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John Sledge gives good measure

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Winston-Salem Chronicle

The Twin City's Award-Winning Weekly

XIV, No. 10

U.S.P.S. No. 067910

Winston-Salem, N.C.

Thursday, October 29, 1987

50 cents

38 Pages This Week

The bond issue: More questions

By CHERYL WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

With the vote on next Tuesday's city and county bond referendum less than a week away, at least two black leaders say it is not well and they are still raising questions about the bond issue.

Four others interviewed said that they supported the whole bond package.

Voters will go to the polls Tuesday, Nov. 3, to decide whether or not to approve \$8.7 million worth of bonds for city and county projects.

Board of Elections Supervisor Kathie Cooper said that poll sites will open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m. Voters will vote on or no on each separate item, with only city residents deciding the five city issues and county residents voting on four items.

The Rev. Carlton A.G. Eversley, pastor of Dellabrook Presbyterian Church, said that he feels more black leaders should be questioning the bonds.

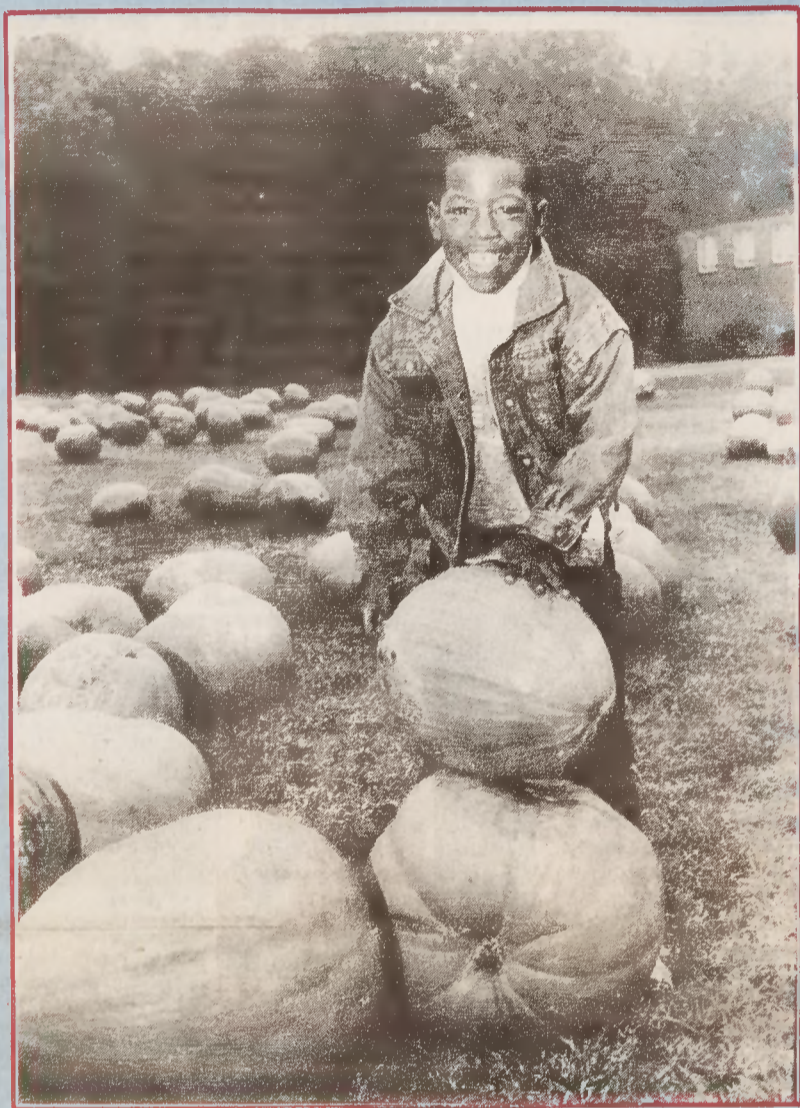
"My question boils down to how much will go into black hands, into the black community," he said. "The whole history of bonds in this county is that black people have gotten ripped off. And very few people are asking questions. I get tired of my community getting pimped and ripped off that other people will get rich."

Eversley said he posed questions at a leadership Winston-Salem alumni meeting, but did not receive satisfactory answers.

"You would have thought I was talking Chinese," he said. "The questions were not answered."

Leadership Winston-Salem members in community, civic, business and educational leaders who participate in intensive sessions exploring how the community questions, decision-making and decision

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The Great Pumpkin Cometh

John Acker Jr. gets a head start on the pumpkin lovers and Halloween night trick-or-treaters and enjoys his pick of the bountiful crop (photo by Santana).

COVER STORY

Urban League officials rule on board problems

National officers recommend reinstatements

By ROBIN BARKSDALE AND CHERYL WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writers

National and regional Urban League officials have ruled that actions taken at a previous board meeting where several members of the board were removed and subsequently replaced were improper and have made recommendations that they feel will restore unity to the local board.

Mildred Love, vice president of programs and field services for the national office in New York, and Leonard Benton, the Urban League's southern director in Atlanta, made a return trip to Winston-Salem last Friday for the second time this month.

