



Track athletes headed to Olympics

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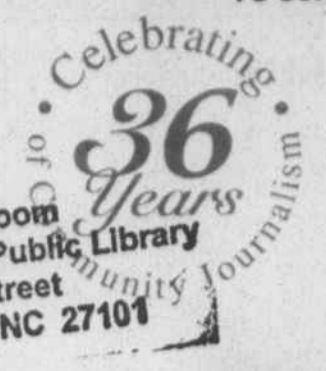
Mother Land exposure for kids

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Fun times had at Happy Hill event

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



THE CHRONICLE

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'Crazy Lady' Chronicles

Professor's book reveals battle with mental illness

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Most people with mental illness wouldn't relish the idea of calling themselves crazy, but Dr. Myrtle Boykin Sampson has embraced the moniker as a positive way of identifying her unique attributes.

Sampson, 82, explores her mental illness, and her many triumphs in spite of it, in her new book "Crazy Lady: Achievement Against the Odds," which she penned with journalist Joya Wesley.



Dr. Sampson

Sampson, a native of Parkersburg, suffers from bi-polar mixed with paranoid symptoms. She has been hospitalized eight times for mental illness over the course of her lifetime, but that didn't stop Sampson, a licensed clinical psychologist

and former college professor, from reaching the heights of her dreams for academic, personal and professional success.

Sampson and her identical twin sister, Bertha, graduated as the valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, of their high school at age 16. The two were inseparable growing up, Sampson says, though she often felt that her family and the world regarded her as the lesser of the pair. It was that experience that first sparked her interest in psychology, Sampson said.

"I wanted to find out more about twins because of the dynamic between my sister and me," she related. "I wanted to know (more about) how people interacted."

Sampson studied biology and general science at North Carolina College for Negroes (now NCCU), where she and Bertha received their bachelor of science degrees in 1951. Sampson went on to receive her master's of Library Science from the University of Michigan, the first of five graduate degrees - three Master's and two doctorates - she would eventually earn.

In 1957, she met Robert Russell Sampson, a Fayetteville State University alumnus and owner of Sampson's Pharmacy in her hometown. The two married the following year. In 1965, after years of trying unsuccessfully to conceive, Sampson and her husband adopted a baby boy they named Frank Ricardo "Ricky" Sampson. Though he appeared healthy early on, the Sampsons would soon learn that Ricky suffered from autism. The diagnosis of the disease, which Sampson says was

See Sampson on A6



Photo by Layla Farmer

Leo Rucker paints an environmentally-conscious theme on a pillar at the Transportation Center Monday.

Colorful changes for WSTA hub

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

The downtown Clark Campbell Transportation Center is getting a new look.

The Center, which sees about 10,000 people pass through it each day, has undergone a series of improvements and repairs since January 2010. Since that time, the Center has received new carpets, renovated restrooms, repairs to the rafters and a fresh coat of paint. More than a decade ago, General Manager Art Barnes commissioned Leo Rucker, a well known local artist, and a band of youth from the now-defunct Artiva program to bring new life to the Center through art. The group painted brightly colored murals that depicted the history of Winston-Salem Transit Authority and its predecessor, the Safe Bus Company, on the pillars in the exterior loading and unloading area.



Barnes

"I wanted to use the Transportation Center as a place to provide culture and artwork because there's so many people that come down there, it just seemed like a perfect venue," Barnes explained. "The intention was to provide a place where you could not only see artwork, but see things that were historical to the city."

The original murals were a casualty of the improvements that took place at the Center, as the aging paint was in need of refreshing, and Barnes has again turned to Rucker, 48, to put his touch on the pillars. The new murals will cover three main themes: the history of transportation in Winston-Salem, the history of Safe Bus Company, and "going green," Barnes said.

"I wanted it to be a more holistic piece of artwork in total, to represent the entire city, but also have an emphasis on the

See Rucker on A9

Family Affair



Photo by Jason Pitt

Atlanta's John Robertson Trio performs Saturday at a benefit honoring the legacy of late local artist Earnestine Rainey Huff. Here, father John Robertson III and John Robertson IV look on as James Robertson is assisted by his mother, Rosemary Rainey Robertson, the sister of the Mrs. Huff.

YEHS They Can!

Teens exposed to opportunities in health field

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Fourteen year-old Rayven Hairston of Midway dreams of a career as a forensic pathologist, just like the heroes that populate many of network television's top crime dramas. But as a young woman of color, Rayven is distinctly in the minority - the world of health sciences remains predominantly white.

Organizers of Winston-Salem State University's Camp YEHS (Youth Exploring Health Sciences) are hoping to change that statistic, by offering opportunities to underrepresented youth to explore the health sciences field through the free, two-week long camp, which is now in its third year.

"Studies have shown that if you reach young people in middle school, you have a larger impact on helping them to actually make the decision to go to college and to direct what career path they might take," said Camp YEHS Program Director Marina Skinner. "This program is specifically designed to bridge the gap for



Skinner

Campers get unorthodox crash course in ballet



Joe Curry high fives a young camper.

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

Children in Camp High Hopes became the world's newest ballet fans last week.

Campers in the YMCA-sponsored summer camp were invited to a special performance by TerpsiCorps Theatre of Dance last Friday at the new Hanesbrands Theatre.

Asheville-based Terpsicorps is a contemporary ballet company that was established to provide summer work for professional dancers. The company performed the original ballet "Vampyre" in Winston-Salem over the weekend.

TerpsiCorps Outreach Director Joe Curry found time to visit Camp High Hopes, held at Diggs-Latham Elementary School, three days last week to walk the kids through some ballet movements. He made the lessons fun for the campers by incorporating games like "body twister" and having them spell their names using body movements. Curry said it meant a lot to him to expose kids to dance.

"The majority of these kids won't have very many opportunities to see



Gardea

See Dance on A6

See YEHS on A2

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