

# GOOD TO THE BONE

Big-hearted bikers plan ride to help young woman fighting for her life

BY LAYLA FARMER  
THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem resident Lameka Myers has two epic battles on her hands. Myers, 33, grapples with the daily challenge of the aplastic anemia that ravages her body and has desecrated her bone marrow. In addition, Myers is struggling to find a way to gain access to the bone marrow transplant surgery she needs to get well.

Lameka Myers was diagnosed with the disease, which is akin to leukemia, about a year and a half ago, and has been unable to work since that time, according to her mother, Stephanie Myers. Without insurance backing, the Myers are unable to cover the cost of the transplant surgery, and are not allowed to be placed on the national registry to begin the search for a match, Stephanie says. They have tried to obtain Medicaid for Lameka three times since she fell ill, but their claims have been repeatedly denied because the monthly blood transfusions she receives are thought to be a suitable approach.

"They said the ... treatment would fine for her because she's young," related Stephanie Myers. "But the doctor's telling us it won't (work) because her bone marrow is dead."

The continual rejection has made an already tough situation worse, Stephanie said.

"I hate to see her going through all this," she commented. "Trying to work and support her, be there for her - it's hard."

In her time of need, Stephanie Myers' friends have come to her aid. The Carolina



From left: Carolina Cruisers members Stephanie Myers, Donnell Warren, Don Ellis and Lester McCollum.

Cruisers Motorcycle Club, of which Stephanie has been a member for the last two years, has organized a ride to benefit her daughter and help offset the costs of her treatment and care.

"I know it's hard on her," Cruisers President Donnell Warren said of Myers. "I'm glad we can help."

The 45-mile ride is slated to embark from the Smokin Harley Davidson shop on Myer Lee Dr. on October 17. All 57 Carolina Cruiser members are scheduled to attend, and the group is hoping to receive additional support from other local motorcycle clubs. Each rider and co-rider pays a nominal fee that will benefit the Myers family. Non-riders can pledge their support per mile or simply make a donation to the club to support the cause, members say.

"Every penny we raise that day'll go to her," Warren said, gesturing to Myers.

Community service is one of the staples of the club, says Cruisers Secretary Lester McCollum. Club members



Lameka Myers

volunteer several times a year, at annual events like the Citywide Peace Toys for War Toys campaign, the Boston Roundup and the Happy Hill Reunion. The club also holds a Thanksgiving food giveaway annually.

"People think that we might be a rough rider type of organization, but we're here for the community," McCollum stated. "...we invest everything we have back into the community."

The ride is the second the Cruisers have hosted to support the child of a member. A similar effort was waged in

early 2008 on behalf of Dedrick Neal -Myers' nephew - who was in need of a heart transplant.

Stephanie Myers is hopeful the ride will shed light on her daughter's plight, and perhaps open some doors that will help her gain the financial backing she needs. Myers says she is grateful for her club members' compassion.

"I tell everybody my club brothers treat me so well," she declared. "They've always been around to support me. It's just amazing."

The Carolina Cruisers Poker Run for Lameka Myers will embark from Smokin Harley Davidson, 3441 Myer Lee Dr., at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 17. Registration is \$15 for riders and \$5 for co-riders, and will begin at 8 a.m.. For more information, contact Warren at (336) 413-0212 or Ellis at (336) 473-9456. Donations may be sent to McCollum, at 120 Hemingway St., Winston-Salem, 27127. Checks should be made payable to Carolina Cruisers.

## Book

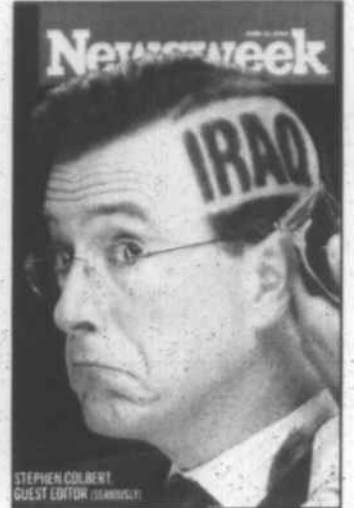
from page A8

hours a day, what are we not hearing about?"

In his evaluation, Baym finds an example of media best practices in the most unlikely of places: Comedy Central. Personalities like Stewart and Colbert are reinventing network television and doing in-depth reporting with their hybrid comedy news shows, finding ways to communicate about current events that are relevant to today's audiences, he said.

The comedians don't refer to themselves as journalists, giving themselves more latitude and freedom to be subjective, yet fair, in their reporting, he added.

"They are doing the heavy lifting of the Fourth Estate... they hold the powerful accountable and ask the questions that the regular people can't ask. There's tremendous evidence the media didn't ask tough questions when the U.S. invaded Iraq. Yet, it was on The Daily Show and The Colbert Report where they were asked those kinds of questions."



Stephen Colbert on the cover of Newsweek earlier this year.

Baym has firsthand knowledge of the evolution of broadcast news. A former television news reporter, Baym left the profession in the mid-1990s to pursue a Ph.D. in media studies. His dissertation compared the news coverage of the Watergate scandal to the coverage of President Bill Clinton's involvement with Monica Lewinsky.

"From Cronkite to Colbert," 197 pages, is published by Paradigm Publishers.

