



Camp making kids STARS

-See Page B9



Agencies help folks battle the heat

-See Page A3



Holiday tribute to local veterans

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



THE CHRONICLE

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THURSDAY, July 9, 2009

Another GOP racism scandal

Area officials respond to growing list of melees

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

In the wake of a rash of racial missteps made by some in their party, prominent African-American Republicans in North Carolina and across the country are on the defensive, speaking out against the degradation of their race and their party.



McAllister



El Amin

Each week seems to bring a new racist scandal involving a member of the GOP and technology. Last month, Rusty DePass, a South Carolina GOP leader and former chair of the state elections commission, apologized for his comment that a gorilla that escaped from a South Carolina zoo was First Lady Michelle Obama's "ancestor." He made the statement on Facebook, a popular social networking Web site. A few weeks later, Sherri Goforth, an aide of Republican Tennessee State Sen. Diane Black, sent an e-mail out featuring an image showing the faces of all 44 American president. The image of President Obama was a black box with two large "spooked" eyes. Goforth apologized and was simply reprimanded, despite calls from around the country for her ouster.

See GOP on A5

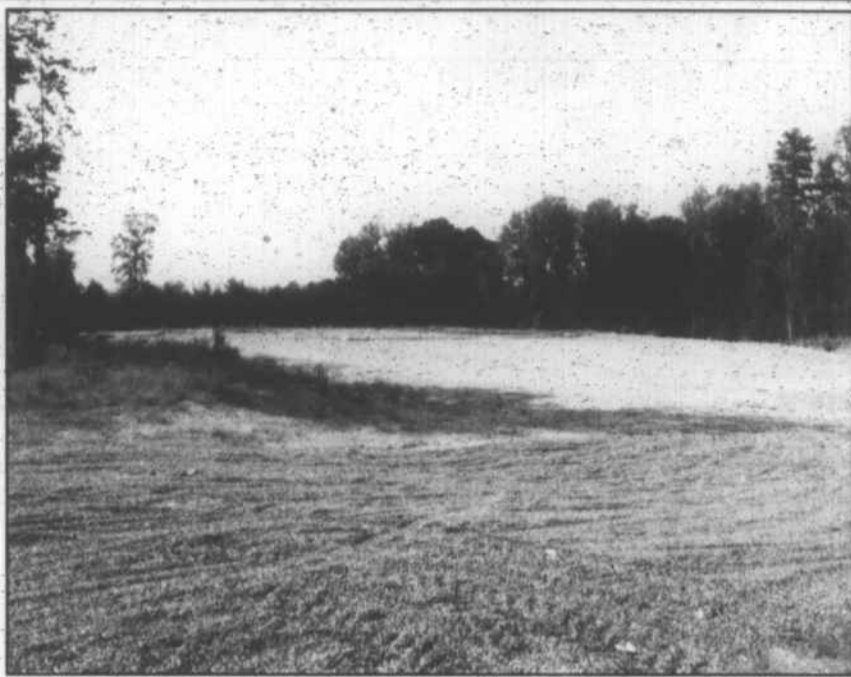


Photo by Kevin Walker

This city-owned land would become Goler's under the current proposal.

NOT SO SIMPLE?

Routine land swap between city, church has some heated

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

City Council Member Joycelyn Johnson met with constituents of her East Ward and others last week, during a forum at the Winston Lake Family YMCA to discuss a proposed land deal.

The City Council is considering an agreement with Goler Memorial AME Zion Church that would entail exchanging 12-acres of city-owned land on Waterworks Road, next to the Winston Lake Y, for 14.6 acres of land directly across the street from the Y that Goler owns.

If the exchange takes place, the city would then develop the former Goler land for "recreational purposes and parking," according to a news release. Goler likely would either give or sell - officials would not say which option is more likely - the land it gets to the Lutheran Council on Aging, and work in conjunction with the group to construct a state-of-the-art nursing home for area seniors. The project would be funded by the Lutheran Council, and supported in part by Goler volunteers, according



Lartey

See Land on A5

Martin happy to be an Aggie again

Former WSSU leader celebrates one-month anniversary as A&T chancellor

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Dr. Harold Martin is a month into his latest, and perhaps his greatest, job: chancellor of his alma mater, North Carolina A&T State University.

"I'm excited, really and truly," Martin said last week. When former A&T Chancellor Stanley F. Battle announced in February that he would step down, Aggies talked openly about Martin taking his place as the school's leader. But such an idea seemed improbable. Three years ago, Martin left his job as chancellor of Winston-Salem State University - where he was credited with changing the school's fortunes for the better - to serve as senior vice president for academic affairs of the 17-campus University of North Carolina System.

While he says he loved his work with the UNC system, Martin longed to return to a single campus because he missed "the interaction with faculty and staff and students ... and helping to mold and shape them for the future."

"I always felt that I want-



The N.C. A&T State University family welcomes Dr. Harold Martin to campus.

A&T Photo

ed to ... go back to a campus setting," he remarked.

An Aggie at heart, Martin said the school's "unstable leadership" in recent years was one of the factors that inspired him to take the position. Battle had served less than two years when he departed. This after the

school's Board of Trustees had launched an exhaustive national search for someone to replace James Renick, who served as chancellor from 1999 to 2006.

"I felt it was important to come back and create some stability in leadership," he related. "After talking with

so many Board of Trustees members about the institution ... I felt that it was a noble cause, and worth the commitment to be involved here."

Although Martin was a strong contender, and many say the runner-up, for the chancellorship at the time that Renick was appointed,

his long list of accomplishments at WSSU no doubt made a big impression on UNC and A&T officials.

Under Martin's leadership, WSSU experienced significant growth. Student enrollment nearly doubled during his tenure, as did the

See Martin on A5

HEART OF GOLD



Photo by Layla Farmer

School Board Member Vic Johnson, here with his wife, Dr. Constance Johnson, wrapped up his annual youth golf program this week. Johnson has hosted the event, often paying for it out of his own pocket, for years. The Chronicle will profile the latest crop of young golfers in the July 16 issue.

Program still making dreams come true

Culinary training classes turning lives around

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

Vanessa Lanier had given up on the American Dream.

Her attempts to make it in the United States hadn't panned out as she had planned, so she went online to book a plane ticket home to her native Spain. Somehow, she instead ended up on a Web site that featured information about the Triad Community Kitchen, a free culinary cooking school. She reached out to the chef in charge of the program.

"I wrote this long e-mail to (the) chef, and told him 'if you give me a shot, if you take me in, I will show up. I will follow through; I will change



Photo by Todd Luck

Graduate Larry Saunders shakes hands with Food Bank CEO Clyde Fitzgerald, right.

this whole thing around," Lanier recalled on Monday.

Her appeal worked. She made the lengthy drive from Asheboro to Winston-Salem for the culinary class-

es, which are held at Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest N.C.

Through the program, she trans-

See Graduates on A10

DON'T PASS THE BUCK

BUY LOCAL

