



Young baseball players in action

-See Page B10



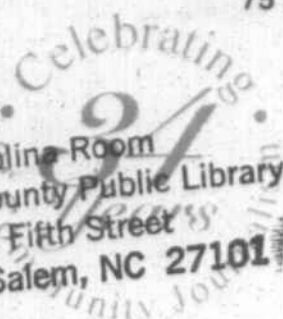
Women warned about military

-See Page A4



Peace rally draws crowd

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THE CHRONICLE

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Leaders want to relaunch old schools agenda

Influx of stimulus dollars makes it important to keep eye on school system, officials say

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Public school systems across the state are slated to receive more than \$300 million in funding from the federal stimulus package for their Title I programs, which serve largely low income and underperforming schools as specified by the No Child Left Behind Act. But some local residents are concerned about how the influx of funds will be specifically spent.

Dellabrook Presbyterian Church opened its doors to the community Monday evening for a forum to discuss the issue.



Photo by Layla Farmer

Virginia Newell wants the school system to do better with Title I schools.

former member of the Winston-Salem City Council.

"This meeting really started with a private phone call from Virginia K. Newell to myself," Eversley told the collective of school system officials, educators and concerned citizens gathered in the sanctuary.

Newell had read about the funds that are set to flow into the school system and began to question how the dollars already in the system were being spent, he related. Monday's meeting was designed to identify what action is being taken to improve conditions for students in Title I schools and what further enhancements can be made with the help of the additional money.

Audience members expressed concerns about racial disparities in discipline; parental involvement; dropout rates. There were also complaints about the neighborhood schools program, which have created far more one-race schools in the district.

Eversley and Newell outlined a six-part agenda designed to address chief issues in the system at large. The agenda was ratified by the NAACP in the 1980's and again in 2000, Eversley said, with the exception of the sixth piece, which was

Many area leaders used the event to sound off about what they think is wrong with the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System, and how federal dollars might be used to fix the problems.

The meeting was led by Dellabrook Pastor Dr. Carlton Eversley, president of the Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity; and retired educator Dr. Virginia Newell, a former member of the Winston-Salem City Council.

See Schools on A4



Photos by Layla Farmer

Volunteers work in the newly-planted garden.

GARDEN PARTY

Spring project brings together the young and the old

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

An intergenerational garden project designed to foster positive relationships between area youth and seniors "took root" last Friday afternoon in the grassy lot adjacent to the Winston-Salem Urban League downtown.

The project, sponsored by the NC Cooperative Extension, the city's Department of Recreation and Parks and AARP, paired senior citizens with local Boy Scouts in observance of Youth Service Day and National



Zen Sadler examines his gardening gloves.

Volunteer Week, both of which occurred last week.

"I was somewhat inspired by Michelle Obama and the whole concept of opening up the (White House) facilities to the community and focusing on healthy eating," said the Urban League's Patricia Sadler, one of the organizers for the project. "Young people today don't get a lot of experience with gardening ... it's important for us to get our young people outside and get them involved in some positive activities. We thought this would be a good way to

See Garden on A11

Some local inmates could get new home

County sets sights on vacant downtown building

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

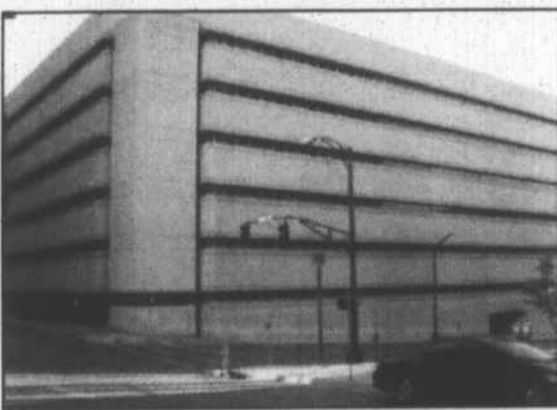


Photo by Todd Luck

The Phillips Building used to house Wachovia offices.

The Phillips Building at 301 N. Church St., once home to Wachovia offices, may be getting new tenants. County officials want to

move the administrative building of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Department in and some prison inmates from the nearby increasingly crowded Forsyth County Detention Center, which the Sheriff's Department runs.

A public meeting was held Monday at the County Government Building to present the plan to the public and get residents' feedback about

See Building on A7

CREATIVE COMMUNITY SERVICE



Photo by Layla Farmer

WFU's Delta Sigma Theta President Maya Yette poses with sorors Brigitte Proctor, Tracy Watson, Ariane Datil and Courtney Rodgers behind a desk they designed for a local boy. See page A3 for more on the school's DESK project.

First-time students take the plunge

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Petree Elementary second-graders are accustomed to diving into a good book or a class project, but for most of them, diving into a swimming pool was literally veering into waters that were uncharted. All that's changed now - thanks to a combination of the students' eagerness and a week of swim lessons from certified professionals.

Petree's entire crop of second grade students, about five dozen kids, are the first of what organizers hope will be many, many graduates of a new program designed to teach minority children the life-saving skill of swimming.

"I was shocked when I read that



Photo by Kevin Walker

See Swimmers on A11 Diego Perez swims with instructor Jay Saul.

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