

CAREERS

Briefly

Piedmont Club's latest

Guest speaker Justin Cantanoso, director of the Wake Forest University Journalism Program, will launch the Piedmont Club's new Executive Speaker Series on Tuesday, Jan. 21 from 11:30 - 1 p.m. He will speak on "Climate Change and The Race in the Rain Forest" and its impact on local businesses in the Piedmont Triad.



Cantanoso

A Pulitzer Prize nominated writer, Cantanoso is also a WFU senior lecturer and former executive editor of The Business Journal. The Speaker Series is open to the public. Admission is \$25 and includes lunch.

The Piedmont Club is also launching a new Business Excellence Series beginning Wednesday, Jan. 16 from 3:30 - 5 p.m. with Steve Rayburn, a professional trainer and coach at Sandler Training. The program will be presented the third Wednesday of each month and is free and open to the public. The Piedmont Club is located on the 19th floor of the BB&T Financial Center at 200 W. Second St. Parking is available under the building. For reservations and more information, call 336-724-7077 or visit www.thepiedmontclub.com.

Poston takes over

Keith Poston has been named president and executive director of the Public School Forum of North Carolina. He succeeds Jo Ann Norris. The Public School Forum is a non-profit policy think tank formed in 1985 to bring business people, policymakers and educators together to focus on educational innovations and research.

Its mission is "to shape a world-class public school education that supports all children in reaching their full potential and drives a vibrant North Carolina economy."

Poston has more than 20 years of public relations, strategic philanthropy, corporate communications and crisis management experience. His diverse background includes work with corporate, agency, political and non-profit organizations.



Poston

He most recently served as the senior director of Community Investment for Time Warner Cable, where he led strategic philanthropy and community engagement for the company's East Coast operations, including North Carolina and South Carolina, New York and Maine. In that role, he was responsible for developing and implementing programs to promote Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) education as part of the company's primary philanthropic initiative Connect a Million Minds. Prior to that, he served as director of communications, responsible for media relations, employee communications and community relations for Time Warner Cable's largest operating area in the Carolinas, which includes Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill, Fayetteville and Wilmington. In that role, he developed more than a dozen new regional and statewide partnerships to promote STEM education.

Broadhurst's new title

NewBridge Bank has announced a change of title for Spence H. Broadhurst, one of its key executives, to better define the duties that comprise his position in the Bank.

His new title is senior executive vice president, chief banking officer, effective immediately. His previous title was senior executive vice president, chief sales officer.

Broadhurst will continue to oversee the Bank's five distinct lines of business: commercial banking, private banking, retail banking, mortgage banking and wealth management. He will continue to report to Pressley A. Ridgill, NewBridge Bank's president and chief executive officer.



Broadhurst

"As NewBridge Bank fulfills our vision of being a high performing community bank, it's critical that our existing clients, communities, teammates, shareholders and regulatory agencies understand the roles and responsibilities of each member of the executive management team," said Ridgill. "Since joining the team earlier this year, Spence has effectively established his leadership of the Bank's five lines of business. We feel the title of chief banking officer better reflects his role within the Bank and is more widely accepted in the financial services industry."

Also continuing to report to Mr. Ridgill are David P. Barksdale, senior executive vice president, chief strategy officer; Robin S. Hager, senior executive vice president, chief administrative officer; Ramsey K. Hamadi, senior executive vice president, chief financial officer; and William W. Budd, Jr., senior executive vice president, chief credit officer.



File Photo

Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin heads the local library system.

SPRINKLE-HAMLIN NAMED TO COMMISSION BY MCCRORY

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Gov. Pat McCrory has appointed Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin to the North Carolina Public Librarian Certification Commission.

Sprinkle-Hamlin is the director of the Forsyth County Public Library system. A longtime librarian, Sprinkle-Hamlin is on the North Carolina American Library Association, the board of directors for the North Carolina Black Repertory Theatre Company and the Women's Leadership Council of United Way. She is also the executive producer of the National Black Theatre Festival, the biennial entertainment event that was founded by her late husband, Larry Leon Hamlin.

Sprinkle-Hamlin received a BS in education from Winston-Salem State University and a master's in library science from Clark Atlanta University.

Michael Y. Taylor, the director of Pender County Public Libraries, was also appointed to the board, to an at-large seat. Sprinkle-Hamlin was nominated by the North Carolina Library Association before being

appointed by McCrory to the seat on the board that the governor is required to fill.

The North Carolina Public Librarian Certification Commission adopts rules and regulations to be followed in the certification of public librarians. It is authorized to establish and require written examinations for certified public librarian applicants. Members serve a four-year terms.



