



Dash has high hopes for Anderson

-See Page B10



Mt. Zion celebrates Dr. Maya Angelou

-See Page B1



# THE CHRONICLE

Volume 40, Number 40

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, June 5, 2014



City of W-S Photo

The house at 716 Humphrey St.

## City wants new life for shotgun houses

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

The city is seeking developers to restore the two surviving shotgun houses in the historic Happy Hill community.

Long vacant, the houses — both on Humphrey Street and dating back to the early 20th Century — are owned by the city.

Shotgun houses are immediately identifiable by their narrow rectangular form. Usually no more than 12-feet wide with rooms arranged behind one another, they got their name based on the theory that if a shotgun was fired through the front door, the bullet would pass unobstructed through the house and exit out of the backdoor.

This type of historic African American architecture is believed to have its roots in West Africa.

Michelle McCullough, a Historic Resources Coordinator who is coordinating the project, said the city doesn't have the funds to renovate the houses, so it is turning to the community.

"We're looking for something creative. We're looking for someone to use this historic building type and be creative and ... put some

love on them and really bring them back and see what they can use them for," said McCullough, whose duties also include the historic marker program and staffing the Forsyth County Historic Resource Commission.

Tomorrow is the deadline for interested parties to submit proposals for the units. The houses can



McCullough

be rehabbed on site or even moved to a similar neighborhood if necessary. The units don't have to be refurbished for residential uses, necessarily. McCullough said she has heard of plans to convert old shotgun houses into coffeehouses, museums and a community gathering place.

The house at 716 Humphrey St. still sits on its original foundation and was acquired by the City in 2006. The other — at 720 Humphrey St. — used to sit on Alder Street and had been previously relocated before the city placed it near the other house earlier this year.

Several years ago, the now defunct Southside CDC had plans to turn the shotgun houses into residential units. State Rep. Evelyn Terry, who was the executive direc-

See Houses on A8



Photos by Kevin Walker

(From left) Captain Yussef Gilkey poses with Undrae Hayes, Chris Epps, KC Council, Derrick Brown and Derrick Brown II before a run on Saturday.

## BROTHERS IN MOTION

Winston-Salem joins the Black Men Run movement

BY T. KEVIN WALKER THE CHRONICLE



Black Girls Run! And the world now knows it, thanks to the success and visibility of the popular international fitness and fellowship organization,

Black Men Run, too, but that's a revelation to most.

"I guess with the high rate of obesity, diabetes ... statistically, we aren't supposed to be even out here," Yussef Gilkey said, referencing the nonplussed reactions he and other local Black Men Run members encounter during their miles-long jogs.

Jason L. Russell, Maurice Granger, Terry Gresham and Edward Walton founded Black Men Run in Atlanta in July 2013 with the

See BMR on A2

## Victim's mother says police feedback has been lacking

BY CHANEL DAVIS THE CHRONICLE

A grieving mother who claims calls to the detective investigating her son's death have gone unreturned should go higher up the chain of command, according to Winston-Salem Police Department leaders.

Crystal Thompson said she is frustrated with the lack of contact she's had with Sgt. David Taylor, who is investigating her son's murder. Christopher Thompson was shot outside of his home on March 23. The case remains unsolved. The family said they last spoke to Taylor on March 25 and despite often weekly calls, did not hear back from him until two months later.



Capt. Thompson



Thompson Family Photo

Christopher Thompson was killed on March 25.

"The detective just called us back May 22. To me, that is too long from March 25, the last time I spoke with him," Thompson said. "I shouldn't have had to tell him that I was going to the news and the newspaper before

anyone would call me back."

Thompson said the lack of communication was especially frustrating because the family wanted the case featured in the Crimestoppers program, which offers cash rewards for information that leads to the solving of crimes. The input of the investigating detective is necessary before cases are accepted into Crimestoppers. (The family is now in the process of adding Christopher's case to the program.)

Police department leaders said there should be an open and regular dialogue between investigators and victims or the families of victims and that measures are in place to allow that.

"There is no set policy on interaction and each one of those cases vary. We have some homicide cases where the families want to be very involved, and, to those families, we release any and all information we can without hindering the investigation," said Lt. Steve Tollie, lead detective in the department's Criminal Investigations

See Police on A8

## Historic school moved in preparation for restoration



BY CHANEL DAVIS THE CHRONICLE

Deep in the woods of Neelytown in Rowan County, a few miles outside of China Grove, sat an old, dilapidated one-room school house that helped educate many of the older residents of the community.

That school house was birthed from a dream — one that will live on thanks to efforts being undertaken by the descendants of the school's founder.

The Historic Neely School Foundation, Inc. moved the

See School on A7



Historic Neely School Foundation Photo

The Neely School is moved to its new location.

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