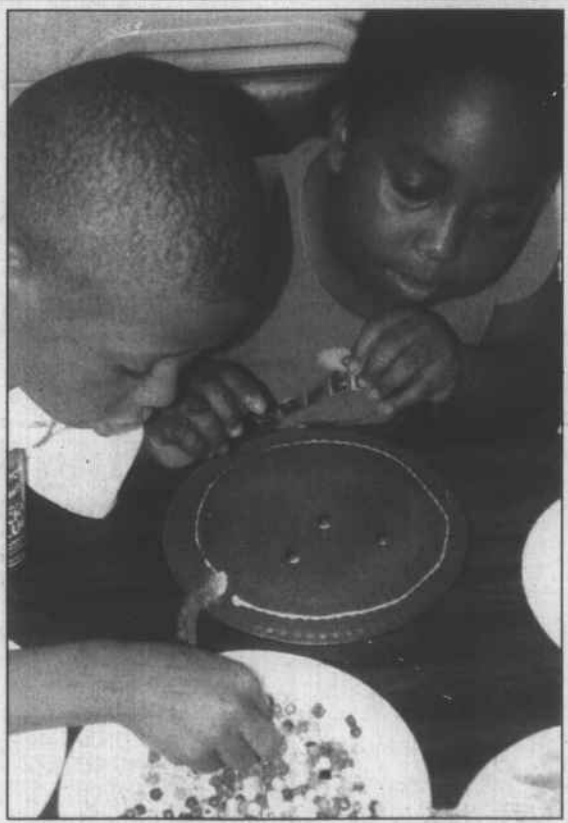


Photo by Kevin Walker  
**Nine-year-old Daquan Gadson helps fellow 9-year-old Janaiya McKey choose the right beads for her mask. The two youngsters took part in Vacation Bible School last week at St. Paul United Methodist Church. See B5 for the story.**

## Caucus votes to honor two locals

Rep. Larry Womble nominated Malloy, Newell

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

Lawmakers have voted to honor two Winston-Salem residents tomorrow in Research Triangle Park during the Black Legislative Conference, an annual event sponsored by the state's Legislative Black Caucus.

Retired surgeon Dr. Rembert Malloy will receive the group's highest honor, the Henry E. Frye Trailblazer Award. The award is named for the former legislator and state Supreme Court chief justice.

Retired educator Dr. Virginia Newell will receive a community service award.

Rep. Larry Womble nominated Malloy and Newell. He was supported in his effort by fellow Forsyth County representative Earline Parmon. Last year Womble nominated and successfully lobbied for another local man, Carl Matthews, to receive the Frye award.



Malloy



Newell

See Caucus on A4