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Saturday, November 3, 1979

Police Seek Death Motive Lady, 64, Shot in Head

By Patrice E. Lee
Staff Writer

Winston-Salem police are investigating the shooting death of a 64-year-old woman but have declined to reveal a possible motive for the murder. Although the department is actively investigating the case, Det. Sgt. Frank Bry declined to comment Tuesday on a possible motive for the murder of Mrs. Wilmore Chandler, of 1807 N. Trade St., who was shot in the head with a .22 caliber pistol and found dead Thursday. Det. Robert Russell, who has been investigating the case said that he has had little success in unearthing the details surrounding the death of Mrs. Chandler. "I went there today to talk to people but I don't know anything yet," Russell said Monday. The State Bureau of Investigation is providing technical assistance to help solve the murder,

Russell said.

Russell said that Mrs. Chandler was last seen alive on Monday, Oct. 22, by a neighbor who grew suspicious when she did not see her again for the next three days.

Mrs. Amy Folsom of 1809 N. Trade St. said she had missed her friend, Mrs. Chandler, when she hadn't seen her for several days.

"When she died I hadn't seen her since that Monday...I don't even know anything...I didn't know she was dead," Mrs. Folsom said.

When Jessie Wilmore decided to marry Oscar Chandler in 1975, Amy Folsom was one of two ministers that married the couple.

Oscar Chandler's death two years ago left Mrs. Chandler a widow, but she wasn't alone.

"She read my mail for me," said Mrs. Folsom, 80. "We were good friends. I loved her and she loved me." We sat on the porch and talked...we'd sing and I'd pray."



Staff Photo by McCullough

Twice As Nice

Two Fashion Fair model reveal the latest in swimwear at the Ebony Fashion last Friday night at Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium. For more fashions and story see page 6.

Official: Low Bond Turnout Seen Nov. 6

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

Elections director Kathy Chastain has predicted a turnout of about 25 per cent for Nov. 6 bond referendum on the \$33 million Winston-Salem Arena.

If the voters hold to that pattern, it would mean a turnout of less than 20 per cent in many of the 17 predominately black precincts in the city.

Chastain noted that in the March referendum on the liquor by the drink, there was a 32 per cent turnout of the approximately 70,000 registered voters in the city.

In the Kimberly Park precinct, there was a 14 per cent turnout, at North

Elementary School, an eight per cent turnout. Five other predominately black precincts had turnouts under 15 per cent.

As the election drew near, opponents and supporters of the referendum got in their last licks. The tax limitation group STOP (Stabilize Taxes on Property) released a statement Monday noting a current bond interest rate exceeding 7.5 per cent and challenging the assumption that the bonds would be sold at 6 per cent.

Banker Glenn Orr, a member of a group called the Committee of Concerned Citizens for the coliseum which unveiled itself Monday, acknowledged that bond rates are high, but said he expected the average figure to be six per cent over the three years the bonds are sold. Orr is president of Forsyth Bank and Trust Co.

A second pro-arena group, the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Coliseum held a Tuesday press conference at Winston-Salem State University to express its support for the arena. Dr. H. Douglas Covington, vice chairman of the group, said the arena is important "to the long-term future of the community."

Other members of the group include: former Mayor pro tem Carl H. Russell, Dr. J. Ray Butler, Mrs. Cleester Hickerson, Bishop Sylvester D. Johnson, Diana McNeill, Larry Womble, Roxanna Pitts, and Robert Miller.

The three black aldermen have taken varied positions on the arena. The North Ward's Larry Little is opposed, and East Ward representative Dr. Virginia Newell favors the proposal.

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RJR Job Data Closed to Public

By John W. Templeton
Staff Writer

J. Reynolds Industries Inc. has based an optimistic assessment of its minority employment record, but firm officials have declined to show how minorities are distributed in the giant company by job levels. RJR chairman J. Paul Sticht has announced that the firm has a 22 per cent minority employment figure, compared to an average of 17.9 per cent in American firms with 100 employees or more. However, in response to a Chronicle inquiry, firm officials said they only have figures of job distribution of minorities available to federal agencies such as the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Sticht was unavailable for comment. We have not found it advantageous

to release to the public at length information on the distribution of our workforce," said Marshall B. Bass, RJR corporate director of personnel development.

A spokesman for the EEOC in Charlotte said the EO-1 reports filed by the company are kept confidential by the government. These reports break down minority employment figures by administrative, professional and technical, clerical, skilled, laborers and service workers.

