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 Winston-Salem, NC 27101
 Community



Local ball player has dreams of playing pro
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Professor writes and directs a movie
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South church reaches out to neighbors
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THE CHRONICLE

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Art of Katrina kids on display

Exhibit is making its way across the country

BY SANDRA ISLEY
 THE CHRONICLE

Twelve-year-old Donald is one of the thousands of young people who were affected by Hurricane Katrina last year.

"I see details of things...now, sometimes I wish I didn't," the young boy says through his art.



Oliphant

Donald pictures and stories are among those featured in "The Katrina's Kids: Art of the Storm," a new exhibit that opened Tuesday at the Children's Museum of Winston-Salem.

The exhibit features 50 different drawings done by children who were evacuated to the Houston Astrodome after the hurricane devastated New Orleans and surrounding areas last August. The exhibit also includes photographs of some of the children whose artwork is being displayed and exhibit descriptions that contain limited biographies about the children. Two quilts by New Orleans artist Cecilia Pedesclaux are also included. The quilts contain patches featuring the children's artwork.

Joanie Oliphant, director of education at the Children's Museum, became very emotional as she explained parts of the exhibit. She gripped her chest as she explained that Donald's mother had perished during the storm, while he was able to swim out of their flooded house through a broken window. He waited on the rooftop of his house to be rescued.

See Art on A5

ALIVE IN THEIR HEARTS

Family remembers loved one taken by breast cancer

BY SANDRA ISLEY
 THE CHRONICLE

"She always referred to herself as the female Job, because she knew that God had a purpose for everything."

That is what Elvita Hunt said this week about her twin sister, the Rev. Conita A Hunt, who passed away last year after a battle with breast cancer. Conita Hunt's family will celebrate her life and keep alive her legacy Saturday by participating in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, an annual fundraising event that celebrates breast cancer survivors.

Twenty members of Hunt's family will participate in the race, including her three children, Willonda Thomas, Shonda Means and Marcus Hunt. Her children have started the Co's Hope Foundation in honor of their mother. Co is what family and friends called



Conita Hunt was known for her determination and spirit.

Photo courtesy of the Hunt family

Conita Hunt. The foundation will raise funds for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and other groups and agencies dedicated to fighting breast cancer.

"Through our foundation, we want to continue her beliefs of being faithful and having support from your family. We want everyone to be educated about breast cancer and to learn more about early detection," said Thomas.

Conita Hunt was diagnosed with breast cancer in the summer of 1998. She had been an active participant in the Race for the Cure for several years as she battled the disease. She had her good times and bad ones.

Following her initial diagnosis, the cancer went into remission for a couple of years after she received radiation treatment and chemotherapy. In 2003, it resurfaced in her hip, only to disappear once again. A year later, it reappeared in her breast and other areas. She died on March 26, 2005. She was 55.

She accomplished many things dur-

See Hunt on A12

TALE OF (IN)JUSTICE



Photo by Jason Pitt

Mark Rabil (from left) Larry Little, Ricki Stern and Darryl Hunt chat last Thursday before the Winston-Salem premiere of "The Trials of Darryl Hunt," a nearly two-hour documentary that follows Hunt, who was wrongfully convicted of a high-profile rape and murder, through his journey to win freedom. Stern is one of the film's directors. Rabil and Little fought for years to win Hunt's release from prison. More than 1,000 people packed the Stevens Center for the screening. The documentary is slated to appear on HBO next year.

CHANGE pushing for more initiatives

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
 THE CHRONICLE

CHANGE will try to live up to its name by working to push through an ambitious and costly community and economic development plan.

CHANGE - Communities Helping All Neighbors Gain Empowerment - is made up of dozens of local church congregations and neighborhood organizations. Members enthusiastically endorsed a list of goals Sunday during a well-attended meeting at Union Baptist Church. The community and economic development plan includes implementing programs to help young people, the homeless and senior citizens. All told, the implementation of the goals would cost millions. CHANGE wants to use a variety of public funding sources, including revenue from a proposed city bond and tax revenue, to fund the projects. Although CHANGE has had a cozy relationship with Mayor Allen Joines and members of the City Council, it has no assurance that city leaders will agree to fund any of the group's proposals.



Bonner

"We know that there will be some compromise," said Deltra Bonner, CHANGE's assistant organizer. CHANGE members showed up in large numbers at Monday's City Council meeting, where council members talked for the first time about a possible multi-million dollar bond. The proposals that CHANGE members have developed and endorsed run the gamut. They include implementing after school programs at five different sites, the renovation of a building in the Waightown Street area to house the Southside Health Center and even calling

"I think this is a wonderful experience for them, they look up to the Marines. Marines are role models for them, they see them in the news and all the hard work they're doing to protect our country. I think it's awesome that they came out and

See Marines on A13

See CHANGE on A9

Marines tell young students to hit the books

BY JAESON PITT
 THE CHRONICLE

'The Few and the Proud' came to Hall-Woodward Elementary School last week to promote reading and leadership.



McKoy

As part of the school's annual reading celebration, the school invited a area Marines to Hall-

Woodward, a school attended by mostly black and Hispanic students off of Kernersville Road. Principal Essie McKoy also noted that with the current war in Iraq, the appearance by the Marines was extra special.

"(We) celebrated last year with community leaders' and school board members. This year because of the situation in



Joy Samuels presents a 'Thank You' card to Sgt. Curtis Smith.

Photo by Jason Pitt

Iraq, we thought that we would pull the military men in, and we're so fortunate to have them," said McKoy.

Sgt. Curtis Smith was one of eight Marines who came to the school. Smith has already done two tours of duty in Iraq. Fully

dressed in his well-pressed uniform, Smith removed his white gloves in order to turn the pages of the book he read to students.

He told students that reading plays an essential part in his life. He reads a book a week on topics that include everything from animals to finance.

"I would read about it and that opened the door for me to be able to learn about more things, so the more that I read the more that I learned. Since being in the Marine Corps, I have read hundreds of books on how to do my job, how to be a better Marine, and just for fun," Smith told Joy Samuels' second grade class.

The kids seemed impressed that the Marine did more than just defend the country. They asked astute questions, not only about reading but war as well.

"I think this is a wonderful experience for them, they look up to the Marines. Marines are role models for them, they see them in the news and all the hard work they're doing to protect our country. I think it's awesome that they came out and

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