



Monique Freaney and Laurie Briggs outside The Salvation Army building on Trade Street.

## Salvation Army seeking help to replenish supply of food

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD  
THE CHRONICLE

The Salvation Army of Winston-Salem could use a little help boosting its food supply. Over the last month, the Trade Street facility has experienced a greater demand for food from families and senior citizens in the community. Economic instability, job layoffs and stricter welfare reform requirements are causing more families to run out of food and turn to The Salvation Army for emergency food rations.

"Normally, at this time of year we don't run low on food...but because of the increased demand for food, we are out of food a lot earlier than normal," said Monique Freaney, director of social services and corrections for the The Salvation Army of Winston-Salem.

The Salvation Army of Winston-Salem serves Forsyth, Davie, Yadkin and Stokes counties through food, shelter and clothing. The Salvation Army's emergency food program generally allocates three to five days worth of food to a family, whereas recently, the program is able to provide families with only enough food for two days.

An annual holiday concert, done in conjunction with Fox8 News, usually leaves the Salva-

tion Army with an ample supply of food. Food supplies typically start diminishing around summertime, Freaney says. But not this year.

"We've seen different people that haven't ever come in before (requesting food)...We're seeing a lot of elderly people...When their money is tight they cut their food budget," said Freaney, who noted that during February, the Salvation Army provided 2,319 meals through its community breakfast program and 78 orders of groceries.

Freaney explained that food supplies have even been low at the Second Harvest Bank, on which the Salvation Army heavily relies for food purchases. When The Salvation Army's own food budget runs low, it relies on food donations from the community.

"I've been working here with The Salvation Army for seven years, and I have never had a year ... where we've run out of food this quickly," Freaney said. "If people turn to a food pantry for food, then they usually really need it."

While The Salvation Army has not yet had to turn people away for lack of food, it still is unable to provide them with a balanced supply of essential food staples, said Laurie Briggs, a case

manager with The Salvation Army. Briggs sees families and individuals almost on a daily (walk-in) basis requesting food assistance.

"Our biggest shortage is in breakfast foods like cereal and oatmeal, and when we don't have it, unfortunately those are things (we) can't put in their box of food and send them away," Briggs said.

Breakfast items (such as cereal and breakfast bars), peanut butter, pasta, pasta sauce, canned fruits and canned meats and soups are especially needed, according to Briggs.

With an estimated 100,000 people having been laid off from WorldCom due to bankruptcy, the Salvation Army predicts that the number of people in need of its food service will only continue to climb as more corporate conflicts unfold and more pink slips are handed out.

Food donations may be dropped off at The Salvation Army, 1255 N. Trade Street, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The Salvation Army Food Bank is open Tuesday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Picture ID and proof of residency are required. For more information, call 722-8721.

## Levert's Joel concert called off

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Triad residents will have to wait a little longer to see R&B crooner Gerald Levert in concert. The much-talked-about Levert show scheduled for March 29 at Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum has been axed by Levert's management company.

Coliseum officials say the decision was made to cancel the show after the promoter for the show, Philadelphia-based Mark Wilson Entertainment, failed to follow a contract, which stated that the singer would be paid a mandatory deposit for shows.

Mark Wilson Entertainment was promoting the Winston-Salem show and two others, one in Columbia, S.C., and one in Baltimore. All three shows have been axed from Levert's schedule.

Gerry Duncan, assistant director of coliseum booking, said the show will not be rescheduled. "We were looking forward to a great concert. This is very unfortunate," he said in a statement.

Anyone holding tickets to the concert may return them at the place where they were purchased for a full refund. People who ordered online or by phone can call Ticketmaster at 722-6400.



Gerald Levert

### Mendez

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to attend that meeting but was present for a meeting with State Department representatives in Washington, D.C., that afternoon concerning their trip.

"One of the things that we're concerned about is that Iraq comply with the U.N. resolution...It just seems like (the United States) wants to go to war anyway...because if (Iraq) complies (or if Iraq is already) complying, then there's no rea-

son to go to war...There is no rush...So we are trying to advocate that this all be resolved peacefully," Mendez said.

The trip also gives ministers the opportunity, said Mendez, to "put faces on these people" in the region who are suffering as a result of sanctions by the U.S. government imposed on their homeland since 1991.

"(Some Americans) think the whole country is (filled with people like) Saddam Hussein, which it isn't. There's mothers, there's children,

there's fathers. They're real people. I've been in a war situation twice - in Nicaragua and in Angola - and believe me, war is no fun," Mendez said.

Mendez said he worries about the Iraqi infrastructure withstanding destruction that may come about if war happened in the region. He fears not only for the safety of civilians but also for historic ruins.

"Some of the oldest ruins of civilization are there...I'm very concerned about destroying all of those ancient relics (in Iraq)," Mendez said.

### NAACP

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panies in all regions across the country to grow their business by finding and connecting with qualified job applicants."

The Monster and NAACP partnership will extend beyond job postings, offering a wide array of career offerings, designed to help job seekers manage their careers and help drive job postings from leading companies

nationwide to the co-branded Web site. Content of the site will include career articles, profiles of diversity advocates and professionals, newsletters, and message boards on wide-ranging diversity topics and issues.

### Sharpton

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porting me." Sharpton says his biggest obstacles will be raising money and overcoming the negative portrayal of him by the mainstream media. He is unable to shake himself of the 1987 Tawana Brawley case in which he accused a white prosecutor

and police officers of raping the black teenager. A grand jury later decided Brawley was lying and that Sharpton had besmirched the reputation of the officer.

Some political observers want more emphasis placed on issues, not the personalities.

"It's unfortunate in some ways that their policy stances are sort of subordinated to this personalizing of the campaigns," said Katherine Tate, chair of the

political science department at University of California-Irvine. "Depending on how he responds to negative media coverage is going to be a factor in his ability to win over the media and get over the bad history that the media keeps getting into. I'd like Sharpton at some point to get an opportunity to pitch to voters in a fair and open way like Lieberman and Gephardt are being treated as serious candidates."

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