

CAREERS

Briefs

Hiatt hired as e-librarian

C. Derrik Hiatt has been hired as the new electronic resources librarian for the Z. Smith Reynolds Library at Wake Forest University.

He will assist in managing the library's subscription-based electronic resources.

Hiatt comes to the position after having served six years as the assistant serials librarian for the Harold B. Lee Library at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

A North Carolina native, Hiatt holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in music from Brigham Young University and a Master of Library Science degree from Southern Connecticut State University.



Hiatt

Dean named president of research parks group

Bill Dean, Director of the Piedmont Triad Research Park, was elected President of the North American Division of the International Association of Science Parks (IASP) during an IASP leadership meeting on Tuesday, June 2 in Raleigh.

During his two-year term as North American Division president, Dean will serve on IASP's esteemed International Board of Directors, comprised of science park leaders from around the globe. The organization celebrated 25 years of operation at the recent conference, with representatives from more than 50 countries in attendance. Dean presented a paper at the conference titled "The Next Research Park Model: North Carolina Research Parks' Experience."

"It is an honor to serve on this prestigious international board of directors and to collaborate with IASP and global science park leaders," said Dean. "IASP highlights the importance of innovation centers as catalysts for regional economic transformation."

The Piedmont Triad Research Park is an active member of IASP and the North Carolina Research Parks Network, a coalition of research parks and innovation centers across the state. Dean also serves as the inaugural Chairman of the North Carolina Research Parks Network.

Bob Johnson opens resort in West Africa

BET founder Robert L. Johnson has opened his latest business development - the RLJ Kendeja Resort & Villas in Monrovia, Liberia (West Africa).



Johnson

Located on 13-acres of ocean-front property, the 78-room villa style hotel offers first-class amenities catering to domestic and international travelers and includes an on-site restaurant, full service spa, tennis courts and swimming pool with poolside bar. Johnson hopes that the facility will play a critical role in the national reconstruction and economic development

efforts put forth by Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf to rebuild and revitalize the country.

"I believe passionately that African-Americans have a responsibility to support Liberia and it is important to ensure that President Sirleaf succeeds in her ongoing effort in rebuilding the country," said Bob Johnson, who also owns the Charlotte Bobcats although recent reports suggests he is trying to sell the team. "The potential is unlimited and we are delighted with today's announcement and the hotel's grand opening. This is the first steps to strengthen and broaden the ongoing business relationship between Africa and the United States."

The RLJ Kendeja Resort & Villas is now open for business and reservations can be made online by visiting www.rljkendejaresort.com or by calling 888-860-0338.

Wake Law grad named judge

Winston-Salem native and Wake Forest University School of Law graduate Marvin K. Blount III of Greenville has been named a Special Superior Court Judge by Gov. Bev Perdue.

Blount is a partner with the law firm of Blount and Blount, P.C., concentrating in civil litigation including class action and pharmaceutical matters in both State and Federal Courts. Prior to establishing his firm, Blount was an attorney with the Blount Law Firm. Blount previously served as Special Assistant and Counsel to the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Department of Justice Antitrust Division in Washington, D.C., and as an Assistant Advocate for the Chief Counsel of the U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of Advocacy in Washington, D.C.

Blount attended East Carolina University, graduating Magna Cum Laude in 1993. He earned his law degree at Wake in 1996.



Blount

Johnson elected vice-chair of N.C. GOP

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

State Republicans elected underdog Timothy F. Johnson as the vice-chairman of the N.C. GOP, making him only the second African-American to hold a prominent leadership position in the state party.

Johnson is chair of the Buncombe County GOP. He and his wife, Latessa, live in Asheville, where she serves as director of Student Services for Asheville City Schools. Johnson, who holds a Ph.D., is an adjunct professor at Shaw University's College of Professional and Adult Education Asheville campus. He is also president and CEO of Leadership 101, a consulting company. He has four children and two grandchildren.

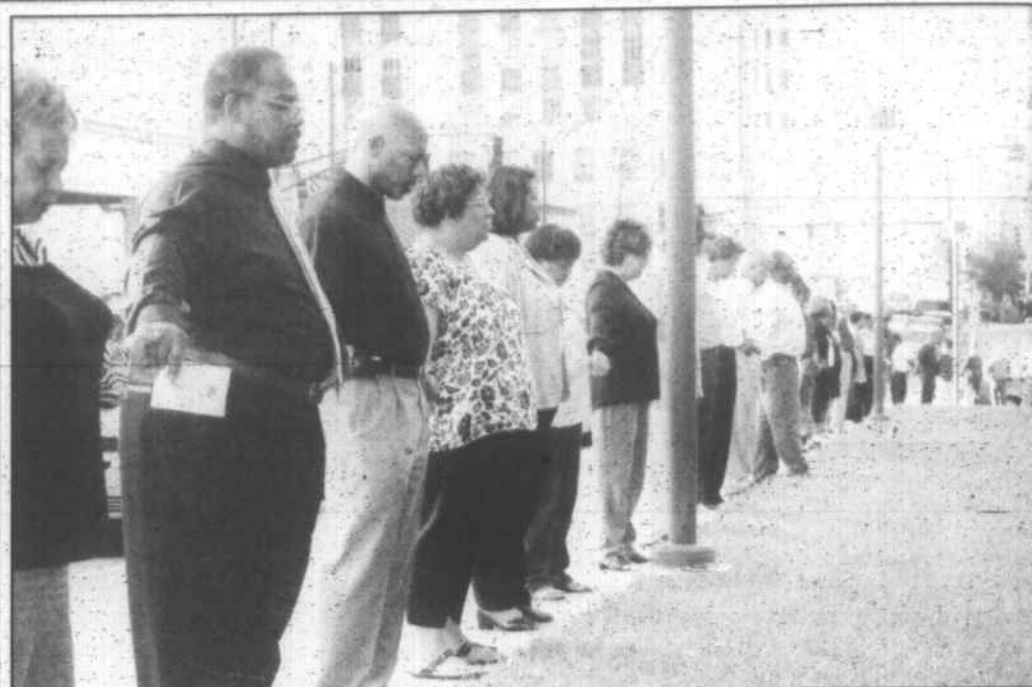


Johnson

At last weekend's GOP state convention in Raleigh, Johnson beat out incumbent David Sawyer for the vice chairmanship. He had built a strong coalition of supporters from across the state. They praised Johnson, who spent 21 years in the Army, as the change that the struggling GOP needs.

