

Center holds first Multicultural Bridal Fair and Fashion show

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Triad's first Multicultural Bridal Fair and Fashion Show will be held at The Enterprise Conference and Banquet Center on Saturday, Sept. 12 from noon to 5 p.m. at 1922 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive.

This event, called "Elegance," is free and open to the public. The theme is "Building an inclusive community while celebrating love and the union of families."

"The goal of this event is to bring people of all backgrounds from all parts of our city together to learn how diverse cultures celebrate love and the union of families," says event organizers, Patricia Degraffinreadt and Rosa Gilmore.

Event supporter the Rev. Willard Bass, director of The Freedom Tree at the Institute for Dismantling Racism, said, "This event supports our vision for an

inclusive community and encourages us to be social in a way that helps us learn about each other."

One of the event highlights will be a fashion show of elegantly crafted gowns and menswear presented by local businesses. It will feature African, Latin American and Asian wedding attire.

"The Hispanic League is honored to support this event. It aligns with our goal of building bridges through community inclusion, which we believe will assist in lighting the path toward multicultural understanding," said Mari Jo Turner, executive director.

"We invite not only brides and grooms, but the entire Winston-Salem community to come," Degraffinreadt said. Many wedding industry experts will be on hand to offer information about their services –



Turner Bass
wedding planners, florists, wedding attire designers, decorators, caterers, entertainment and more.

The Multicultural Bridal Fair and Fashion Show is sponsored by a partnership of several organizations, including S.G. Atkins Community Development

Corporation. S.G. Atkins Community Development Corporation is a nonprofit organization, with a mission to promote community economic development and encourage neighborhood leadership. Other named sponsors include The Freedom Tree of the Institute for Dismantling Racism and The Hispanic League.

Vendor slots are available for cake designers, caterers, florists, jewelry retailers, limousine service, travel agencies and wedding planners.

For more information, visit www.sgacdc.org/wedding.html or contact Patricia Degraffinreadt at 336-734-6916 or email at sgatkinscdc2@gmail.com.

For more information, about the event visit Facebook at The Enterprise Conference and Banquet Center.

Goodwill Career and Prosperity Center wants to spread the word: We're here

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Since 2011 the Goodwill Career and Prosperity Center has been dedicated to improving the quality of life of those in the East Winston community.

On Friday, Aug. 14, the center held an informational session to educate the community on services provided at the center as well as give school supplies away for school-aged children.

Bryant King, director of the center, at 1253 N. Liberty St., said many people in the community don't know about the center and what it does.

"It's a surprise that so many people in the community don't know what we do or what this center is. Some people look at the unknown and never take the time to find out what something is," King said.

"I had one guy come in and tell me that he thought this was a car wash," laughed King. "So that's the whole purpose of this event, just trying to bring more attention to this center."

The Goodwill Career and Prosperity Center offers information on job openings in the area, resume preparation, career coaching, LinkedIn profile setup and job skills training. The center also provides programs for those looking to further their education.

A number of participants in the program have earned their high school diplomas from the Adult

High School Access Center that can be completed online.

A few participants are even working on their bachelor's degrees through online programs at the center.

Raphaela Hawkins, who has participated in a number of programs at the center, said the center has really helped her plan for her future.

"The programs and services they provide here are really amazing," said Hawkins. "I had a little set back, but the center has helped me get back on track."

