

# Several phone numbers change at Sheriff's Office

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office changed several of its main telephone numbers earlier this week as a result of the implementation of a new telephone system. Here are the new numbers for many of the office's key departments:

- Administration: (336) 917-7001
- Records: (336) 917-7005

- Sex Offender Registry: (336) 917-7003
- Human Resources: (336) 917-7008
- Pistol / CCW Permits: (336) 917-7015
- Crime Prevention: (336) 917-7010
- Field Services / Patrol: (336) 917-7011
- Criminal Investigations: (336) 917-7002

- Property / Evidence: (336) 917-7004
- Civil & Support Services: (336) 917-7009

The non-emergency telephone number to communications has not changed and will remain (336)-727-2112. The main telephone number to the Forsyth County Detention Center also has not changed. It is (336)-748-4200.

## Muslims

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believed to be the world's second most practiced religion after Christianity. Blacks make-up about 40 percent of the six to 10 million Muslims in this country, according to the Muslim American Society. Bray, who is African-American, says he has faced bias on two fronts.

"First there was Driving while Black. Now there is Flying while Muslim," he said, referring to the suspicion and scrutiny that many Muslims say they have faced at airports around the world since 9/11.

Hamdy Radwan, the president of the Annoor Islamic Center and a Winston-Salem State University professor, said that airports are places where he has definitely noticed a difference in how he is perceived.

"They all just look at you," he said. "It is kind of scary. That never happened before (Sept. 11)."

Radwan believes the work of Freedom Foundation - which was formed in the months after the terrorist attacks - and events like the weekend dinner will slowly but surely shatter barriers and



Moderator Iman Elmalawany introduces Rev. Richard Groves at Saturday's event.

change perceptions.

The Washington, DC-based Freedom Foundation just opened a North Carolina office in Raleigh. Khalila Sabra, the executive director of the N.C. Freedom Foundation, told the crowd Saturday that achieving the foundation's mission won't be easy. She said many Americans believe the struggle for equal rights for all ended after the Civil Rights Movement.

"(There is) a huge desire not to be obliged to think

about it again," said Sabra, who added that the Civil Rights Movement left the nation "morally exhausted."

The Rev. Richard Groves, pastor of Wake Forest Baptist Church and one of several dinner speakers, said another challenge will be getting people to simply open and expand their minds.

"The heart of a lot of our problem is simple ignorance on the part of us white, Christian Americans," he said. "We have a lot of learning to do."

Association of Women Business Owners; chair of Sacramento City's Small Business Board and was just appointed by Gov. Schwarzenegger to the California Small Business Board. If that isn't enough, she is also on the board of the Black Chamber of Commerce, active with the Girl Scouts and on the Board of the Birthing Project, a national organization providing prenatal care and parenting support for women who otherwise could not afford it.

Stafford can now proudly add to her list of accomplishments that she is the first African American on record, in the 21-year history of the Mrs. California United States Pageant to hold the Mrs. California title. If successful in the Mrs. United States Pageant in July in Las Vegas, Stafford will be the first African American to hold the

Mrs. United States title as well. Unlike most pageants, the Mrs. United States event is designed for married women with children.

Stafford's ultimate goal is to take her 'lessons learned' and use them to inspire others.

"It's important to realize that circumstances do not define us; they merely strengthen us if we are in the right frame of mind," Stafford said. "Was I abused, was I penniless, was I discriminated against? Absolutely! But I refused to be held back for long. I always had faith that there was a better tomorrow ... and there always was."

## Stafford

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I was all right. Looking into her eyes, I saw myself and knew that I did not want this life for her. We left the next day."

"I am so blessed today to have a loving and supportive husband; Bryan. There is nothing more important to us than raising our children to become compassionate and self motivated people who will contribute to the community throughout their lives," Stafford said. "Our focus is to be of service; to somehow touch the lives of others in a way that changes their journey for the better."

To that end, Stafford was the chair of the Hands on Sacramento Leadership Council, which promotes volunteerism; she is a past president of the National

## Comedy

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DiCaprio and Jack Nicholson.

He will also be featured in the upcoming movie, "Transformers," which opens July 4 and will play one of the two leads in Fox's drama pilot "K-Ville," which revolves around cops in post-Katrina New Orleans.

