

## Searching our roots

Delta Project to record history of Black Church in Forsyth County

PAGE B4



## Rambling!

Pop Warner Little League Football Conference battles begin

PAGE A9

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# Winston-Salem Chronicle

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## Service groups question local grant procedures

RUDY ANDERSON  
Chronicle Managing Editor

Representatives from several African-American community service organizations say their agencies are encountering problems getting grants from local foundations.

Some suspect that because their agencies target African-Americans, that this is one of the reasons they are not getting funds for their programs.

But leaders of the major foundations in the city say grants are made on the basis of community needs, the requesting agency's ability to meet that need, and whether or not an agency's proposal meets the established goals of the foundation.

Alderman Virginia Newell, chair of the Best Choice Center's board of directors, called for the meeting. "We feel these foundations should work more closely with our agencies before deciding if our programs should be funded," she said.

Newell said the Best Choice Center is operating

Please see page A9



Mary L. Diggs accepts tribute from arts patron Gordon Hanes at opening of gallery dedicated to her late husband, James Thackeray Diggs Jr. (See full story on A3)

Photo by L.B. Speas Jr.

## Alleged racial comment prompts Sears boycott

By TRACY L. PROSSER  
Chronicle Staff Report

A racial slur allegedly made by a Sears employee has spurred one local African-American to picket the store and discourage other African-Americans from shopping there.

Tony Burroughs went to Sears in Hanes Mall in early September to shop for a television. He claims one of the salespeople, a white male, said, "I don't have any time to wait on any nigger." Burroughs said he immediately complained to the store management.

Vollie Dyer, a district manager for Sears and an African-American himself, said Sears has talked to the employee and Burroughs several times, and their stories are conflicting. Neither has witnesses or documented proof of the incident, Dyer said.

"Our position is if allegations are made against anyone, we like to have some documentation," Dyer said. He said that if the store receives a complaint about an inci-

dent in the store, a letter of apology or regret that the conflict happened is sent to the customer.

Gene Wietnauer, general manager of Sears at Hanes Mall, refused to comment on the situation because he said Burroughs' allegations are unsubstantiated. "We have provided sufficient opportunity for Burroughs to substantiate his allegations and he has not done so," Wietnauer said.

Burroughs believes an apology is not enough. He wants the employee fired and plans to protest outside Hanes Mall until he is.

"That was the first time in my life being called a 'nigger' out loud in public," he said. "If it happened to me, it probably happened to someone else."

The store has no intention of removing the employee.

"This is a conflict with no witnesses available," Dyer said. "We've taken as much action as we can take in this case."

"We regret the apparent misunderstanding between one of our

Please see page A13

## Task Force leadership changes New Chair chooses to stay the course

Chronicle Staff Report

Norma Smith has been named chairperson of the East Winston Development Task Force. Winston-Salem Mayor Patricia S. Wood recommended her to the Board of Aldermen Monday, Oct. 1.

Smith, who lives at 1922 Kentucky Ave., was born in Winston-Salem. She is employed at Winston-Salem State University as a resource consultant at the academic computer center.

She said she was very honored that the mayor had the confidence to name her to the chairperson position. Smith was a member of the task force since its formation in

The East Winston Development Task Force was formed to assess the economic strengths and weaknesses of the East Winston community and to commission a study to determine how to positively impact on the economic vitality of the area.

Earlier this year, a study was completed by Hammer, Siler & George detailing a plan for economic development

in East Winston. Smith said that under her leadership, the task force will continue to pursue this plan.

The first thrust of the plan is to increase middle income housing in the area, she said. East Winston is suffering from a flight of its most affluent citizens and needs to get them to move back, Smith said.

"We've got to build the income level up," she said. "As it is now, the area doesn't support a lot of additional retail outlets."

Attracting middle to upper income families in East Winston would help achieve another goal of the task force as outlined in the Hammer, Siler & George study: retail and industrial development.

Smith said, "I would like to see East Winston as a thriving energetic community with a good mix of families and a thriving business district."

In fact, Smith wants the East Winston Development Task Force to make East Winston an integral part of Winston-Salem as a whole. She said, "I would like to see East

Please see page A13



Norma Smith takes over East Winston Development Task Force.

Photo by T.L. Prosser

## Neglect case raises accountability issues

By TRACY L. PROSSER  
Chronicle Staff Writer

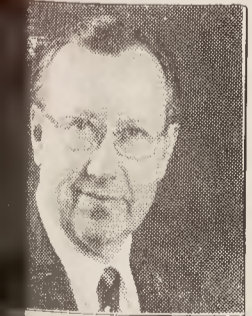
A recent child abuse charge against a Winston-Salem mother could possibly have been avoided if the Forsyth County Department of Social Services had handled her case better, according to a local African-American support group leader.

