



**Senior Scene**  
Newspaper provides information for community's older adults.  
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**From the heart**  
Kiwanis Club donates time, money, and toys to needy kids.  
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# Winston-Salem Chronicle

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**ON THE AVANT-GARDE**  
By TANG NIVRI

## Dividing the Estates Come one, come all

When Irma Hall was a little girl, she insisted on playing Shaka Zulu warrior while the other kids wanted to play Tarzan — this was back in the 1930s!

When he was only five years old, William Benson Terry could already read *David Copperfield*. In fact, he and his buddies (all them were tough guys) used to go to the movies and critique the screenplay just to see if they got it right. That was back in the '30s.

Bellary Darden, a mere babe among these two older giants, has starred in several theatrical productions including *Antigone*, *Lady in Red* and *Lady in Brown* in two productions of *For Colored Girls ... Stella in a Street Car Named Desire*, and many others. She is also co-founder of a Chicago-based women's theater company which is probably one of the few such companies in the country.

And what do these three young, gifted, talented, and black people all have in common you ask? Plenty!

And you can see them right here in Winston-Salem, starting together in the Broadway Preview Series production of *Dividing the Estates* by Horton Foote. Performances held at the Stevens Center will run December 27 through January 8.

The first thing you will notice when you meet Irma Hall is that this is a woman who has got to have the world's warmest heart. She is the epitome of everybody's favorite grandmother or aunt. And it turns out there is good reason. Ask her to show you pictures of her family, which includes her grandmother, and Irma will tell you some of the most wonderful stories about black people you have ever heard.

She told me the story of when her grandmother was pregnant, she would be sure to take her babies in the presence of great people — people whom she calls "declaimers" — those great black leaders such as Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois, and Marcus Garvey who spoke both eloquently and with conviction concerning the future of blacks in America. Irma says her grandmother would do this so that her children — her offspring would also strong children. It was her grandmother who was also the herb doctor who, although she never went to medical school, always knew what to dig up and mix together in order to fight any kind of disease — including typhoid fever. In fact, Irma is writing a play about her ancestry. Her list of credits are a mile long and include films such as *Backdraft*, *Valentines Day*, *George McKenna Story*, *The Kid Who Loved Christmas*, *Gabriel's Fire*, *Brewsters Place* ... you get the picture. Irma is quite the lady.

Make sure you ask William Benson Terry (Bill) to tell you a story. In fact, it's just about impossible for you to name someone that Bill Terry didn't work with or knows personally. And man can he tell a few stories. After all, if you've been around as long as he has you are bound to know a few things about a few people.

This delightful man, and very talented actor who loves to play, compose and sing the blues has been a performer for several decades. You have seen him in *The Great White Hope*, *Serpico*, *Cotton Comes to Harlem*, *Law and Order*, to name just a few of his many film and television productions. (In fact he trained James Earl Jones in preparing for his leading role in the *Great White Hope*). On stage, William Benson Terry has done everything from *Waiting for Godot* to *Purlie Victorious*. And if you were to ask him what was the central theme guiding him in everything he has tried to do throughout his life, it would be working for equal rights for black folks throughout our entire society. Bill Terry served as bodyguard to Paul Robeson and like Robeson, was a victim of McCarthyism. Ask him to tell you what it was like to really be concerned about

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## Kwanzaa holiday now underway

### African-Americans pay tribute to their culture and heritage

By YVETTE N. FREEMAN  
Community News Editor

The East Winston Branch Public Library will once again host the city's 12th Annual Kwanzaa Celebration.

The Kwanzaa Celebration, which has become a Christmas tradition in the African-American community, actually begins today, Dec. 26, and will continue through January 1. The culmination of the celebration, however, will be held on December 31, from 7-9 p.m.

Kwanzaa was first started in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga, a Black Studies professor, as a way for African-Americans to recognize and pay tribute to their African culture and ancestors. The word Kwanzaa, which comes from the East African language of Kiswahili, means "the first" or "the first of the harvest." Kwanzaa is based on seven principles known

as Nguzo Saba — Umoja (Unity), Kujichagulia (Self-Determination), Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility), Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics), Nia (Purpose), Kumbaa (Creativity), and Imani (Faith).

