

Forsyth County Public Library
660 West Fifth Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
Community Journal



Local tennis star continues to shine

-See Page B1



People experience disability in project

-See Page A 5



Freedom anniversary recalled over the weekend

-See Page B16

THE CHRONICLE

33 110806 1 *****CAR-RT-LOT**C022
NORTH CAROLINA ROOM
FORSYTH CTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
660 W 5TH ST
WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-2755

Vol. XXXII No. 39

THURSDAY, May 25, 2006

Health fair for the homeless draws dozens

Organizers hope to create sustained effort to help city's poorest get care

BY SANDRA ISLEY
THE CHRONICLE

Scores of people turned out for a health fair given by the Bethesda Center Friday.



Allen Blue waits to get his blood pressure checked.

The outdoor event was held at the corner of Northwest Boulevard and Patterson Avenue.

Many health care professionals were on site to administer HIV test, provide cholesterol and high blood pressure screenings and offer information on sickle cell, diabetes and other diseases that are prevalent among African-Americans.

The Rev. Jo Ann Mitchell, founder and executive director of the Balm in Gilead Family Enrichment Center, conceived the idea for the health fair after a visit to the Bethesda Center, a local homeless shelter.

While assisting a Bethesda Center client, she realized that many homeless people have a very poor quality of health. Mitchell's center acts as a support service for the underprivileged by finding out what their basic needs are and then connecting them with the proper agencies.

"They want the services," said Mitchell. "They want to feel like someone cares. Sometimes I feel like we say, 'they're homeless. They're not concerned about their health. They're not concerned about themselves emotionally,' but they (are). They care."

Mitchell got in touch with James Asbury - the Bethesda Center's employment training and volunteer coordinator - who jumped at the opportunity to help organize the health fair.