Arlene Tolliver lives in a small house on East 16th Street and has been in contact with the Forsyth County Department of Social Services for years. She has seven children, no husband and no job.

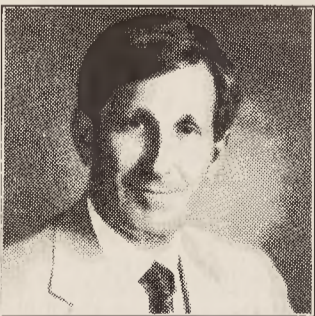
One of her children has cerebral palsy, cannot walk or talk, wears a diaper and must be fed through a tube. Taking care of him, plus her six other children, is obviously a tough job, but for about five years Tolliver had help from social services... or did she?

The hardships in Tolliver's life were only augmented last week when she was charged Wednesday, Oct. 3, with child abuse because her sick son was found Sept. 1 with severe rat bites.

Please see page A12



Warren Sparrow



Tom Keith

## Campaign '90 Opponents for District Attorney face off on issues

Chronicle Staff Report

Warren Sparrow has been Forsyth County district attorney since 1987, and he is running for reelection in November as the Democratic candidate for the

Sparrow has been married to Smit Sparrow for almost 15 years. They have four children:

Chronicle Staff Report

Tom Keith is running for Forsyth County district attorney on the Republican ticket.

He has been married for 22 years to Ellen Bouldin Keith and has two daughters: Sarah, 17, and Jennifer, 19. He is 46 years old and a lawyer in Winston-Salem.

Keith, who received his B.A. from the University of North Carolina at

Please see page A12

## Blacks and Democrats register in large numbers

GREENSBORO (AP) — Registration for those who want to vote in the Nov. 6 election closed Monday, but an informal newspaper survey found an increase in the number of blacks and Democrats signing up.

The last official tally of voter registration was taken in April, before the May primaries.

Since then in Wake County, black voter registration has increased 10 percent compared with a 3 percent increase in the number of white voters. The number of Democrats increased 3.7 percent compared to 2.9 percent for Republicans.

In Pasquotank County, in the northeast, the number of black voters has increased 9 percent compared with a 1.5 percent increase for white voters.

"Elizabeth City State has been very strong," Catherine Perry, the county elections supervisor, told the Greensboro News & Record. "They have done a lot of canvassing at the school and are getting the students there registered." Elizabeth City State is a historically black university.

"They have had very effective registration drives at N.C. A&T State University and the numbers reflect that," said George Gilbert, Guilford County elections supervisor. A&T is another of the state's predominantly black schools.

In Mecklenburg County, blacks have increased their registration nearly 11 percent while white voter registration increased 3 percent.

"It's been very, very up," said Nancy Starnes, deputy elections supervisor. "We did over 8,000 to 10,000 (new registrations) in September. That's very up for a non-presidential year. It's almost like a presidential year."

Please see page A12

## Jury hears attorneys' closing arguments as Hunt trial nears end

Chronicle Staff Report

The emotional, lengthy and confusing trial of Darryl Eugene Hunt for first degree murder in the robbery, rape, and stabbing death of Deborah B. Sykes is about to draw to a close as the focus is expected to shift this week from the witness stand to the jury deliberations.

Sykes' body was found in a field off West End Boulevard on Aug. 10, 1984. Hunt was charged with the crime in 1985 and was convicted. The decision was overturned by the North Carolina Supreme Court in May 1989.

Hunt's second trial, moved from Forsyth County to Catawba County because of pretrial publicity, is being heard by Judge Forrest A. Farrell. H. Dean Bowman, Surry County district attorney, and his assistant James C. Yeates III are the prosecuting attorneys. James E.

Ferguson II and Adam Stein are defending Hunt.

Hunt's attorneys began presenting its case Thursday, Oct. 4, and finished Monday, Oct. 8. The Hunt defense team spent most of that time parading a host of witnesses that attacked the credibility of the prosecution's witnesses.

Ted Campbell, a friend of Kevey Coleman, testified that Coleman's eyesight is "very bad" without his contact lenses. Coleman had testified that he saw two men and a white woman in the area of the murder on the morning Sykes was killed. He said the two men looked like Hunt and Sammy Mitchell, but he didn't have his contact lenses in at the time.

Campbell also said Coleman once admitted being offered money to testify.

Please see page A12