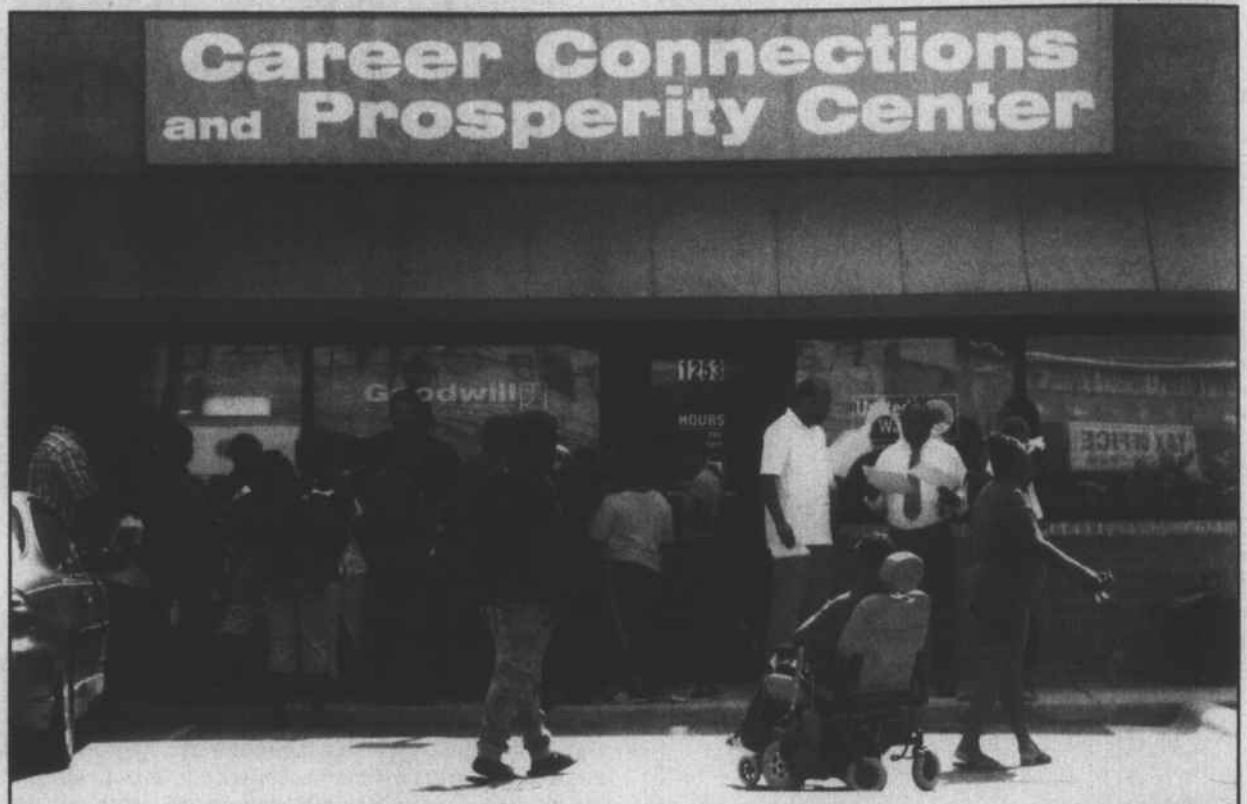
The walls of the center are boards filled with information about upcoming workshops, job fairs and seminars. The center also has a "hot jobs" section that is updated every week with new jobs in the area.

Information about scholarships for the trade classes provided by Goodwill are also available at the center.

Project Re-Entry is another program provided at the center. The program is a community based collaboration of organizations and agencies that provides a coordinated system of pre- and post release services for individuals who have recently completed an active prison sentence.

The mission of the program is to improve the reintegration of former offenders, reduce criminal justice costs and increase public safety through the establishment of a pre- to post release transitional planning system.

Just one year after the center opened, the state



Members of the community gather outside the Goodwill Career and Prosperity Center located at 1253 N. Liberty Street for the information session and school supply giveaway.

planned to close the center because of lack of funds. Instead of just letting it happen, King typed a support letter and rallied those in the community to sign the letter to keep the center open.

"I wouldn't allow them to tell me that they built this center and shut it down," said King. "Word got out, and the community got behind it and the center is still here and we're still going strong."

For more information on the Goodwill Career and Prosperity Center on North Liberty Street, contact Bryant King at 336-724-1299. Other Career and Prosperity Centers are located at 585 Waughtown St. and 2701 University Parkway.

Forsyth Tech groundbreaking ceremony officially launches construction on new Stokes County center

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

More than 80 people turned out for a groundbreaking ceremony hosted by Forsyth Tech to celebrate the commencement of construction on the college's new Stokes County Center at 1165 Dodgetown Road in the Meadows community near Walnut Cove.

The Center represents the college's first permanent facility in Stokes County.

On hand to offer remarks were Dr. Gary Green, president of Forsyth Tech; Ed Welch, Chair of Forsyth Tech's Board of Trustees; Ronda Jones, Chair of the Stokes County Commissioners; and Ann Watts, director of Stokes County operations for Forsyth Tech.

