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See Page A4

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THURSDAY, December 4, 2008

# New chief hears concerns

Cunningham tells black leaders that collaboration is key

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem Police Chief Scott Cunningham met NAACP President Stephen Hairston and other leaders Monday for a candid conversation about troubled relations between the police department and the black community.

A culture of mistrust has existed between the two groups for some time, and has been exacerbated by infamous cases such as that of Darryl Hunt, a local black man who spent nearly two decades in prison for a crime he did not commit.

Another black man, Kalvin Michael Smith, was sentenced to 29 years in prison in 1995 for the savage and near fatal beating of a



Chief Scott Cunningham and Community Advocate Gloria Stinson listen last week as someone makes a point during the roundtable meeting.

white woman. Smith main- ty. Questions of racism withtains his innocence, as do in the police department many others in the communi- have been raised in both

instances.

"Right now, the relations between the black communi-

ty and the police department are very strained," said Hairston. "It's not just that the black community doesn't trust the police department; the police department doesn't trust the black community... The police need to learn that they need the black community other than just making arrests.

Cunningham spent more than an hour in an informal roundtable discussion with community members at the NAACP Headquarters at Hairston's request. The powwow took place a few days before Thanksgiving. The chief, who was hired only a few months ago, fielded questions and concerns about everything from police attitudes and misconduct to the role of the police department in the community and his vision for the future.

"I freely admit that the police department has reputation and trust issues," Cunningham stated. "(But) I

See Meeting on A7



Chevara Orrin

### Bevel free after short prison stint

Daughter of Civil Rights legend tries to ° move on -

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Chevara Orrin, a local woman and the daughter of Civil Rights Icon James Bevel, has mixed emotions about her father's recent release from prison.

Bevel, 71, had been sentenced to 15 years in prison

earlier this for year incest. The conviction was in connection to Bevel's daughter, Aaralyn Mills, but several of

Bevel's 16

children. including Orrin, also claim abused by their father.

Bevel was released on bond on Nov. 4 after serving only a few months behind bars. He plans to pursue an appeal of his conviction, but Bevel faces an even bigger challenge - terminal pancreatic cancer.

'It caused me immediately to be in such conflict ... I was overwhelmed," Orrin said of her father's cancer prognosis. "...It pains me to think of him dying alone,

See Bevel on A11

Men and women will sleep on these mats in the gymnasium

## Emergency winter help for homeless arrives

THE CHRONICLE

An emergency overflow shelter opened last week to help

ease the record demand on local homeless shelters.

The temporary shelter will be at the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission for the month of December and will hold up to 20 men. From January until the end of March, it will move to First

Baptist Church on Fifth Street, where both men and women will be housed overnight.

Meeting with representatives from various homeless agencies and First Baptist officials on Monday, Mayor Allen Joines expressed satisfaction with the quick effort it took to ready the temporary shelter.

"It's amazing what we can do when we all pull on the same end," said Joines. "I feel good about our community and what we're going to be able to do for homeless citizens this winter."

Dan Parsons, executive director of the Rescue Mission, said the emergency shelter will ing the joint effort to help be in a wing of the Rescue Mission's building that's no longer being used. The men at

See Shelter on A9

the overflow shelter will be in addition to the 95 men that are already housed at the facility. Unlike the residential clients, those in the overflow shelter will not be part of any of the Rescue Mission's rehab programs.

"I think they'll have good accommodations, we have bunk beds in there, and it's nice and warm," said Parsons. "It will cer-





William "Bill" White Jr. (second row, far left) was surrounded by members of his family on Monday as his decades of service to the YMCA of Northwest North Carolina were honored with a building dedication. The Central YMCA is now known as William G. White Jr. Family YMCA. Read more about White and the ded-

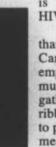
### rld AIDS Day observed by locals

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Motorists on Fourth Street were met

with a somber reminder Monday. More than 2,000 red ribbons affixed to the canopy of the Stevens Center flapped

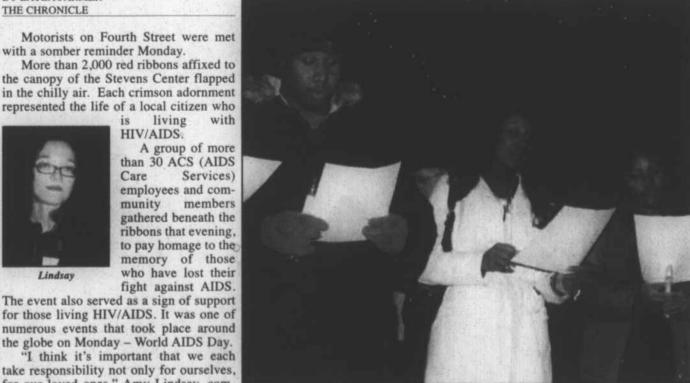
represented the life of a local citizen who living HIV/AIDS



A group of more than 30 ACS (AIDS Services) employees and commembers munity gathered beneath the ribbons that evening, to pay homage to the memory of those who have lost their

fight against AIDS. The event also served as a sign of support for those living HIV/AIDS. It was one of numerous events that took place around the globe on Monday - World AIDS Day.

"I think it's important that we each take responsibility not only for ourselves, for our loved ones," Amy Lindsey, com-



See AIDS Day on A7 Participants, including Cheryl Lindsay (center), sing during the service.



the homeless.

Mayor Allen Joines is prais-

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