



Wesley Curtis addresses the group.

Critics: Brown bowed out too late

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Geneva Brown is being criticized by former election rivals who are dismayed by her decision to resign from the School Board five months after she won another term.

Brown, who has fought lung cancer, said she stepped down from the School Board last week because of declining health.

"I think it's unfortunate that since this information (about her health) was known prior to her candidacy that she went ahead and put her name in there," commented Chenita Barber Johnson, who came in fourth place in the District 1 race, behind Brown, incumbent Vic Johnson and challenger Jimmie Bonham. "There were a lot of viable, qualified candi-



Bonham

dates for District 1."

Prior to her re-election bid in November 2010, the 81-year-old Brown had been criticized for missing too many School Board meetings due to her health. Many believed she would not seek a fifth term last fall. The two seats in District 1 were hotly contested, but in the end, Brown and fellow incumbent Vic Johnson came out on top and returned to the

Board.

State statutes mandate that Brown's replacement will be chosen by members of the School Board and must live in District 1. State Reps. Larry Womble and Earline Parmon recently introduced a bill that would award the vacated seat to the closest competitor in the primary race, but the bill has not yet made it to the House floor.

Although she believes she is just as qualified, Barber Johnson said Bonham, who trailed Brown by less than 100 votes in the primary. should be the Board's first choice for Brown's replacement. She frowned on the idea that the Board could select at will a person who may not have even run for the seat.

"I just think that representation is impor-

See Brown on All

Smooth population growth aim of Legacy

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Forsyth County is expected to acquire 120,000 new residents over the course of the next two decades, bringing its total population to nearly half a million.

While the influx will likely create jobs, boost the economy and create an even more racially diverse populace,



without the proper planning, that kind of growth could negatively affect the quality of life for everyone concerned as traffic congestion and other problems will likely worsen, city-county planners say



Brittini Foster dreams of becoming a NICU nurse someday.

Photos by Layla Farme

Suggs

Luckily, they are already hard at work mapping out the future of the Winston-Salem / Forsyth County area. On Tuesday, City-County Planning staff members began soliciting the support and input of local residents in creating a comprehensive plan for growth and development in the area, during two Legacy 2030 Update Kick-off events at the Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts.

"Each success moves us one step claser to our community vision," said Wesley Curtis Jr., vice chair of the City-County Planning Board. "...How we grow will determine our quality of life and the degree to which we can sustain our eco-

See Legacy on A12

Year of triumphing over grief earns Foster 'Student of the Year' honor

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

At age 15, Brittini Foster has overcome challenges far beyond her years.

The East Forsyth High School sophomore experienced motherhood before she was old enough to drive. Then, less than five months later, she weathered the heartbreak of losing her newborn son, Izayah, who was born premature.

When she became pregnant at the age of 14, Brittini, the youngest of four children, balancing act as she struggled to keep up with

she navigated through much of the pregnancy without the guidance of an

adult. Last spring, the teen developed preeclampsia - a condition where an expectant mother develops severe hypertension - and on March 13, 2010, Izayah was born, weighing only a pound. In the months that ensued,

Brittini's life became a said she was too afraid to tell her parents, so her home school curriculum, while nursing

and nurturing her tiny son as much as possible.

"I experienced running to the hospital everyday in the mornings and afternoons," she related. "I was just there all the time, changing his diaper and breast feeding him."

It was a difficult time for the whole family, said Brittini's mother, Sandra Moxley.

"We've held it together," said Moxley, a Wilkesboro native. "We've had our ups and downs.

Through homeschooling, Brittini was able

See Foster on A10

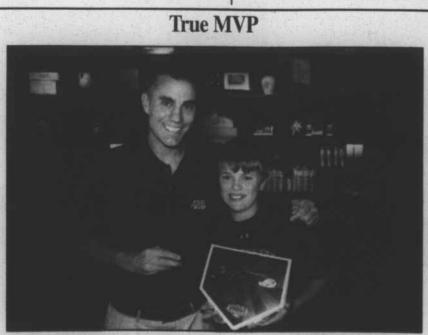


Photo by Todd Luck Wake Forest University Baseball Coach Tom Walter poses with his son, Chase, at BB&T Ballpark, where he was honored at a luncheon last week. Read more on A3.

pportunities knock for Dickenson

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Ramon Dickenson is one of 10 finalists in a national contest that will land the winner a part on a STARZ network series.

Watson

Last month, Dickenson, the former assistant fitness program coordinator at Winston-Salem State University, received word that a video he submitted of himself performing gravity-defying stunts and exercises had been selected as one of the 10 best in nutrition products giant Met-Rx's nationwide Warrior Workout video contest.

"I was actually really blown away when they called me," said the 24 year-old St. Ann's Bay,



See Dickenson on A12 Ramon Dickenson is getting national attention.

