



Cop has big heart for kids and sports

-See Page B1



WSSU names its new provost

-See Page A3



Black Santa is a hit at library

-See Page B8



THE CHRONICLE

Vol. XXXV No. 16

THURSDAY, December 18, 2008

20 120409 1 *****5-DIGIT 27101
NORTH CAROLINA ROOM
FORSYTH CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
660 W 5TH ST
WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-2755

WASTE NOT, WANT NOT

God's Kitchen brings donated food back to life to feed those in need

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

A small East Winston church has started a new ministry with a big mission - feeding local people who are hungry. Wentz Memorial Congregation United Church of Christ's God's Kingdom Kitchen opened its doors Saturday. The innovative kitchen ministry takes donated and other un-sell-able food from local grocery stores and turns them into scrumptious meals.



Photo by Todd Luck

Elizabeth Martin and Trevonia Brown-Gaither, far right, were among those who served food.

"When you're at home and you open the bag of potatoes and got one with some with black spots in it, you cut out the black spots and cook up the potatoes," said the Rev. Renee Griffin, pastor of the 50-member church on Carver School Road. "The grocery store is going to throw that away, food that's useable but perhaps not salable...that we'll want to use to help feed people who are hungry."

Griffin had the idea for the kitchen before the economy went sore. She had heard of a group called Food Not Bombs, which has a chapter in Greensboro, using unused food from grocery stores to feed the needy. She said while her church isn't necessarily adopting the politics of Food Not Bombs, which is involved in peace and hunger activism, she did want to use the organization's food gathering methods to make a difference.

"Our one statement, if anything, is that we just don't believe people should be or need to be hungry," said Griffin.

The Kingdom Kitchen was open for two hours Saturday afternoon. Serving items such as chicken, baked sweet potatoes

See Kitchen on A4

A REAL SENIOR GRADUATES



NC A&T Photo

North Carolina A&T State University Chancellor Stanley F. Battle congratulates 75-year-old graduate Jean B. Williams during the school's Fall Commencement Ceremony on Dec. 13 at the Greensboro Coliseum. Williams received a B.A. degree in sociology. Also among the graduating class was Alvin Walker, another 75-year-old, who received a B.A. degree in visual arts.

Students act as Santa's helpers

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

The Christmas spirit was alive and well in Coliseum Park Plaza Friday afternoon. A blow up Santa Claus, complete with reindeer, beckoned volunteers to the suite where the Santa's Helper "workshop" was set up. Inside, Christmas music filled the air, tempered by the chatter of happy voices as student athletes and volunteers clad in elfin costumes flitted about, wrapping thousands of gifts for local children.

Santa's Helper, a nonprofit, was founded in 1986 by then-Wake Forest football player Chip Rives and Robert Egleston, president of Interstate Credit Collections. In its inaugural year, the program raised over \$3,000 to purchase gifts for children from needy families in the area.

Rives donned a Santa Claus suit and enlisted the help of a handful of his teammates to deliver the gifts, surprising more than 45 families with a visit from the modern day St. Nick.

"The one constant has always been



Photo by Layla Farmer

Freshman Terence Davis and another student wrap gifts.

See Helpers on A11

Shelter residents get star treatment

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Prime rib, front row seats and gifts galore.

The men who live at the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission are not accustomed to the best, but that's exactly what they got last Thursday night at Center Grove Baptist Church in Clemmons.



Rev. Cortis

Fifty-eight men from the Mission arrived at the church by bus for a memorable holiday experience that included dinner and a live staging of the church's Christmas pageant. Each guest

left with a well-stocked, over-sized gift bag.

For the past several years, the church has given the royal treatment to residents of the Mission - a faith-based homeless shelter and substance abuse recovery program. But this was the first year that an additional group of about 50, mostly women and children, from other local shelters were treated to a similar experience on



Photo by Michael Burton/Center Grove

Guests receive gift bags.

Friday.

"When you serve the needs of others, that's when you look most like Jesus," said Center Grove Pastor Steve Cortis.

The 1,200-member suburban church is a long way from downtown Winston-Salem and even farther away

from the challenges and demons that the mission residents have faced. Cortis said although his church has "cows on one side and \$400,000 homes on the other," he wanted to get his congregation to reach beyond its surroundings.

See Center Grove on A11



Concerns about health prioritized

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

The Forsyth County Department of Public Health, in collaboration with the Forsyth County Healthy Community Coalition, has identified eight priority areas that need more attention in a 2008 State of the County Health Report.

Domestic violence, homelessness and illegal dumping are among those listed as top priorities in the report, which is based on data from the years 2003-2007; as were school nutrition, infant mortality



Ademeyero

See Health on A9



In Memory of
**Charlene
Russell Brown**

"Growing and Still Dedicated to Serve You Better"
Russell Funeral Home
Wishes to Thank Everyone For Their Support

822 Carl Russell Ave.
(at Martin Luther King Dr.)
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
(336) 722-3459
Fax (336) 631-8268
russhome@bellsouth.net

