

# The Chronicle takes home five national awards

Paper faced much larger competitors

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Chronicle received five awards for journalism excellence last week from the National Newspaper Publishers Association, a federation of more than 200 black-owned newspapers. The group held its annual Merit Award competition during a convention in Minneapolis, Minn.



Layla Farmer



Anthony Hill

The Chronicle took home three first-place awards in the Best Use of Photographs, Best Special Edition and Best Feature Story categories. The paper also won a second-place honor in the Best Sports Section category and a third-place award for Best Business Section.

The Best Feature Story award went to Chronicle Reporter Layla Farmer for her story on Chevra Orrin, a local woman who was molested as a child by her father, the noted Civil Rights leader James Bevel. The Best Special Edition award was for The Chronicle's tabloid and news coverage honoring Dr. Maya Angelou on her 80th birthday last year. Both Farmer's story and the Angelou special addition also won first-place awards earlier this year from the N.C. Press Association. The Best Sports Section went to Anthony Hill, The Chronicle's former sports editor.

"The Merit Awards are always a tough competition, especially for us because we are competing with papers based in much larger markets like Los Angeles, Philadelphia, St. Louis and Chicago," said T. Kevin Walker, The Chronicle's managing editor. "When we put out the best product that we can each week, our goal is never to win awards, but it feels good to all of us to be recognized for our efforts."

## Boyce

from page A1

over his father, trying to perform mouth-to-mouth and CPR. She sprang into action, taking over the CPR and calling 9-1-1, but Rodney Boyce was already gone. The family later learned that he had died of a heart condition that even he was unaware of.

In the months since Rodney's passing, Lysa and Isaac Boyce have struggled to pick up the pieces of their lives. Lysa Boyce says she has often reflected on the skills her husband had taught Isaac, never knowing he would need to use them so soon.

Father and son were close, she said.

"They enjoyed cooking breakfast for her in the mornings and playing all sorts of imaginative games."

"Me and my daddy used to come up with good imaginations," said Isaac, who will start kindergarten in the fall. "He was fun and he liked to do things with me."

Paramedics was a favorite game of theirs, Lysa said. In the game, Rodney and Isaac had often practiced performing life saving measures like CPR and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation on each other.

"Isaac was in the hospital when he was little due to (an illness), and then he had a tonsillectomy when he was three, so he just got really fascinated



Isaac with his mother, Lysa.

with the medical (procedures)," she explained.

Rodney and Isaac befriended the firemen who came to the apartment complex where the family lived on calls and routine checkups. They had visited several firehouses together. Isaac collected stickers from each fire station which he placed on his little firemen's hat, one of his most prized possessions.

"We had to get a new hat," his mother said, relating the

frequency of their visits.

The collection of toy firetrucks and rescue vehicles in Isaac's room also mounted over the years, Lysa says.

"If his dad saw a bigger firetruck (in the store), it was his," she related.

Lysa says the couple believed their son's fascination with emergency professions was more than just a passing phase, yet she never imagined that her young son would act so courageously in



Isaac shows off his medal.

the face of a real emergency. "I never in a million years dreamed that any of this would happen," she said.

Isaac was honored for his heroism earlier this month at his daycare, the Sunshine House. Forsyth County Manager Dudley Watts, Forsyth County EMS Director Dan Ozimek and Compliance Officer Rodney Overman presented Isaac with the first-ever Forsyth County EMS Hero Medal, complete with an Honorary FCEMS Paramedic certificate and a FCEMS hat with his name embroidered on it.

The ceremony was bittersweet for his grieving mother, but she says she is proud of what Isaac did.

"I think in a way it was God's plan for him to be the one to find (Rodney) because I feel like it's going to end up making him a stronger person for the actions he instantaneously took," she said. "One day, he's going to realize what a significance it was that he just instantaneously jumped into action and was not scared."

## Carver

from page A1

nice achievement gains this year across the board," he said. "...I hope that will be sustained in this next school year."

The Carver Road Network for Better Education has supported the school throughout its ups and downs. The Rev. Samuel Stevenson, president of the Network, says he was glad to see someone of Barber's caliber tapped to take over at the school.

