



Capel returns to former hometown

- See Page B1



Local post office gets new manager

- See Page A9



Agency looks for toys to give kids

- See Page A3



Residents play bingo for turkeys

- See Page C1

THE CHRONICLE

45 110805 *****CAR-RT-LOT**C022
NORTH CAROLINA ROOM
FORSYTH CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
660 W 5TH ST
WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-1300

30 YEARS OF COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

Vol. XXXI No. 13

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2004



Photo by Felecia McMillan

Larry Leon Hamlin and his wife, Sylvia, wore purple, the signature color of the Black Rep, to the weekend event.

Black Repertory celebrates its silver anniversary

BY FELECIA P. McMILLAN, PH.D.
THE CHRONICLE

Larry Leon Hamlin founded the N.C. Black Repertory Company (NCBRC) in 1979. It is the first professional black theater company in North Carolina. The initial N.C. Black Repertory Theatre Guild, 1,000 members strong, is the largest black theater guild in America. During the early years of 1979-1984, Hamlin created a reader's theater and actors training program for adults and children.



Woodie King

has made to American theater, then-President Bill Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton invited Hamlin to the White House twice for recognition.

the first National Black Arts Festival in Atlanta, Ga., in 1988, and it was the first company to perform at the National Black Theatre Festival in 1989, during which more than 1,500 local citizens volunteered. The show "Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope" written by Micki Grant, received rave reviews from the New York Times.

Because of the outstanding contributions the company

See **Black Rep** on A11



Photo by Kevin Walker

Stephen Hairston sits with Shameka Brown at one of the computers in the lab at the new enrichment center.

Hairston seeks a second term

NAACP president proud of accomplishments

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

By the time you read this, Stephen Hairston will know if the 500-plus members of the Winston-Salem chapter of the NAACP approved of his first term as president of the chapter. On Tuesday, the chapter held elections. Hairston's job, as well as those of the people on his leadership team, was up for

grabs. JoAnn Allen challenged Hairston for the presidency. Voting ended at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, after The Chronicle's early holiday press time. But last week, Hairston was confident in his chances of re-election and proud of the work he has done during his first two-year term.

"The things we have initiated are things that we are very

See **NAACP** on A10



Photos by Kevin Walker

Left: James Smith, a sophomore at N.C. A&T State University, thanks Peggy Murdock for her donation. Smith helped the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina collect food Saturday for the Fill the Truck campaign.

Below: Sandra Todd hits a high note as she sing lead during a performance by the Mt. Olive Baptist Church Choir.

THE GIVING PART OF THANKSGIVING

Those in need this season get help from local churches, agency

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

The Rev. Bobby Wilson drew quite the crowd last week at the Wal-Mart off Hanes Mall Boulevard. He stopped by the store to buy more than 100 turkeys. As employees helped Wilson load the frozen birds onto the back of his pickup truck, several shoppers stopped by to look on in awe.

"He must have a big family," one woman said to a male companion.

Wilson would not disagree with the woman's statement. In God's community, all people are kin, he believes. Wilson's church, For You Christ Ministries, proved that last week by providing turkeys and a box full of other Thanksgiving edibles to about 140 families.

"We feel we need to go outside of the walls of our church to serve the community," Wilson



said Saturday as members of his church worked at a rapid pace to put together the boxes of food. By 11:30 a.m. people had already started arriving at the Holiday Inn-Hanes Mall to pick up the food.

The church had sent letters to managers at several apartment complexes in West Winston-Salem, asking them to identify families who would benefit from the food. The response was strong, as Wilson had expected.

He knows that there are people out there suffering. He believes that one of the callings for the church is to reach out and lift up.

"We want to be a blessing to all of you, not only at Thanks-

See **Thanksgiving** on A12

Dancer makes history with 'Nutcracker' role

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD
THE CHRONICLE

Bayleigh Miller has a lot on her mind with high school finals and daily dance rehearsals to juggle. The 17-year-old N.C. School of the Arts junior can't spend too much time thinking about the fact that she'll make history next month when she takes to the stage as the first African-American ever to dance the role of the Sugar Plum Fairy in this year's production of "The Nutcracker." Miller can handle the pressure but she doesn't want to concern herself with the hype, although she likes the sound of the stereotypes crashing down about black ballerinas.

"I've worked very hard all of these years, and my teachers and my peers have helped me so much. Now I can show them what I've learned without being too nervous. If I think about the stress (of carrying the show) I become (overwhelmed)," said Miller, who has performed in NCSA's "The Nutcracker" since she was in the fifth grade. She will also dance a second role in the ballet as the lead Chinese. "I don't think a lot of people realize that

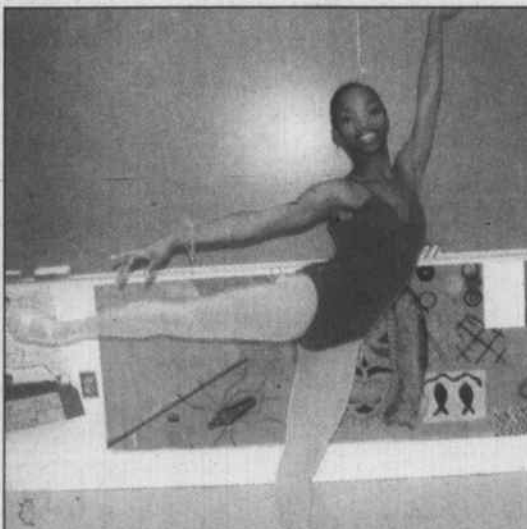


Photo by Courtney Gaillard

Seventeen-year-old Bayleigh Miller strikes a dancer's pose for this photograph. Miller is set to perform as the Sugar Plum Fairy in an upcoming performance of "The Nutcracker."

See **'Nutcracker'** on A11



In Grateful Memory of Our Founders, Florrie S. Russell and Carl H. Russell, Sr.

"Growing and Still Dedicated to Serve You Better"
Russell Funeral Home
Wishes to Thank Everyone For Their Support

822 Carl Russell Ave.
(at Martin Luther King Dr.)
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
(336) 722-3459
Fax (336) 631-8268
rushome@bellsouth.net

The Only Choice for African-American and Community News