



Aggies return in winning form

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Local authors ready for Festival

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WSS alum to stage his play

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Vol. XXXVII No. 54

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, September 8, 2011



Photo by Todd Luck
TaMeicka Clear and her fiancée, Zuri Davenport, would like the right to legally marry in N.C.

Black leaders: gay marriage bill smoke and mirrors

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Black state lawmakers are leery of a constitutional amendment being pushed by Republicans in the General Assembly that would define marriage as being between a man and a woman.

It's one of several constitutional amendments the Legislature will take up when it returns for a special session on Sept. 12.

A 1996 law already states that same-sex marriages, including those performed in other states, are not legally valid in North Carolina, so Sen. Frank McKissick Jr., the chair of the N.C. Legislative Black Caucus, says there is no legitimate need to place the issue on the ballot. He says the GOP has ulterior motives.

"It was also believed that the motivation behind it was to really draw out voters to the polls in a presidential election year that would be more likely to vote in opposition to Democratic candi-

dates," said McKissick, who added the Black Caucus passed a resolution against supporting the ballot initiative.

N.C. Rep. Dale Folwell, a Forsyth County Republican who is one of the architects of the proposed amendment, said that he wants the state's constitution changed to include a ban on same-sex marriage so that North Carolina will be better protected from challenges and court rulings.

"The reason you put it in the Constitution is that other states that have had this in their law, like Iowa, you're always one legislature or one activist judge away from overturning it," said Folwell, referring to the 2009 Iowa Supreme Court ruling that legalized same-sex marriage in that state.

Folwell denied that the timing of the amendment was intended to hurt Democratic candidates next year, noting that Democrats still won in states that had marriage



Rep. Folwell

See Marriage on A9

100-year-old still finds time for exercise and even dating

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Longtime Winston-Salem resident Eugene Samuels will achieve a century of living next week, when he celebrates his birthday on Sept. 15. Samuels is the oldest resident at the Somerset Court University Place assisted living facility he calls home, according to Resident Care Director Patricia McClelland.

McClelland says Samuels is known for his dapper style of dress and his warm and open demeanor.

"Mr. Samuels is a pleasant gentleman," McClelland related. "He's always dressed neatly and dressed well. He wears his suits almost every day."

As he approaches the 100-year mark, some of the finer points of his long existence escape Samuels, but he remembers some details from his days as a boy growing up around the turn of the 20th Century with startling clarity.

Samuels' family lived on a farm in Darlington, South Carolina and drew much of their sustenance from the land, where they grew corn, cotton and other crops and kept chickens, cows and goats. His mother relied on a natural refrigerator, churning butter for the family and placing it in a nearby spring to keep it cool until it was ready to be used, he recalled. The children played games with roman candles and knives, he said, but nobody ever got hurt.



