



Special honor for Aggie swimmer

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Police chief stops for a chat

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Panel talks health reform

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THURSDAY, January 26, 2012

Gone, But Long From Forgotten

Friends, family members holding concert to honor memory of Runnels

File Photo
Rev. Calvin Runnels poses in his office at Wake Forest Baptist Health back in 2008.



Photo by Laya Farmer
Far right: Minister of Music Ken Causey stands outside First Calvary Baptist.

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

When Rev. Calvin Runnels, a former faculty supervisor in the Department of Pastoral Care at Wake Health, passed away on Aug. 31, 2011 after a hard fought battle with colon cancer, he left behind legions of community members, family and friends who grieved the loss of a man who had touched them each so deeply.

"There wasn't anything I couldn't talk to him about," said Jonathan Tennial, Runnels' 27 year-old nephew and a Wake



See Runnels on A6



Photo by Virginia Weiler
Elisabeth Motsinger announces her candidacy.

Motsinger ready to climb in uphill battle

School Board Member taking on U.S. Rep Foxx

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Elisabeth Motsinger isn't afraid of a challenge. The Democrat and Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Board of Education member showed her moxie last week, when she announced her intentions to challenge Republican Virginia Foxx for her Fifth Congressional District seat.



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The road to a Motsinger/Foxx match-up in November is clearer after Treva Johnson, chair of the Wilkes County Democratic Party, withdrew from the race soon after Motsinger made her intentions known.

Motsinger, who is well known for her progressive views and stances on the school board, is a long shot in the Fifth District, which Foxx has represented since 2004, but the mother of three says she feels she has to take the chance.

"I am running to win, and I am willing to lose, and I understand that, win or lose, I can have an impact in our community," Motsinger said. "This gives me a platform. I hope that I can be a spokeswoman for a populace, progressive message to talk about issues that are not being talked about enough."

Motsinger, a resident of Belews Creek, has practiced as a physician's

See Motsinger on A10



Photo by Laya Farmer

Shelter Director Chris Brown (left) and Honorable Service Award Recipient Winston-Salem Police Officer Robert Baker stand outside the Bethesda Center for the Homeless.

Bethesda Center Photo

Below: Bruce Johnson accepts his award from Chris Brown.

Cop, former resident honored by shelter



BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

The Bethesda Center for the Homeless said thank-you Monday to two of its biggest supporters.

Winston-Salem Police Officer Robert Baker and Bruce Johnson, a former resident of the shelter, received the Center's first-ever Honorable Service Awards. Shelter Director Chris Brown presented the awards before an audience of clients and staff members during the agency's monthly house meeting.

Brown, who joined the Center in September, said he created the awards as a means of honoring some of the agency's most fervent supporters.

Johnson, a native of High Point, volunteers his services as a custodian on a daily basis despite having been on his own for over a year.

"We just had to show him some appreciation," Brown said of Johnson. "The guy does a great job."

Johnson, a father of three, said he is hopeful other residents will be encouraged by witnessing his transi-

See Awards on A5

100-Years-Young



Photo by Todd Luck

Margaret Speas speaks at her 100th birthday celebration on Sunday at Center Grove A.M.E. Zion Church. Read more on page B1.

O'Brien shares personal narrative in MLK speech

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

Soledad O'Brien told local residents Monday evening that there is power in their status as ordinary human beings.

O'Brien, a CNN special correspondent and the anchor of the network's new morning show, "Starting Point with Soledad O'Brien," spoke at Wake Forest University's Wait Chapel as part as the university's annual "On Common Ground" celebration in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King. The celebration was held a week after the Jan. 16 MLK holiday because WFU students did not return to campus from the holiday break until Wednesday, Jan. 18.

Staged annually by Wake Forest, a traditionally white institution and Winston-Salem State University, a historically black institution, for the last 12 years, On Common Ground is meant to be



Photo by Laya Farmer

CNN's Soledad O'Brien addresses the crowd Monday evening at Wake Forest.

See O'Brien on A2



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