Janet Dewart, director of communications for the National Urban League, said that she cannot disclose the nature of the meeting between the officials and the local league. However, reliable sources report that Ms. Love and Benton made recommendations to the board, one of which suggested that the board reconsider terminating Thomas J. Elijah Jr. as president.

The officials' recommendations stem from actions at an Oct. 6 board meeting at which new members were put on the league's board to replace those that had earlier

been dismissed. But league officials have declared those actions at the meeting null and void under sanctioned Urban League procedures. The local league's by-laws state that the president serves at the "pleasure of the board" and does not have the power to remove board members. Such an action, according to the by-laws, requires a majority vote by board members.

The officials have recommended that the dismissed board members be reinstated immediately and that members of the official board reconsider their decision to terminate Elijah as president. At an Oct. 7 board meeting, 11 of the 19 board members called for Elijah's resignation as president.

The officials recommended also that training sessions be conducted for the board and senior members of the league's staff on how to run an Urban League.

A meeting of the reconstructed league board is scheduled for Nov. 18 and will be held for the purposes of determining whether to accept or reject the officials' recommendations.

Elijah, who previously refused comment on reports of dissension on the Urban League Board, could not be reached for comment Tuesday.

Banks say they are honoring CRA

By ANGIE MARTIN
Chronicle Staff Writer

Area banks say they have instituted various projects aimed at helping low and moderate income communities as part of agreements reached earlier this year with the N.C. Legal Services Resource Center.

In April, North Carolina Legal Services entered into agreements with six state banks to ensure that the banks would re-channel funds and resources into the communities they draw from as required by the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA).

The CRA, enacted in 1977, requires that national banks help meet the credit and banking needs of the communities where they do business "in a manner that is consistent with safe and sound operations of the bank."

Those communities must include low-income and

moderate-income areas.

The NCLS agreements were made with Wachovia Bank and Trust Co., First Union Bank, North Carolina National Bank, Central Carolina Bank, BB&T Bank and Peoples Bank.

With the exception of Peoples Bank, each has branch offices in Winston-Salem.

The agreements came after a statement was filed in March with the Federal Reserve Board by the NCLS, the N.C. Statewide CRA Coordinating Committee and the Legal Aid Society questioning First Wachovia Corp. community reinvestment activities.

Bank representatives report that special checking accounts, ad campaigns in black media and research into the possible formation of a community development corporation for East Winston are examples of compliance with the Act recently undertaken.

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George Walter Williams Jr., Winston-Salem's first black postman, died last week at Baptist Hospital. He was 69 years old.

First black postman dies

By CHERYL WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

George Walter Williams Jr., the Twin City's first black postman, died Friday at Baptist Hospital after an extended illness.

Williams, 69, became a postman in 1947. He has been a resident of Winston-Salem for 60 years.

A U.S. Navy veteran, Williams attended Slater Normal College, which is now Winston-Salem State University.

Before becoming a postman, Williams, a native of Orangeburg, S.C., pursued a brief career in education, teaching at Carver Crest Elementary School and 14th Street

Elementary School.

Survivors include his wife of 46 years, Loretta Harrison Williams, three sons, George Walter Williams III, Robert Williams and Bernard Williams, and four daughters, Brenda Dawkins and Carolyn Little of Winston-Salem and Shirley Smith and Rosalyn Marshall of Lansing, Mich. Also surviving is his sister, Louise Thompson, who lives in Elkin.

The family, Mrs. Harper said, is proud and considers it an honor that Williams was the first black postman in the city. He helped pave the way for others, she said.

Services for Williams were held Wednesday afternoon

Author speaks about African-American families

Blacks still family-oriented

By CHERYL WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Black people have always had a strong attachment to the family, and that is unlikely to change, an educator said early this week.

But what has changed dramatically in recent years is the structure of the black family, said Dr. Andrew Billingsley while addressing students at Wake Forest University Monday night.

Billingsley's lecture was sponsored by WFU's sociology department and is the first in a

series that will look at current issues.

Speaking in an interview after his talk, Billingsley, chairman and professor of the department of family and community development at the University of Maryland, said the fact that an increasing number of black families are headed by females is not necessarily cause for alarm.

The fact that there are more black female heads of households does not mean the black family is deteriorating, only that it is changing, he said.

"There's nothing wrong or adverse about single-parent families," he said. "It depends on whether there are others than a husband to be helpful, like a stable friend or a stable institution to be helpful. If the mother can get basic economic support, like child support from the father, and can get a good job, then it's going to be OK."

The future of the black family will depend in large part on what society does about jobs and training people for jobs, Billingsley said. Jobs, he said,

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Author and sociologist Andrew Billingsley told his Wake Forest audience Monday night that black families are not changing only their structures are being altered (photo by Santana).

Woman awarded \$60,000 in suit

A Forsyth County jury yesterday awarded Gwendolyn R. Mascuilli of Winston-Salem \$59,411 in damages when her former landlord, Bob G. Martin, and his wife, Charlene Martin, had her car towed unlawfully to Davis Garage and would not release it to her.

Martin is a Winston-Salem attorney and investment advisor.

Harvey Davis, owner of Davis Garage, was assessed more than \$6,000 for his actions in the matter.

In late July 1985, Ms. Mascuilli vacated an apartment rented to her by the Martins. Several days after she left the apartment, Ms. Mascuilli's car was towed from a

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