



Wake freshman earns lofty honor

-See Page B1



Business leaders inspire students

-See Page A12



There is reason to celebrate at 660 West Fifth Street

Celebrating 33 Years of Journalism North Carolina Room Forsyth County Public Library at 660 West Fifth Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101

# THE CHRONICLE

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22 110808 1 \*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27101 NORTH CAROLINA ROOM FORSYTH CTY PUBLIC LIBRARY 660 W 5TH ST WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-2755

## Wallets of local minorities overflowing

### Blacks and Hispanics in Forsyth spent nearly \$2 billion in 2006

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Money, power, respect – they all go hand in hand. And Keith Grandberry wants to make sure local minority populations get their fair share of each.

"We really need to educate the people of Winston-Salem on the economic impact that minorities have in this community," said Grandberry, president and CEO of the Winston-Salem Urban League. "I think it's the most important thing that we can look at in this community – economic buying power."

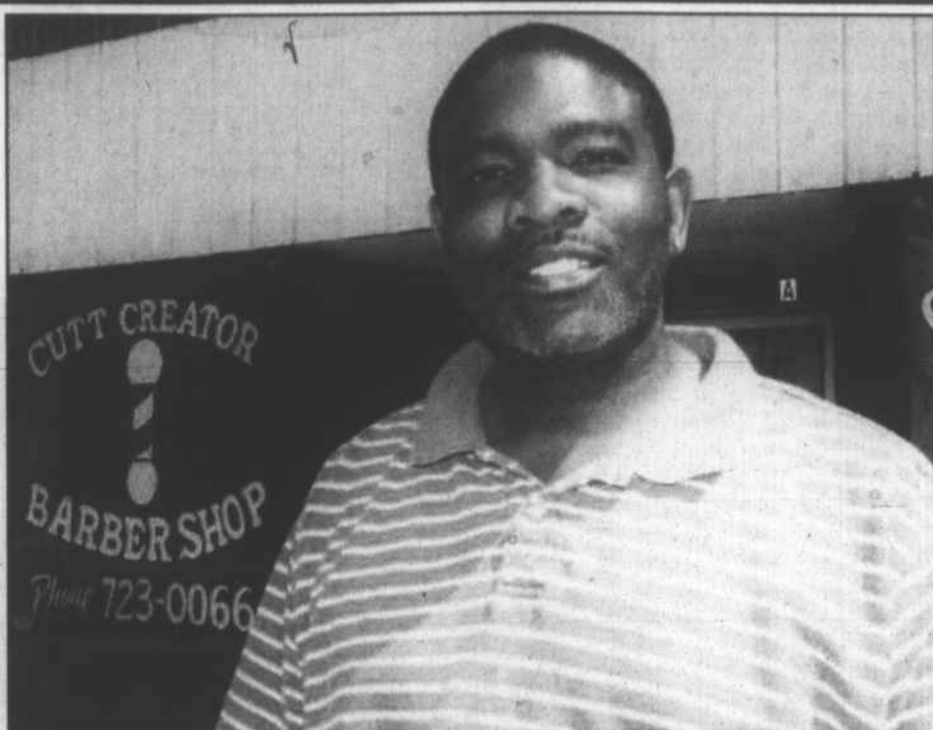
Raising awareness in black and Hispanic communities about their collective economic impact could lead to more socially conscious spending, Grandberry believes.

"We need to be aware of our power and we need to be sure that we use it effectively," he said. "I don't think that we are looking at the power that we have. We need to look at how we can take some of that money that we're spending and create opportunities for ourselves."

Monday, the Urban League educated local people about the tremendous economic impact that blacks and Hispanics have in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County. The "lunch and learn" event was a collaboration between the Urban League and the North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development – a statewide nonprofit that supports underrepresented sectors of the business community.

Attendees learned that blacks in Winston-Salem spent an astounding \$1.8 billion in 2006, while local Hispanics in that same year shelled out \$612 million for goods and

See Spending on A4



Antonio Cunningham stands outside of his Liberty Street barbershop.

## TOGETHER THEY STAND

### Liberty Street merchants form association

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Antonio Cunningham has spent most of his career on Liberty Street. Cunningham, 36, began barbering at a small shop on the Liberty Street Corridor – the stretch of land between the 12th St. to New Hope Lane (formerly 18th St.) intersections – 15 years ago.

"I was just young and I felt like I needed to do something with my life," he said of his decision to become a barber.

"I was cutting (hair) at home, you know, just kids in

the neighborhood, so I thought I'd go to barber school and give it a try; I ended up enjoying it."

After the shop on Liberty closed, Cunningham moved on, opting for a chair in the downtown area. But when he decided to open his own shop years later, Cunningham returned to his roots.

"I enjoyed it, you know, the flow of the traffic; it's right in a community, a neighborhood where kids can walk to get their haircuts; you don't

See Merchants on A4



Dr. James Johnson Jr.



Officials cut the ribbon last week to formally open Foundation Heights.

## 'HERE WE GROW AGAIN'

BY T. KEVIN WALKER THE CHRONICLE

### WSSU formally opens newest residence hall

Foundation Heights has been called many things – swanky, modern, even a collegiate Waldorf Astoria. But no one is calling it the "D" word.

"It used to be a time when we called these a dormitory, now it's a residence hall...which means this

ain't your mother's or father's dormitory," said Nigel Alston, the chairman of the Winston-Salem State University Board of Trustees.

Alston was among several university leaders that took part in a dedication and ribbon cutting for Foundation Heights, WSSU's third

new "residence hall" in as many years. Foundation Heights has already been broken in by the more than 300 students who call it home. It opened to students last September. Friday's ceremony was an occasion to honor the various players who brought the project to

fruition and to spotlight the school's continued growth.

"We have the best housing facilities in the entire University of North Carolina system," bragged Chancellor Donald Reaves, who says he states that claim often, even to other system chancellor and UNC system administrators.

See WSSU on A6

## STUDY WAR NO MORE

### Locals hold vigil to mourn the 4,000th American casualty in Iraq

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

A small group gathered last Thursday night for a solemn vigil to mark the 4,000th death of a U.S. serviceperson in Iraq.

The vigil, held at Llyod Presbyterian Church, focused on the human cost of the five-year-old Iraq War; participants also prayed for the war's end. The vigil was one of many sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), a Quaker group that advocates for peace and social justice. Debra Dillard, an organizer with AFSC, said the vigils are also designed to mourn Iraqi casualties.

"We wanted to take the opportunity to draw attention to it and so make the connection not only to the U.S. loss, but the



Vigil participants take their message to the street.

## ALL-AMERICAN GIRL



Two-year-old Kennedy Kornegay got into the spirit last week at a voter registration rally by waving the American flag. The rally was held at the Urban League and attended by dozens. To read more about the event, see page B7 of this week's issue.



In Memory of Charlene Russell Brown

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