## Discover state of the Arts living ...

285 Holly Place - off Broad St. in downtown Winston-Salem

Two spacious bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, hardwood flooring, fireplace, granite, alarm system, stainless stove and refrigerator, and full basement with two car garage and 12' x 20' workshop area!

Owner will consider ALL OFFERS!

Open for your leisurely inspection Sundays (Sept 27 & Oct 4) from 2:00 - 4:pm and Mondays (Sep 28 & Oct 5) from 12 noon - 2 p.m.

Sealed bid offer forms will be available on-site or email us at office@peggauction.com or call 996-4414. Bids close at 5 p.m Oct 12.

www.peggauction.com

170,164 hits in the last seven days

Why Call Anyone Else?

#5098 JCPegg 996-4414

## Swine flu

from page A7

infected with seasonal and 2009 H1N1 flu may be able to infect others from 1 day before getting sick to 5 to 7 days after. This can be longer in some people, especially children and people with weakened immune systems and in people infected with the new H1N1 virus.

If you are sick with a flu-like illness, the current recommendations are that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever breaks. Also, keep away from others, especially those at heightened risk, to avoid making other people sick. If you have an illness that puts you at higher risk for complications and you develop flu-like symptoms, you should talk to your doctor immediately. Also, if you or a loved one develops any of the following signs of serious illness, seek medical care immediately:

- rapid breathing/difficulty breathing;
- bluish/grayish skin color;
- sudden dizziness and/or confusion;
- severe/persistent vomiting and/or diarrhea;
- chest or abdominal pain; and flu-like symptoms that improve but return with more

fever and cough.

### What can I do to protect myself and my loved ones?

The most important things you can do to keep you, your family, your friends, and your coworkers healthy are:

**WASH YOUR HANDS!** Washing your hands after you cough, sneeze, use the restroom, or around someone who is sick is the best way to prevent the spread of disease-causing germs.

**Cover your nose and mouth** - When you cough or sneeze, do so into a tissue or into your elbow, not your hands.

**Don't touch your mouth, nose, or eyes** - these are some of the most sensitive areas on your body and ones into which germs spread easily and quickly.

**Avoid sick people** - stay-

ing away from those who have the flu or flu-like symptoms is also important, as the H1N1 flu is very contagious.

A vaccine for the H1N1 flu virus is currently being developed, but is not yet widely available to the public. You should discuss with your doctor or other health care provider the possibility of being vaccinated. Also, be sure to get the regular seasonal flu vaccine, as it protects against different strains (types) than the H1N1 vaccine. For more information, see the CDC's special H1N1 flu website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/qa.htm>.

- Contribution by Sarah Langdon, MPH, CHES

For more information about the Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity,

visit our website at <http://www.wfubmc.edu/minorityhealth>. Or, for health information call toll-free 877-530-1824.

**ERIC J. SADLER, DDS**

**WE WELCOME NEW PATIENTS**

Our office provides the following services:

Cleanings • Whitening • Fillings • Crowns & Bridges  
Root Canals • Partial & Complete Dentures • Dental Implants

We accept most insurance  
Saturday appointments available

**(336) 744-1300**  
e-mail: [esadler@triad.rr.com](mailto:esadler@triad.rr.com)

3801 Indiana Avenue  
Winston-Salem, NC 27103

## REYNOLDA HOUSE MUSEUM of AMERICAN ART

### VOYAGES OF DISCOVERY

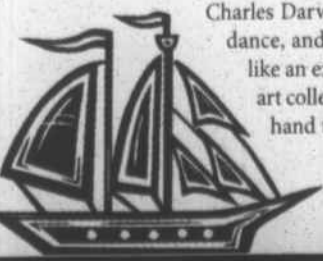
### Community Day

Sunday, October 11, 2009

2-4 p.m. | FREE

Reynolda House invites you to celebrate the exciting adventures of two discoverers! See *The Andes of Ecuador: Science and Spectacle* at a fun-filled, family-friendly Fall festival!

Learn about artist Frederic Church's artistic explorations of the tropics and the Andes and Charles Darwin's five-year voyage aboard the H.M.S. Beagle. Enjoy Andean music and dance, and art activities including tortoise sculptures and cardboard telescopes. Act like an explorer by creating your own logbook to record the animals you find in the art collection and on the Museum grounds. Spanish-speaking interpreters will be on hand throughout the Museum.



HABRÁN INTERPRETES EN ESPAÑOL A TRAVÉS DEL MUSEO.

2250 Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem | 336.758.5150 | [reynoldahouse.org](http://reynoldahouse.org)

Reynolda House is supported by the Arts Council of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County.

## firstcitizens.com/FreeMoney



Find out how your check card purchases could be paying you back - and every \$1 is on us.



You could earn \$1 for every "bonus transaction" as defined in our Disclosure of Terms and Conditions. For a copy of the Disclosure of Terms and Conditions, please contact us by phone, stop by an office or visit [firstcitizens.com/FreeMoney](http://firstcitizens.com/FreeMoney). Member FDIC



BauerFinancial, Inc. Superior Five Star Rating

For details about BauerFinancial, Inc. and its ratings, visit [bauerfinancial.com](http://bauerfinancial.com)