



Boxer making name for himself

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Lively talk held on hot-topic at Green St.

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Decorated military man visits Parkland

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Celebrating 25 Years North Carolina Room Forsyth County Public Library 660 West Fifth Street Winston-Salem, NC 27101 Community Journal

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CHRONICLE

Vol. XXXIII No. 27

THURSDAY, March 15, 2007

OUT OF THE CLOSET, INTO THE LIGHT

Gay pastor finds happiness after years of struggle

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

The Rev. Roger Hayes is a gay man.

He makes no excuses for this truth, nor does he apologize for the orientation that he says is as inherent to him as any other physical attribute he possesses. Hayes is also a man of God, and although some may feel that his sexuality and religion are as contrasting as night and day, Hayes says he begs to differ.

Today, he is pastor of the Church of the Holy Spirit Fellowship, an affirming church which does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or any other inclination. Hayes has led the church for more than five years. He has a congregation of more than 80 faithful members of varying racial backgrounds and sexual preferences. Hayes says he feels he has finally found his place in this world, but getting there was no small feat.

Reared by his grandmother in Wilkes County, Hayes was born into the Baptist church, and embraced it from a young age. However, the church and its doctrines did not always embrace Hayes.

"Paul said, 'What can separate me from the word of God?' then here goes this laundry list and at the end of this laundry list, it's very clear that not even ... I can separate me from the love of God," Hayes said. "But somehow ... the church escapes that list and they have the right to sep-



Photo by Layla Farmer

See Rev. Hayes on A9 The Rev. Roger Hayes stands on the altar at Church of the Holy Spirit Fellowship.



Photo by Layla Farmer

The school's bathrooms are in need of a facelift.

User-friendly bathrooms goal of local students

Paisley selling banners to local companies to raise funds

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

of banners from local business owners.

Fundraising is an integral part of most every public school, as the institutions strive to offer the most amenities to their students as possible.

Paisley IB World Magnet School is no different. However, the way the school's PTSA (Parents, Teachers and Students Association) has chosen to raise money this year strays a little off the beaten path, as does the target for the fundraiser: improving student restrooms.

Beginning last week, Paisley students, parents, faculty and staff set out into the community, soliciting the sale

to raise money by selling ads, or banners, for local businesses to hang in the school gym," explained PTSA President Debra Jessup. "I thought that this would be a (good) way to let the business community know what we're doing over here at Paisley and get them involved in this particular school."

The banners, which range in price from \$250 to \$1000, will be designed by Devora Transou, president of Devora Designs and a Paisley parent.

"They have to go out and



Jessup

See Paisley on A12

Picture helps to unearth black history

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

HIGH POINT - What began with just a class photo will end with a museum exhibit telling the untold story

of the students at High Point's Rosetta Baldwin School in 1963.

That's what nine graduate students in Benjamin Filene's museum interpretation class at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro are working towards.

Using a photo of 42 students that attended the school at that time, the UNCG students are doing research to find out what happened to each of them. The fruits of their labors will be on display at the High Point Museum starting on May 3.

"How does someone's life

live on even if they don't make the headlines of the newspaper or even if their diary doesn't show up in a library collection? How do they live on in history through human memory? That's part of what this is about," said Filene.



Filene

Baldwin started her school in 1942 in her own living room. The school was affiliated with the Seventh-Day Adventist Church and educated black students in grades K-8 from both the church and the community. The church would go on to build her a schoolhouse. She taught until she retired at the age of 92. Baldwin died in 2000 and her house was converted into a museum in her honor. Today the Baldwin Chapel School faces away from a street that bears her

See Picture on A12

BEST OF THE BEST



Photo by Jason Pitt

Businessman Lafayette Jones stands beside Carver High Principal Carol Montague Saturday. The two earned top honors at The Chronicle's Community Service Awards. See other winners on pages B13, B14.

Local woman wins Image Award for book

Weatherford's work has earned many other honors

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

An NAACP Image Award winner is in our midst.

Carole Boston Weatherford, a Triad resident who is a professor of English at Fayetteville State University, was bestowed with the prestigious honor on March 2 for her children's book, "Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom." "Dear Mr. Rosenwald," another of Weatherford's creations, was also nominated this year in the same category Outstanding Literary Work-Children.

"Of course, I was elated," Weatherford said of her recent achievement. "It's confirmation that I'm on the right track in terms of my subject matter." Published in Sept. 2006.



Weatherford

"Moses" is also a New York Times Bestseller with more than 60,000 copies sold to date, and a recipient of the coveted Caldecott Honor. It is the most well-received work on the decorated Weatherford's resume to date.

However, many of her books have found favor in the eyes of critics and literary organizations. Weatherford has amassed a rather impressive list of nominations and awards, including an NAACP Image Awards nomination for "The Sound That Jazz Makes," in 2002.

"Even though I've received honors from the American Library Association and also from the North Carolina branch of the American Association of

See Weatherford on A11



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