



**West JV squad falls to N. Davidson**

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**Honorary degree for Vivian Burke**

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# THE CHRONICLE

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WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, January 19, 2012

## First Ladies of Church Fiction Unite

Authors Murray, Billingsley to tout "Sinners & Saints" at Carver Branch Library

BY CHERIS F. HODGES  
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Best-selling authors Victoria Christopher Murray and ReShonda Tate Billingsley are twins.

Writing twins that is.

The two authors teamed up to bring two of the most scandalous first ladies in fiction together in the church-based novel "Sinners & Saints," which was released earlier this month.



Billingsley



Murray

So, are you on Team Jasmine or Team Rachel? Jasmine is Murray's popular and flawed heroine of five previous novels - "Temptation," "A Sin and A Shame," "Too Little Too Late," "Lady Jasmine" and "Sins of the Mother."

Rachel is Billingsley's equally flawed and popular heroine from "Let The Church Say Amen," "Say Amen, Again," "Say

Amen" and "Say Amen, Again." Fans love the characters, the authors said.

Though Murray and Billingsley are alike in their writing style - Jasmine and Rachel are polar opposites. Jasmine is older, from the big city - New York that is - and prefers the finer things in life. Rachel is a younger southern girl with TJ Maxx tags on her clothes.

"Before we even knew that we would be writing together, we'd said this is a perfect match," Murray said about the characters. "They're just so opposite."

"Readers resonate with both of them because they can see the good and the bad," Billingsley said.

Here's the gist of the book: Rachel's preacher husband and Jasmine's preacher husband are up for the president of the American Baptist Coalition. Of course, the first ladies want to see her respective husband as the

See Authors on A10



## A Denim Mission

Middle-schoolers join national jean-collecting effort

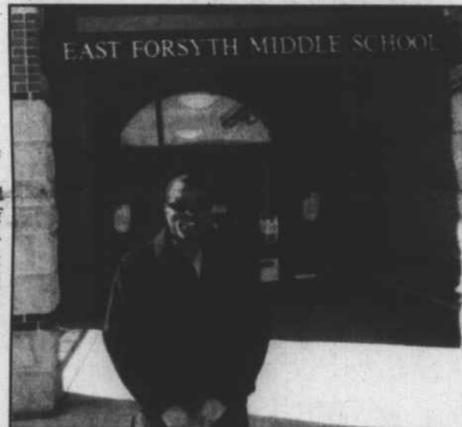
BY TODD LUCK  
THE CHRONICLE

Homeless teenagers will benefit from East Forsyth Middle School's Teens for Jeans program.

The school is collecting gently-used jeans of all sizes and styles from now through Feb. 7. The school's effort is part of DoSomething.org's fifth annual national Teens for Jeans initiative. DoSomething.org, which encourages teenagers to get involved with community service, has teamed with clothing store Aeropostale, which then turns the jeans over to homeless shelters.

East Forsyth Middle signed on to the jean-collecting project after PTA Board Member Sarah Jackson came across information about Teens for Jeans on Do Something's web site.

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Photos by Todd Luck

Above: Members of Rachel's Challenge are ready to start the jeans challenge.

Left: East Forsyth Middle School Principal Dossie Poteat is proud of his students.

## Goler program opening doors for contractors



Michael Suggs (left) and Curtis Cazoe stand outside the construction site of the CDC's latest duplex, which Cazoe has worked on.

BY LAYLA FARMER  
THE CHRONICLE

It is said that in the business world, it's not what you know, but who you know.

Greensboro resident Curtis Cazoe is a believer in that old adage. The president of SSMC Inc. says his association with the Goler CDC's Piedmont Contractors Resource Center (PCRC) has helped his company's bottom line.

Cazoe, a native of Trinidad and Tobago, had worked as an electrical contractor for more than two decades when he decided to forge his own path as an entrepreneur. Though he was familiar with the work and the industry, Cazoe, whose company name is made up of his brother's and two sisters' initials combined with his own, said being the man in charge was a different story.

"It was always a dream to do my own

See Goler on A9

## 'Driving' a Successful Economy



Forsyth Tech Dean Leonard Kiser stands outside the school's new Transportation Technology Center on Patterson Avenue. The Center celebrated its grand opening this week. Read more on page A3.

## Two Reasons to Celebrate

Residents honor MLK and 96-year-old neighbor

BY LAYLA FARMER  
THE CHRONICLE

Residents at Azalea Terrace Apartments celebrated the birthday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King and one of their own Monday morning, during a special MLK Breakfast at the complex on Derry Street.

The breakfast was organized by a newly-organized group of Azalea Terrace residents known as The Big Five. The group formed late last year in an effort to bring residents of the small senior living community together. The Big Five's inaugural event was a fish fry in



Vickie McCallum presents a cake to Fannie "Mama" Carson as Carson's nurse, Linda "Red" Young, looks on.

See Birthday on A9



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