

COMMUNITY

SECTION B

Also Sports, Religion and Classifieds

FEBRUARY 17, 2011



Community Calendar

Locals to discuss Africa

Tom LaRock of Safari Professionals will discuss his travels to Africa on Saturday, Feb. 19 from 2-5 p.m. at the Central Library, 600 W. 5th St. State Rep. Larry Womble and Wake Forest Professor Mary Martin Niepold will also share their information about their travels to the continent. The event is sponsored by VINTAGE '04, a community based non-profit organization founded by Bobby Ray Wilson. For more information, contact Wilson at 336-406-5138.

Frederick Douglass Oratorical Contest

The St. Philips African American Complex in Old Salem is sponsoring its first Frederick Douglass Oratorical Contest. The contest is designed to encourage intellectual thought about Black History among students in grades 7-12. The event will be held Sunday, Feb. 27 at 4 p.m. Students will speak on assigned topics based on grade level. Cash prizes and certificates will be awarded. Students who are interested in entering the contest may call 336-721-7399 or email cdharry@old-salem.org.

Black women needed for weight loss study

Wake Forest University School of Health Sciences is conducting a three-month weight loss trial for premenopausal African-American women between the ages of 20-50. Participants must have a BMI greater than 30 kg/m² and a waist measurement greater than 35 inches. Participants will not be eligible if: they have diabetes; are currently part of another weight loss program or weigh more than 350 pounds. Weight loss will be medically supervised with a tailored weight loss program just for each person. Financial compensation will be provided for participation. Call 336-713-7253 or email divastudy@wfubmc.edu for more information.

Health and wellness program

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. will present "Healthy Emotions for Total Wellness" on Saturday, Feb. 19 at 1 p.m. at the Southside Library, 3185 Buchanan St. Dr. Cherry Chevy Hairston, director of Psychiatric Services Center for Child and Family Health in Durham, will speak.

WSSU production

The Winston-Salem State University Theatre Department will present "Strange Relationship" on Feb. 20 at 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Feb. 21, 22, and 23 in the K.R. Williams Auditorium on the school's campus. Andre Minkins directs the play, which is written by George Darden. Tickets are \$3 for students, \$4 for faculty, \$5 for senior citizens and \$7 for the general public. Proceeds will help WSSU attend an arts conference in Dallas, Texas next month.



Attendees sort through books at the Isaiah DeJohn Brooks Memorial Book Fair on Saturday.

Photos by Todd Luck

REMEMBERING ISAIAH

Memory of young murder victim lives on through book fair

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

The life of Isaiah DeJohn Brooks, a 13 year-old whose 2006 murder remains unsolved, was honored Saturday with a book fair at LaDeara Crest Apartments.

Tracey Maxwell, who helped organize the book fair, said Isaiah was an avid reader, so a book fair was appropriate to honor him. The fair also draws attention to the fact that his killer has yet to be found. Isaiah was fatally shot on Feb. 9, 2006, near the intersection of 25th and Machine streets.



Black



Maxwell

"It's about public safety, it's about justice and it's about children," Maxwell said of the fair. "It's about the right to grow up—Isaiah had the right to grow up."

Maxwell is co-director of Vigils for Healing, a local nonprofit that holds vigils for people who are killed in Winston-Salem. Vigils for Healing has partnered with Isaiah's family on several occasions, hosting vigils to draw attention to his case.

