



West Forsyth JV squad is victorious

-See Page B1



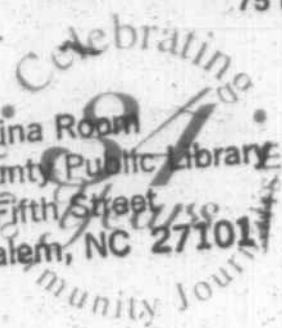
Wake tries to attract students of color

-See Page A3



Local teacher preparing for D.

North Carolina Room Forsyth County Public Library 660 West Fifth Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101



THE CHRONICLE

Vol. XXXV No. 20

THURSDAY, January 15, 2009

'WE'RE HIRING!'

Local 2010 Census office will need thousands of workers

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

The U.S. Census Bureau has opened an office in the area and will be hiring 5,000 people in North Carolina to help count every single person in the state.

The Triad's first 2010 Census office will soon officially open in Greensboro. It will cover 11 counties, including Forsyth. More offices, including one in Forsyth County, will open in the next year.

The census is a count of everyone living in the United States that is conducted every 10 years. Questionnaires are mailed out for people to complete and mail in. Participation is required by law and federal law prevents the sharing of any personal information from the census. The resulting statics are used in determining the distribution of congressional seats for each state, a community's service needs and how much federal money is given to local and state governments.

While this may sound simple in theory, getting a census survey to everyone in the country and getting them to return it is a monumental task.

That's why the area census office first opened in October 2008, even though the census itself isn't until 2010. The office is seeking so many employees because of the large-scale nature of the effort. Kim Loyd, assistant manager of recruiting for the Greensboro office, said it's good work.

"Not only is it important, it's good paying, great hours," said Loyd. "Right now, jobs are scarce and we're hiring."

Loyd said 60 people were hired for office work just last week. Many of them are taking phone calls from potential applicants. Applicants call an 800 number and are then directed to one of the many testing sites in the 11-county area, where the applicant will take a basic skills test. Successful applicants are put in a pool and contacted when jobs become available for them. Jobs pay anywhere from \$10.25-\$15 an hour and can last anywhere from a couple months to two years.

Jobs that require some driving will include millage reimbursement. Loyd said 600 people will be hired to start address canvassing next month. Workers will check on roads, homes and subdivisions built since the 2000 Census to update the maps and addresses on file.

After that long process is completed, the questionnaires will be sent out next year. Those who don't send their questionnaires back and don't respond to a follow up mailer and/or phone call, will get a visit from a census worker. This door-to-

See Census on A4



Photos by Layla Farmer

Members of the Parkland Magnet High School Ensemble practice earlier this week.

SOMETHING TO SING ABOUT

Parkland choir to be a part of Inauguration Week

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

The swearing in of the 44th President of the United States of America is likely one of the most anticipated in our nation's history. Millions here in the US and around the world will watch with bated breath Tuesday afternoon, as Barack Obama lifts his hand and prepares to take the oath of office. Many will gather around TV sets and flock to computers, where live feeds of the historic event will stream

along invisible lines and into countless lives.

But the members of the Parkland Magnet High School Ensemble won't be hunting for a television screen come Inauguration Day - they plan to be there to witness the moment in the flesh.

The 25 students who make up the Ensemble will travel to Washington, D.C. Jan. 17, to perform in a special Presidential Inaugural Heritage Music Festival at National City Christian Church in the Capitol that evening. The Ensemble is part of an elite group of

middle and high school bands, choruses and orchestras from all across the nation lucky enough to cinch a coveted slot on the program.

Since last spring, the group has practiced ardently, perfecting each of the three songs they will be singing for the event.

"It's electric," Choral Director Jonathan Sidden said of the energy in his classroom since the election of the former Illinois Senator last November. "They work incredibly hard. This is a

See Parkland on A7

ROCKIN' THE BELLS



Photo by Layla Farmer

Angie Richardson, the health and wellness coordinator at the Winston-Salem Lake Family YMCA, holds a kettlebell, a workout tool that is growing in popularity. Richardson is among those at the Y, who give kettlebell workout classes. Read more on page B5.

See Census on A4

Job famine is feast for Forsyth Tech

School educating record number of students seeking new opportunities

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

When the economy suffers, community colleges thrive.

Forsyth Technical Community College's Jewel Cherry, interim dean of Enrollment and Student Services, calls it the "tradition of the community college system."

It's a strange symbiotic relationship indeed, but its a fact that statistics support, Cherry and other administrators at FTCC can attest to that.

"The weaker the econo-



Photo by Layla Farmer

Pretrina Kirby stands near ESR, where she interns.

my gets, the more our enrollment grows," she said. "People see us as a way of mitigating that hit from the economy."

Pretrina Kirby found herself in that very situation last year. Kirby was laid off from HanesBrands Inc. in 2007 after 14 years of service. The 36 year-old single mother had been forced to relocate before because of a plant closing. She says she saw the writing on the wall.

"I knew that was it," she said. "I knew I needed to do something."

Kirby enrolled in Forsyth

See FTCC on A11



Photos by Todd Luck

The Rev. John Mendez speaks during last week's vigil and rally outside of the Forsyth County Hall of Justice.

Supporters vow Hunt-like fight for Smith

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

One day after a judge dashed Calvin Michael Smith's hope for a new trial, more than 70 people gathered

outside of the Forsyth County Hall of Justice to protest the decision, which they believe is the continuation of a series of injustices that Smith has faced for more than two decades.

Some held candles during last Friday night's vigil, while others held signs with phrases such as, "Free Calvin" and "Justice for Calvin Smith."

Smith was convicted for the 1997 brutal beating of Jill Marker inside Silk Plant Forest, a now defunct store that was off of Silas Creek Parkway. He's served nearly

12 years of a sentence that could be up to 22 years and 10 months. But questions has always remained about what role, if any, Smith played in the beating.

Since 2003, The Innocence Project of the Duke University School of Law has been looking into the case. A Winston-Salem City Council-appointed citizens' review panel is also reviewing the case.

Smith's case seriously began to get a second look after the release of Darryl

Hunt five years ago. Hunt was convicted of murdering a woman in the mid-1980s. He served two decades in prison before DNA evidence proved that he did not commit the crime. The Winston-Salem Police Department has been

See Vigil on A4



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