Dills

Jonathan Dills, another Forsyth County resident, was appointed to the state Well Contractors Certification Commission, which is charged with protecting public health and safety by ensuring the integrity and competence of well contractors and protecting and beneficially developing the groundwater resources of the state.

Dills is the managing partner/owner of the Law Offices of Jonathan S. Dills, P.A.. He also has experience as a claims supervisor and representative with Duke Power and as an assistant financial analyst with RJR Tobacco, Inc. He will serve a three-year term.

Sales streak encouraging for Realtors

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Existing home sales in the greater Winston-Salem region appear to be poised to close at levels not seen since the real estate boom years of 2003 and 2004, according to the Winston-Salem Regional Association of Realtors.

WSRAR released numbers last week that show that existing home sales increased 5 percent in November 2013, compared to November of 2012. That marked the 29th consecutive month that monthly sales had exceeded the same month of the previous year. It was the longest streak of sales increases since the Triad MLS (Multiple Listing Service) was formed in the late 1990s. There were 406 units sold in November 2012, 559 units sold in October 2013 and 427 units sold in November 2013.

"We are thrilled that sales have continued their momentum into the holiday season," said WSRAR President Kristina Farrell. "It is now all but certain that 2013 will have been the strongest year of home sales in our region in the last 10 years."

According to WSRAR, home prices continue to hold steady. The average sales price was \$152,813 in November of 2013. It was \$158,081 in October of 2013 and \$147,206 in November of 2012.

"As home prices continue to hold steady or increase slightly and interest rates continue to increase modestly, home buying continues to be a great option for those who have been waiting for the best time to buy," said Farrell. "The inventory of homes for sale is at its lowest point in the last three years. Prices will certainly continue to increase. Now really is the best time to buy."

Fuse-Hall airs concerns about Pell Grant plan

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Recently, the U.S. Department of Education held the last of four national public forums to discuss the rising cost of education. Held at Louisiana State University (LSU), the final meeting welcomed commentary from university and college presidents as well as faculty and students from across the country. Among the commentators was Dr. Rosalind Fuse-Hall, president of Bennett College.

The focus of the discussion was the College Affordability Plan, a proposal that would implement a ratings system among institutions of higher education. If carried out, the amount of federal student aid would be based on institutional performance, with regards to the institution's affordability, graduation



Bennett Photo

Dr. Rosalind Fuse-Hall is Bennett's newest leader.

and transfer rates, the percentage of students receiving Pell Grants and their loan debt as well as the likelihood for a student to secure employment upon graduation.

President Fuse-Hall expressed her "serious misgivings" about the proposed system because of the degree of difficulty it places

More recognitions for Tony Burton

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Tony Lewis Burton III was recently named the 2013 Omega Man of the Year by the Beta Kappa Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. of High Point, in which he was initiated in the fall of 1995.



Burton

Since he became a member of the "Fab Five + 1" line, Burton has helped to ensure that the chapter meets and exceeds fraternity mandates, and he currently is the chairman of the BKK Foundation Capital Campaign, which strives to support scholarship and youth enrichment programs in High Point.

Burton received the honor for his commitment to not only residents of High Point, but those of the entire Triad community. Burton is the CEO of Northwest Child Development Centers, which oversees child-care facilities that serve more than 700 families in Forsyth, Davie and Stokes counties. Last year, a stretch of Seventh Street near Patterson Avenue was designated "Dr. Tony L. Burton Lane" to salute his years of advocacy on behalf of local children and families.

The newest Northwest Child Development Centers site, Mudpies Downtown East, sits along the street. In related news, Burton was recently appointed to the Piedmont Club Board of Governors' Executive Committee after serving on the Board of Governors for the last two years.

"We are looking forward to Dr. Burton joining the executive committee leadership group," said Piedmont Club Board of Governors Chairman Mike Horn. "He brings an understanding of the goals of the Piedmont Club and of our mission to be a place where a diverse group of individuals can come together to strengthen professional, cultural and social relationships."

The role of the Board of Governors for the Piedmont Club, a business and social hub located atop the BB&T building in downtown Winston-Salem, is to work with the club manager to ensure the financial health and well being of the club and its nearly 1,000 members. The Executive Committee is appointed by the full board to act on its behalf between board meetings and to bring to the full board those matters which are appropriate for their consideration.

on institutions that serve low-income and minority students, namely historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), women's institutions and other campuses with small enrollment. She argued that the nation can't afford to lose any of these colleges and universities.

"If we are to remain globally competitive, then as President Obama has announced, we need 600,000 graduates by 2020. We truly need all our current colleges - women's, tribal, military-service oriented, HBCUs, religious based as well as those historically white institutions - in order to maintain our global competitiveness," Dr. Fuse-Hall said.

She elaborated on her point by posing the ques-