



All-ACC Team features a Deacon

-See Page B9



Student takes home state 4H honor

-See Page A9



Retired educator embraces aging

-See Page A3



75 cents

THE CHRON

17 120409 1 *****5-DIGIT 27101
N C ROOM
FORSYTH CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
660 W 5TH ST
WINSTON SALEM NC 27101-2755

Vol. XXXVI No. 14

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, December 3, 2009



Photo by William Philpott/REUTERS

Secretary Togo West with President Bill Clinton on the White House lawn in 2000.

TRIBUTE TO TOGO?

Some want prominent honor for former U.S. Veterans Affairs Secretary

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

One of Winston-Salem's most prominent natives has yet to get the local recognition that he deserves, some city residents say.

Phillip Carter, who recently ran for a seat on the Winston-Salem City Council, is leading the charge to have a street or building in the city named for Togo West Jr., a former U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs and an alumnus of Atkins High School.

West, who holds a law degree from Howard University, was nominated by then-President Bill Clinton for the post in 1998. West had previously served as United States Secretary of the Army under Clinton.

Carter believes West should be enshrined in the city, as a means of reminding local residents that the sky really is the limit for them.

"I felt that by Togo being a native of Winston-Salem and also a graduate of Atkins

... it would be a great motivating tool," he commented. "It'll always bring recognition to who he is and also to the fact that he was an African American who came out of the (city's) East Ward."

Naming something in West's honor would provide a different perspective to youth who most often hear about athletes and entertainers from the area who found success, Carter said.



Carter

"Sometimes, it appears that some things are not achievable," he remarked. "(But) when you hear about people that started right where you started out, (you realize) they didn't get there by magic, and you too can do it."

Outgoing City Council Member Evelyn Terry is one of a handful of city leaders who have lent their support to the campaign thus far. Terry, a native of Winston-Salem, went to elementary school with West.

See Tribute on A5

TEACHER THRILLER



Photo by Layla Farmer

A pep rally at Hanes Magnet School last week featured several teachers bringing the iconic moves from Michael Jackson's "Thriller" video to life. The event was a celebration marking the school's successful food drive for the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission. Read more on B1.

World AIDS Day observed with dialogue

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Area service providers took an active approach to celebrating World AIDS Day on Dec. 1 by participating in a Community Discussion Forum led by AIDS Care Service (ACS) at the Piedmont Club.

The program was organized by Tracie Kochanny, an employee of the drug company Pfizer who has been working at ACS through a Pfizer fellowship program since August.

"This event in particular is all about awareness," said Kochanny, a resident of



Photo by Layla Farmer

Omar Perez takes part in a roundtable discussion.

Michigan. "World AIDS Day is celebrated in a big way in countries in Africa, but here, we really haven't recognized the fact that the disease is still spreading and we need to do something about it."

In fact, ACS exists because HIV and AIDS are growing local issues. The agency helps those living with the virus and the disease.

Omar Perez, 46, attended the forum. He contracted the HIV virus 21 years ago and has long been an advocate for HIV/AIDS awareness.

"As a person living with this disease, I feel it's impor-

See AIDS on A9

Healing Minds Around the Globe

Wake professor's program takes mental health training to developing nations

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

A local professor is bringing mental health training to countries where psychiatric illness often goes unrecognized and untreated.

Donna Henderson, a counseling professor at Wake Forest University, co-developed the Mental Health Facilitators (MHF) program, which

trains people around the world in how to recognize mental illness and what to do about it. The program, which



Henderson

started in 2008, has already trained people in Malawi, Malaysia, Bhutan, Romania, Bulgaria, China and Mexico.

"It's a training to try to provide the people who participate in it some very basic skills in listening and understanding a person's problem," said Henderson.

The program was formed after the World Health Organization (WHO) made a request to the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) to help combat mental illness in some of the world's poorest nations. The WHO estimates there are 450 million people worldwide living with mental illness, and most of them are not receiving treatment.

NBCC, a non-profit organization with 42,000 certified counselors, turned to Henderson and NBCC Critical Training Coordinator Dr. Scott Hinkle to develop

See Henderson on A5

OUT WITH THE OLD

Housing Authority to renovate apartment complex

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE



Photo by Layla Farmer

City Council Member Joycelyn Johnson speaks at the groundbreaking.

Laminate flooring. Bay windows. Decorative fencing. The amenities list of the soon-to-be upfitted Johnson Square Apartment complex doesn't read like that of a public housing facility, and the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem doesn't want it to feel like one either.

The Housing Authority will invest \$3.6 million in the project by the time its complete in late 2010, in hopes of creating a home address its residents can be proud of.

"These units will not look like public housing ... It's going to be a different community," commented HAWS CEO Larry Woods during a groundbreaking ceremony at the complex on 10th Street Tuesday afternoon. "... We're excited about this transformation of Johnson Square into a development where we believe families will want to live."

The Housing Authority purchased the 32-unit complex earlier this year. The buildings which formerly housed three- and four-bedroom units, have been gutted to accommodate 48, mostly one-bedroom apartments with updated floor plans to meet the needs of the modern consumer,



See Apartments on A9

Crews are giving the Johnson Square Apartment complex a facelift.

DON'T PASS THE BUCK

BUY LOCAL



WS CHAMBER