Bass, who manages the equal opportunity programs for the 47th ranked company in the Fortune 500 list of the nation's top firms, said the firm does have a representative number of minorities at every job level.

"Our objective is to insure that our workforce at least attain and maintain the national availability (of minorities)

throughout the work force," said Bass. "In many instances, we exceed the national averages."

During a two-hour interview in his corner office at the RJR World Headquarters, Bass said Reynolds is showing its corporate responsibility through employment of minorities, grants and scholarships for the education of blacks, and procurement with minority owned firms.

Those efforts have been described in a new publication by the company called "R.J. Reynolds Industries Corporate Responsibility."

Bass noted the recently-announced \$160,000 grant to N.C. A&T State University for business and engineering scholarships and \$1 million grant to Winston-Salem State University for attracting outstanding students.

The latter provided scholarships to

101 students, most of whom have now graduated. "Out of that group, seven or eight are either M.D.'s or in medical school, several are pursuing terminal degrees and many attained master's," said Bass.

Although that program has ended, the RJR executive said he expects "some type of program to be in place prior to the 1980-81 school year" at Winston-Salem State.

In the area of procurement, Bass said minorities are supplying part of the coal which runs the firm's plants here, and such items as computers, tires, architectural and construction services and insurance.

"I find it very gratifying that so many firms are in a position to compete in a timely fashion at a competitive price," said Bass.

Water Benefits Unclear To Piney Grove Families

By Yvette McCullough
Staff Writer

Two Piney Grove families who believed that they could not receive water from the city, dug and redug their own wells, but have now been told that they can receive city water.

Ms. Syvilla Walker of 1450 Grove Garden Rd. is still getting her water from a well and the Wade O'Neals of 4500 Grove Garden Rd. has spent \$800 in order to have their well redug. Either will have to pay at least \$400 to get city water.

Ms. Walker along with other Piney Grove residents were annexed into the city about eight years ago. The majority of Piney Grove residents received city water about six years ago.

The O'Neals and Ms. Walker, not knowing that they had to request water, did not actively seek to have city water until about two years ago.

"These two families had never gone down and requested water until about two years ago," said Mrs. Sophia Brown, coordinator of the Piney Grove Community Council. "We went before the Board of Aldermen last year and they said there was nothing they could do because the right of way was not signed over."

Mrs. Brown said that after the property owners signed the right of way the city said they could not provide water because of the location of the two families homes. City officials did come out to talk to the residents at their last council meeting about two weeks ago. The residents

were told that water was presently available.

Stan Harris, superintendent of the city's utilities division, told the Chronicle that two residents had not requested water and sewage until four or five months ago.

"Once a family is annexed into the city it is up to that family to request city water and sewage," Harris said. "Water and sewage is not automatically provided unless it is requested and from my knowledge the two families had never requested any service until about four or five months ago."

The problem Mrs. Walker and the O'Neals have had is that they are the only two families on the bottom of Grove Garden Road. Harris said that the problem is that the city would have to run water lines to them in order to supply them with water. He said the water would have to come from North Point, south of where these two families live.

Mrs. Walker said that now that she is eligible to get water she cannot afford it.

"I live on a fixed income and it may cost me almost \$2,000 to get water by the time I get plumbing hooked up in my house," she said. "I've been in the city eight years and I've tried to get it (water) out here."

The O'Neal's well ran dry a couple of months ago and they had to spend \$800 to get a new well. A spokesperson for the family said they would have to pay an additional \$7-800 to have city water. Harris said that each new subscriber is required to pay an initial fee

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Staff Photo by Templeton

Marking History

Mrs. Peggy Littlejohn is the winner of the 1979 "Miss Bethania" contest announced during 129th anniversary ceremonies at the church Sunday.

Man Indicted In Coeds' Deaths

A Fayetteville man will face two charges of death by vehicle in Chatham County in connection with the deaths of two Winston-Salem State University coeds in a traffic accident three weeks ago.

John Olin Nehls, 26, 2200 Wingate Road in Fayetteville was charged with two misdemeanor counts, in addition to previous charges of driving left of center and driving under the influence after the Oct. 12 accident near Siler City. A trial date of Nov. 21 has been set in Chatham District Court, according to the local clerk of court's office.

Killed were 18-year-old freshmen Miss Marguerite Cambell of Fayetteville and Miss Sonya McNeill of Dunn. They and two other freshmen were on their way to the WSSU-Fayetteville

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Staff Photo by McCullough

Trick or Treat

Children at the Greater St. Matthews Baptist celebrated Halloween with a visit from the children then paraded around the block in their Halloween costumes.