

BLACKS ON MEDICAID RARELY RECEIVE CERTAIN TRANSPLANTS

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

African Americans with Medicaid as their primary insurance were less likely to receive a living kidney transplant (LKT) than patients with private insurance, according to a new study by researchers at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.

The study is published on the Early View online edition of Clinical Transplantation.

"Living kidney transplantation is the optimal treatment for patients with end-stage renal disease, offering the best quality of life and longest survival," said Amber Reeves-Daniel, assistant professor of nephrology at Wake Forest Baptist and lead author of the study.

African Americans comprise 12.6 percent of the U.S. population and approximately one-third of the dialysis population; however, they received only 13.5 percent of the living kidney transplants performed in 2011, Reeves-Daniel said.

To try to determine the causes of this discrepancy,



the researchers examined differences in LKT based upon ethnicity in 447 privately-insured individuals and Medicaid recipients at Wake Forest Baptist from July 2008 through December 2010. The analysis was limited to Caucasians and African Americans because there were too few Hispanic and Asian recipients to permit meaningful comparisons.

The researchers found that a higher proportion of patients with private insurance, relative to those without private insurance, received LKT — 22 percent versus 7.6 percent. Among ethnic groups, 27.5 percent of Caucasians with private insurance received LKT recipients versus 12.4 percent without private insurance. African Americans with private insurance

were 14 times more likely to receive a live donor kidney than African-Americans without private medical insurance (0.9 percent). African-Americans with Medicaid were unlikely to receive a living kidney transplant, the study found.



Reeves-Daniel

"An alarming finding is that despite apparent access to kidney transplantation, no African-American Medicaid recipients received a living donor kidney transplant during the two-and-a-half year study period," Reeves-Daniel said. "It is intuitive that insured patients would be more likely to have donors with sufficient resources to facilitate the processes of living donation; however, it is difficult to explain why individuals with Medicaid, particularly African-Americans, were so much less likely to receive living kidney transplants."

NCDOT

from page A4

The overall goals of the Equipment Rodeo include helping NCDOT workers advance their skills, emphasizing the importance of safety when operating heavy equipment, fostering a sense of team spirit and recognizing employees who excel at their jobs.

The winners are the following:

- Mike Priddy of the Stokes County Maintenance Yard for the

- single axle dump truck;
- Angie Brewer of the Forsyth County Maintenance Yard for the tandem axle dump truck;
- Scott Bracken of the Forsyth County Maintenance Yard for the low-boy trailer;
- Wesley Mcknight of the Rowan County Maintenance Yard for the motor grader;
- Jon Mitchell of Roadside Environmental for mower; and
- Nakoma Emanuel of the Forsyth County Maintenance Yard for the backhoe.

LCCU

from page A4

future," said Jose Morales, a financial service officer at Latino Credit Union. "I am grateful for my new position at the credit union that allows me to use my education and skills to the fullest and am very proud to be a part of an organization that is helping to change people's lives for the better."

LCCU will compete for the national Louise Herring Award for Philosophy in Action later this year.

LCCU also received an honorable mention in the Alphonse Desjardins Adult Financial Education Award category for its program that provides adult finan-

cial education for refugees in North Carolina.

The program is offered in partnership with the U.S. Committee for Refugee and Immigrants of North Carolina (USCRI-NC). LCCU worked with the USCRI-NC to provide financial education for refugee entrepreneurs seeking to start in-home day-care centers. Entrepreneurs who successfully completed LCCU's financial education workshop series became eligible for grant funding to help them start their small business. These classes taught entrepreneurs financial skills that will serve them well in their new day care ventures.

LWS

from page A4

(BB&T), Christina N. McCormick (Second Harvest Food Bank of NW North Carolina), Alan K. Murdock (Forsyth Technical Community College), Musette S. Nesbit (Bank of North Carolina), Virginia B. Parks (Hanesbrands), Dr. Denise Pearson (Winston-Salem State University), Stephen P. Rayburn (Sandler Training), Chief Barry D. Rountree (Winston-Salem Police Department), Steven J. Rubin (First Citizens Bank), Hernan Sabio (BB&T), Jennifer Hartman Scholl (The Variable), Timothy P. Sechrest (Wells Fargo Bank), Michael C.

Setliff (Novant Health), Jayson D. Sloan (St. Peter's Church and World Outreach Center), Anna Marie Smith (Wells Fargo), Rev. Charles W. Spong (Winston-Salem First), Russell S. Stogner (Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice), Richard C. Touchstone (Frank L. Blum Construction Company), Walter D. Unks (Winston-Salem Journal), Darrell W. Walker (Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools) and Rebecca H. Woltz (Aladdin Travel & Meeting Planners).

For more information, visit www.leadershipws.org.

Gardens

from page A5

tions.

"The success of our garden and constant marketing and outreach to other organizations has helped our gardening community to grow to 10 gardens today," said Sigrid Hall, who has headed the project since its inception. "What better way to promote healthy eating and lifestyles, and provide an opportunity for community engagement, feed the hungry, create learning

opportunities for our students and area schools — and grow some great vegetables at the same time."

The other garden partners are the Big Brothers Big Sisters Community Garden, the Ken Carlson Boys and Girls Club Garden, the City of Winston-Salem Youth Advisory Council Garden, the Emmanuel Baptist Church School Garden, the GRACE Garden, the Phi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc., Global Poverty Culture Project Simon's Green Acre and the Southside

Community Church Garden.

