



Lady Ram earns great b-ball honor

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Fun time had by all at annual Kite Day

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THURSDAY, April 8, 2010

Finding Hope in HIV

Woman has learned to use her own life to help others

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

When Evie Holloway was first diagnosed with HIV in 2003, her loved ones tried to put a positive spin on the situation.

"I had family members and friends tell me it happened for a reason, that God knows what He's doing," related the 43-year-old city resident.

But Holloway had a hard time being optimistic.

"I was angry with God," she said. "...I thought so many times of just gassing up the car and running into a tree. I didn't want to deal with it."

But as time marched on,

Holloway says she began to realize that she had something valuable to offer others: the wisdom of a woman who has stared death in the face but refused to back down.

"I am the new face of HIV. This is what it looks like. There is no size, no shape to HIV anymore - no color - this is what it looks like," declared Holloway, who uses her personal testimony often to motivate and encourage others. "It's like a ministry now - I've gotta do it. It's like a burning desire."

Holloway says she contracted the disease from her second husband, who died of pneumonia - a common complication of



Evie Holloway

HIV/AIDS - just after their sixth anniversary in fall 2003.

The two met in 1994, through a personal ad Holloway had placed, and enjoyed a fervent love affair, wedding two years to the day after their first date.

"He was my soul mate ... We were best friends. We took trips together, we went fishing together ... we enjoyed each other's company totally," she recalled.

The couple encountered their share of rocky times. Holloway says she found women's phone numbers in her husband's pants pockets more than once and suspected him of cheating. When she confronted the women whose



Stephen Bright speaks.

Photo by Layla Farmer

Death penalty equated to lynchings

Prominent attorney taking message across the nation

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

While the "strange fruit" Billie Holiday sang about is now a thing of the past, Attorney Stephen Bright says the same kind of heinous, calculated slaughter is still a common occurrence in American society today.

Bright, who serves as senior counsel for the Southern Center for Human Rights, spoke against the death penalty, which he regards as "one of the great moral issues in our society today," before a group of law students at Wake Forest University last week.

Bright's visit was organized by the WFU Innocence and Justice Clinic, as part of the 2010 "Race, Wrongful Convictions and the Death Penalty" campus tour. The tour, which will stop at four North Carolina universities, is co-sponsored by the North Carolina Coalition for a Moratorium and the Campaign to End the Death Penalty's national tour, "Lynching Then, Lynching Now."

The North Carolina portion of the tour was staged in celebration of the passage of the Racial Justice Act, which was made law last year and allows defendants who



Bright



Golden Girls (from left) Evelyn Johnson, Heather West, Sonya Patrick, Hattie Taylor, Pearl "Sis" Lavery and Pearl Fair.

GRANNIES GOT GAME

Basketball league for mature women off to strong start

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Even though the Gateway YWCA's Golden Girls basketball league is for women age 45 and older, it still isn't for the faint of heart.

Members of the Dunkin' Dolls and the Boomin' Babes teams, many of whom are in their 60s, chased each other up and down the basketball court at the Gateway Tuesday morning, jumping and blocking with the fervor of women half their age.

"It's gotten kind of rough at times," said Arthur Chavious, who serves as referee and coach for both teams. "But it was no question that it was all in fun. They've all been ladies about it."

Indeed, it was obvious no one took the game too seriously.



Heather West knocks the ball loose as Pearl Lavery (left) and Amatullah Saleem, 78, rush to recover it.

See Basketball on A10

See Lynchings on A2



Barr



Clark



Hill



Lambeth



McAdams



Metcalf



Motsinger



Roberts



Sherrill



Woodbury

Ten candidates hoping to win At-Large School Board seats

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Voters in Forsyth County will have no shortage of choices in next month's primary for the At Large School Board seats, which are selected by voters countywide.

Ten candidates will appear on the May 4 ballot. Because the pool of candidates is greater than twice the number of available seats, a primary is necessary to narrow down

the voting pool, according to the Forsyth County Board of Elections. The top six contenders will proceed to the General Election in November to vie for the three available seats that are currently occupied by incumbents Donny Lambeth, Jeannie Metcalf and Elisabeth Motsinger.

Robert Barr, Lori Goins Clark, Stan Hill, Joyce McAdams, William H. Roberts, Nancy P. Sherrill and Malishai "Shai" Woodbury are all hoping to

unseat them. For the first time this year, School Board races are non-partisan.

Many of the candidates sighted issues like disparities between low wealth and affluent schools; the county's high school drop out rate; and finding ways to increase parental involvement among their chief concerns. However, each has his or her own set of priorities and methods for addressing the problems they see.

Barr, 44, spent 14 years as an educator in the local school system before becoming assistant pastor of Agape Faith Church in Clemmons. He and his wife, a teacher, have two children in the system. Barr believes his personal experiences growing up as an African American in the Happy Hill community will give him a unique perspective on the board. He is a strong proponent of expanding mentoring programs for local students.

"If we could get more mentors around economically disadvantaged kids ... I think we could raise the graduation rates and close the achievement gaps," Barr said. "...I think I can make a difference. I think I can implement some policies that can help impact all the students."

Clark, 40, is a city native who currently serves as a substitute

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