

COMMUNITY

Your stories, your voices

JANUARY 29, 2009

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Community Calendar

Seniors Bingo

The Winston-Salem Urban League and the Shepherd's Center are presenting activities for seniors who are 50 and over. They include free Bingo each Monday at the Urban League, which is at the corner of 5th and Trade streets, from 2 - 3 p.m. Seniors should call 336-725-5614 to reserve a space.

Read to Me Festival

The Read to Me Festival will be held on Saturday, Feb. 7 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Winston Lake Family YMCA, 901 Waterworks Road.

This free festival is open to the public and promotes a love of reading for children ages pre-school through third grade. The kids will meet with authors, have story time, make crafts and receive a free book. For more information, contact the Junior League of Winston-Salem headquarters at 336-722-9681 or readtome@jlws.org.

Valentine's Fellowship

A Valentine's Fellowship Party will be held Saturday, Feb. 14 from 6 - 10 p.m. at the 14th Street Recreation Center. The Golden Crowns Senior Adult Club is sponsoring the event for people 50 years old and older. There is limited seating, so those interested in attending should call the rec center at 336-727-2891. Tickets are \$6 (pay at the door), and a light meal will be served.

Support group for women in mourning

Broken Hearts/Better Days, a support group for women (18+) who mourn the murder of a loved one, meets the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, 7 - 8:30 p.m. at Green Street United Methodist Church, 639 South Green Street. Attendance is free and open to the public. For more information contact Paula Hawkins at 336-749-4691 or go to www.vigilsforhealing.org.

"Welcome to Medicare"

The YWCA of Winston-Salem, Senior Services, Inc. and The Shepherd's Center of Greater Winston-Salem will present the free, two-part seminar, "Welcome to Medicare" on Feb. 11 and Feb. 18.

Attendees will learn more about benefits and the many options available to those who will soon be eligible for Medicare. The programs will be from 10 - 11 a.m. at the Glade Street YWCA, 1201 Glade St. Refreshments will be served. Call to register at 336-722-5138, ext. 220.

MUSIC AND A MESSAGE

Book discussion, concert mark nonprofit's celebration

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Eradicating racism is no small task, but the Rev. Willard Bass Jr. figures somebody's got to do it. To this end, Bass, assistant pastor at Green Street Church in Winston-Salem, founded the Institute for Dismantling Racism (IDR) in 2004.

What began as what Bass called "a one man show," has grown into a chorus of voices, with an increasing number of agencies and hundreds of local citizens completing its anti-racism training to date.

"We have learned that racism is institutional, so we need a solution that is institutional," Bass explained.

The IDR celebrated another landmark in its journey Sunday. The organization received word last month that it had achieved 501(c)(3) nonprofit status.

In celebration of its becoming an official nonprofit and in observance of the recent Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, the Institute hosted a program in conjunction with Green Street Church.

"Tonight is a special night for us," Bass told the diverse audience that packed the church's sanctuary. "I'm excited about your being here ... let's do this (anti-racism) work together."

North Carolina Author Tim Tyson was on hand to discuss his controversial book, "Blood Done Sign My Name," as part of the program.

Part autobiographical, part historical, "Blood Done Sign My Name" is a retrospective look at the events surrounding the brutal murder of Henry Marrow, a black man, in Oxford, N.C. in 1970. The three white men charged with the crime were found not guilty, spurring a firestorm of racial tension and violence that rocked the small town where Tyson grew up.

Haunted by the story he had watched



Rev. Bass



Photos by Layla Farmer

See Green Street on B10 Diana Tuffin of Sabbath Indigo performs.



Mary Williams (far left) and members of the Williams singers (above and left) bring down the house at Green Street.



Author Tim Tyson speaks about his book, "Blood Done Sign My Name." Later he signed copies of the book, right.



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