

Dems will discuss leadership this evening

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Forsyth County Democratic Party will host its second 2008 Courageous Conversations Forum today (March 20) at its headquarters at 1128 Burke Street. The forum, which is open to the public, will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Courageous Conversation Forums are held on the third Thursday of each month with new themes and prestigious panelists. This discussion series was created to provide a forum for open and honest dialogue regarding today's most pressing issues and to engage all citizens of Forsyth County, regardless of political differences.



File Photo
Darla S. Bates, an advocate for the disabled, will take part in tonight's discussion.

February's forum, which addressed issues of "Education, Immigration and Race", drew a standing room only crowd. This month's forum will focus on the theme of "Leadership".

Panelists will include Dr. Larry Little of Winston-Salem State University, Darla S. Bates of The Adaptables and Algenon Cash, an executive financial consultant.

Fleming El-Amin, chair of the Forsyth County Democratic Party, will serve as moderator.

For more information, contact the FCDP Headquarters at 724-5941.



Photo by Layla Farmer
The church offers a computer lab and other services.

Huntleys

from page A1

Bishop Huntley also does his part to make a dent in the community's problems. He tends a community garden across from the church, filling it with vegetables for everyone to harvest.

"They can go up there and get anything they want," he stated. "Last year, we fed over 200 families out of that garden."

Bishop Huntley, who retired from R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., repairs old computers to be utilized in the institute's computer lab. An avid cook, he lends his expertise to the Institute's health ministry as well, coaching participants on how to prepare healthier meals by foregoing items such as salt.

The Institute has also partnered with the NC Cooperative Extension Services to provide classes on healthy cooking and tips on stretching the rations given by the church's food pantry.

The Huntleys are also active in several organizations outside the church as well. The couple holds two positions on the advisory board of Vigils for Healing, an interfaith community ministry. Mrs. Huntley also serves on Habitat for Humanity of Forsyth County's board of directors.

Bishop Huntley participates in a Notification Program

through the Winston-Salem Police Department, where residents confront repeat offenders about the damage they are doing to the community. The purpose of the program is to let those who are committing crimes know that their community won't tolerate their behavior and to help them find a way to live their lives crime-free, he says.

"I wanted to do something to help out black, young men because so many of them are wasting their lives," he declared.

Despite their busy schedules, ("We are here more than we are at home," she says) the Huntleys say they always make time for the people of the community.

On any given day, they can be found eating lunch with a local child at school, counseling a neighbor who struggles with addiction, or simply lending an ear to someone who needs to talk.

"The biggest thing is caring for the community," she said. "You have to help people wherever they are. That's what it's all about."

The Alpha and Omega Institute is currently in need of computers that can be rehabbed and used in its computer lab. To donate or learn more about the Institute's services, contact Deloris Huntley at (336) 748-4787.



Fundraiser will recall legacy of Reid

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Fifth Annual Slater Book Society of Winston-Salem State University's C. G. O'Kelly Library will honor the legacy of the late Evon L. Reid next month at a fundraising dinner.

For nearly half a century, longtime music educator Reid devoted his life to sharing the marvel of African-American church music. But contributing back to his alma mater via his expertise in spiritual harmony was a dream left unfulfilled prior to his death.

The dinner will help to realize Reid's dream of giving back to WSSU. The Monday, April 7 event, which starts at 6:30 p.m., will feature Dr. Kevin Sloan, choral director for the Salem Presbytery Black Caucus Mass Choir, who will present a special retrospective tribute to Reid's dedication to fine religious music. The musical tribute will showcase the shift from four part hymns to unified voices of praise.

Reid's musical journey dates back to 1941, when he graduated from Winston-Salem Teachers College (Winston-Salem State University). Reid's extended tenure as a music teacher

spans several North Carolina school systems, including a position with the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System.

His passion for church music steered him to serve as church choral director in Winston-Salem for more than 40 years, during the period when church music changed radically. Reid's tenure as a church musician includes service at United Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church, St. Paul United Methodist Church and St. Philips Moravian Church.

Reid, who was recently honored with a Special Tribute Award at The Chronicle's 25th Annual Community Service Awards, died last year.

The dinner will be held in McNeil Banquet Hall of the Anderson Center at Winston-Salem State. Tickets cost \$40 each and includes a three-course dinner. Tables with seating for eight can be reserved for \$320. Reservations are strongly suggested since seating will be limited.

Ticket reservations or additional information can be requested by calling 336-750-2442.

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