

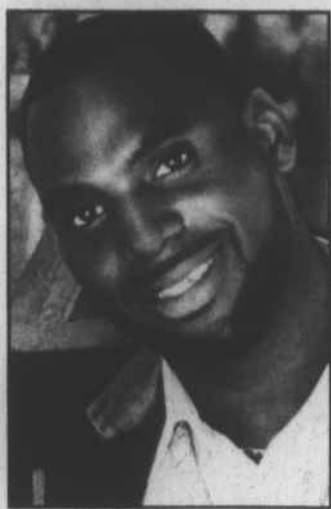
# 'One Goal' concert to raise funds for Academy

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

A gospel concert to benefit the Academy of Excellence of Winston-Salem will be held on Sunday, Jan. 9 at 5 p.m.

The event will raise funds to open the Academy, a private Christian school that would serve grades pre K through 12. It is an initiative of Rev. Travest Hunter who says that the Academy would "provide a cutting-edge and relevant education ... that will enrich the spiritual, intellectual, physical, social and cultural development of children."

The "One Goal, One Voice, One Song" concert will be held at 5 p.m. at the



Mondrae Williams

Carver High School Auditorium, 3545 Carver School Road. It will feature

Mondrae Williams, whose latest CD, "Word Up" is available nationally, Gail Couthen, Anthony Washington and Tammy Moody. In addition, the Big 4 Choir, the Walnut Cove Community Choir, the Friendship Baptist Church Anointed Angels Dance Team, the St. Paul Baptist Church Mime Team and Solely for Christ will perform.

Tickets are \$6-\$10 for adults and \$3 for children 12 and under. Tickets are only available at the door on the day of the concert.

For more information, contact Hunter at 336-997-3451.

## Lee

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rettes reveals a troubling picture. In Canada, studies have shown that the size of the contraband market there - caused by substantial tax increases - is so substantial that it represents half of all cigarettes smoked in some provinces. It's an amazing statistic. One of every two cigarette sold in some areas are illegal.

But there's more. Tax hikes in states like New York State have led to a surge of black market sales there from low-tax states.

Federal studies, such as one by the Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Justice, note that organized criminal groups are running larger scale and more sophisticated diversion schemes. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives describes the diversion of tobacco as "a global problem, and believes illegal cigarettes are the number one black market commodity in the world."

We all know that cigarette smoking is dangerous and leads to disease. The question is whether a ban on menthol will undermine public health goals while also exerting a damaging real-world impact on law enforcement.

If menthol cigarettes are banned, contraband versions

would effortlessly enter a sophisticated black market system that already exists. Like in Canada now, contraband cigarettes would be easily available on street corners or from car trunks.

The ramifications of a "black market" economy are obvious.

First, a black market does not ask young smokers for their ID. Nobody wants underage youths to smoke. But that attitude does not extend to those who sell smuggled cigarettes. Counterfeit and smuggled cigarettes would be sold on the streets and in neighborhoods, not at retail outlets where minimum purchase age laws are enforceable. And if unregulated sales to minors spike through street sales in African American communities, it would create a problem for law enforcement - potentially even leading to prosecutions, and to what end?

There are other consequences. A black market will not pay taxes. It is a matter of concern to everyone in law enforcement if the federal government on one hand requires additional enforcement resources by creating a black market, but then takes away revenues with the other hand. And this will be especially true if a contraband market, as history has shown, creates flourishing criminal enterprises.

As a national police organization, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives is concerned that illegal activity associated with banning menthol cigarettes could burden our law enforcement systems and divert needed resources from more pressing problems. Enforcement activities also could lead to severe inequities in law enforcement in African American communities.

In Washington, a scientific advisory committee of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is considering the menthol issue. Its role is to issue a recommendation this year about whether to regulate or ban menthol cigarettes.

It is a great concern that there is no apparent effort being made by the Food and Drug Administration to assess the practical impact of creating a contraband market by banning menthol cigarettes and what that means to the black community. The unintended consequences of a ban on menthol deserve serious consideration.

Jessie Lee is executive director of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), which represents more than 3,500 top federal, state, county and municipal law enforcement officials.

## Schools

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eral dollars to implement their magnet programs and require minimal financial support for implementation from the system, which has been burdened with budget cuts in recent years, said Kim Morrison, director of Magnet Schools for the school system.

The addition of the two elementary magnets will now allow students to follow a chosen curriculum from kindergarten through their senior year of high school.

For example, a student can begin their STEM education at Brunson, continue it at Hanes, currently the only middle school offering STEM, and complete their studies at Atkins High School. Morrison said that magnet programs have been a big drawing card for schools.

"When we've put magnet schools in, they've been academically very successful," she reported. "Ninety percent of our magnet schools met academic growth standards, and 75 percent of those are meeting high growth standards, according to the state ABC model."

Magnet schools offer a more hands-on approach to traditional learning and allow families to take control of their students' educational journeys by choosing a theme that interests them, Morrison explained.

"We are giving some real intentionality to innovative programs," she said. "...Research says if children really have a choice (about what school they attend), then they tend to do better academically because they're motivated to be



Burnette

there."

Konnoak Principal Shelia Burnette is excited about her school's magnet program. Burnette, who took the helm at Konnoak at the start of the 2010-2011 school year, believes the new curriculum will be beneficial for her students, 90 percent of whom come from families with low incomes.

"I'm a firm believer that children who are actively engaged and are learning a second or third language are increasing their brain capacity," she commented. "There are no boundaries to the opportunities they can gain through this program."

Brunson Principal Jeff Faullin, a former science teacher, believes that becoming a STEM magnet will enhance the experience of students and the teachers.