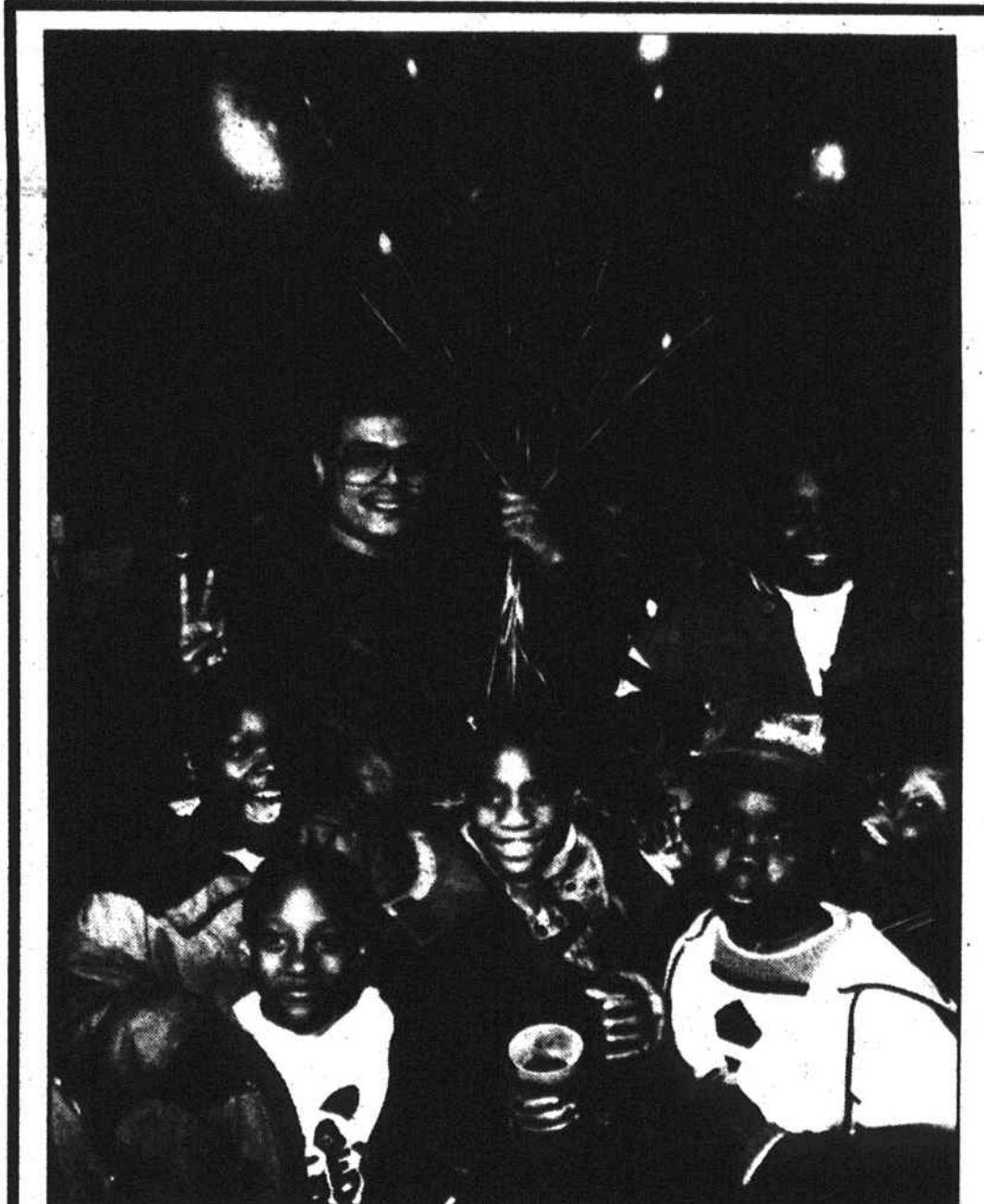
"One of the things that we want to do," said Tim Jackson, branch manager of the East Winston Library, "is to make ourselves better than we were the year before. And by adhering to these principles, hopefully, at the end of the year, we can look back and we can be thankful that we have made it."

In addition to the seven principles, Kwanzaa also has seven basic symbols which represent and reinforce what the holiday is all about. Those symbols are Mazao (fruit and vegetables), Mkeka (place mat), Kinara (the candle holder for seven candles, one black,

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The Kwanzaa holiday is represented by seven symbols displayed during the Karamu, or feast. Kwanzaa begins today and will continue through January 1.



### A Christmas Celebration!

All Amer, co-owner of the 311 Grocery store, recently hosted a Christmas party at the store in Jetway Shopping Center for kids in the community on Monday, Dec. 23.

## Community says yes to East Winston school

### Many have questions, want input in plans for school's development

By SHERIDAN HILL  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Many members of the black community are wholeheartedly in favor of a school in East Winston, and have plenty of questions and ideas about how it would work.

Superintendent Larry Coble has proposed a school fashioned somewhat after the new Downtown school, with required parental involvement and a low teacher/student ratio. Nobody disagrees with that concept, but there are numerous questions about who would attend the school and who would staff it.

Beaufort Bailey, a long-time school board member until last year, is concerned about the motives of some whites, who have always been against bussing and who now support the idea of an all-black school. He also has a suggestion about the location of the school.

"I would like to see the school be located at Diggs. It's at the corner of Vargrave and Waughtown, and we could draw from the neighborhood. We own Diggs, and it's in good condition."

Walter Marshall, who directs educational programs for the NAACP, is also con-

cerned about motives. "What's in it for the black community? What is the community at large trying to do? We need a school with a special curriculum designed for the learning styles of children who don't fit the educational mold. It would work for white students as well. You don't have to attach the stigma of race to it."

Alderman Vivian Burke, who is a high school educational counselor, says she represents and works with a number of black students who can't read, and plans on closely monitoring the development of the school.

