

# Joines to run for re-election and take on poverty

BY TODD LUCK  
THE CHRONICLE

Mayor Allen Joines announced Wednesday, Sept. 9, that he's seeking a fifth term as Winston-Salem's mayor and is pledging to significantly decrease poverty in the city.

Poverty remains a persistent problem in the city. Poverty has grown 81 percent from 2000 to 2010, according to a Brookings Institute analysis of U.S. Census data. According to a study by the United Way of Forsyth County, 1 in 3 children and 1 in 5 of all residents in Forsyth County live in poverty.

Joines said he's aware of the difficulty of the issue, and that there's been many efforts and trillions of dollars spent over the past 50 years on the problem going back to President Lyndon Johnson's famous War on Poverty.

"I think it's more a matter of we're continuing to do the same thing the same ways and getting the same results," he said.

Joines said he's put together a "thought force of community leaders and critical thinkers" to come up with different solu-



Joines

tions. The goal will be to come up with an innovative strategy to decrease poverty by a significant percentage in the next five to 10 years.

He said another top priority will be continued development in East Winston,

including along Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. He's hoping to see an increase in moderate income housing, restaurants and good paying jobs in the area.



ers, in the city.

"I think I've been a mayor for all the people," said Joines. "I've been sensitive to issues in the minority community. I've supported programs for job development, social programs, affordable housing - I've been a champion for that."

Joines' campaign is touting many accomplishments during his 14 years as mayor, including the inception of a "My Brother's Keeper" program for at-risk African-American males, initiatives to reduce childhood obesity and the establishment of the Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness that resulted in a 50 percent decrease in chronic homelessness. It also points to low unemployment, high

private investment and that the city has the lowest tax rate among the state's major cities.

Joines is also well known in the city through his many appearances around town.

"I think I've been a mayor that's been accessible to all sectors of the community," he said. "I think I've been to something like 1,200 events last year to represent the city and show support for these events that are put out around the city."

Joines was originally elected in 2001 after beating incumbent Republican Mayor Jack Cavanaugh with 78 percent of the vote. Since then, he faced no opposition for the office until he was challenged by Democrat Gardenia Henley in the 2013 primary, which he won with 88 percent of the vote, and by Republican James Knox in that year's General Election, which he won with 84 percent of the vote.

Joines, who is already the longest serving mayor in the city's history, said he wants the chance to deal with "unfinished business" with a next term. And after that?

"Never say never. I've had my fair share of opportunities there. It may be time for someone else after that," said Joines.

## Crosby Scholars Program seeks applicants

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Applications for enrollment to the Crosby Scholars Program are being accepted from students in grades six through 10 until Oct. 1.

The Crosby Scholars Program, which was begun in 1992 in honor of entertainer Bing Crosby, is dedicated to helping students in public middle and high schools in Forsyth County prepare academically, personally and financially for college admission and other post-secondary opportunities.

Crosby Scholars are exposed to workshops about test taking, study skills, time management, conflict resolution, career and college exploration and many other topics. Students completing the program in grades 10, 11 and 12 are eligible to apply for "Last Dollar" scholarships for college. They are also given the opportunity to visit college campuses.

Last year, the Crosby Scholars class of 2015 included 742 students who went on to attend over 117 college and universities. Additionally, all participants in the program performed over 107,000 hours of community service for the 2014-2015 school year.

To be eligible to apply, students must be in grades six through 10 and enrolled in a public middle school or high school in Forsyth County. Students in the program last year do not need to re-apply.



All students that meet the eligibility requirements and apply to the program are automatically accepted. There is no fee for the program but all scholars are required to demonstrate good citizenship, attend one Crosby Scholar Academy each school year, complete and document a minimum of two hours of community service each school year, follow all school rules and refrain from out-of-school suspension and participate in other mandatory requirements as assigned by grade level throughout the school year.

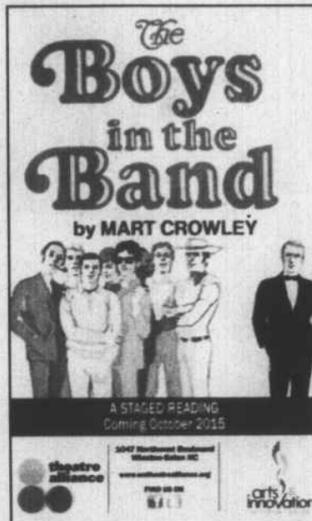
To apply or for more information, please visit [www.crosbyscholars.org](http://www.crosbyscholars.org).

## Theatre Alliance receives grants for renovation project, play

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem Theatre Alliance recently received two grants that will support its Size Matters campaign to renovate its theater and help to continue an on-going series of play readings. The Winston-Salem Foundation has awarded a grant of \$4,500 that will help fund the expenses of Theatre Alliance's campaign to renovate its current space at 1047 Northwest Blvd. to accommodate larger audiences. The Piedmont Natural Gas Foundation has also granted \$500 to Theatre Alliance to help cover the cost of continuing the By-The-Book series.

"We've had tremendous response from individuals and foundations to our renovation plans for the



existing theater," said Theatre Alliance Artistic Director Jamie Lawson. "The Winston-Salem Foundation grant will let us put all of the funds raised to

work on the project. The By-The-Book series, meanwhile, has been an excellent community involvement undertaking for us while giving more short-term acting opportunities to our volunteers. We're very pleased to have part of the cost of that program offset by the Piedmont Natural Gas Foundation."

Information about the Size Matters renovation campaign, the 2015-2016 season or the By-The-Book series can be found on Theatre Alliance's web page - [www.wstheatrealliance.org](http://www.wstheatrealliance.org) or by contacting the theatre directly at 336-723-7777.



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