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# THE CHRONICLE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2005



The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry delivers a passionate message at St. Paul's Episcopal Church last Thursday.

## Church leader tells gays, 'We are family'

State Episcopal leader tells community to keep up the fight

BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
THE CHRONICLE

The leader of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina says the church is no swank country club, where membership is selective and access is limited. Churches, the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry said, have been proclaimed by God to be houses of prayer for all people. "There wasn't any qualification on it," he said. Curry was in Winston-Salem last Thursday to give the



Kaleidoscope Award winner Janet Joyner.

keynote address at the first-ever Kaleidoscope Awards Banquet. The event - which brought

about 150 people to St. Paul's Episcopal Church - was put on by Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) of Winston-Salem. The Episcopal Church has received both praise and condemnation in recent years for putting out the welcome mat for homosexuals. In 2003, the church elected openly gay Gene Robinson as bishop of New Hampshire. Last year, Curry gave the green light to the state's 121 parishes to perform commitment ceremonies for same-sex couples. He told the crowd that society should strive to find commonality instead of differences. One trait that all people share, he said, is that they are all -

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## Winston crime rate still sinking

Officials credit arrests of violent people

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The city's crime rate continues to fall, officials announced last week. There was 11 percent less crime in the city in 2004 than there was in the previous year. The decrease in crime has been a trend in Winston-Salem. Crime rate has fallen steadily since 1994, when only Charlotte had a higher crime rate than Winston-Salem. The Uniform Crime Report (UCR), an index of violent crimes released annually by Attorney General Roy Cooper, showed that 2,680 violent crimes occurred in Winston-Salem in 1994. The UCR released Sept. 6 showed that there were 1,521 violent crime arrests in the city last year. That is a 43.2 percent decrease from '94. Winston-Salem's violent crime arrests, according to the UCR, are lower than any other major city in the state. Greensboro had 1,601 such arrests in 2004. Durham had 1,729, Raleigh had 1,867, and Charlotte had a whopping 7,277. The UCR also showed that Winston-Salem's rate of decreasing violent crime arrests since 1994 is more than any other major city in the state. By comparison, Greensboro has reduced its rate by 20.2 percent since 1994. Winston-Salem Police Chief Pat Norris and Forsyth County District Attorney Tom Keith credit the city's increased focus on profes-



