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# THE CHRONICLE

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## Another pro-Carver celebration

Wentz event slated for Saturday

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Support for Carver High School does not appear to be drying up.

As Carver students prepare to return to classes tomorrow, Wentz Memorial Congregational United Church of Christ is preparing to honor Carver students, faculty and staff. The church is practically Carver's neighbor. It is also a member of the Greater Carver School Road Network for Better Education, an association of churches, organizations and individuals formed recently to support Carver as it works to improve the test scores of students. Members of the network will offer things such as afterschool tutoring and mentoring programs for students.

On Aug. 12, the network was involved in a back-to-school pep rally at the school, where members encouraged students and their parents to help elevate Carver. On Saturday, Wentz will sponsor a Carver High School Scholastic Infusion Festival beginning at 9 a.m.

Recently, the academic microscope has been put on Carver. A state judge put the school, and several other schools with large minority student bodies, on a list of schools that could possibly be shut-down because of their low test scores. The community has rallied around Carver since then and is vowing to fight to keep the school's doors open and increase students' performance.

Carol Montague, Carver's principal, has welcomed the support with open arms. She says it will take the entire village to help her students be the very best that they can be.

Organizers of the Wentz event say they are solidly in the school's corner.

"The mission of our festival is to inspire, motivate, educate, and instill a hunger and thirst for knowledge," said the festival's organizer, Flonnie Anderson, a retired educator and member of Wentz. "We will kickoff the festival with a 'Walking to Excel' walk beginning at Wentz. This walk will serve as an initial community awareness and support rally for our beloved Carver High School. At 11 a.m., we will begin our festivities at Wentz, which will include motivational speeches, a dramatization and end with a free cookout and distribution of free school supplies for Carver students and their teachers."

Wentz's relationship with Carver spans nearly five decades. The late Dr. Carl Martin, Sr., a member of Wentz, was an administrator and became principal of what was then Carver Consolidated School (grades 1-12) from the early 1950s until his demise in 1966. His wife and son are still active members of Wentz and will be participating in the festival.

## New gallery owners welcome first featured artist

Photo by Kevin Walker

Marlon Hubbard and Chevara Orrin pose with Chief Zacheus Oloruntoba, far right. The trio is standing in front of one of the chief's works of art.



BY T. KEVIN WALKER  
 THE CHRONICLE

Chief Zacheus Oloruntoba is guided by spirits. They call out to him in dreams, revealing secrets about the past, present and future. They inspire him and navigate his masterful hands as he creates works of art that have been celebrated the world over.

"At first I was not happy about it," Chief Oloruntoba - looking stately in an intricate lace ensemble from his native Nigeria - said. He was describing his reaction when he first began seeing and hearing spirits when he was just a young boy. He got used to the voices and visions, which he believes come from his ancestors. As a teenager, Oloruntoba was known and celebrated throughout Africa for his clairvoyant dreams. These days it is mainly Oloruntoba's art



See Gallery on A6

## Kids spend morning at the office

Big Brothers Big Sisters recruits adults to take young ones under their wings

BY TODD LUCK  
 THE CHRONICLE

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) held its 6th annual "Big for a Day" last Friday, giving young people who are waiting for a Big Brother or Big Sister the opportunity to spend a morning at the office by partnering with adults.



Grant

BBBS is a national organization that hooks up children from primarily single parent homes with one-on-one adult mentors. The point of "Big for a Day" was to give children who are on the agency's waiting list a chance to spend time with a mentor and inspire more adults to volunteer with the agency.

The 25 adults who participated in Friday's event each took a child to their place of employment for the morning. The event ended with a luncheon hosted by WXII News anchor Wanda Stark, a longtime Big Brothers Big Sisters advocate, at the swank Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge & Rice office at One West Fourth.

"It's about making friendships. These are all kids from single parent homes that just need a little extra support, encouragement, a boost in their self confidence," said Pamela Suber, public relations director for the local BBBS.

Among the participants were Winston-Salem



Photos by Todd Luck

See Big Brothers of A5

Truliant's Tanje Robinson with Monica Johnson.

## OLD AND NEW FRIENDS



Photo by Kevin Walker

Simon Rodgers and Shelby West hug Saturday during the annual Boston Round-Up celebration. The two old school pals were among the thousands who came out for the event, which brings together neighbors from one of the city's most historic African American communities. To read more about this year's celebration, see the main community page on C14.



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