

COMMUNITY

SECTION B

Also Sports, Religion, Obituaries and Classifieds

DECEMBER 17, 2009



Community Calendar

Photos of blacks in Davidson County sought
Lexington resident Tonya Lanier is compiling precious photos of African Americans with any association in Davidson County for a soon-to-be published book, "African Americans: Images of Davidson County." The book will show people living, working, loving, parenting, educating, worshipping and having fun in Davidson County from the early 1900s to 1970. Those with photographs that fit this description are asked to contact Tonya Lanier, via mail, 604 Adams Street, Lexington, NC 27292; phone at 336-243-1361 or email: sonshiners@lexcominc.net.

Confidence Workshop
Universal Possibilities, a personal and professional development company, will hold a workshop for women in the Forsyth County Central Library Auditorium, located at 660 West Fifth St., on Saturday, Dec. 19 from 10:30 a.m. — 12:30 p.m. The event is designed to improve women's confidence and career prospects. There is no charge to attend this event. For more information, contact Wende Sanders at 336-407-3828.

Christmas play
James Lyons Entertainment will present the play "Love and the Twelve Days of Christmas" on Saturday, Dec. 19 at 7 p.m. at Atkins High School, 3605 Old Greensboro Road. Admission is \$7.

Elite Social Club dance
The Elite Social Club, a non-profit organization, will have its annual Holiday Benefit Dance at the The Hawthorne Inn and Conference Center, 420 High St., on Saturday, Dec. 26 from 9 p.m. — 1 a.m. Music for the semi-formal event will be provided by Mr. Bill's Productions. There will be a cash bar and free hors d'oeuvres. For more information, call Alfreda Floyd at 336-287-3247.

Atkins Hall of Fame nominations sought
Atkins High School Hall of Fame Inductee applications for 2010 are available at Russell Funeral Home, 822 Carl Russell Ave., or by writing to Atkins Hall School Hall of Fame, P.O. Box 1072, Winston-Salem, NC 27102. Nominations can also be made by calling the Rev. W. Cockerham, at 336-829-8748 or any other member of the Hall of Fame Committee. The deadline for applications is Dec. 31, 2009.

Your sit-in movement thoughts
Feb. 1, 2010, will mark the 50th anniversary of the Sit-in movement in Greensboro. On that day, four N.C. A&T students sat down at the segregated downtown Woolworth store and refused to leave until they were served. N.C. A&T is asking the community to join in commemorating the event by sending in original pictures, poetry, and commentary via text, Web cam videos, video essays or audio clips on the theme: "What does the Sit-in Movement mean to you?" Some submissions will be selected for an anniversary blog. E-mail submissions to Dr. Kim Smith at Kcsmith1@ncat.edu or visit <http://www.50thsitinanniversary.blogspot.com/>.



Photos by Layla Farmer
Patricia Hardy looking sharp.



Anna Braxton, Brandi Hill, Lisa Smithy, Gail Minor and Jimalee Tremblay model their new looks.



Iris Nelson models in her gown.



Program Founder Marvianne Usher.

PHENOMENAL RESULTS

Program gets high marks from Bethesda Center residents

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Whoops of excitement filled the room at Ishi Pentacostal Church Saturday, as Stephanie Branch entered the room, dressed in an elegant sage ensemble. Branch mugged for her audience, striking one pose after another, even spinning around to show off her train.

"I haven't put no shoes on like this in 20 years, but I'm feeling it today!" Branch exclaimed. "...I'm gonna be honest — this is out of my element, but I kind of like it."

Branch is one of 20 current and recent residents at the Bethesda Center for the Homeless who took part in the newly-formed Phenomenal Woman program, which culminated with a Dec. 12 gala at St. John CME Church.

The brainchild of Marvianne Usher, the wife of Ishi Pastor Patrick Usher, the Phenomenal Woman program

included monthly sessions with the women that covered an array of self-esteem-building topics and activities designed to make the women feel empowered and loved.

"It started from a strong passion that I have for women when they are in a season of brokenness," Usher, who owns her own company, Exclusive Design, said of her motivation to create the program.

The two-hour Phenomenal Woman workshops included topics such as "Who Are You?" "Understanding Your Potential" and "Revealing Your Hidden Gifts and Talents."

"The workshops were all about helping (the women) to understand ... that you were created by God. He created you for a purpose," Usher added.

Nineteen year-old Senona Chisholm left the Bethesda Center behind after a four-month stay. The Ocala Fla.-native has enrolled in a work study program at

See Women on B2



Senona Chisholm is set to attend the gala.



Kim Tillery gets made up.



Mary Holman checks out the handiwork of Mary Kay professionals.