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 Community Journal



Hall of Fame welcomes Reese

-See Page B1



Y looks to help Hispanic students

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Children take part in annual Easter hunt

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THE CHRONICLE

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HAWS residents earn computers



Graduates Shereka Thompson (from left), Margaret McNeil and Lawanda McCall, stand beside Galvin Crisp.

Program teaches computer skills, self-sufficiency

BY SANDRA ISLEY
 THE CHRONICLE

The first graduates of a program that teaches public housing residents computer skills were lauded last week during graduation ceremony at the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem's downtown headquarters.

The skills classes were offered as part of HAWS' Neighborhood Networks program.

The five graduates received certificates from the International Association of Continuing Education and Training, certifying them in the use of Microsoft Office products. Eleven students enrolled in the yearlong program, but Shereka Thompson, Crystal Sanders, Lawanda McCall, Margaret McNeil and Nicole Goodman were the only ones to complete it.



Meachem

See HAWS on A12

Black officials to tackle problems

The Annual Black Summit will be held this weekend

TODD LUCK
 THE CHRONICLE

Black elected officials in North Carolina will band together this weekend to form an alliance that will deal with the most pressing issues effecting the state's black community.

The new Alliance of North Carolina Black Elected Officials will hold its first meeting in Raleigh tomorrow and Saturday.

This first Annual Black Summit will be a time for black officials to communicate with one another and come up with common goals that will take the form of a covenant for the state.

Winston-Salem City Council member Joycelyn Johnson, who helped plan the event, said that this will be a great way to improve communication between black elected officials on different levels of government.

"It's a sharing kind of process," said Johnson. However, Johnson and several other local black officials won't be able to make the summit since it conflicts with this weekend's workshops hosted by the Black Leadership Roundtable.

County Commissioners Beaufort Bailey and Walter Marshall do plan to attend the event with more than 100 others from around the state.

The Alliance is made up of five member organizations: The N.C. Legislative Black Caucus, the N.C. Conference of Black Mayors, the N.C. Caucus of Black School Board Members, the N.C. Black Elected Municipal Officials and the N.C. Association of Black County Officials. In addition, the state

See Officials on A12

Pastors: Support Carver

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
 THE CHRONICLE

Add the Ministers Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity to the growing list of organizations and individuals defending Carver High School.

The historically African-American school has been in need of some TLC since early March when a judge threatened to close Carver and more than a dozen other high schools throughout North Carolina.

Wake County Superior Court Judge Howard Manning cited the schools' low test scores in a letter that he wrote to state education leaders. Manning is best-known for presiding over the Leandro case, which for years has pitted smaller school districts against larger ones in a battle for adequate state funding.

Carver and the other schools named by Manning have had less than 55 percent of their students making the state's ABCs accountability benchmark. Manning suggested other options for the schools as well, including replacing the schools' principals or bringing in state education assistant teams to help.

Members of the Ministers Conference held a news conference Tuesday after their regularly-scheduled monthly meeting at Emmanuel Baptist Church. Ministers don't like any of Manning's options. They wrote a letter of their own last month to Manning, pleading with the judge to take more than Carver's test scores into consideration. In the letter, sent last

See Carver on A12

First Ladies



North Carolina A&T State University's Lyceum Committee recently honored three of the institution's First Ladies. Pictured holding their awards are: Peggy Renick (from left), wife of current Chancellor James C. Renick; Elizabeth Dowdy, wife of the late Chancellor Lewis C. Dowdy (1964-1980); and Lessie Fort, wife of Chancellor Emeritus Edward B. Fort (1981-1999).

N.C. A&T Photo

Roundtable workshop planned as forum follow-up

BY SANDRA ISLEY
 THE CHRONICLE

The Black Leadership Roundtable will host a community workshop on Saturday, beginning at 8:30 a.m., at Atkins Academic and Technology High School on Old Greensboro Road. The workshop is a followup to a community forum held earlier this year by the Roundtable, during which citizens aired their grievances about a variety of topics, from a lack of economic development in East Winston, to inadequate healthcare for the poor.

The Roundtable, a grassroots group that addresses issues that concern the local African American community, will use the community workshop as an educational event, equipping attendees with the tools they need to properly address their concerns.

"We'll have representatives from state government," said Linda Sutton, the Roundtable's convener. "It will be a good time for people to come and speak to some of the community leaders and find out some more information about the issues and what people are trying to do in addressing those issues."

There will also be resource booths set up, offering free information on a variety of programs. The Roundtable will also make sure that the public has the correct contact information for local agencies, organizations and elected officials.

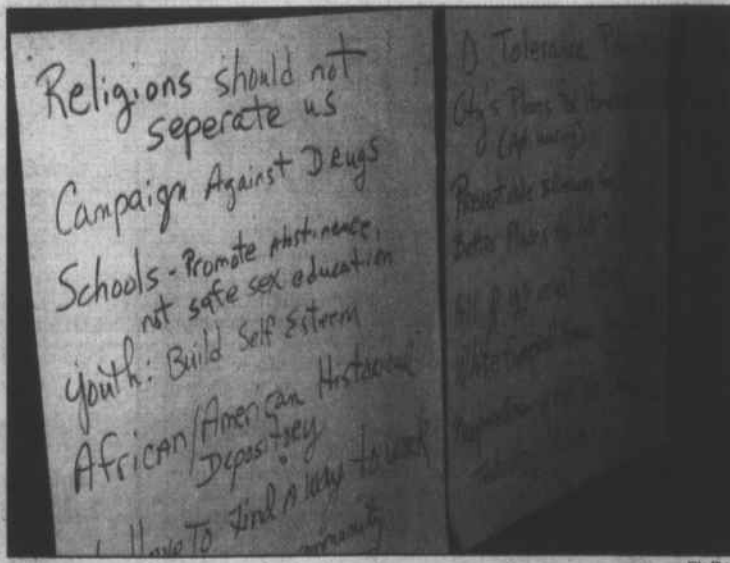
Small group discussions are also planned, where topics will be discussed in a more intimate setting.

Sutton is expecting a big turnout from elected officials. This is an election year with several seats up for



Sutton

See Roundtable on A11 Sheets of paper list the topics brought up at the January forum.



File Photo



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