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# THE CHRONICLE

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CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF COMMUNITY JOURNALISM

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## Locals feted for making city safer



Photo by Kevin Walker  
**Former Attorney General Janet Reno applauds Sharon Glover, who received the Advocate Award last week.**

**Janet Reno, former U.S. attorney general, speaks to winners**

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD  
THE CHRONICLE

It's been six years since former U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno's last visit to Winston-Salem. She believes the city is a safer and better place because people like Shaun McIlwain are committed to their community.

The East Forsyth High School senior devotes a lot of his free time to the youths in his community. When he is not representing East Forsyth on the football field McIlwain runs focus groups and youth meetings at the Naomi Jones Resource Center. His hope, he says, is that he has served as a good example to the kids in his neighborhood who too often look to drug dealers for inspiration and aspiration.

"I think it's a great privilege because I strive to make my community a better place.... Kids can do so much more than waking up in the morning and wanting to sell drugs.... I just want to be there to inspire them," said McIlwain, who received the

See Awards on A9



Photo by Kevin Walker  
**Vivian Burke addresses the crowd at the recent NAACP Freedom Fund Gala.**

## Burke will try to extend council reign

*Only two black council members have said they will run in 2005*

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Vivian Burke confirmed this week that she will seek an eighth term on the City Council, a body that was known as the Board of Aldermen when she first was elected in 1977. Jim Shaw, chairman of the Liberty Community Development Corp., announced Burke's decision Monday before a crowd of several dozen at a groundbreaking ceremony.

A month ago, Burke, who represents the Northeast Ward, told The Chronicle that she was still deciding on whether she would run again. Tuesday she said she made the decision to seek re-election because she has her hands in many projects that she wants to see to fruition.



Johnson

Among those projects is her co-chairpersonship of the Dell Task Force, which is charged with overseeing that local workers and contractors get their piece of the Dell pie.

Since Forsyth County landed the Dell plant late last year, Burke has voiced her desire that the computer giant make opportunities available to local minorities. She said so far Dell has reached out to minorities, most recently by signing a local black-owned firm to do a multimillion dollar dry-wall project on its plant, which is scheduled to open later this year.

"We are moving in a way that I feel very comfortable (with)," she said.

As a City Council member, Burke is chairman of the Public Safety Committee and a member of

See Burke on A10

## Future again iffy for center

*Commissioners are reluctant to fork over subsidy*

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

It is that time of year again. The Forsyth County Board of Commissioners is counting the money in the county's pocketbook, trying to figure out ways to stretch a dollar to its limit.



Clements

This is always a hectic and frustrating time of year for Michael Clements. Inevitably, funding for his Downtown Health Plaza is always brought up during the commissioners' budget talks, but not in a good way.

Last year, a close 4-3 vote saved the Downtown Health Plaza's \$1.5 million subsidy from the county. This time around it may not even be that close. Only two commissioners, Walter Marshall and Beaufort Bailey, have expressed public support for funding the Health Plaza.

Clements, the Health Plaza's director, is worried that the Downtown Health Plaza won't get one brown cent this year and that the facility will be forced to end its policy of accepting all patients, regardless of the patient's ability to pay for services.

"People would be turned away," he said. "Right now, we turn away no one."

Clements has been expressing his concerns to anyone who will listen. He hopes that a swell of community support can sway commissioners.

The Downtown Health Plaza

See Health on A10

## SOMETHING FISHY



Photo by Kevin Walker

**Roger Powell Jr. and his dad, Roger Sr., came home from a fishing trip near Rocky Mount last week with one big fish and a tale just as big to tell their family members and friends. The father-son duo caught the 25-pound striped bass using a standard rod. The big fish, though, was too powerful and nearly set itself free. Roger Sr. eventually had to grab the fish near its gills before it made an escape. Father and son plan to have the bass mounted.**

## WSSU graduates say they will depart to serve

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

A maze of smiling faces waited patiently Saturday morning along a winding corridor at the Joel Coliseum. The hundreds of



See WSSU on A11

Winston-Salem State University graduates were ordered alphabetically, putting Hairstons next to Harrises and Williamses next to Wilsons.

There was no question who would stand next to Stephen Powell in the procession. It was his wife, Michele Powell. They both earned master's degrees in rehabilitation counseling. The couple received two of the first 10 degrees ever awarded by WSSU in the program.

"We are really a part of history, being in the first 10," said Michele Powell, who hopes to use the skills she learned to better serve people in her profession as a church counselor.


It was Stephen Powell who suggested that the couple enroll in the program together. He



Photo by Kevin Walker

**Stephen and Michele Powell have a laugh at the Joel Coliseum before Saturday's graduation ceremony for Winston-Salem State University.**

**Far left: Jane Karonga prepares to walk in the graduation procession.**

 <p><b>In Grateful Memory of Our Founders, Florrie S. Russell and Carl H. Russell, Sr.</b></p>	<p><i>"Growing and Still Dedicated to Serve You Better"</i></p> <p><b>Russell Funeral Home</b></p> <p><i>Wishes to Thank Everyone For Their Support</i></p>	<p>822 Carl Russell Ave. (at Martin Luther King Dr.) Winston-Salem, NC 27101 (336) 722-3459 Fax (336) 631-8268 rusfhome@bellsouth.net</p>
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