



Ram runners staying ahead

-See Page B10



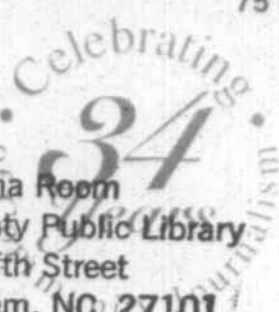
Students explore careers in building

-See Page A3



Homeless shelter begins art project

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



# THE CHRONICLE

20 120409 1 \*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 27101 NORTH CAROLINA ROOM FORSYTH CTY PUBLIC LIBRARY 660 W 5TH ST WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-2755

Vol. XXXV, No. 32

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, April 9, 2009

## Burr says Democrats gunning for him in '10

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

Republican Senator Richard Burr told College Republicans on Friday that Democrats will make ousting him in next year's midterm election a top priority.



Sen. Richard Burr speaks to young Republicans last week.

"The next election is going to be difficult, and it's going to be long," he said. "Don't let anybody fool you. I'm the number one target in the United States. If you think they spent a lot of money on Elizabeth

Dole, you wait and see what they do to me." Last year, the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee spent more than \$11 million to help Kay Hagan unseat Dole from a Senate seat that had been controlled by Republicans for decades.

Burr's words came during an address at the North Carolina Federation of College Republicans Spring Convention held at Hawthorne Inn. He said that he is not afraid of the threat and feels confident that he would win a second term.

In the last couple of elections, the GOP has lost both the White House and control of Congress. Burr acknowledged that Republicans helped bring about their own defeats.

"We should've never lost the majority," said Burr, who calls Winston-Salem home. "We didn't do a good job when we had it. In fact, we emulated many things that Democrats did. We've learned that lesson, we won't make the same mistake twice."

But Burr, a ranking member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee who co-chaired

See Burr on A4

## UNYIELDING



Christine McCravy passes out fliers near Galilee Missionary Baptist Church on Saturday in support of Calvin Michael Smith, a local man serving time in prison for a violent assault that many believe he did not commit. Galilee played host to the "Justice and Fairness" public rally for Smith. The event was sponsored by the Darryl Hunt Project for Freedom and Justice, Mothers for Justice and the Ministers Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity. Supporters have set up a Web site (www.kalvinmichaelsmith.com) to inform the public of Smith's plight.

Photo by Kevin Walker

## Black man making bid for N.C. GOP leadership post

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Change. The word has been on the lips of Democrats across the nation for more than a year now.

Timothy Johnson, Ph.D., is hoping members of the Republican Party of North Carolina will also adopt the mantra.

Johnson, a 21-year military veteran, made Buncombe County history when he was elected its GOP chairman. No African-American, Democrat or Republican, had ever headed a party in the Western North Carolina county. Now he is setting his sights on a higher office.



Tim Johnson

Johnson announced his bid to become the next vice chair of the state GOP just over a month ago. The new officers will be chosen during the North Carolina Republican Party Convention in June in Raleigh.

Johnson will face off against incumbent David Sawyer, a former Swain County Republican Party chair. Sawyer, a longtime leader, has held many posts within the GOP. But Johnson believes the state is ready for some new blood.

"We can no longer wait," he said. "It's time for some change, it's

See Johnson on A7

## A Holy Snub?

Agency says responses from black pastors for domestic violence seminar has been lackluster

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

A local nonprofit's attempt to get church leaders more involved in the fight against domestic violence has received a cool reception thus far.

Mothers-on-a-Mission (MOM), a domestic violence outreach organization, sent invitations to more than 60 local pastors last month, inviting them to attend a domestic violence (DV) training seminar slated for April 18 at the Clemmons Branch Library.

The gathering aims to help church leaders tackle the issue of domestic violence when it arises in their congregations, said Denise Smith, who founded MOM late last year.

"All the research that I found showed that every Sunday, one out of every four women in our congregations are dealing with (domestic violence), and the clergy, the pastors are not addressing this," she commented. "When they do counsel the women, they are sending them back home (to the abusive relationship)."

The wrong advice from a pastor can keep a DV victim in a dangerous situation longer, Smith says. The Domestic Violence and the Church Clergy Training Seminar was designed to help faith leaders to get the information they need to most effectively advise congregants in DV situations, she added.

"It's not that they don't care; they just don't know how to deal with it in the church," stated Smith. "They're following the Scripture, which is what they're trained to do, but they're not seeing the broader picture."

But Smith did not get the positive response she had hoped for when she sent out invites to the event. In fact, no one had replied by the April 1 RSVP date. Smith believes they may be afraid to confront the controversial issue.

"They don't have the correct knowledge, they see how critical it is, but for some reason, they are still reluctant," she declared. "I think they have a fear (of getting involved)."

The Rev. Dr. Carlton Eversley, president of the Ministers Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity, believes MOM's method of promotion may be to blame for the dismal response. Eversley

See Pastors on A7

## In Search of a Solution

Summit focuses on improving outcomes of black males in higher education

BY LAYLA FARMER THE CHRONICLE

Forsyth Technical Community College, Wake Forest University and Winston-Salem State University joined forces last week in an unprecedented collaboration centered around the issues facing African-American males in the higher education system.

Held April 1-4, with events at each of the three institutions, the Black Male Summit was the brainchild of Christopher Martin, program coordinator of the Minority Male Transitions Program at Forsyth, Tech.



Dr. Shaun Harper

The summit, themed, "What Keeps them from Coming, What Keeps them from Staying," was funded with a grant by the Winston-Salem Foundation's Black Philanthropy Fund. It was created as a way to help the schools isolate the problems that keep black males from performing as well as other groups in the higher education setting, Martin said. It is his hope that by identifying the problems, the institutions will also be able to conceptualize effective methods of combating them.

"One of the most effective

See Summit on A3



Dr. Barbee Oakes of WFU presents a token of appreciation to Chris Martin while Jonathan Cox and Monty Hickman look on.

Photo by Layla Farmer

DON'T PASS THE BUCK

# BUY LOCAL

