

Community Briefs

M&F Bank strategically building commercial lending team

DURHAM – M&F Bank recently welcomed two experienced lenders to its commercial lending team: Steven Blalock now serves as SVP/Senior Commercial Loan Officer in the Raleigh market, and Damien Gorham is the new VP/Commercial Loan Officer in the Greensboro market. The addition of seasoned and successful lenders is M&F's latest step in their plan to expand the Bank's customer base, increase loan sales, and enhance asset growth.



Blalock

Blalock joins the bank with more than 20 years of lending, loan management, retail banking and business development experience with several Triangle-area banks. He holds a BSBA in marketing and economics from Appalachian State University.



Gorham

Gorham's 20 years of experience includes credit analysis, loan underwriting, special asset management, portfolio management and relationship management with several Greensboro institutions. He holds a BA with a concentration in business from NC A&T State University.

Liberty Tax Service commits up to \$250,000 in free tax books

Liberty Tax Service, a leading tax preparation franchise, will provide up to \$250,000 in free books to police officers and their immediate family members who enroll in the franchise's Tax Course being offered at locations across the country, including Winston-Salem, this fall. The 10-week Tax Course is offered during the daytime and in the evening to attract students from all walks of life. The course helps with the understanding of tax preparation, but some states have additional requirements for tax preparers. The Tax Course is offered at no cost to students, but in some states students pay a fee for books and supplies. Liberty Tax will cover that book fee for up to 2,000 Tax Course students who are officers or immediate family members of police officers. The free books are an extension of services several Liberty Tax franchisees already provide to members of the public safety community. Each year police, fire fighters and other public safety officers receive free tax preparation services during Public Safety Appreciation Week, which is designed to honor and respect those who keep us safe. During the upcoming tax season, participating Liberty Tax franchisees will offer free tax preparation for police officers during the entire month of March. For more information, visit www.libertytax.com.

Community Calendar

Fridays through July 29 – Fairground Fridays for Teens

Fairground Fridays has returned with dance contests, prizes, giveaways and free arcade games from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Winston-Salem Fairgrounds. Fairground Fridays is hosted by Busta Brown and features music by Mr. Bill's Productions. Fairground Fridays will be held every Friday through July 29. Admission is free. Concessions will be available. Free parking is available in the lot for the Fairgrounds Annex.

Fridays through Aug. 26 - Downtown Jazz Concerts

The 19th season of Downtown Jazz presented by the Winston-Salem Federal Credit Union continues in Corpening Plaza at 237 W. First Street. Downtown Jazz is a production of the Downtown Winston-Salem Partnership in collaboration with Carl Denerson of Post Entertainment. The remaining performances schedule is: August 12, Dee Lucas with opening performer Vince Crenshaw; August 26, Joey Somerville, opening performer, Galvin Crisp.

Today, July 28 – 31 – Presentation of "Cheatin'"

Theatre Alliance, 1047 Northwest Blvd., will present the comedy "Cheatin'." Performance dates are: today, Thursday, July 28, Friday, July 29, and Saturday, July 30, at 8 p.m.; and Sunday, July 31, at 2 p.m. Please note that this performance contains Adult Situations and Strong Language. Tickets to "Cheatin'" are priced at \$18 for Adults and \$16 for students/seniors. There is also a \$2 per ticket discount available for groups of 10 or more. Tickets to "Cheatin'" may be purchased in person at the Theatre Alliance Box Office (Fridays from 12:30-3 p.m.), online at www.wstheatrealliance.org or by calling Brown Paper Tickets at (800) 838-3006. Please call Theatre Alliance at (336) 723-7777 with any questions about this or future shows.

Today, July 28 – Aug. 18 - Upcoming events at Cook Literacy Model School

Kindergarten registration is now open at Cook. Please come by or call 336-703-4201. Parent Forums to

meet the new staff are being held on July 28 from 6 - 7 p.m. at Cook Literacy Model School, 920 11th St. NW. Back to School Cookout is Thursday, Aug. 18 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. First day of school is Monday, Aug. 22 at 8:15 a.m.