Johnson has vowed to help the state party increase its membership among teenagers and young adults. He also says that he will "redefine" the GOP and conservatism to help the party appeal to African-Americans, Hispanics and other minority communities.

Johnson will work with Chairman Tom Fetzter, the former mayor of Raleigh, to revamp the state party, which is still mending after losing the '08 presidential election and U.S. Senate race.



File Photos

Locals gather in prayer around the Forsyth County Detention Center.

Jail Ministries is named best-run nonprofit agency

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Forsyth Jail and Prison Ministries is the county's best-run nonprofit agency. The Ministries was awarded the coveted Joel A. Weston Jr. Memorial Award for Excellence in Non-Profit Management last Thursday during ceremony at the downtown Marriott. Executive Director Rodney Stilwell accepted the award.

The honor is named for the late business giant Joel Weston Jr., who once served as the chairman of the Forsyth County United Way. Weston believed that nonprofits should be run just as effectively and soundly as for-profit businesses.

"I want them to be well-run, in a business-like manner, and I want them to really do what they say they will do," Weston once said.

Weston's widow, Claudette Weston, and his many friends started the



Rodney Stilwell

Weston Award, which is given annually, to honor well-run nonprofits. Each year, dozens of agencies apply for the award, which comes with a \$10,000 grant for the nonprofit.

Forsyth Jail and Prison Ministries serves incarcerat-

ed men, women and youth in the Forsyth County Detention Center and the state prison on Cherry Street. The cornerstone of its ministry is the counseling and pastoral relationships that volunteers and chaplains maintain with the inmates and families. Chaplains are called upon around the clock to teach and comfort inmates during times of despair, isolation and hopelessness. The Ministries' aims for its programs to develop and direct offenders to redirect their lives so that they may return to our community as responsible, productive citizens.

The Ministries is well known for its annual Hope on the Inside fundraiser, which usually includes a concert or a guest speaker. The agency has also hosted several vigils where local people join hands and pray around the downtown detention center.

Microsoft receives Higginbotham award for diversity efforts

BY BRITTANY HUTSON
NNPA SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law honored Microsoft Corporation for excellence in diversity at its 10th Annual A. Leon Higginbotham Award Dinner in New York June 3. The event coincided with the 45th anniversary of the historic Civil Rights Act of 1964.

"Microsoft is receiving the Higginbotham Award for its commitment to diversity and inclusion as part of the daily business function within every area of the company," said Barbara Arnwine, executive director of the Lawyers' Committee, a nonpartisan, non-profit organization that strives to



Barbara Arnwine with Microsoft's Gwen Houston.

Microsoft/NNPA Photo

obtain equal opportunity for racial and ethnic minorities. "They are also being honored for their stellar commitment to pro bono legal work."

One such pro bono project is the "pay for performance" approach, which was launched by Microsoft to enhance diversity in the legal profession.

The Higginbotham Award is named in memory of Chief Judge A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr., a civil rights advocate, author and federal appeals court judge. The award recognizes exemplary corporate leadership with respect to advancing equal opportunity, particularly leadership in recruiting, retaining and

See Microsoft on A5

Local attorney receives another honor for military service

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Winston-Salem attorney Cal Cunningham recently received the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award during a ceremony at the Pentagon. It is the highest honor that the Army gives for leadership.

Earlier this year, Cunningham, who works for Kilpatrick Stockton, received the Bronze Star while serving in Iraq. A captain and paratrooper in the U.S. Army Reserves, he received the medal for "exceptionally meritorious service to the United States" as the senior trial counsel in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate. In that role, he presided over the largest court-martial jurisdiction in the Army and helped in supervising, training and overseeing 27 attorneys and 70 paralegals.

Cunningham's work resulted in a comprehensive system for ensuring contractors are held responsible for crimes committed while in Iraq, and he personally served as the lead trial counsel for the first court-martial of a civilian since the Vietnam War.

Cunningham was one of more than two dozen company-grade officers presented with the MacArthur award by Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey, who praised each awardee for exhibiting outstanding military performance, leadership and achievement and for reflecting the ideals for which Gen. MacArthur stood - duty, honor and country.



Gen. George W. Casey Jr., left, and the MacArthur Foundation's Henry Harris III, right, present the award to Cal Cunningham.

Photo courtesy of Kilpatrick Stockton

"These award winners demonstrate the tremendous quality that we are privileged to have throughout our Army," said Gen. Casey at the awards ceremony. "These are top performers that have led in the most difficult and dangerous missions and brought out the best in the men and women they led."

At Kilpatrick Stockton, Cunningham's

work focuses on conflict resolution and litigation in complex business disputes, including construction, real estate, environmental and contract cases. Before joining the firm, he represented Rowan County in the N.C. Senate. Some are pushing for the Democrat to run for U.S. Sen. Richard Burr's seat in 2010.