



# Winston-Salem Chronicle

"Serving the Winston-Salem Community Since 1974"

Vol. VII No. 31

U.S.P.S. No. 067910

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

Saturday, March 28, 1981

\*20 cents

24 Pages This Week

## Couple Claims Fire Started By Faulty Wiring



Maxine Sims, left, and Janie Bass, right, sort through the remains of the Bass family's personal belongings that were destroyed by fire.

By Donna Oldham  
Staff Writer

A Winston-Salem couple, whose home was gutted by fire last month, believes that the fire was caused by faulty electrical wiring neglected by their landlord, even after he had asked them to fix it.

Joseph and Janie Bass of 5018 Page St. were told by officials of the Winston-Salem Fire Department that the fire that totally destroyed their single frame house was started by a "warm morning heater." The Bases, however, refuse to accept the firemen's report.

"It did not start in the heater; it was an electrical fire that started in the ceiling of the back bedroom. It started at the light fixture," said Mrs. Bass.

Because of the Bases' beliefs about the fire, they have sought legal counsel in the matter.

"In 1978, the city came out here and in-

spected the house and said that something was wrong with the wiring." I called the landlord and he said he'd send someone to fix it, but he never did and that was three years ago," Mrs. Bass said.

The owner of the property, R.W. Clayton, Sr., of Providence Church Road, said that the wiring was fixed. However, Clayton had another house in East Winston, rented by blacks, to catch fire recently.

"I don't care nothing about what they say. I asked them people to move out of my house. I told them to move and I'm going to evict them," Clayton said.

According to Mr. and Mrs. Bass, Clayton had also refused to repair other things in the house that they had called his attention to.

"He would always come out here with a different attitude. He would ask my husband to fix whatever was wrong with the

See Page 2



### Spring Fashions

Fashions for men and women take on a new look as local models from around the city demonstrate a special section beginning on page 5

### WSSU Coach

## "Tiny" Wallace Dead At 52

By Donna Oldham  
Staff Writer

Cleo "Tiny" Wallace, assistant professor of physical education, assistant athletic director at Winston-Salem State University and head coach of the university's women's basketball team, died Sunday afternoon after a brief illness. He was 52.

Wallace, a native of New Jersey, was born April 24, 1928, in Madison County, Ga. He came to Winston-Salem in 1947 to attend Winston-Salem State and made the city his home.

Although Wallace is best remembered for his coaching and teaching, his friends and colleagues agreed that his

See page 2



Cleo "Tiny" Wallace

### East Winston Shopping Plaza

## City With For-Profit Group

By Donna Oldham  
Staff Writer

The president of the board of directors of the East Winston Local Development Corp., Inc., said that three resignations from his board earlier this month have cleared the way for the proposed East Winston Shopping Center.

R. Lewis Ray, said that the EWLDC is "stronger now than it ever has been which means that the shopping center will be built."

"People in the community feel that my approach is the only logical approach to building the shopping center," Ray said.

He said that ever since the resignations of three board members, Mel White, Bishop S.D. Johnson and Ernest H. Pitt, earlier this month, "I've gotten calls from people interested in investing in the shopping center."

"Now I have a free reign to work. I know what needs to be done and has to be done without having to run to the board every minute for permission to dot every 'i' and cross every 't'," Ray said.

He said that his negotiations with the city, including Mayor Wayne A. Corpening and Valerie T. Broadie, the economic development coordinator are good. Ray added that the mayor is personally helping to try and secure a major food store chain for the shopping center, which he said, was the key to the development of a shopping center. "In the near future, we'll be going to the county commissioners to get them to pass a resolution authorizing the sale of stock as a community development corporation under GS 78A-17 (13).

The general statute that Ray referred to states, "Any offer or sale by a domestic corporation of its own securities if (1) the corporation was organized for the purpose of promoting community, agricultural or industrial development of the area in which the principal office is located, (2) the offer or sale has been approved by resolution of the county commissioners of the county

in which its principal office is located, and, if located in a municipality or within two miles of the boundaries thereof, by resolution of the governing body of such municipality, and (3) no commission or other remuneration is paid or given directly or indirectly for soliciting any prospective buyer in this state."

