

Police Officer's Suspension Prompts Meeting of Black Leaders and Chief

By MARK R. MOSS
Chronicle Staff Writer

The recent suspension of a black police officer and complaints from other officers prompted leaders of the African-American community to meet with police Chief George Sweat Tuesday afternoon.

"It was a good exchange of ideas," Sweat said after the meeting, which was closed to the media. "I asked them to tell me their concerns, and they did."

"I thought it was a good meeting," said the Rev. John Mendez, a founding member of Citizens United for Justice.

Sweat met for about an hour with Mendez, William Tatum, president of the local branch of the NAACP, Naomi Jones, president of the Black Political Awareness League and the Rev. William Falls, a High Point minister who is also a member of Citizens United for Justice.

They said they left the meeting feeling confident they had accomplished their goals in letting Sweat know their concerns.

"We told him about the complaints we've gotten from black officers," Mendez said.

Mendez said they also discussed some specific proposals with Sweat but would not elaborate on what they were. He did say that

they discussed sensitivity training and the need to hire more black officers. Only 18 percent of the police force is African American, he said.

The meeting was prompted by the suspension of Rodney Leathers, a black police officer who was suspended without pay for four days after a confrontation involving a mechanic. Leathers claimed that the mechanic overcharged him for a car part. The incident happened while Leathers was off duty, but he returned to the repair shop in uniform and with his supervisor's okay. His intention, he said in an interview last week, was to see if Steve Grubbs, the shop's owner, was there so that another officer could serve him with a warrant. Leathers had taken out a warrant charging Grubbs with obtaining property under false pretense.

As it turned out, Leathers' complaint against Grubbs was dropped, but Grubbs complained to the department about Leathers, who was suspended.

When Leathers returned to work Saturday, he discovered that the department had filed another disciplinary action against him that contained four more conduct violations he was alleged to have committed.

Leathers believes the second disciplinary report was a result of



George Sweat

the grievance he had filed in which he accused an officer in the department's Internal Affairs Division of making a false statement in the report investigating the entire matter.

Leathers' grievance hearing was scheduled for this week.

Tatum said the Leathers case was part of what was discussed in the meeting, but Sweat had little to say about the matter because it hadn't been resolved.

"Sometimes black officers need to go past their supervisor in order to be heard," Tatum said.

"We told Sweat we're going to encourage officers to go to him when a problem arises," said Mendez. The four agreed that Sweat promised to keep his door open.

Sigma Gamma Rho Inducts New Members

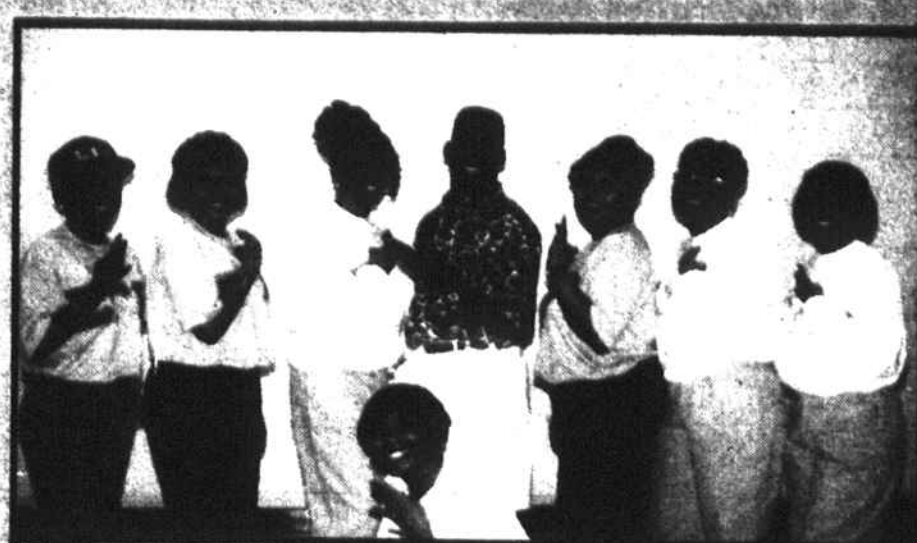
The Rho Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. inducted new members on March 6. New members from Winston-Salem State University are Chandra Lazenby, a junior, and Margo Turner and Sharon Malloy, both sophomores.

Officers of the Rho Chapter are: LaKeitia Daniels, basileus; Barbie Lassiter, anti-basileus; Danyelle Parker, anti-grammateus; and Wendy Carpenter, tamiochus.

