

North Carolina Room
 Forsyth County Public Library
 660 West Fifth Street
 Winston-Salem, NC 27101
 Community



Players and friends hold tribute for Bill Hayes

-See Page B1



Bishop Noel Jones comes to Winston

-See Page A 13



Home people take part in fashion show

-See Page B14

34 110806 1 *****CAR-RT-LOT**C022
 NORTH CAROLINA ROOM
 FORSYTH CTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
 660 W 5TH ST
 WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-2755

THE CHRONICLE

Vol. XXXII No. 49

THURSDAY, August 10, 2006

SWEET 60

Keller does all the giving at her birthday party

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
 THE CHRONICLE

It was Claudette Keller's 60th birthday bash, but it was her four dozen party guests that got all of the pampering.

Keller planned a fairytale party for herself Saturday at the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Arts (SECCA), a castle-like facility that was once a privately-owned mansion. There were red carpets laid out outside and inside the building for her guests to stroll down once they arrived in the stretch limousines that Keller chartered. Inside, they were serenaded by a harpist, a violinist and welcomed by well-dressed servers carrying trays of shrimp cocktail and quiche. They danced and dined in SECCA's main window-encased gallery, surrounded by eye-catching works of art.

Keller - decked in a lavish blue gown and head-to-toe shiny baubles - was the belle of the ball, but her friends and family members were the guests of honor. She even insisted that they not bring birthday gifts. A collector of greeting cards, Keller did accept birthday cards. She placed a mailbox at the gallery's entrance that guests slipped cards into. Keller, though, did do some gift-giving, presenting each of her guests with a bottle of sparkling cider with personalized labels.

Keller - who arrived in her own car for the event - said she did not want to be the focus of the party. She has been there and done that.

"I have had people give me surprise birthday parties before. I did not want that. I wanted to do something different," she said as the jewels in her hair sparkled like a tiara. "A lot of people have not had an opportunity to experience anything like this. I wanted them to have this experience."

Guests received invitations to the soiree a few weeks ago.



Photos by Kevin Walker

Above: Claudette Keller greets one of her guests Saturday at SECCA's main entrance.

Left: Guests exit a stretch limo and make their way down the red carpet.



See Keller on A11

Network to work to help Carver

BY SANDRA ISLEY
 THE CHRONICLE

Carver High School supporters announced Monday the formation of the Greater Carver Road Network for Better Education during a news conference at Grace Presbyterian Church, located just down the road from the school.

Grace, Wentz Memorial United Church of Christ, also located near Carver, join several other churches throughout the city and Carver supporters in the new organization, which aims to enhance the educational experience of Carver students.

A Wake County Superior Court judge suggested earlier this year that Carver and several other schools around the state should be shut down because of students' low test scores.

As part of the effort, many of the churches are establishing after-school tutoring programs and an aggressive campaign to get parents involved with the school's Parent-Teacher-Student Association. Members of the churches will also serve as hall monitors at the school, making sure the students are where they are supposed to be, when they are supposed to be there.

The Rev. Samuel Stevenson, Grace's pastor, said the group holds no resentment for Judge Howard Manning, who angered many when he suggested closing Carver.

He described Manning's action as a wake-up call to the community and the school.

He said.



Stevenson

See Carver on A12

Teens finish summer work

BY SANDRA ISLEY
 THE CHRONICLE

Students from the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System marched into the auditorium of Carver High School on Friday. They were applauded by family, friends and community leaders for a job well done during a ceremony held in their honor. The teenagers were awarded certificates for participating in the Winston-Salem Urban League's Summer Youth Employment Program, which recently ended.

The summer employment program was designed to teach the students financial responsibility by allowing them to earn a paycheck while working for local churches, non-profits and other businesses. The students also learned about job etiquette and banking services. A checking account was set up for each participant, and they were



Photo by Sandra Isley

A young worker shows off his certificate at last week's ceremony.

See Jobs on A12

Killings and vigils continue in city

BY TODD LUCK
 THE CHRONICLE

Vigils for Healing, a group that holds vigils to honor those who have died of violent crime in Winston-Salem, held its seventh vigil last week.

This vigil honored Julius "Dub" Walker who was killed in a fight in March. It was held on a small area of grass under a couple of shade trees near where Walker died at Dutch Village Apartments. The crowd was little more than 30 people in number but the emotions they emanated were immense. Lots of tears were shed during the ceremony as friends and family talked about how much Walker meant to them. Even medical professionals who gave Walker therapy for an injured arm spoke about about what a joy it was to know him. There was lots of crying but also lots of embracing, as people from all the different parts of Walker's life came together to cope with their loss.

Tracey Maxwell, who began Vigils for Healing, said the goal is to bring people together to help them cope with the loss of a



Photo by Todd Luck

Tracey Maxwell, far right, looks on as the victim's father and sister hug. Also pictured is Deloris Huntley.

slain loved one and to reclaim the scene of the crime for the community. Maxwell said the vigils reach across ethnic, economic and social divides to provide comfort for those in mourning.

"These vigils allow us to reach out and clasp hands and stand with these people who are suffering. I do feel it's important

See Vigils on A5

ful Memory of Our Founders,
 rie S. Russell and
 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

