



Football program at A&T has new leader

-See Page B8



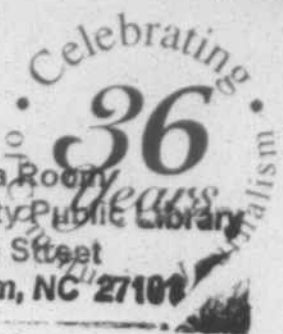
Program helps mother to get a car

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Seniors treated to holiday luncheon

North Carolina Room
Forsyth County Public Library
660 West Fifth Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101



75 cents

THE CHRONICLE

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WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, December 2, 2010

Daughters of Happy Hill Honor their Heroes

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Women who once called the Happy Hill community home honored two greats from the historic neighborhood last Friday night.

Happy Hill Gardens Ladies of Elegance held their "Evening of Elegance" at the Odd Fellows Club House. It was the first-ever event for the HHG Ladies of Elegance, which is made of ladies who either grew up or once lived in Happy Hill, the oldest African-American community in Winston-Salem.

Founder Debbie Lewis said she formed the group to bring women together from her old community for a joyous occasion while honoring those who made Happy Hill great. Lewis takes pride in growing up in Happy Hill, a former-public housing community that has since undergone a multi-million dollar facelift to become a mixed-income community of swank homes, apartments and townhouses.

"I wouldn't change it for the world because it made me who I am," Lewis said of her



Right: Yvonne Jefferson speaks as her sons, Michael and William, and goddaughter, Thelma Westbrook, stand around her.

Above: Honoree Ben Piggott led the Sims Center for nearly two decades.

public housing roots. The Ladies honored Yvonne Jefferson, who for decades was known as the "Mother of Happy Hill" and Ben Piggott, who for years ran the community's William C. Sims Recreation Center. Jefferson called the



neighborhood home for nearly 30 years. Though she had eight children of her own, she opened her home up to children who needed a place to go after-school, referring to them as "her baby cakes." She served as president of the

Happy Hill Residents Council and started a tutoring program for neighborhood children. She's also served on the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem Board of Commissioners. Jefferson suffered a dev-

astating stroke several years ago. She is still recovering, but made it to last week's event. From her wheelchair, she told the room full of former Happy Hill residents to love each other and take

See Happy Hill on A2



Some want ID cards like this one to be accepted like a driver's license would be.

Driver ID idea axed by police

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem Police Chief Scott Cunningham met last week with City Council Member James Taylor and a handful of Hispanic leaders to discuss the growing number of tickets issued by officers to Hispanics for driving without a proper driver's license.

According to North Carolina law, driving without a license is a Class 2 misdemeanor that can carry fines of up to \$2,500 and/or jail time in rare instances.

Members of the burgeoning Hispanic immigrant community are the hardest hit by these penalties because many of them are undocumented and therefore cannot legally obtain a driver's license, according to Lesbia Castillo, the Community Hispanic Organizer for Neighbors for Better Neighborhoods and founder of the Hispanic civil rights organization Comité Latino Derechos Humano de Winston-Salem.

"I'm very concerned with this situation and a lot of people have a lot of fright," said Castillo, a native of Chitre, Panama who was among those at last week's meeting. "I want the people not (to) have frustration because they may get (a) ticket with no driver's license."



Taylor

Budding playwright draws from own life



Peachanda DuBose stands outside of the new HanesBrands Theatre.

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Peachanda DuBose never set out to become a playwright, but, DuBose says, that doesn't mean it wasn't meant to be. "Destiny just kind of fell in my lap," she said. "I feel like I am walking in my true purpose now."

DuBose's latest gospel play, "Surrender," will be staged at the new HanesBrands Theatre on Dec. 18. "Surrender," which has already played to large, enthusiastic crowds three times, chronicles the struggles of Raymond "Ray" Smith, a drug dealer who gives up his life of crime to follow Christ.

"It's a play of redemption for all ages," declares the playwright. "I know (audience members) will leave forever changed ... and inspired."

Despite being a work of fiction, "Surrender" comes from a very real place, said DuBose, a native of Wilmington, Del.



Actor/singer Darryl Barr as "Ray" in the musical.

See DuBose on A11

See IDs on A10

CARDINAL TO CARDINAL



St. Louis Cardinals player CJ Beatty probes a student about her career goals last week during his visit to Konnoak Elementary School, home of the Konnoak Cardinals. See the full story on page B1.

WSSU opens Piedmont Park wellness center

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem State University School of Nursing has opened another health care facility in Piedmont Park housing community on 29th Street.

The School once operated several health facilities in public housing communities throughout the city with the help of federal and state grants. Those centers disappeared over the years when funding dried up.

The new RAMS Wellness Center is supported by a \$10,000 NC AHEC (Area Health Education Centers) grant.

School of Nursing professors Tamika Anderson,

Tyson

See Center on A5



School of Nursing staff and students stand in front of the Community Building in the Piedmont Park neighborhood.

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