Norris

See Crime on A11

## Women in recovery create shiny baubles

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD  
THE CHRONICLE

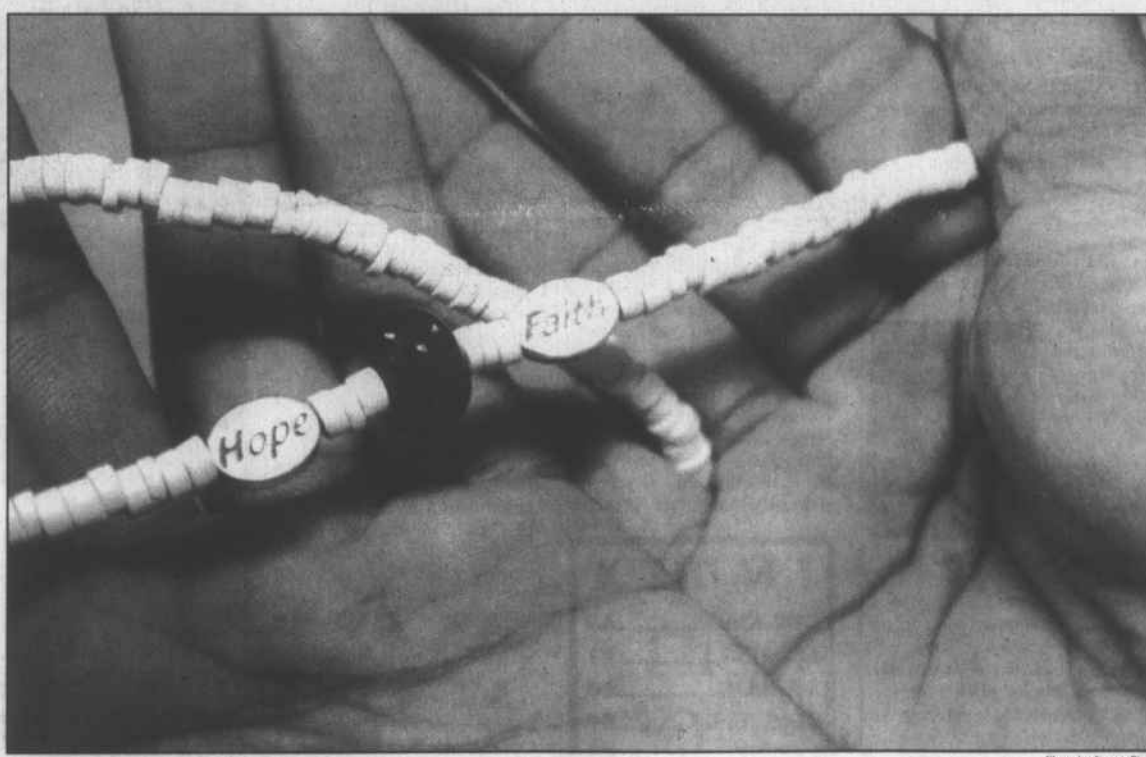
Now that jewelry making has become a hobby for Antoinette Acker, she thinks she might bead a bracelet or two on the weekends, that is, if her favorite team's basketball game isn't being televised. Acker didn't think she'd like making jewelry when it was introduced to her at the YWCA's Hawley House. But she quickly found out that she was mistaken once she started making her first necklace.



Galloway

"I saw it all come together, and I got a million dollar piece of jewelry," said Acker. The first piece of jewelry Annazette Peterson made was a bracelet that she attached the letters of her first name to. Felicia Leak has beaded several necklaces, some she might wear and others she may give to friends.

"It's calming," said Leak, who, along with Acker and Peterson, is in a substance abuse recovery program for women. Their



Annazette Peterson holds this recovery necklace that she created.

handmade jewelry will go on sale this Saturday at a Jewelry Show and Sale hosted by the YWCA. The sale will include a variety of

bracelets, necklaces and earrings made by women in recovery. A number of women have also crafted several different pieces

that symbolize sobriety. The jewelry includes colors that mark certain steps in the recovery process. The line of Recovery Jewelry will

be unveiled at a private showing tomorrow evening. September is National Recovery Month.

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## New units named for community icons

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD  
THE CHRONICLE

Lee Morris isn't the least bit bashful about the bachelor-style décor of his new University Court apartment. It may not look like the fancy model, he says, but it's the place he calls home now. Morris proudly gave visitors a tour of his one-bedroom digs last week following a dedication ceremony of the new apartment complex.

"It looks like a man lives here," joked Morris, who is among the first residents of University Court Apartments, which are situated on the University Place campus. "I'm very blessed."

The 11-acre site once housed City Hospital, which has since been converted into housing by the N.C. Housing Foundation Inc. for older adults and an assisted living facility. The foundation



Ella M. Whitworth (from left), Louise H. Davis and Pauline Jackson are longtime community servants. Housing units in the area are now named for the ladies.



provides affordable housing to low-income people, seniors and the disabled. The four buildings that make up the complex have been named for longtime Winston-Salem residents, three of whom were on hand for the event, including Louise H. Davis, Pauline Jackson and Ella M. Whitworth.



City Councilmember Joyce-lyn Johnson, who is a member of the N.C. Housing Foundation Board, presented a certificate of

See Units on A9

## DADDY'S GIRL



Michael Hill holds his daughter, Caitlyn, Saturday as they listen to children's author Kimberly Johnson at the Bookmarks festival. To read more about festival authors, see page A4.

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