The success of the gardens is due in large part to the generous support of the S.G. Atkins Community Development Corporation, which donated the land and water for the gardens; the Forsyth County Agricultural Extension Service, that donated some seeds, expertise and cooking tips; and myriad volunteers who purchased additional plants/seeds and gardening materials spending countless hours tending them. These volunteers

harvested and delivered produce to ministries for homeless, sick and the elderly. Over the past three years collectively, approximately 7,000 pounds of produce has been harvested. With the grant, the gardens collectively are expected to improve access to fresh fruits and vegetables for underserved residents of Forsyth County this year.

If you would like to become a gardening partner or visit the gardens, contact Sigrid Hall at 336-750-3148 or email her at halls@wssu.edu.

Goodwill

from page A1

ond phase of construction at 514 Waughtown St., the site of the original Goodwill store, that will include erecting a new Prosperity Center South. In collaboration with Financial Pathways (formerly Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Forsyth County), Goodwill helps individuals achieve financial stability through job search assistance, wealth building and a variety of classes and workshops through the Prosperity Center model. There is already a site, Prosperity Center North, on Liberty Street.

Currently, Prosperity Center South is housed at the McLean Trucking building at 585 Waughtown St. The new location will enhance visibility and foot traffic for the Center and will include additional space for one to three retailers or restaurants, depending on size, Gibel said.

"We've built plenty of stores, but this is a first," Gibel said of the redevelopment effort. "We really expect significant benefits from the (community) side with Prosperity Center being at street level and very visible — those benefits are going to be clear."

Nate Williams, who currently serves as a district manager for Goodwill, will serve as campus manager, overseeing the Waughtown Street project. He believes the new store, which is flanked by carefully placed trees and shrubs and a winding sidewalk, will be a bright spot in the Waughtown Street area.

"The building is beautiful," said Williams, who started his career at Goodwill in 1992. "The paving is going to be beautiful, but the landscaping for me is what makes this area look a little like an oasis in a sense. "I just



Photo by Layla Garris

The original Waughtown Street store (foreground) will soon be replaced by a modern new facility.

think it enhances and improves the whole area as we go down into the Gateway area. I just think it'll be a great thing for the community."

The unofficial partners in the project are residents of Waughtown Street and the surrounding area, who have faithfully donated to and patronized the original store for decades, Williams said.

"We've been a part of the community for almost 50 years. All of the investment that this community has put into that particular store, is now being returned. Now it's turning back around, coming right back to this community," remarked the grandfather of two. "Because they have made such an investment in us, we now can invest back into this community."

City Council Member James Taylor, who represents the area, said Goodwill's investment is an important component in an ongoing effort to bring development and jobs to the area. Other projects that are currently underway or new to the Southeast Ward include the redevelopment of Southeast Plaza Shopping Center (formerly King's Plaza) and the construction of a new Dollar General store, Taylor said.

"Anybody who lives in the area has definitely and will continue to see the changes," he remarked. "...We're redeveloping our

commercial area and I believe it will propel us into prosperity in the future."

Taylor, a lifelong resident of the ward, added that the investment of organizations like Goodwill are proof positive that things are looking up for residents of the area.

"We are not only developing areas, but we're building new construction," he said. "It means that our ward is re-surging — it's coming back alive."

Gibel said Goodwill's development represents the agency's larger commitment to supporting development and revitalization efforts in the Waughtown Street area. The project is the first of its kind for Goodwill.

"It sends a clear signal to the community that Goodwill cares about the community and is willing to invest in it in a tangible way," Gibel said. "...I'm hoping that when people see someone's willing to invest in that area that somebody else comes in and builds around the area and it is kind of an initiative starter for the area."

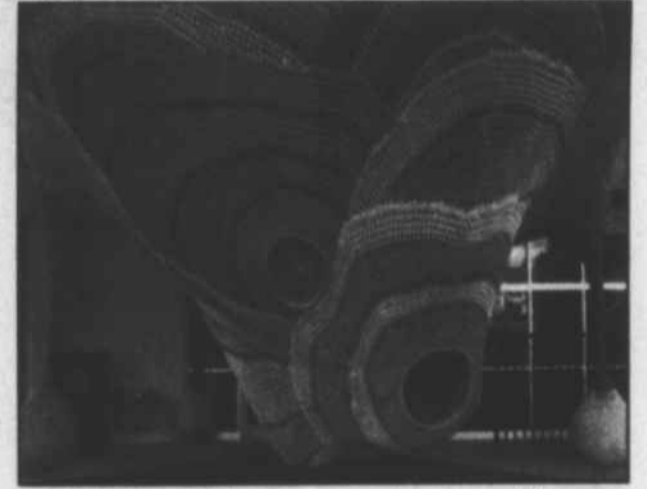
The ribbon cutting ceremony for the new store will be held tomorrow (Friday, June 28) at 8 a.m. The new store will open for business immediately after the ceremony. For more information, visit www.goodwillnwc.org or call 336-724-3621.

Exhibit

from page A6

oration of art and play" said Elizabeth Dampier, executive director of the Children's Museum. "In light of current research highlighting the benefits of art, education and play, the Museum continues to serve the children of the community through projects that directly address issues of local and national importance."

According to the Museum, educators, parents and education professionals are attentive to the growing body of research linking the time children spend playing with improved health, wellness and behavior. Research also suggests that play and down time may be as important to a child's academic experience as reading, science and math. Reduced playtime has certainly reduced child activity rates, which has short-



Submitted Photo

A view of the "Kaleidoscope" exhibit.

term and longer-term health implications.

In the past four decades, U.S. children have lost an average of 12 hours per week in free time, specifically, a 25 percent decrease in play, a trend that disproportionately impacts minority and disadvantaged children.

"Kaleidoscope" provides the ongoing oppor-

tunity for families and school children to engage with ever-changing, self-directed, compelling play and this large, outdoor playscape encourages physical activity, group play and social interactions among young children.

Learn more at childrensmuseumofws.org.

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