Rev. Smith

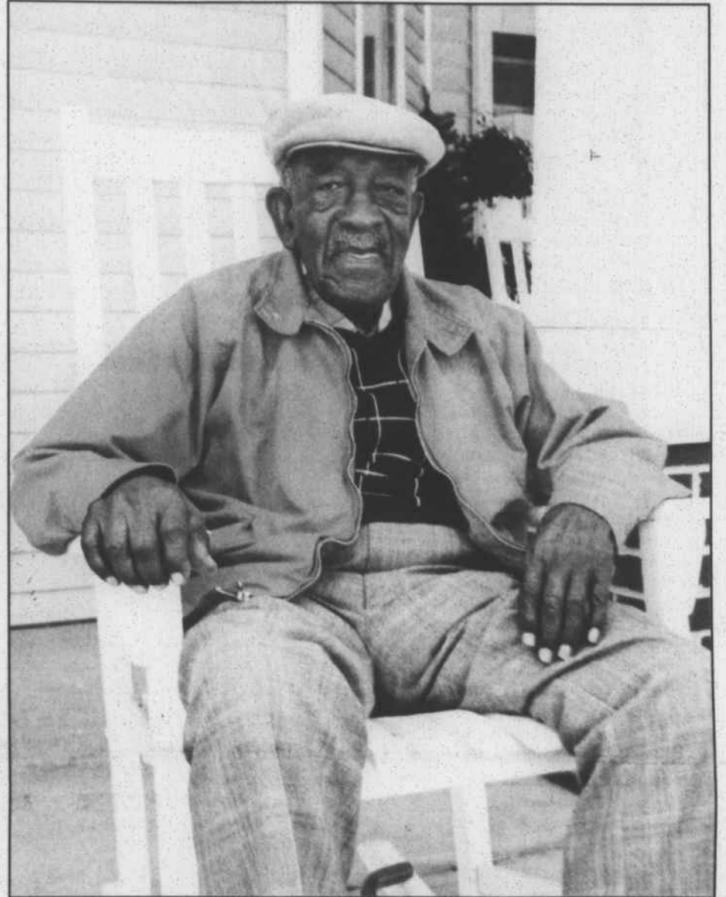


Photo by Layla Farmer
Eugene Samuels sits in his favorite place - a sunny spot near the entrance of Somerset Court.

See Samuels on A10

A Gift That Keeps On Giving

Friends raise \$25,000 to endow WSSU scholarship in honor of Dr. Bailey

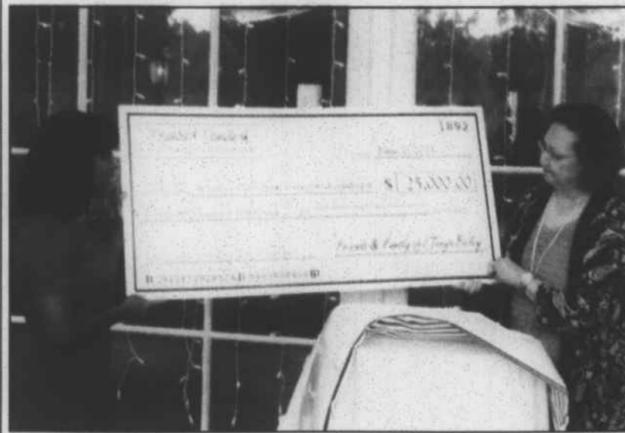
BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

After more than 30 years of friendship, Drs. L'Tanya Joy Bailey and Roslyn Crisp don't have many secrets between them.

Still, Crisp, a pediatric dentist who practices in Burlington and Yanceyville, managed to keep a big secret from Bailey - who has an orthodontics practice in High Point - for an entire year. Crisp had established an endowed scholarship in Bailey's honor at Bailey's alma mater, Winston-Salem State University. Crisp was finally able to let the cat out of the bag on June 9, when she unveiled the news to Dr. Bailey as a birthday gift during a surprise reception at the Alamance (County) Country Club.

"I know how she feels about Winston-Salem State," Crisp said of Bailey, whom she met at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill while the two were graduate students. "That's

See Scholarship on A6



WSSU Photo
Dr. L'Tanya Joy Bailey (right) is presented with an oversized check by Dr. Roslyn Crisp.

Mosque will host 9/11 anniversary service



File Photo
Imam Khalid Griggs has lead the Community Mosque for decades.

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

On the anniversary of one of the most divisive moments in modern American history, an interfaith group of faith leaders known as the Circle of Friends is hosting a special ceremony to promote healing, unity and hope.

The "A Service of Remembrance and Reflection," as the community-wide Sept. 11 remembrance has been dubbed, will be held at the Community Mosque of Winston-Salem, where organizers expect several hundred community members to join together across faith and cultural boundaries.

"We have it structured in a way that we want to give expression to the roles that the faith community and the religious community plays in trying to build relationships that are sustainable beyond horrific events like 9-11," said Imam



Rev. Carpenter

See 9/11 on A2

Keeping the Faith



Photo by Layla Farmer
District Court Judge Denise Hartsfield sings along with the choir Sunday during a rally held at St. Paul UMC to support her as she faces a judicial inquiry. Read more on B1.

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