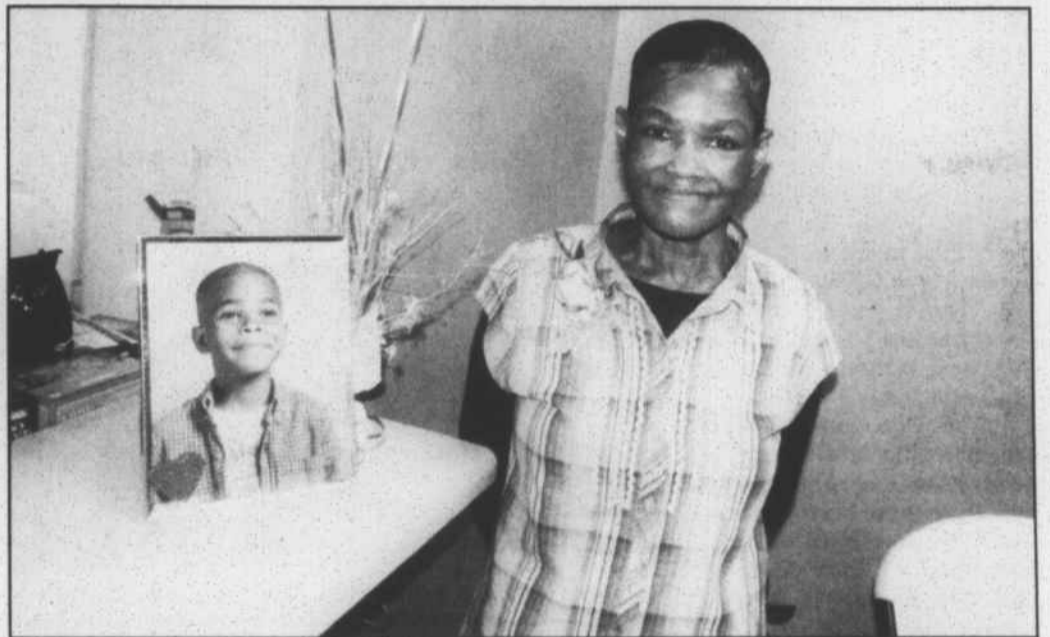
This newest effort was also led by Vigils for Healing and Isaiah's family, with help from Winston-Salem State University's Community Resources class, Alpha and Omega Church of Faith and Mt Sinai Full Gospel Deliverance Church. More than 40 volunteers worked before and during the fair to make it happen. A tremendous amount of children's books were collected from the community to be given

away at the fair.

"We really thought 500 (books) would be a miracle," said Maxwell. "...And, really, we're up to 2,500."

The books filled table after table at LaDeara Crest Community Center. Most of their covers still shone like new as they were arranged to let each of their colorful covers be seen. Maxwell said attendees were encouraged to take 10 books each and estimates 1000 books were given away dur-

See Book Fair on B2



Barbara Stephenson stands beside a photo of her son, Isaiah



Pat "Mardia" Stepney tells an African fable to an audience of children.



Jenessa Stevenson chats with Officers Richard Workman and C.E. McCoy.

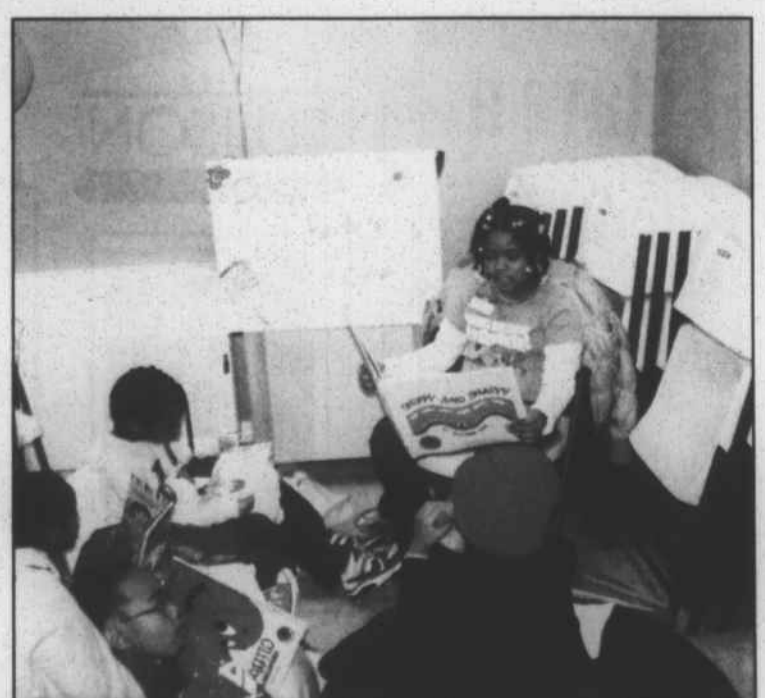


A volunteer mans one of the many tables covered with books at the fair.



Left: Isaiah's sister, Alice Stevenson, and her daughter, Tiara Jordan.

Right: Raja Huntley reads a story to other children.



FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS CALL (336) 722-8624 - MASTERCARD, VISA AND AMERICAN EXPRESS ACCEPTED