

SPORTS WEEK

Sports winners, losers for 2002

Meet Anthony Hill, Chronicle sports man



See B1



See A3



See C1

COMMUNITY

Social club holds anniversary bash

HAWS program finding success

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Community Gauge

Each new year brings lots and lots of resolutions. People make pledges to eat less, exercise more and save more money. We asked local people what they resolved to do in 2003.



"To get better grades."

— Uriel Alberto, Parkland High School student



"Peace on earth, good will to men, and keep Satan underneath your foot."

— Rico, the Liberty-Trade Street Hot Dog Stand



"I hope to drum up more business for my barber-shop, Big Tyme Barber-shop and Styling Salon; lose more weight; expand some and come up with a surprise business venture; spend as much time as I can with my family; open a program to get some kids some scholarships for college; fulfill my church duties; and be more health conscious."

— Jon Brown



"To begin to think about plans for building my vacation home in North Carolina."

— George Lowery



"I hope to be more productive with my time."

— Wanda Johnson, owner and operator of Klasic Kreations

Compiled by Jaeson Pitt and Al White

Latham leader up for challenge

BY T. KEVIN WALKER THE CHRONICLE

Ingrid Medlock has vivid memories of the day she sat across from Larry Fields to discuss her background and ambitions.

It was about a year-and-a-half ago. Fields was a trailblazing principal at Latham Elementary School and Medlock was being interviewed for an assistant principal's position at the school.

"The man was brilliant," Medlock recalled. "He asked me questions that no else asked me, made me think out of the box, stretched me to no end."

At the time, Medlock was developing a name for herself in the school system, teaching everything from math to drama and writing grants to jump-start several local programs. The assistant principal position at Latham — a school that, with

Fields at the helm, developed a successful formula that resulted in inner-city students achieving test results only seen in the suburbs — was Medlock's dream job, but Fields told her at the end of the interview that he already had someone else in mind for the position.

"He was very upfront with me...But he told me that 'you are going to have your school one day, real soon,'" Medlock said.

Fields' words were on Medlock's mind a lot the week before Christmas as she cleared out her office at LEAP, the school where she eventually landed an assistant principalship. Today is Medlock's official first day as the principal at Latham. Fields died unexpectedly of an aneurysm in September. Medlock won the top job at the school after an exhaustive



Ingrid Medlock

See Medlock on A3

City to be topic of course

Residents to be educated about local government

BY AL WHITE CHRONICLE INTERN

Interested in learning more about the functions of Winston-Salem's city government?

The city of Winston-Salem was recently awarded a 10,000 ECHO Grant (Everyone Can Help Out) from the Winston-Salem Foundation. The grant will be used to establish a public-education program called the City of Winston-Salem University (CWSU) for the fall of 2003.

"The City of Winston-Salem University is a broad-brushed education about all facets of city government," said Carrie Collins, Winston-Salem's marketing and communications director.

CWSU is a free 10-week course, with classes meeting once a week for three hours. It will give citizens insight on city functions and allow them to have a more active voice in the government. The CWSU will not focus on one particular department or program within the government.

"Students will have a chance to work with the various city departments, and their involvement and ideas will help better the city of Winston-Salem," Collins said. CWSU students will learn about all the city's committees, departments and programs.

The course will be limited to 25 residents, who will be selected through a free application process. Residents from Winston-Salem will receive priority within the application process, yet if there are openings, residents of Forsyth County will be accepted.

"We're looking for everybody who is 18 years of age or older," declared Collins. "Any citizen of Winston-Salem is welcome to apply." High school seniors interested in public policy with strong credentials and experience are encouraged to apply.

See Course on A7



A woman lights a candle on the kinara during one of the days of Kwanzaa. The African-American Christmas celebration has gained popularity over the past several years.

Local folks celebrate Kwanzaa

BY PAUL COLLINS THE CHRONICLE

Dozens of people attended the opening night of the annual citywide Kwanzaa celebration last Thursday at the Winston-Salem Urban League — to celebrate the principle of Umoja, or unity.

The program included a welcome, history of Kwanzaa, recognition of elders, explanation of the Umoja principle, lighting of the Umoja candle, African drumming and dancing (by the Otesha Arts Ensemble), recitation of a poem, refreshments. Also, vendors sold ethnic crafts.

Some people wore colorful African attire. One dance featured several members of the audience in a contest, and at other times some members of the audience stood up and danced on their own.

Debra D. James, coordinator of the citywide Kwanzaa celebration, said of Kwanzaa: "This is a wonderful celebra-

tion. The hard times that a lot of families are going through with layoffs and budget cuts, this is another way to add festivities to this time of the year without being commercial, without feeling obligated to buy gifts. This is a way to come together."

She said that at Christmas time, some families delay paying bills or do without in order to buy gifts for their children. "We need to get back to love. We need to get back to the basics," she said.

Kwanzaa is an African-American and Pan-African holiday that celebrates family, community and culture; according to the official Kwanzaa Web site. Kwanzaa is celebrated from Dec. 26 through Jan. 1 and "its origins are in the first harvest celebrations of Africa." The name Kwanzaa is derived from the phrase "matunda ya kwanza," meaning "first fruits" in Swahili, the most widely spoken African language.

The first-fruits celebrations are recorded as far back as ancient Egypt and Nubia. Kwanzaa was established in the United States in 1969 amid the Black Freedom Movement. It has been celebrated in Winston-Salem since the late 1970s.

Kwanzaa stresses seven communitarian African values, or principles: Umoja (unity), Kujichagulia (self-determination), Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Umajaa (cooperative economics), Nia (purpose), Kuumba (creativity) and Imani (faith).

When asked to explain what Kwanzaa means to him and his family, Alvin Borders, education specialist at the Urban League, said: "It's like you're passing on the old and bringing in the new, really. That's what it means to us. It's a time to reflect on our family values."

Tahnya Bowser, who owns and operates... See Kwanzaa on A7



Shateka Cuthbertson spoons tiny bits of macaroni and cheese into the mouth of her baby girl, Janiquia, at a Christmas dinner held in Happy Hill Gardens recently. The event was organized by a church outreach program. See A2 for the full story.

More families turning to schooling kids at home

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD THE CHRONICLE

Almost 10 years ago, Sochi Nzewi (pronounced Soche Enzuey) decided to home-school her only child because his late birthday would make him one of the youngest in his kindergarten class. Today all five of Nzewi's children are being home-schooled and on the road to academic excellence.

"I didn't think (my son) was ready for the long school day schedule...We had a great experience that first year (of home-schooling) and each year has been rewarding ever since," said Nzewi, whose children are among the estimated 1,412 students who were home-educated in Forsyth County

during the 2001-2002 school year, according to the Department of Non-Public Education. The DNPE is a regulatory agency within the N.C. Department of Public Instruction that oversees private elementary/secondary schools in the state.

The Nzewi household is also one of 800 home schools in Forsyth County, with 941 home schools in Guilford County and nearly 1,800 home schools in Mecklenburg County during the previous school year.

Nzewi and her husband, Emmanuel Nzewi, a professor at N.C. A&T University, are originally from Nigeria, but they have lived in the United States for 16

See Home school on A3