See Health fair on A13

A MARK(ER) ON HISTORY

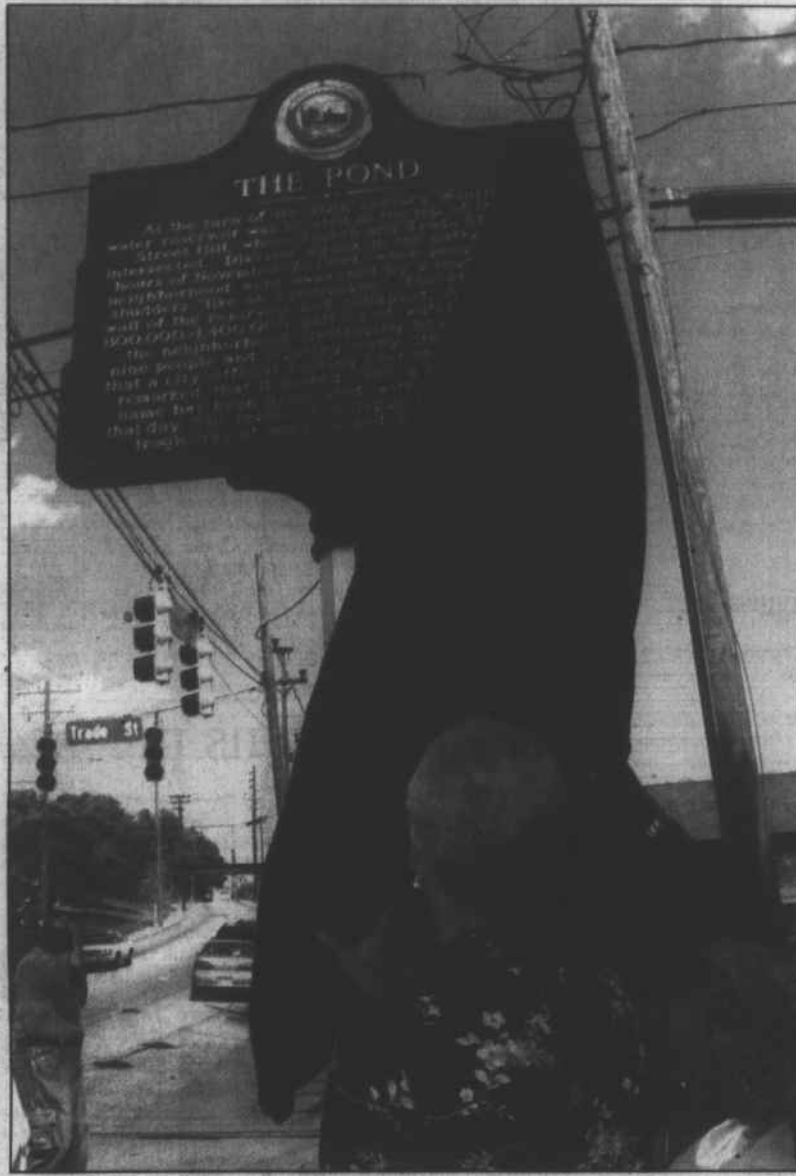


Photo by Kevin Walker

Former and current residents of The Pond unveil a marker Sunday that has been erected in the heart of the community by the Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission. The marker is at the intersection of Trade Street and Northwest Boulevard. To read more about the event, see page A15.

Bond plans get tepid response

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

School officials got a lukewarm reception Monday as they pitched a revised version of a more than \$306 million school bond referendum proposal that they first touted last year.

A crowd of more than 100 gathered at Ashley Elementary School to listen to how the school system wants to spend the money over the next several years to build new schools, refurbish old ones and upgrade classroom technology. Next month, school officials will try to convince the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners of the merits of the bond proposal. If commissioners give their OK, the referendum would appear on the ballot in November.

But based on reactions Monday, selling the bond to some in East Winston will be an uphill battle. The current proposal calls for about 48 percent of bond money to be used for renovating existing schools, while the remaining 52 percent would



Edwards

See Bond on A11

Students get taste of TV news biz

A&T, Hearst-Argyle program seeks to groom future black higher-ups in news

BY SANDRA ISLEY
THE CHRONICLE

Two dozen college students from historically black colleges and universities throughout the nation are at N.C. A&T State University this week to learn how to break into the competitive television news management industry.



Williams

The students are taking part in the Hearst-Argyle Leadership Symposium. Organizers say the program's focus on news management makes it the first of its kind. The students, mostly seniors or recent graduates, are learning about the ins and outs of the industry through panel discussions, seminars and workshops.

Tuesday, they left the A&T campus to get an up-close glimpse of the world that many of them hope to enter. They toured Winston-Salem-based WXII 12, a Hearst-Argyle-owned station. The students - who hail from



Photo by Jackson Pitt

Students look on as a WXII engineer works on a live broadcast.

schools such as Bethune-Cookman College, Florida A&M University, Albany State University, Savannah State University and even Winston-Salem State University - also got a chance to watch a live broadcast at the station and chat with decision-makers.

The tour culminated in a feast of barbecue, potato salad

and baked beans before David Barrett, CEO of Hearst-Argyle, addressed the students.

"We're giving you the benefit of our insight, experience and training, and you're going to be in a better position. I hope, when you finish this week to put together a good resume and put them in the hands of our companies and

other companies," he said.

The idea for the symposium was conceived after Candy Altman, vice president of news for Hearst-Argyle, visited A&T early last year.

"The symposium came about as part of a desire to reach out to schools that had good journalism programs that

See T.V. on A15

Ex-offender program seeks financial help

Project Re-entry has a very high success rate

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Project Re-entry, a successful local program that helps ex-offenders released from prison reintegrate into society, wants lawmakers to help it expand services to 15 counties and 24 prison facilities throughout the state.

Project Re-entry, which began in Forsyth County in 2003, is the only program in the state that offers comprehensive pre-and-post-release services to ex-offenders who are returning to the community after serving their prison sentence. The program helps them to reconnect with their families, find work and adjust to life outside prison. It serves about 200 ex-offenders a year.



Parmon

A bill in the General Assembly co-sponsored by State Reps. Earline Parmon, Larry Womble, and Earl Jones (of Guilford County) proposes that the state give the program about \$700,000, which would serve nearly 5,000 ex-offenders. Parmon said the bill is crucial. If the state doesn't provide for ex-offenders coming back into the community, she said, then everyone will pay for them in prison. She says the price tag is well worth it.

"It'll pay for itself," Parmon said.

Project Re-entry's goal is to help those who get out of prison, stay out of prison. A goal the program has successfully accomplished, according to Robin Howell, criminal jus-

See Re-entry on A11



In Grateful Memory of Our Founders,
Florrie S. Russell and
Carl H. Russell, Sr.

"Growing and Still Dedicated to Serve You Better"
Russell Funeral Home
Wishes to Thank Everyone For Their Support

822 Carl Russell Ave.
(at Martin Luther King Dr.)
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
(336) 722-3459
Fax (336) 631-8268
rusfhome@bellsouth.net