"I've seen him mostly in church settings," said Stevenson, who serves as pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church. "I know something about his good work as principal, (because) that's been in the news the last few years. What I know has been good, and I've had a very good impression of him in our personal meetings and sessions."

Barber will have his "work cut out for him" at Carver, Stevenson says, but the Network will support him in any way it can. Stevenson says he is hopeful that Barber will be as successful at Carver as he was at North Hills.

"I like what he has been able to do—where he has been," he commented.



Rev. Stevenson



Piggott-Long

"...My hope is that we will see some new life at Carver High School, and not just within that immediate community—something that will be of notice here in Winston-Salem and beyond."

Barber has been with the school system for nearly 35 years, beginning as a teacher at Anderson High School in the 1970s. The 59-year-old

Winston-Salem native says he had thought very seriously about retiring at the end of the 2008-09 academic year, but concluded that he couldn't bear to leave his life as an educator and administrator behind just yet.

"I'm committed to young people and it's something that I enjoy doing," he remarked.

After more than a decade in elementary education, making the move back to his high school roots will take some adjusting, Barber said.

"I think it's going to be a huge challenge," he commented. "...I'm sure that there will be some adjustments that I will have to make, but it's something that I'm looking forward to."

Tackling test scores will be among his top priorities, Barber said.

"My desire is to see the school grow as much as it can. It makes me feel good when young people come through and they're able to get the education that they deserve and ... go on to become productive members of society. That's what I'm looking for," he said. "My hope is that it will be a great marriage between Carver and myself."

Carver PTA President Felecia Piggott-Long, who

or advance fees, as a condition of credit approval. The Better Business Bureau offers these tips for spotting an advance fee loan scam:

- Pressure to act immediately. Advance fee loan scammers will try to get you to send money or give out personal information before you get any paperwork. Insist on receiving the necessary paperwork before deciding whether or not to apply for credit.
- Lenders not interested in your credit history.

Lenders who don't care about your credit record should be cause for concern. Ads that downplay bad credit and ads promising "fast money" or "guaranteed approval" often indicate a scam.

• A loan that is offered by phone. According to the FTC, it is illegal for companies doing business in the U.S. by phone to promise a loan or ask you to pay for it before they deliver.

the guidance and counsel that only lawyers can provide," Wester said.

Additionally, Wester noted, the NCBA will maintain its support of justice initiatives and expanded funding for Legal Aid of North Carolina and other legal services providers.

Eugene C. Pridgen was elected president-elect of the NCBA. He will serve as the 116th president of the NCBA in 2010-11. His name was placed in nomination by Janet Ward Black, immediate past president of the NCBA and chair of the Past Presidents' Council. Seconding speeches were provided by his longtime law partner Raleigh Shoemaker and Blake Morant, dean of the Wake Forest University School of Law.

Pridgen is an administrative partner for K&L Gates in Charlotte.



Pridgen

## BBB

from page A4

www.bloomfieldlending.com offers no information on the company's location, nor does it give consumers a way to contact the company except by e-mail.

According to the company's contract, several monthly payments are required in advance, as "collateral" on the loan. North Carolina General Statutes prohibit collecting money up-front,

## NCBA

from page A4

he concentrates in the trial and appeals of business disputes, securities regulation, corporate governance and employment cases. He has served the NCBA as a member of its Board of Governors and as chair of the Audit and Finance, Appellate Rules and Nominations committees.

Wester is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and the American Bar Foundation.

"Instead of reinventing a wheel that has rolled smooth and straight for many years, our goal will be to reach farther and wider with important programs that are now in place and touch hundreds — I hope thousands — of North Carolinians who need

is a community correspondent for The Chronicle and a teacher at Carver, says she's pleased with Barber's appointment.

"I do know Mr. Barber," she said. "I know he's a man of great professionalism and has great concern for our children in the community. He's very involved in the community, so I look

forward to working with him. His reputation precedes him."

Three other principals were also appointed last week by the School Board. Donna Horton, the former principal of Meadowbrook Alternative School in King, will take over as principal of Carter Vocational High School next year. Sharon

Abercrombie, who formerly served as principal of the Performance Learning Center in Concord, will be the new principal of the Forsyth Middle College program at Forsyth Tech; and Ed Weiss will make the switch from Wiley Middle to Mount Tabor High School.

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