



Former WSSU star wants to be Lt. Gov.

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Soul food joint has much to offer

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Kids act their hearts out in play

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CHRONICLE

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Graffiti Patrol vowing to be proactive

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

A local partnership is looking to quickly wipe out graffiti whenever and where ever it appears.

The Graffiti Patrol is a collaboration of the Downtown Winston-Salem Partnership, the city's Police Department, the City of Winston-Salem and Keep Winston-Salem Beautiful.



Photo by Todd Luck

Graffiti artists leave their mark on Marshall Street.

The program is designed to work with the graffiti hotline, which was started last year, by sending volunteers out to reported incidents of graffiti to clean them up as quickly as possible.

Getting rid of the graffiti soon after it appears is important according to George Stilphen, executive director of Keep Winston-Salem Beautiful, the local branch of Keep America Beautiful, a non-profit organization that promotes a clean and beautiful environment. He said that once a place is marked by graffiti, it attracts others to keep vandalizing it.

"Statistics show that when you remove graffiti as quickly as possible, within 24 to 48 hours being preferable, that it won't come back as much as if you left it there. The real key is getting it removed as quickly as possible," said Stilphen.

He said besides being visually unpleasant and illegal, some graffiti involves gang signs, which can lead to more gang activity.

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NEED FOR SPEED



Photo by Layla Farmer

Tiger Scout Jarvis Gamble holds the car he made as part of his Boy Scout Troop's (Troop 900 of New Hope United Methodist Church) derby car race competition. He and other youngsters raced their creations Tuesday night during a spirited event.

Christian magazine started by pastor

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

"God orders our steps," it is one of Bishop John Parks' favorite phrases, and it would seem there is some truth in that, given Parks' recent success with the launching of his Christian magazine, "Hope Today."

Parks, who has served as pastor at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church for the past 15 years, says he was dissatisfied with the content of many popular magazines.



Parks

He strived to offer a spiritual alternative to readers, in Hope Today.

"A lot of Christians go and read a lot of magazines, but there's some content in it that's not appropriate," Parks said of his motivation to found the magazine. "Some of the intimate articles that are in some of the magazines are not what a Christian wants to lay on their table."

At a glance, the magazine looks much like any other - its glossy pages are chock full of bold colorful images, inventive typesets and the familiar faces of celebrities like Oprah Winfrey. Tips on fashion, health, even financial concerns and relationship woes find their way into its pages.

"Typically, Christian magazines are ... second tier," said Parks. "I just wanted to create something that would look like ... Ebony and ESSENCE (and) deal with the same issues, but deal with it from a more biblical perspective."

Although much of the subject matter found in Hope Today is similar to that of its secular counterparts, a closer inspection reveals that the magazine is decidedly different from most of the periodicals it will likely share shelving with.

"Is there entertainment in it - probably so - but it's not geared for entertainment; it's geared to help people open up their minds, to see things they normally wouldn't have seen and think about things they normally wouldn't have

See Parks on A12

Rising star chose music over corporate America

Reggie Buie making name for himself on local music circuit

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

At age 53, it has been a long time coming, but pianist Reginald Buie is finally on his way. His jazz group, known as the Reggie Buie Trio (RBT), just released its debut album to favorable reviews, and he has finally been able to achieve his dream of becoming a full-time musician.

"I'm just blessed and fortunate to feel healthy enough to do what I've wanted to do," Buie commented. "I feel like I've got plenty of time to just sit down and practice everyday and really devote my energy and efforts into improving."

Although he has known for some time that he wanted to be a professional musician someday, Buie admits he has not always been as passionate about the craft as he is today.

"I've played music since (I was) about eight years old, starting with some private lessons that my folks made me take," he said. "I didn't really care for music too much back then."

While in high school, Buie joined the band as a



Photo by Layla Farmer

Music has always been Reggie Buie's first love.

clarinetist. After high school, Buie received a music scholarship to FAMU (Florida A&M University) and became part of the institution's illustrious Marching 100. He says the lessons he learned as a college student have stayed with him throughout his life.

"That whole year, with the discipline of having to be in that organization, and all things that (band director) Dr. (William) Foster taught us about performance and practice and perfection and execution ... just stayed with me," he remarked. "No matter what I did in life, I've always remembered the training that I got from the Florida A&M Marching 100 way back then."

Buie graduated cum laude and pursued a career at Xerox Corporation, where he spent the subsequent 31 years - first as an electronic technician and later as a management tech instructor.

As time passed by, Buie's musical aspirations took a back seat to the demands of his job and his role as a family man and father of three.

"When you're management in a major corporation, they own you basically - you have to go where they tell you when they tell you - the hours are not yours to pick, so it's kind of hard to book gigs," he explained. "Besides, my children were ... very young and I thought it was important to spend a lot

See Buie on A11

HAT-steria hits Petree as famous visitor comes

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

There was bedlam in the gymnasium of Petree Elementary School last Thursday morning, when Dr. Seuss's famous "Cat in the Hat" character strode through the door. Children rose to their knees, screaming and waving their arms, clamoring to get a little closer to the storybook icon.

Outside, three Saturn "Cat-a-Vans" flanked the school driveway. Inside, children listened, enraptured, as representatives of the National Education Association (NEA) read Dr. Seuss books to them, as part of the Cat-a-Van Reading Tour.

The school was selected by the FCAE (Forsyth County Association of Educators), a local branch of the 3.2 million-member NEA, to be a part of this year's Read Across America celebration.

"A love for reading - that's what we promote - not only as representatives for and on behalf of Dr. Seuss and Reading Across America, but the love for reading that we as educators would

like to try to pass on to all students that we work with," said FCAE President Rodney Ellis Sr.

Although the school's high levels of minority and low income students made it a prime candidate for the tour, which seeks to help less fortunate schools, it was the upbeat vibe of the entire institution that led him to select it, Ellis says.

"It's such a great atmosphere," he commented. "We wanted to make sure that the Cat-a-Van, Dr. Seuss and the entire program would be very welcomed. What I've witnessed here today proves that (Petree) was a very good selection."

See Petree on A5



Photo by Layla Farmer

The Cat in the Hat makes an appearance.

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