

COMMUNITY

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Your stories, your voices

APRIL 3, 2008



Community Calendar

AARP meeting

The Forsyth AARP Chapter Number 1797 will meet on Tuesday, April 8, at 3:15 p.m. at The Shepherd's Center of Greater Winston-Salem. The center is located at 1700 Ebert St. April is "weather related and other disaster preparedness" month. The program "Emergency Preparedness" will be presented by Helen Savage, associate director of North Carolina AARP. All programs and membership is open to persons 50-years-of-age and older. National and local AARP members are encouraged to attend. For further details please contact Nancy Hall at 765-2215 or nancapp@msn.com.

What to do with family treasures?

Carol Eickmeyer and Leigh McMillan will discuss how to organize, maintain and distribute family heirlooms at BestHealth in Hanes Mall on April 11 at 2 p.m. Call 716-2255 to register.

Annual Homeless Feeding

Rich CDC is sponsoring their annual spring homeless feeding to be held on Sunday, April 13 from 3 - 4 p.m. at Holy Trinity Full Gospel Baptist Church, 651 Akron Dr. Limited transportation will be provided at the following sites: Bethesda Center, Rescue Mission, Salvation Army and Samaritan Kitchen with pick up between 2 - 3 p.m. For more information, call 744-9293.

Volunteers needed

The Shepherd's Center of Greater Winston-Salem has a tremendous need for volunteers to provide transportation for medical appointments and grocery shopping for older adults. Volunteers are also needed to visit older adults in their homes, to provide respite for caregivers, and to do minor home repairs. Training for volunteers will be held on Thursday, April 17, 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., at First Assembly of God on University Parkway. Lunch and training materials are provided. To register or to receive more information, call 748-0217.

Poker and Benefit Ride

A Poker and Benefit Ride will be given by the Carolina Cruisers M/C for Dedrick T. Neal, who is in need of a heart and kidney transplant on Saturday, April 19. Registration begins 9 - 11 a.m. at the Old Dungeon located at 1419 Liberty St. The cost is \$10 per rider and \$5 per co-rider. Make checks payable to the Carolina Cruisers M/C. All donations are welcome. Contact John Cunningham of 49 Arita Circle, Winston-Salem N.C. 27105 or call 336-767-7656. Rain date is scheduled for Saturday, April 26. Call 413-0212 for more information.

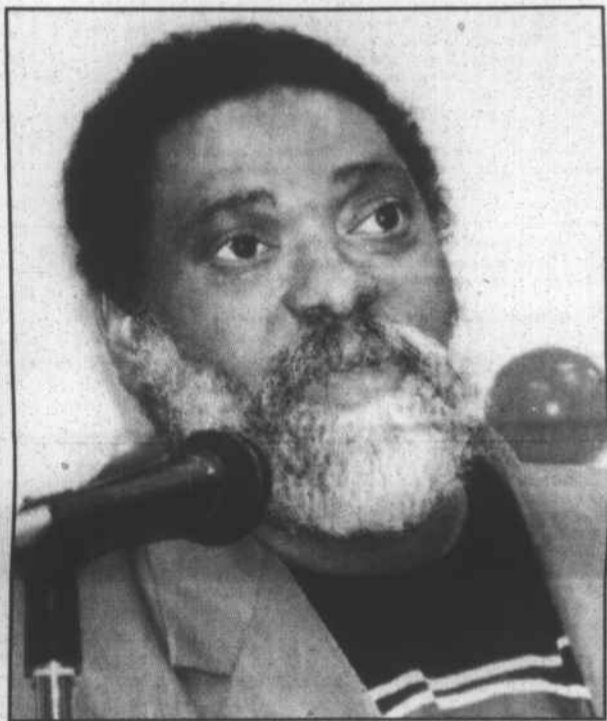
Dessert Auction to Benefit Komen Race for the Cure

The public is invited to support Komen NC Triad and the 2008 Race for the Cure by joining Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center and Allegacy Federal Credit Union for a Dessert Auction, Saturday, April 19 at Belk Court in Hanes Mall. The preview starts at 10 a.m., with the live auction underway at 11 a.m. In addition to sweets donated by area bakeries and restaurants, there will be other goodies on auction and some great door prizes.



Members of the Ambassadors for Christ Choir perform.

Photos by Kevin Walker



Speakers included Democracy North Carolina's Jonathan Peterson (from left), State Rep. Larry Womble and the Rev. Carlton Eversley.

SOULS TO THE POLLS

Organizations vow to register every adult in Forsyth County

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Believing the old adage that two heads are better than one, more than a half a dozen area organizations are teaming up for an unprecedented effort to register every adult in Forsyth County who is eligible to vote.

The Winston-Salem Urban League and its Young Professionals program, the Voting Rights Coalition, the UJIMA Community Development Corporation, CHANGE, Democracy North Carolina, the Winston-Salem State University Political Science Club, the Coalition on Black, Brown Civic Participation and radio station 105.7 KISS FM are leading the effort ahead of this year's politically-charged May 6 primary and the November General Elections.

A kick-off rally for the voter registration campaign was held last Friday evening at the Urban League's downtown headquarters. The dozens of people who attended were treated to entertainment, food and lots of commentary on the importance of voting, especially this election year.

"This year, North Carolina will be in play, and I am so excited about that," said Urban League President Keith Grandberry, referring to the importance the state will play, especially, in picking either Sen. Hillary Clinton or Sen. Barack Obama as the Democratic presidential nominee.

The rally - like the voter registration effort - was billed as nonpartisan, but the crowd was without question pro-Democratic. No Republican elected offi-



Nakia Peterson registers to vote.

cial or candidates took part, either, although they were invited, according to organizers. State Reps. Larry Womble and Earline Parmon and City Council Member Dan Besse (a candidate for lieutenant governor) were on hand.

Parmon told the crowd that it drives her crazy when people say that it really doesn't matter who is elected to the

White House; the State House or the Governor's Mansion. She called that type of thinking nonsense. She talked about the uphill battles she and other lawmakers are facing in the N.C. House to get their colleagues to put more dollars into education and less into new prison construction. Such fights would not occur if more people took time to

vote for people who share their values, she said.

Womble echoed Parmon's words. "You just don't go out there and vote for anybody," he said.

A voter registration table was one of the first things that attendees saw when

See Voting on B14

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