

# Community Focus

Section C

March 20, 1997

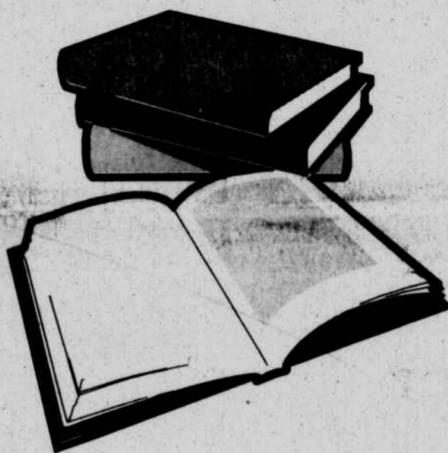


## READ TO ME FESTIVAL



Participants in the 'Read to Me' Festival pay attention to Jose Aruego's slide presentation.

Student volunteers from the drama departments of Mt. Tabor, R.J. Reynolds and Hanes Middle Schools provided dramatic color for the festival.



### Junior League, Piedmont Parent sponsor 'Read to Me' Festival

By PELECIA P. MCMILLAN  
Special to the Chronicle

The Winston-Salem Junior League and Piedmont Parent sponsored the Adventures in Reading 'Read to Me' Festival on Saturday, March 15, in order to encourage parents in the community to read to their children. It was a celebration of story sharing, reading, books, adventures, explorations and recreation for the entire family. It was held at the Benton Convention Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Marjorie Pike, chairman of the festival of the Junior League, and Patricia Poe of Piedmont Parent

various agencies in the community were available to provide hands-on creative projects, science explorations, interactive games, camp adventures and plenty of books. Children received free books when they participated in the various booth activities and stations.

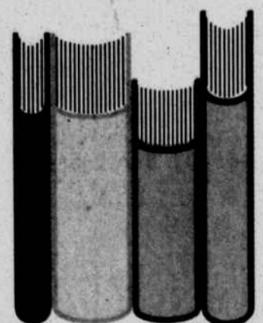
Storytellers included the Healing Force, Jose Aruego and David Holt, who appeared on stage. Puppeteer Becky Lofland appeared with Androgeena to entertain the children. The Healing Force, a local music/storytelling group that is nationally known, had the children participating by playing musical instruments, singing, clapping, and dancing as they shared their story, called "The Children Who Could Do Without Their Elders."

"This story reminds us that we need our elders in the community. We must go back to a time when we

**"This story reminds us that we need our elders in the community. We must go back to a time when we respected and revered our elder."**

— Gail Anderson

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coordinated the festival. Internationally known storytellers and local popular entertainers and volunteers from the Junior League and



Patricia Poe and Marjorie Pike (either side of Wally), coordinators of the festival, take advantage of a photo op with Warthogs mascot Wally the Warthog. Young Asher Gilbert, who could not be persuaded to part with Wally, joins them. Her mother, Patty, is one step behind.



Marie Arcuri and her daughter Hope got along famously with the Panda.



Trinette Chase and son Aaron Taylor enjoyed the performance of Healing Force. Members shown middle and right are Sonji and Joseph Anderson. Not pictured is member Gail Anderson.