According to Ray, the EWLDC, which is non-profit, will set up a profit-making corporation, probably called East

See Page 2

## NBN Links Nation To Atlanta Probe

Who and why is somebody murdering Atlanta's Black children? This is the question that is gnawing at the Nation's conscience...a question that cries out for an answer so long as a killer(s) stalks the city of Atlanta, preying on defenseless children.

The revulsion that has swept the country in the wake of more than 20 killings has prompted WAOK radio, in Atlanta, and the National Black Network (NBN), to conduct a four-hour "radiothon" this month that will explore possible answers to a series of puzzling questions.

The live broadcast, which will be available to the nearly 100 NBN affiliates, across the country, will be aired on Sunday, March 29th, from 3 to 7 p.m. (EST).

The program will be co-hosted by WAOK's News Director, Ron Sailor, who has been deeply involved in this tragic story, and NBN's senior correspondent, Roy Wood.

Their guests will include Atlanta's Mayor Maynard Jackson; Dr. Lee Brown, Atlanta's Public Safety Com-

See Page 2

## Fair Housing Law Not Dead

By C.B. Hauser  
Special To The Chronicle

The Winston-Salem Board of Aldermen may keep fair housing alive by revising its request for an enabling act allowing them to create a local fair housing commission.

The Forsyth County Delegation changed its stand on introducing the enabling legislation which the aldermen requested in a

5-3 vote after three members of the delegation attended a forum sponsored by the New Horizons Fair Housing Committee.

The Delegation indicated that it could support the legislation if the request were amended to remove certain sections of the bill to which there was objection - the provisions granting subpoena power and the section allowing the keeping of its activities and findings.

secret. Rep. Ted Kaplan (D-Forsyth) made the motion to send the bill back to the aldermen for revision.

The original bill as drafted by the city attorney has provisions that are almost identical to those in the U.S. Civil Rights Act of 1968. The local ordinance would allow local enforcement of those provisions.

City Manager Bill Stuart said that the revised fair

housing request could come before the aldermen at their April 6 meeting and that the revised bill could be introduced in this session of the legislature, although the previously announced deadline for introducing local bills, April 1, would have passed.

The city of Greensboro got fair housing legislation passed recently, but it did not contain the provisions

See Page 2

### Program Highlights Women

## Praising Black Women

By Yvonne Anderson  
Staff Writer

"In Praise of Black Women," a musical dramatization of the contributions of black women to American society was presented at the Forsyth County public Library on March 14. The program was sponsored by the library and the Council on the Status of Women, as a celebration of "Women In History Week."

The program highlighted seven black women who have made an outstanding contribution in American History. "Phyllis Wheatley, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Mary McLeod Bethune, Billie Holiday, Fannie Lou Hamer and Barbara Jordan were the women dramatized through monologues.

"I decided to do these women because, although their names are familiar, their life stories are not that well known," said Dottie Butler, coordinator of the program.

Nell Britton, an english teacher at Reynolds High School, portrayed 17th century poetess Phyllis Wheatley. The creator of the Underground Railroad, Harriet Tubman was played by Shirley Holloway. Holloway is a storyteller for the public library.

Belinda James, also a storyteller for the library, brought abolitionist and women's right advocate, Sojourner Truth to life. One of history's great black women educators, Mary McLeod Bethune was played by Phyllis Stapler.

The life of jazz giant, Billie Holiday, portrayed by Lynne Harper Epps, represented the black women's contribution to American music. While the lives of Fannie Lou Hamer and Barbara Jordan brought the program into contemporary times while illustrating the black women's contributions to politics. Hamer, a civil rights activist of the 60s, was played by Nell Britton and former

See Page 11



Nell Britton as Phyllis Wheatley



Belinda James portrayed Sojourner Truth