Ask anyone and they will tell you the baddest female comedienne on the circuit today is Sommore. If you looked up side-splitting, straight edge,



Sommore

strictly business comedy in the dictionary, you would see Sommore's name. With a mixture of sassiness, sex appeal and sheer realness, the Trenton, NJ native Sommore has emerged as the reigning "Queen of Comedy." Some comedians come and go, but Sommore and all her fans will tell you that she is here to stay. Early in her career, Sommore was recognized as one of the fiercest, funniest emerging comedienesses in the business when she received the Richard Pryor Comic of The Year Award in 1995.

Hands down, Earthquake is one of the most explosive comedic performers today. He has been heralded by critics as "one of the most talented comedians in the country." Everyone from TV's top executives to its top performers have been wooing the performer, known for his straight ahead humor. Already immensely popular with urban audiences, mainstream audiences are now getting their chance to catch this red-hot comedian. Having shared the stage with everyone from Jamie Foxx to Cedric The Entertainer and D. L. Hughley, Earthquake has established himself as the next big star from

the world of comedy.

Hart has the dubious honor of being one of the most likable comedians today. Having one of Hollywood's most recognizable faces, Hart has clearly started charting a path straight to the top of the comedy world for himself. The talented stand-up comic and actor has appeared in the films "Death of a Dynasty," where he played a number of characters, "Scary Movie 3 and 4," "Soul Plane" and "Along Came Polly," opposite Jennifer Aniston. In 2005, Hart also starred in his own television series called "The Big House." He is a frequent on cable television's Comedy Central where he's had his own television special - Comedy Central presents Kevin Hart. Hart has also been a guest on "Jimmy Kimmel Live" and "Late Night with

Conan O'Brien." Perry appeared in "Johnson Family Vacation," opposite Cedric the Entertainer and Steve Harvey, but that was only a taste of things to come. Perry also has some scene stealing performances in several upcoming films, "Legacy," "Redrum" and "Show Stoppers," all set for release in 2007. He recently served as the Co-Host of TV One's hit comedy competition "Who's Got Jokes?," alongside Bill Bellamy and has appeared on BET's Comic View, and HBO's Def Comedy Jam.

The show, which is being presented by Exit 1 Entertainment, starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$42.50. Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster locations, including Hecht's and FYE, and online at www.ticketmaster.com or www.ljvm.com. Call the Coliseum Box Office to charge by phone at 722-6400.

## Housing

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affordable housing and fair housing.

This year's summit consisted of a five member panel of experts hailing from diverse professional backgrounds. Monte White, of Allen Tate Realtors, served as moderator.

"There's so many things available and so many professionals and we know so (little) about what's available to all of us," White told the audience. "That really is the purpose of our being here ... to be united and to be in concert, so that we can affect affordable and fair housing for everybody here in our community."

Sandra Anderson Groat, CEO of Sandra Anderson Builders and Mayor Pro Tempore of Greensboro, was on hand to lend the wisdom of her experience to the discussion.

Her company has been constructing affordable housing for more than 20 years, accommodating an estimated 1,400 families in Forsyth and Guilford counties to date.

Winston-Salem's desire to create more and better housing for those in lower income brackets is a trend that is echoed in many communities across the state, according to panel

member Chris Estes, CEO of the North Carolina Low Income Housing Coalition, a statewide advocacy and resource nonprofit.

"The topic you all are looking at is a big topic in North Carolina right now," he said. "I think a lot of communities are coming together and discussing the issues of affordable housing."

Allen-Abraham, Larry Woods, executive director of Housing Authority of Winston-Salem, and Patricia Amend of the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency rounded out the panel, which addressed a variety of topics, from the need for low-cost land, to the challenges of building "green," or earth friendly housing at low costs, and a smattering of other issues the industry faces.

Abdul Rasheed gave the keynote speech. Rasheed is CEO of the North Carolina Initiative, a statewide public / private partnership that provides grant support and project capital to nonprofits and CDCs.

"This is a critically important issue," Rasheed asserted. "Anytime that you can get a gathering like this together to consider the needs and goals of affordable housing, it's something I think that we should participate in and support."



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