Attendees included county commissioners, the county manager, members of the board of education, the school superintendent, representatives from the offices of Sen. Richard Burr and U.S. Rep. Mark Walker, State Rep. Bryan Holloway, members of Forsyth Tech's Board of Trustees and Foundation Board, as well as students from the Stokes Early College program.

Watts expressed her excitement for the center, saying, "It's been over 30 years in the making, and I could not be more proud."

"We are embarking on a new era in Stokes County," said Jones. "Education is imperative to our economy, and we could not ask for a better place or better people to move this county forward."

Following the remarks, Green, along with 10 of the invited guests, pushed ceremonial shovels into the ground and tossed dirt to officially mark the groundbreaking of the Stokes County Center on July 27.

The new 20,000-square-foot center, which was designed by the architecture firm of Walter Robbs Callahan & Pierce, has been designed to meet the educational needs of Stokes County's growing population.

It will offer expanded space for adult and early college students, a lab for the nursing program, facilities for EMT training and state-of-the-art science and computer labs. Plans are also in place to create within the center an agriculture and agritourism program, tapping into the unique farming opportunities available in Stokes County.

Blue Ridge Enterprises is overseeing construction of the center, which is expected to open in fall 2016.

Forsyth Tech received \$6 million from Stokes County for construction of the center.

Wake Forest[®] Baptist Health BestHealth[™]
In partnership with MEDCOST

September community health seminars, screenings and events

Visit WakeHealth.edu/BestHealth for class descriptions and other events. Events are FREE of charge and require registration, unless otherwise noted.

- WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2**
10 Things You Should Know About the Law \ 2 to 3 pm
Wake Forest Baptist Health Medical Plaza - Country Club, 4610 Country Club Road, Winston-Salem
- THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**
Greek-style Line Dancing
Noon to 1 pm
Wake Forest Baptist Health Piedmont Plaza I, Kitty Hawk Room, 1920 W. First St., Winston-Salem
- TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**
Ultimate Ab Workout \ 4 to 5 pm
Wake Forest Baptist Health Davie Medical Center, Plaza 1, Cardiac Classroom, Hwy 801 N, I-40 (Exit 180), Bermuda Run
- THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**
Blood Pressure Screening \ 1 to 2 pm
Dining Out: Healthier Options 2 to 3 pm
Wake Forest Baptist Health Medical Plaza - Country Club, 4610 Country Club Road, Winston-Salem
- FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**
Discovering Healthier Desserts at the Grocery Store \ Noon to 1 pm
Lowes Foods, 2501 Lewisville-Clemmons Road, Clemmons
- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**
Vegetarian Delights \ 5:30 to 7:30 pm
Wake Forest Baptist Health Medical Plaza - Country Club, 4610 Country Club Road, Winston-Salem
- WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**
Total Body Stretch \ Noon to 1 pm
Wake Forest Baptist Health Davie Medical Center, Plaza 1, Cardiac Classroom, Highway 801 N, I-40 (Exit 180), Bermuda Run
- FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**
Effects of Exercise & Diet in Aging: Brain and Cognition \ 11 am to Noon
Wake Forest Baptist Health Medical Plaza - Country Club, 4610 Country Club Road, Winston-Salem
- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**
Lunch & Learn: 3D Mammography
Noon to 1:30 pm
Wake Forest Baptist Health Piedmont Plaza I, Kitty Hawk Room, 1920 W. First St., Winston-Salem
- TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**
Discovering Healthier Desserts at the Grocery Store \ 5 to 6 pm
Lowes Foods, 3372 Robinhood Road, Winston-Salem
- WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**
Blood Pressure Screening \ 3 to 4 pm
Hip and Knee: Joints Are Replaceable. Life Is Not. \ 4 to 5 pm
Wake Forest Baptist Health Davie Medical Center, Plaza 1, Cardiac Classroom, Highway 801 N, I-40 (Exit 180), Bermuda Run
- FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**
Update on Adult Immunizations 4 to 5 pm
Wake Forest Baptist Health Medical Plaza - Country Club, 4610 Country Club Road, Winston-Salem
- WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**
Ovarian Cancer: What's Important to Know? \ 5 to 6 pm
Wake Forest Baptist Health Medical Plaza - Country Club, 4610 Country Club Road, Winston-Salem

To register, call or visit:
336-713-BEST (2378)
WakeHealth.edu/BestHealth