THE CHRONICLE

NOVEMBER 24, 2005 A3

Chamber launches Certifichecks | Free eye screenings

Program designed to encourage shoppers to support local businesses

BY SANDRA ISLEY THE CHRONICLE

At a loss for what to buy that special someone this holiday season? Maybe you should con-sider Certifichecks, the newest initiative launched by The Winston-Salem



Anderson

merce in an effort to support t h e "Don't Pass the Buck, Local" program.

Chamber

of Com-

The chamber introduced its latest initiative by presenting The Salvation Army with \$250 in Certifichecks at Hanes Mall last Thursday. Even though the unveiling of the program took place at the mall, Gayle Ander-son, president and CEO of the chamber, said that Certifichecks will be accepted at businesses throughout the city, including restaurants, retail shops and grocery stores

News

Clips

Bell ringers to perform

The Wake Forest Universi-ty Student Handbell Choir will

perform its fourth annual "Carols of the Bells" concert

at 8 p.m. Nov. 30 at Wake For-

est in Davis Chapel in Wingate

Hall. The concert is a benefit

performance to raise funds for Brenner's Children's Hospital.

Donations will be accepted, and all proceeds will go to the

The concert will featur

eight Wake Forest student bell

ringers performing traditional Christmas carols, including "Jingle Bells," "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," and the "Ukranian Bell Carol," as well

As an arrangement of "The Phantom of the Opera" by Douglas Wagner. The Wake Forest Handbell

Choir is a student-led group that features eight to 16 bell ringers who traditionally per-

form three times a year for the "Carols of the Bells" benefit concert, the university's annu-al Christmas Candlelight Lovefeast and for a spring

McGee, Folwell to tackle

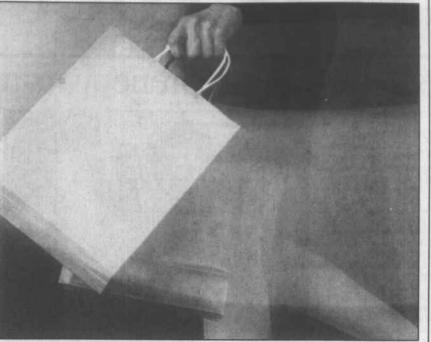
health issues

W.C. "Bill" McGee,

two term Republican Legisla-

a

hymn concert.



By purchasing Certi-fichecks, shoppers will strengthvalue. There's no expiration en their local economy. Anderson said, "We want to encourage people to buy locally

instead of getting on the Internet or shopping by catalog. By doing so, we keep jobs here." They are like gift cards but with one big advantage. Certi-

fichecks have no fees attached them and retain their full face study," McGee said. "This is one of the most critical issues

date. They work just like cash. Many gift cards deduct fees from the card's value for service charges

Ashi Gwyn, a fifth-grader at South Fork Elementary, will be the recipient of the Certifichecks donated by the chamber to The Salvation Army. Gwyn, who's being reared by her father, Robert Gwyn, recently had a

SATURDAY

ONLY

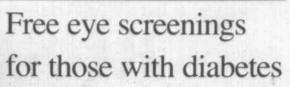
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tumor removed. Col. Jack Waters, area com-

wish big

mander for The Salvation Army, said that the organization is enormously grateful for the gift.

Certifichecks can be pur chased from the chamber's Web site at www.winstonsalem.com, by calling 887-770-GIFT, or at the chamber offices at 601 W. Fourth St.



Velez

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Forsyth County residents who have diabetes and are uninsured or on Medicaid are invited to participate in free eye screenings to detect diabetic retinopathy, the leading cause of preventable blindness in adults.

The screenings, which will be conducted from Dec. 5 through March 31, are part of a project called "I SEE IN NC," which will determine if early screening using a special camera and images transmitted over the Internet can detect the disease early enough to prevent blindness.

"Medicaid patients are rarely screened and are at risk of becoming blind," said Ramon Velez, M.D., M.S., of Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, who is conducting the research.

