

GOP Shoots down latest gun proposal



Youth Track



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THE CHRONICLE

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Ministers: End code of silence

Faith leaders take stance against 'no snitching' policy in the community

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

The Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity (MCWSV) is taking a stand against the code of silence and to put an end to the "no snitching" policy that

exists in the African-American community.

During a press conference held at Emmanuel Baptist Church on Tuesday, June 21, faith leaders met with members of the Winston-Salem Police Department (WSPD) and other community leaders to discuss the increase in violent crimes, and to ask those in the community with any information in the homicides to come forward.

Fourteen homicides have been committed in Winston-Salem this year, com-

pared with six at the same point last year.

"Any level of violent crime is unacceptable for any community. Furthermore, the spike in violent crime, particularly homicides in Winston-Salem in 2016 is very alarming," said the Rev. Alvin Carlisle, MCWSV third vice-president and program committee chair.

"As concerned citizens and religious leaders, the Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity embraces the reality, that the onus is upon us to respond to the recent rash of murders in our city."

While all but two have been solved, the WSPD is still investigating and seeking witnesses in all 14 homicide cases. According to Assistant Chief Katrina Thompson, a number of people, and in some cases even family members of the victim, have knowledge of what happened, yet they are unwilling to work with police. Thompson noted that in one case, more than a dozen people witnessed the incident, yet no one is willing to cooperate.

"Our community must come together

See Code on A2

W-S MOURNS MO LUCAS



Photo by Tevin Stinson

Moses "Mo" Lucas addresses the crowd on Sunday, June 19, during the Annual Mo Lucas Father's Day Parade and Cookout. For more than 60 years, Lucas served children at the YMCA.

Legend Moses 'Mo' Lucas dies

More than 1,000 celebrate Mo Lucas on Father's Day

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

More than 1,000 people from near and far filled the streets of downtown

Winston-Salem in support of the Annual Moses "Mo" Lucas Father's Day Parade and Cookout.

The parade, led by The Mo Lucas Community Foundation's Yette Dancers and Boss Drummers, began on Trade Street and snaked its way to Spruce Street, where a festival-like event was held to honor Lucas, 89.

The Carolina Stars, Winston-Salem High Steppers, Winston-Salem Tar Heel Cheerleaders and a number of car and motorcycle clubs in the

area also participated in the third annual parade. The Winston-Salem Fire Department and Police Department participated as well.

If you're making a list of the most well-known people in Winston-Salem, Lucas is sure to be near the top of the list.

A retired Army veteran, Lucas spent more than 60 years serving children at the YMCA through his step team that performed in countless

See Parade on A2

Leader passes away two days after annual Father's Day event

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

On Tuesday, June 21, just 48 hours after the annual Father's Day parade and cookout dedicated to him, Moses "Mo" Lucas, 89, passed away.

Michael Terry, president of the Mo Lucas Foundation,

See Mo Lucas on A2

GOVERNMENT

City passes budget focusing on pay and crime

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

A budget with an emphasis on city worker wages and police recruitment passed the Winston-

Salem City Council with a 6-2 vote.

The \$422.2 million budget increases pay across the board to help with city worker retention. Originally, it was also going to create a fourth police district in and around downtown to help with police coordination in that area. That plan was nixed in favor of more robust police recruiting.

This comes at a time when the city has seen 14 homicides in 2016, compared to six at this time last year. Police Chief Barry Rountree told City Council the department is con-



Chief Rountree

cerned with the rise in homicides. He said cities across the country have seen a spike in violent crime. The local homicide suspects and victims usual-

ly knew each other, he said. "Primarily these homicides we have experienced in 2016 have been the result of individuals choosing to settle a dispute with

a firearm or some other type of weapon" said Rountree.

He said law enforcement can't predict crimes of passion like the recent homicides. All resources are being devoted to those cases, with detectives working overtime. He said investigators still need the public's help to solve some of the cases and hopes those with information will come forward.

On recruiting, Rountree said many young people are not choosing the law enforcement profession because of the increased scrutiny and unease toward

police nationally.

"As you can imagine, not only in Winston-Salem but across the country, it's become more difficult to attract people to be law enforcement professionals," he said.

Though currently understaffed, the Winston-Salem Police Department (WSPD) has not cut back on services but is using overtime to compensate for vacant positions. The \$310,000 in the budget for police recruitment includes signing and referral bonuses, additional scholarships, expanding recruiting areas

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