Activities included a campus clean-up with Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity on Feb. 20. The chapter also participated in a Pan Hellenic Council Alcoholic Awareness program on March 24. Malloy sang, and Carpenter delivered closing remarks.

The chapter has sold candy bars as a fund raiser and held a party to celebrate the induction of new sorors on April 2.

The sorors plan to give Easter baskets to the WSSU day-care center and display an exhibit detailing Sigma Gamma Rho



The Rho Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority (l. to r.): Wendy Carpenter, Danyelle Parker, Chandra Lazenby, B.J. Higgins (of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity), LaKeitia Daniels, Sharon Malloy, Margo Turner and Barbie Lassiter (kneeling).

Sorority Inc. in the WSSU Hauser Student Union on April 16.

Sorors will attend their regional conference in Boston on April 23-25 entitled "Sigmas Making a Difference."

Their bi-annual Boule will be held in Winston-Salem next year.

The chapter will also host the Mid-winter Conference on the campus next year.

Members of Alpha Mu Sigma, the sorority's alumni chapter, are: Linda Mann, advisor of the Rho Chapter, Denese Crisp, campus coordinator; Terri Smith, assistant advisor; and Jackie Sinson, assistant advisor.

Man's Death Being Ruled a Homicide

School custodian found with throat cut

Winston-Salem police are investigating the death of a 57-year-old man whose body was found Tuesday morning in a house in East Winston.

Police found Ulysses Alonzo Morrison, of 2315 Manchester St.,

in a house at 2824 Manchester St. with his throat cut, Capt. Linda G. Petree said. Police were notified by his relatives.

The relatives said friends of Morrison lives in the house, Petree said.

No weapons were recovered, but police are investigating it as a homicide, Petree said. She would not say whether evidence had been

found in the apartment or whether the department had any suspects in the killing.

Petree said relatives had reported Morrison missing Monday night after he had not been seen for over 24 hours.

Morrison was a custodian at Hanes Middle School, Petree said.

No further information was available.

African/African-American Pageant to be Held

The third Miss African/African-American Educational Queen's Pageant will be held on April 24 at 8 p.m. at Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium at Winston-Salem State University.

The event, sponsored by the Liberian Organization of the Piedmont, will award prizes to young women based on their intellectual abilities. Each of the 12 contestants will be judged based on their answers to questions.

The winners will receive scholarships valued at \$500, \$300 and \$200.

Ticket prices are \$3 for students and \$5 for adults.

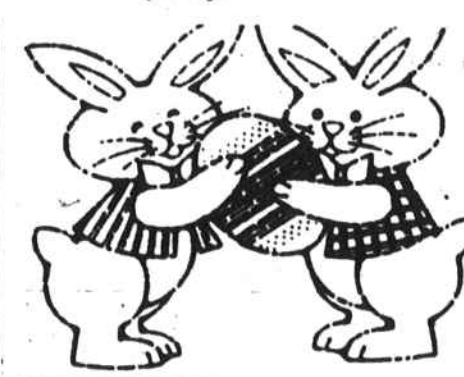


James Hunder, founder and president emeritus of The Liberian Organization of the Piedmont, holds a letter from Gov. Jim Hunt proclaiming April 24, 1993, "African-American Solidarity Day."



Community EVENTS CALENDAR April

How to Schedule Your Events: Send your information, concisely and neatly printed or typed, to the Chronicle Calendar, 617 N. Liberty St., Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102, before 5:00 p.m., the Monday preceding the week in which your event will occur. Our FAX number is (919) 723-9173.



Bennie McBride

"See me, Bennie McBride for the best price and the best service on any new Chevy, Geo or Used Car."

MODERN Chevrolet • Geo
4th and Broad St.
722-4191

1ST PAWN CORPORATION
BORROW BUY OR BROWSE
2828 UNIVERSITY PARKWAY
COLLEGE PLAZA CENTER
Quick Cash Loans
Jewelry • TV • VCR Repairs
MONDAY-SATURDAY • 9-9 • SUNDAY 1-6

25% OFF
ON ANY AMOUNT OF DRY CLEANING
Present This Coupon When Dropping Off Your Dry Cleaning And Receive 25% Off Your Ticket Total.

2-Day Turnaround
Order must be picked up within 10 days of drop off to qualify for discount.
Excludes Wedding Dresses, Furs, Leathers, Suedes & Draperies.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16
7 p.m. — The Winston-Salem Branch NAACP will hold its annual Freedom Fund Gala at the Benton Convention Center. This year's theme is "A New Chapter, A New Focus: The Same Mission: Advancement." Congresswoman Eva M. Clayton will be the keynote speaker. Tickets may be purchased at the NAACP office, located in the Golden State Mutual Building, 1225 E. Fifth St., from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Special Occasions, 112 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive.

