



Duo making big plays for Calvary Baptist

-See Page B1



Parkland has high hopes for new center

-See Page A3



Rádio legend Anita Dean is honored by friends

-See Page B12



15 110807 1 *****5-DIGIT 27101 NORTH CAROLINA ROOM FORSYTH CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY 660 W 5TH ST WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-2755

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

THE CHRONICLE

Vol. XXXIII No. 13

THURSDAY, November 30, 2006

SERVICE WITH A SMILE

WSSU leader, family pitch-in at soup kitchen

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

"Enter to learn, depart to serve."

That's one of the mottos of Winston-Salem State University. Interim Chancellor Michelle Howard-Vital is often seen illustrating the learning half of that motto by speaking at various events related to the university's academic mission. The day before Thanksgiving, she exemplified the serving part of the motto by volunteering with her family at the Samaritan Soup Kitchen on Patterson Avenue.

WSSU students are required to perform 15 hours of community service at places like Samaritan Ministries. Other organizations that many WSSU students volunteer at include the Boys and Girls Club, Second Harvest Food Bank and the American Red Cross among others. Howard-Vital hopes to get more students involved by setting an example with her own community service.

"It helps put our lives in per-



Photo by Todd Luck

See Howard-Vital on A11 Michelle Howard-Vital with her husband, Geri, and their daughter, Madelyn.



Photo Layla Farmer Sylvia Oberle speaks at this week's dedication service.

Center honors Oberle's late son

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Sylvia Oberle's world was rocked when her son, Andrew Lane, died tragically in a car accident early last year. Lane was a junior at Appalachian State University when he passed away, just beginning his young life. But, unbeknownst to anyone at the time, he had already made his mark on his native Winston-Salem.



Andrew Lane

Oberle is the founding executive director of Winston-Salem State University's Center for Community Safety (CCS). She has since moved on to Habitat for Humanity of Forsyth County, where she serves as executive director. Oberle has maintained strong ties to the center she helped to create, and the CCS staff recognized her and Lane in a special dedication ceremony Tuesday, when the CCS community meeting room was named in Lane's honor.

"Through working with her over the years and really coming to help shape this work that we have created through the center, I just knew that she was a person full of passion and commitment to what she was doing in terms of helping the community be a better place," said Alvin Atkinson, interim director and former deputy director of the CCS. "As we worked through that period (after Lane's death), it was obvious that Sylvia really had to find herself again because she had lost Andrew, her only son. We wanted to acknowledge our appreciation for what she had done through giving life to the center."

The ceremony included the reading of a paper Lane had written as a child, entitled "My Utopia," a story that has taken on very special meaning for Oberle and others in the year since her son's passing.

"... Everyone will have a job. No one will live in poverty. Everyone will be treated with respect," Lane's "My Utopia"

See CCS on A9

Racial inequities is the focus of agency's work

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

It is no secret that racial disparities exist in nearly every facet of our society. Over the years, several efforts have been made by the state to end Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC). Now, with the help of grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, North Carolina's Governor's Crime Commission is getting serious about making some changes that will positively affect negative minority statistics.

In 2003, Forsyth County was one of four counties chosen by the Governor's Crime Commission to receive grant money to be used in the exploration of DMC, which is defined as an overrepresentation of minority youths in the juvenile justice system. Forsyth Futures, a nonprofit, community-oriented initiative, has taken the lead on the project in Forsyth County.

Along with Guilford, New Hanover and Union counties, Forsyth was chosen because its geographic location, minority youth population and resource availability were conducive to the data collecting process.

For three years now, Forsyth Futures has worked to find the major contributing factors to the problem by examining statistics and gathering data in the areas where DMC is most evident. The agency has chiefly focused on schools, the juvenile justice system and the Department of Mental Health.

On Tuesday, Nov. 21, Forsyth Futures hosted a Community Briefing at Winston-Salem State University's Anderson Center to highlight the data that has been collected thus far.

"The issue of disproportionality and the issue of inequities in systems that affect our children has been probably a 30-year interest of our organization," commented Jean



Wilson

See DMC on A9

Food Bank 'tree' getting lots of attention at the mall

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

It's early morning at Hanes Mall and a holiday tree is being built. Soon the stores will be open and, just a few feet away, children will be getting their pictures taken with Santa Claus under a giant Christmas tree. But the holiday tree under construction is a bit different than the Christmas tree beside it; because it's made almost entirely of food and will stand as a reminder of those in need this holiday season.

The Giving Tree was built last Tuesday

morning by employees and volunteers from The Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest N.C. and Prodigals Community. The 12-foot tree is made from 15,000 pounds of Lowes Foods products and is a part of Lowes' Friends Feeding Friends Food Drive, which aims to collect 650,000 pounds of food for Second Harvest. The tree will be inside the mall in front of Belk until the end of the year, when all the food will be donated to Second Harvest. Mark Uren, the local Second Harvest's director of operations, said Lowes and the food bank are looking to attract attention to the issue of hunger.

"They wanted to do something in a public forum, so the mall was natural to get a lot of people (during) the holidays," said Uren.

The local Second Harvest collects and distributes food and grocery products to 380 partner agencies providing 650 programs that feed the needy in 18 counties across northwest North Carolina. This is the twelfth year of Friends Feeding Friends and the third year of the Giving Tree. Collection bins will be available through



Blancato



Photo by Todd Luck

See Tree on A5 Volunteers assemble the Giving Tree last week.



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 russhome@bellsouth.net