"Teachers and educators love to be creative people and this is a great time and a great place to do that," noted the Florida Institute of Technology alumnus. "...Certainly, (our curriculum) is the pulse of the nation in terms of education. This is part of the national conversation and we feel like we are riding that wave."

Konnoak and Brunson are accepting magnet applications for kindergartners only this year. However, existing students at the schools will still benefit from magnet teaching and curriculum.

Parents can apply online at [wsfcmagnets.net](http://wsfcmagnets.net). More information will also be available during the annual Magnet School Enrollment Fair on Saturday, Jan. 8 at the Benton Convention Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



That's right, Uncle Sam wants only you money. If you hold federal excise tax on long-distance phone service during the last three years, you may be eligible for a telephone tax refund. The standard refund is \$50 to \$500 and for some people, who had large phone bills, it could be even more. Go to [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov) for details. Or dial 1-800-829-4477 and output recorded tax topic 8911.

## Women's Health

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Institute, African American women are twice as likely to die from cervical cancer as Whites. Risk factors for cervical cancer include: presence of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV), which can be linked to over 70% of cases of cervical cancer; family history; long-term oral contraceptive use; smoking; and/or HIV/AIDS. Screening for cervical cancer should begin approximately 3 years after a woman becomes sexually active and no later than age 21. It should be done every year with regular Pap smear tests and screening for HPV infection. After the age of 30, if a woman has normal tests for 3 consecutive years, screening may take place every 2-3 years; however, your physician may advise more regular tests if you have certain risk factors. Women who have had a hysterectomy (removal of the uterus, including the cervix) should continue to have pelvic examinations to check for abnormalities of the ovaries and vulva. The US Food and Drug Administration has approved a vaccine against four types of HPV, including the two that cause most cervical cancers and genital warts.

### Colorectal Cancer

Routine screening for colorectal cancer is crucial for early detection. The American Cancer Society recommends that at age 50 men and women have a yearly stool blood test (a test to find small amounts of hidden blood in the stool), plus one of the following exams: a colonoscopy (a procedure that allows the doctor to

look at the inside of the rectum and colon) every 10 years; sigmoidoscopy (a procedure to look at the inside of the rectum and part of the colon) every 5 years; a double contrast barium enema (X-rays of the colon and rectum which are taken after a barium dye enema followed by an injection of air into the lower bowel) every 5 years. You should also see a physician immediately if you have any of the following symptoms: a change in bowel habits such as diarrhea, constipation, or narrowing of the stool that lasts for more than a few days; a feeling of needing to have a bowel movement that doesn't go away after doing so; bleeding from the rectum or blood in the stool; cramping or steady stomach pain; or unexplained weakness or fatigue.

### Protect Your Heart

Hypertension means that your blood pressure is greater or equal to 140/90 mmHg. For adults with diabetes, blood pressure should be below 130/80 mmHg. Pre-hypertension, a risk factor for hypertension, is defined as having a systolic (upper number) blood pressure of 120-139 mmHg or a diastolic (lower number) blood pressure of 80-89 mmHg. If you're a smoker, you should stop, and everyone should avoid second-hand smoke. Next, keep your cholesterol in check. Manage your diabetes (see below). Finally, maintain a healthy weight: eat a nutritious diet and be active.

### Control your Diabetes

A normal level of HbA1c is less than 7.0 percent. If diet and exercise are not enough to control blood sugar, your doctor may pre-

scribe medication. Medications used to treat diabetes include insulin, oral drugs, and new injectable (but non-insulin) medicine.

### Healthy Pregnancies

An infant born to an African American mother is more than twice as likely to die during the first year of life compared to a white infant. The overwhelming majority of the babies that die in this community are born premature. Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is the leading cause of death for babies between on month old and one year old. Steps women can take to increase their chances of having a healthy baby include: Quit smoking and ask others not to smoke around you; quit drinking and using drugs; see a health care provider for pre-natal care as soon as you know you are pregnant; eat a healthy balanced diet; take a daily multivitamin with 400 mcg of Folic Acid before you become pregnant to prevent birth defects; leave a violent home situation; and learn the signs of preterm labor. Once your baby is born, always put babies on their back to sleep; do not leave stuffed animals, pillows, or loose blankets in the crib with the baby where they may suffocate; do not let anyone smoke around the baby.

Do you need further information or have questions or comments about this article? Please call toll-free 1-877-530-1824. Or, for more information about the Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity please visit our website: <http://www.wfubmc.edu/MA-CHE>.

## Study

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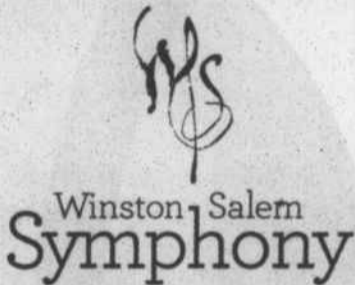
enabling these smokers to obtain a larger and more reinforcing nicotine hit."

The researchers, who published their results in a special issue of the journal Nicotine and Tobacco

Research, reviewed the evidence from 10 published studies that compared smoking cessation rates or proportions between mentholated and regular cigarette smokers.

Not all of the studies included in the report found an effect of menthol on quit-

ting, and no studies to date have been specifically designed to look at menthol and cessation, but the effects of menthol on quitting were larger in more recent studies, in younger smokers, and largely restricted to African-American and Latino smokers.



Winston Salem Symphony  
Robert Moody, Music Director

# Scheherazade

**SIBELIUS**  
*Finlandia, op. 26*

**BERG**  
Violin Concerto  
*Charles Dimmick, violin*

**BRUBECK**  
*Interplay for Three Violins*  
*Charles Dimmick, Corine Brouwer & Fabrice Dharamraj, violins*

**RIMSKY-KORSAKOV**  
*Scheherazade, op. 35*

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