The project will screen about 3,000 North Carolini-ans and mail the results to participants' primary-care physicians, who can refer patients who need treatment

adults over age 18 and to children over age 12 who have had diabetes for at least five years. Preliminary results from pilot testing of the hightech approach showed that among diabetic patients screened, about 15 percent required urgent referral to an ophthalmologist and more than 40 percent had

some degree of diabetic retinopathy changes in blood vessels in the retina.

Screening locations are:

• Dec. 5 to Jan. 13, 2006: Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, Outpatient Department Clinic, seventh floor Janeway Tower.

• Jan. 18 to March 3, 2006: Downtown Health Plaza, 1200 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive

• March 6-31, 2006: Forsyth County Department of Public Health, 799 N. Highland Ave.

For more information, to register or to see if you are eligible, contact Ron Gaskins, M.P.A., associate project manager, at (336) 480-6934 or rgaskins@wfubmc.edu.

to eye specialists. The screenings are open to Saturday 7am-noon oniv Good life. Great price. 29⁹⁹ THF



Saturday 7am-noon only!

99% CD kit, save \$40 Access led. 57295/01420HPp.rb. HPP/Pink, v After noon, 139.99



Salem College Dance Company to present fall concert

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The Salem College Dance Company will present its fall concert on Dec. 2-3 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 3 at 2 p.m. in the Drama Workshop, located in the Salem Fine Arts Center. Admission is \$3.

Directed by Assistant Professor of Dance Heidi Godfrey, the concert will feature pieces choreographed and per-formed by students. Special guest artists are the alban elved dance company, led by artistic director Karola Lüttringhaus, and the Mereminne Dancers, directed by Lacy James

A reception will follow each performance.

24-hour animal adoption marathon

The Forsyth County Animal Shelter Friends of the Shelter will hold a 24-Hour Adoption Marathon beginning Dec. 3 at 8 a.m. and ending at 8 a.m. on Dec. 4. It will take place at the Forsyth County Animal Shelter, 1200 Fairchild Road. Shelter staff and volunteers will be on hand for the 24-hour adoption marathon to kick off the national "Home 4 the Holidays" campaign. There will be holiday decorations and good cheer as the staff and volunteers work to place all of their homeless pets into homes just in time for the holidays.



Saturday 7am-noon only! 50°#

60%

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s Play* sets Shown: anownian set. 3 30.00. sale 12.00 Atter agon, 15.00

Saturday 7am-noon only!

n's Lee regular fit prewashed ns Reg. 24.99 After noon, 19.99

tor from Forsyth County's Dis-trict 75, has been appointed to the Health Care Study Com-mittee in the N.C. House of Representatives.

The study committee will address the affordability, accessibility and quality of health care, and will make recommendations for legislation that will be debated and voted on in the 2006 session of the General

Assembly There will be 'n com mittee mem bers and six sub com-

JENDET.

McGeo

McGee has been mittees. appointed to the Subcommiton the Cost of Insurance for Employees and Employers.

Republican Rep. Dale Fol-well also has been appointed, and will serve on the Subcommittee on the State Health Plan. Recent studies indicate that 559,000 fewer North Carolinians, a 6.7 percent increase in the number uninsured, have health insurance than four years ago. A decline in workplace coverages is largely responsible for the trend.

'I look forward to participating in this all-important Associated Artists to open new gallery

Associated Artist of Winston-Salem will open its Associated Artists Gallery Thursday, Dec. 1, at 11:30 a.m. AAWS will open the new gallery with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and reception. Win ston-Salem City Council member and downtown advocate Wanda Merschel will cut the ribbon and speak. The new gallery is at 301 W. Fourth St. in the Chatham Building situated on the corner of Fourth and Cherry streets, downtown Winston-Salem.

The first exhibit in the new gallery will be Up Close and Personal, an exhibition of fine by exhibiting members art The show will be on view to the public on Dec. 1 after the ribbon-cutting ceremony. The public is invited to the free gala opening reception on Dec. 2, 5 - 8 p.m.

Associated Artists of Winston-Salem is a nonprofit organization of more than 650 members. Supported by membership dues and individual donations, AAWS also receives operating assistance from the Arts Council of Winston-Salem / Forsyth County.

For more information, visit the Web site at www.associatedartists.org.



SATURDAY

ALL STORES OPEN 7AM-10PM



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