Today, July 28 – Welcome to Medicare workshop

The Shepherd's Center of Greater Winston-Salem is offering a workshop for individuals turning 65 (as well as those who already have Medicare) to learn about the different insurance options available, including "Original Medicare," Medicare prescription drug programs, Medicare supplements and Medicare Advantage plans. The session will be held on Thursday, July 28, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Shepherd's Center, 1700 Ebert Street. The session is designed to explain and clarify the Medicare sign-up process and educate attendees on how to make smart choices. Trained Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) counselors will be on hand to answer questions. The session is provided at no cost. Because space is limited, reservations are required. Contact the Shepherd's Center at 748-0217 for more information or to reserve a seat.

Today, July 28 Youth Poetry Slam

The William Roscoe Anderson Jr. Community Center will debut the Rhythm & Rhyme Youth Poetry Slam on Thursday, July 28. It begins at 1 p.m. and admission is \$1.00. Contestants will perform one minute of an original piece that they have composed and have refined while participating in the center's 2016 summer camp. They will be divided into three age groups: Division 1-ages 5-7; Division 2-ages 8-9; Division 3-ages 10-12. A panel of judges will rate contestants in five categories; stage performance, presentation, creativity, logic of words and physical presence. First, second and third place winners will be chosen for each division and they will receive cash prizes; \$50 for first place, \$25 for second place, \$10 for third place. This event will also feature Basic Beat Drummers (Grades K-1) led by members of University of North Carolina School of the Arts

Artist Corps, ballet dancers (Grades K-5) led by a volunteer from University of North Carolina Greensboro, and poetry dancers.

Today, July 28

Launch of NETT Program
Today, July 28, the United Way, AT&T, Forsyth Technical Community College, WinstonNet, the Winston-Salem Public Library, Winston-Salem State University and the Winston-Salem Urban League will launch NETT (Neighborhood Empowerment Through Technology) at the Carl H. Russell Community Center, located at 3521 Carver School Road. The partners, joined by Mayor Allen Joines and Mayor Pro Tempore Vivian Burke, voiced support the innovative year-long pilot program, designed to improve digital literacy and inclusion in northeast Winston-Salem. NETT aims to engage, train, equip and connect residents with an array of digital resources under the presumption the digital resources are essential to economic empowerment. The Winston-Salem Public Library will provide an array of free courses aimed at improving computer literacy, job skills and supporting entrepreneurial enterprises. A full course listing can be found at www.forsythcomputer-training.org.

July 29 – Job Fair

The Winston-Salem Urban League will partner with Herbalife to sponsor a Job Fair on Friday, July 29, at the Urban League downtown location, 201 West Fifth St. from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Herbalife Job Fair is one in a series of hiring events as part of the Urban League Workforce Development Programs and Services to assist job seekers become gainfully employed and to help employers meet their staffing needs. Job applicants who plan to attend the Herbalife Job Fair should bring current resumes and be prepared for an interview. For information contact Patricia Sadler at 336 725-5614

July 29-30 – Performance of 'Almost, Maine'

Spring Theatre proudly presents the popular show, "Almost, Maine,"

See Comm. Cal. on B8

THE CHRONICLE

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We ask that items be sent in document form in an email or Word or PDF attachment.

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We ask that photos be high resolution and sent as attachments to emails and that they are jpegs at least 6 inches by 4 inches in size rather than sent on documents.

3.

Please include captions for the photos with the article document.

4.

Please give details about your item in the subject line of the email.

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Please do not send jpeg fliers alone. We cannot extract words from jpeg fliers.

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The deadline to have all news and calendar items in to the newsroom is 11:59 p.m. Sunday for that week's paper.

Send your news items to news@wschronicle.com. You can also drop them off, Monday through Friday before 5 p.m., or mail your items to Winston-Salem Chronicle, 617 N. Liberty St., Winston-Salem, NC 27101; or send them via our website, www.wschronicle.com. (We can't accept photos on our website).