

Republicans, of such bills say it would help prevent voter fraud, but the NAACP and others say such requirements could intimidate and/or disentranchise minority

voters.

**NEW SCHOOL** 

OEA held up as successful charter school model





Rev. William Barber says he challenges are many.

nation that make me nervous."

Local NAACP President S. Wayne Patterson, a wellknown local attorney, said voting rights are among his top concerns

"We always have to fight the struggle," said Patterson. "If those who are in power can stop same day registration (and implement) voter ID, it's really going to affect less fortunate individuals."

Patterson said the NAACP's plate is overflowing. He talked about concerns about state budget cuts that could lead to teacher layoffs and other cuts to education. Patterson and others are especially uneasy not that Republicans are in control in the General Assembly. Some Republican legislators want to redraw state voting districts, which Patterson said would negatively impact minority voters.

BY TODD LUCK

"It makes the work that this organization does so very important," said Joines. "It's probably never been as important as it is today because there are some

things that are going on

in this state and our

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THE CHRONICLE

Quality Education Academy tooted its own horn last Thursday as N.C. Rep. Marcus Brandon (D-Guilford) paid a visit.

Last Thursday's tour was organized by Parents for Educational Freedom in North Carolina (PEFNC), which advocates for greater educational options for parents. PEFNC and Brandon are advocates of N.C. Senate Bill 8, which would raise the state's cap on charter schools, which currently sits at 100. The bill, which is being considered in the House after passing the Senate, is controversial. Opponents say the state should be focusing on better-

raising the cap will give all



ing the public school system, Tamara Turner with N.C. Rep. Marcus Brandon, while supporters believe that Simon Johnson and Darrell Allison.

parents, including those with low incomes, the chance to consider a wider array of educa-Sec QEA on A5

John Davenport and his wife, Nia, are all smiles after his selection.

## Davenport setting School Board goals

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

**BB&T branch shows its WSSU spirit** 

## Photo by Layla Farmer

WSSU Chancellor Donald Reaves and Regional President Cantey Alexander clap as the new sign is unveiled.



BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

The BB&T branch on New Walkertown Road is showing its Ram Pride.

The branch celebrated its long and ongoing relationship with Winston-Salem State University last week by officially transforming itself into a WSSU "spirit branch." The branch, which now features large photographs of WSSU events, WSSU sporting paraphernalia and "Go Rams!" signage, is the first spirit branch the banking institution has instituted in the Triad area, according to BB&T Regional President Cantey Alexander.

"I'm so excited to have this," Alexander told those who gathered in the parking lot of the branch for the unveiling ceremony last Thursday afternoon. "I've been president of the region for eight years and this has got to rank within the top three or four days of my career.' Alexander called the spirit branch a "win-win" for the

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Republican members of the Winston-Salem/ Forsyth County Board of Education voted Tuesday evening to appoint another Republican to fill the seat of Democrat Geneva Brown, who resigned from the Board last month because of health issues.

John Davenport Jr. will be sworn in next week and officially take over Brown's District 1 seat. He received the votes of Chairman Donny Lambeth, Buddy Collins, Jane Goins, Marilyn Parker, Jeannie Metcalf and Jill Tackabery. Although School Board elections became nonpartisan five years ago, the six members who voted for Davenport - who in the past has run unsuccessfully as a Republican for the City

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