

Happy Hillians say blacks need to 'come home'



William Bitting poses with Lee Faye Mack during the Happy Hill Awards Ceremony.

By MAURICE CROCKER
Community News Reporter

"African Americans need to come home and bring the skills and talents God has given them to loose the chains, back to the community," said attorney Hazel M. Mack, as she spoke to residents and former residents of Happy Hill Gardens.

Mack was the keynote speaker at the Third Annual Happy Hill Gardens Reunion Community Service Awards Ceremony.

The awards ceremony was

one of several activities which took place during the community's reunion weekend.

The purpose of the awards ceremony was to honor and remember past leaders of the community.

Among those remembered was Mr. William C. Sims Sr., for whom the Sims Recreational Center is named.

"It was my husband's dream to have a gymnasium in Happy Hill Gardens," said

Please see HAPPY A9.



Maurice Pitts Johnson displays photos of family members.

Winston-Salem Chronicle

The Choice for African-American News and Information

THURSDAY, July 25, 1996

75 CENTS

Dedicated to the Memory of Clarence E. Nottingham: 1903-1995

VOL. XXII, No. 47

CDC gets 203 (K) housing plan OK

▲Community revitalization gets a boost

By MAURICE CROCKER
Community News Reporter

Community revitalization and home ownership may become easier for some Winston-Salem residents, with the help of a new program from the East Winston Community Development Corporation Inc. (EWDC).

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently announced approval of the EWDC application as a housing provider for its Section 203(k) program.

"Because neighborhood revitalization and expanding homeownership opportunities are a primary in the EWDC's goals, we thought it was a natural for our program," said James Grace, executive director for the EWDC.

The Section 203(k) Program is HUD's primary program for the rehabilitation and repair of single-family properties.

Since these are the primary goals of HUD, the federal government believes that Section 203(k) is an important program

Please see CDC A13

Olympic Bound



Brandon Cain, Mateo Ramos and James Dodd join Art Hardin, Youth Sports Coordinator for the Winston-Salem Housing Authority, before beginning a day of festivities at the centennial Olympics in Atlanta. The group received an expense-paid trip to Atlanta from Hanes T-shirt and Sara Lee, Inc.



Members of the youth groups who were awarded tickets and transportation to Atlanta stroll through the streets of Atlanta leading to Centennial Olympic Park where they were recognized by Olympic officials. More on page B1.

Race and Redistricting: still cause for concern

By PHIL DUNCAN
Congressional Quarterly

WASHINGTON —The recent Supreme Court rulings striking down four majority-minority House districts in Texas and North Carolina have provoked intense anxiety among black and Latino members of Congress. Rep. Donald M. Payne, D-N.J., chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, saw a "dangerous parallel" between the redistricting decisions of 1996, which threaten to disenfranchise African-Americans, and the court's infamous 1896 ruling in Plessy v. Ferguson, which approved the segregation of blacks under the separate-but-equal doctrine.

Even impartial analysts suggest that Payne has cause to be concerned, because the rulings clearly threaten recent minority gains in Con-

Congressman Payne, D-N.J., sees a dangerous parallel between the redistricting decisions of 1996 and the 1896 ruling in Plessy v. Ferguson.

gress.

Already there is electoral fallout from the court's inclination to turn a skeptical eye on drawing districts specifically to elect minorities. In Louisiana, for instance, second-term black Democratic Rep. Cleo Fields is the casualty of a federal court-drawn map that reduces the state's number of black-majority districts from two to one; the Supreme Court on June 24 refused to block that map.

But some legal and political factors suggest that Fields' likely exit from the House may not be

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This Week in Black History

July 31, 1874

Patrick Francis Healy, S.J., inaugurated as president of Georgetown University, the oldest Catholic university in America, and become the first black to head a predominantly white university.

Winston-Salem Chronicle
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Coates: Keeping feet dry is key to better, longer life

▲Local turns 100, offers secrets

By MAURICE CROCKER
Community News Reporter

While physicians continue to search for the key to longevity, one Winston-Salem man says he has the secrets to a long and healthy life.

"The secrets are to obey your mother and father, chew your food good, and keep your feet dry, especially keep your feet dry," said Wilson Coates, a resident at Sunrise Towers, who celebrated his 100th birthday last week.

Residents and staff members of Sunrise Tow-

ers gathered in the courtyard of the high-rise to help Coates celebrate this momentous occasion.

"He is a very positive person who you can always find in the lobby," said Burnetta Evans, housing manager for Sunrise Towers.

According to Evans, one of Coates' trademarks is coming to the front office and placing candy on the desks.

Evans, who has known Coates for the past

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Wilson Coates and his wife, Eva, open a present during Coates' 100th birthday celebration.

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