7:30 p.m. — The R.J. Reynolds PTSA will hold its spring meeting in the school cafeteria. Tom Desch, a family therapist from the Family Center, will speak on "Ready for Growth - How to Develop Your Refusal Skills." New officers will also be installed. Parents, students and teachers are encouraged to attend. For information call Mary Jo Murphy at 721-1921.

7:30 p.m. — Students at West Forsyth High School will present "Cinderella," the musical by Rodgers & Hammerstein, in the school auditorium. There is a fee for admission. Tickets are available at the door. The school is located at 1735 Lewisville-Clemmons Road. For information call 766-6467.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17
11 a.m. — The Atkins High School Classes of the 1930s will meet at Grace Presbyterian Church on Carver School Road. Plans are being made for class reunions in July. All class members who graduated from 1930 to 1939 are asked to attend.

12 p.m. — The Atkins High School Class of 1943 Planning Committee will meet at the East Winston Branch Library, 1110 E. Seventh St., to plan its 50th anniversary to be held July 23-25. All classmates are asked to attend. For information call Arabelle Watts Parker, chairman of the committee, at 722-0705 or Nathaniel Colson at 650-1323.

12 p.m. — The Tri-City Relay Track Club will have registration until 3 p.m. at the Winston Lake Family YMCA. There is a fee. The club needs your support of gifts and donations to help youngsters pursue their dreams of becoming champion athletes. For information call Phillip Rector at 767-7341 or Buddy Hayes at 767-9383.

TUESDAY, APRIL 20
7 p.m. — The East Winston Branch Library will celebrate National Library Week with a Gospel Fest featuring Jimmy Jordan and the Jordanaires, Serenity and the Youth Choir of Rising Ebenezer Baptist Church. The theme for the week is "Reach for the World!"

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21
11:30 a.m. — The Department of Social Services invites you to a Foster Parent Appreciation Luncheon at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 950 File St. For information call 727-2446.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22
11:30 a.m. — The Department of Social Services invites you to a Foster Parent Appreciation Luncheon at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 950 File St. For information call 727-2446.

ONGOING
• Nationally known black classical musicians will come together for performances and panel discussions on "Educating the Minority Child" during the symposium, "Gateways: Classical Music and the Black Musician" April 16-18 at Reynolds Auditorium. All events are free and open to the public. Free transportation will be provided by the Delta Arts Center if contacted by 5 p.m. on April 16 at 722-2625. For information on the symposium, call 773-0460.
• Alumni of Johnson C. Smith University are asked to contact Valecia Lamont at 784-8627.
• Diggs Gallery at Winston-Salem State University features the exhibit "Reflections: Our Journey through Time" April 16-May 15. Opening reception is April 16 at 6 p.m. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit is free and open to the public. For information call 750-2458.

UPCOMING
• The Twin City Business and Professional Women's Organization will hold a luncheon meeting at 12:30 p.m. on April 27 at the Best Western Regency Inn, 128 N. Cherry St. For reservations call Pat McGalliard at 760-0500 by April 23.
• The Winston-Salem Tiny Rams Football Organization will sponsor a golf tournament May 8 at the Winston Lake Golf Course. All golfers are welcome to participate. Registration is required. Prizes will be awarded. All proceeds will benefit the football organization to help children who will play this summer. For information call Lewis Green at 922-3922 or 744-7518.

K&W Cafeteria
OVER 100 DIFFERENT FRESH FOODS.
North Carolina
South Carolina
Virginia

Conrad's Hair Design
We look forward to the opportunity of serving you.
3088 New Walkertown Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27105
Call 725-3074 for these April Specials
Wash & Set
Blow Dry
Curls
Relaxers
Retchouches
Hair Designers: Dwight Jones & Mary Garrett
Operators Wanted

E's SALON
First in Elegance & Hair Perfection
Total Salon
Appointments Only
1111 B. Sbas Creek Pkwy.
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27127
Edith Williams
Owner • Designer (919) 724-1681

HAIR BY TOMI
Styled in comfort by the finest hair designer in town.
Appointments save disappointments
Call 725-8300
Hours: Tues.-Fri. - 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sat. 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.
New Location: 3601 Sellwood Rd. (Ebony Hills)

Diversified Investigative Services, Inc.
Thaddeus Cook
Chief Investigator
• Confidential
• Bonded
• Diverse
• Insured
• Professional
• 24-Hour Service
• NC License #1269
1001 S. Marshall Street, Suite 1
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
(919) 721-0082
Loss Prevention • Private Investigations • Security Programs