Burke says inner city students need additional classes and after school activities to help them understand they can "properly exist in the community." She also suggested that the black/white student ratio should be a reverse of what we have now (38 percent black), "so that minorities can feel what it's like to be a majority and see leaders from their ethnic group."

Rev. William S. Fails, who works with the LIFT (Learning Is Fun Too) program, hopes the school will be a predominantly black elementary school, because he feels

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## 1991 'Parade of Stars' to break new ground

Chronicle Staff Report

After more than a decade of success and innovation, the 1991 "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" telethon will once again break new ground on Saturday, Dec. 28, when the star-studded special is broadcast across the nation to benefit the United Negro College Fund (UNCF).

For the first time in its 12-year history, portions of the "Parade of Stars" will originate from the historic Apollo Theatre in Harlem, the landmark venue that served as a springboard for many black entertainers.

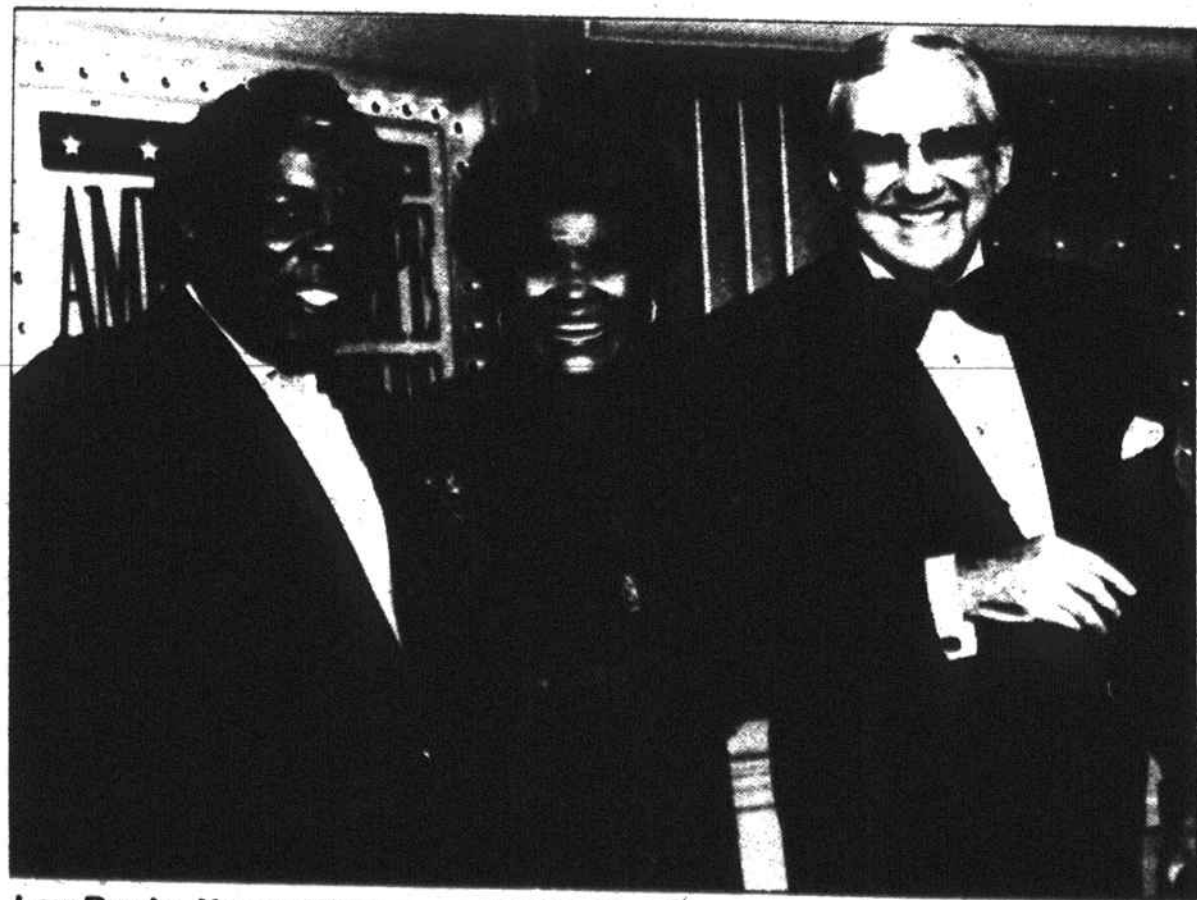
Also on the list of "firsts" for this year's show, which is approaching revenues of nearly \$90 million in cash and

pledges, is the telethon debut of many new and talented artists. "Color Me Badd," Oleta Adams, "Boyz II Men," Tara Kemp and Keith Washington are among the hot new talent who will appear on the seven-hour special.

Jackee, the vivacious and sultry actress of "227" fame, will co-host the show for the first time; and the new President and Chief Executive Officer of UNCF, William H. Gray III, will lead the College Fund's call to American viewers for financial contributions.

Telethon host and grammy award-winning singer, Lou Rawls, will lead the star-studded roster of entertainers that is scheduled to include superstars Bill

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Lou Rawls, Nancy Wilson, and Ed McMahon will co-host the telethon, along with Jackee, Clint Holmes, and Marilyn McCoo.