



Day dedicated to young people

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Downtown district proposal on the table

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THE CHRONICLE

North Carolina Room
Forsyth County Public Library
Volume 40, Number 1
660 West Hargett Street
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WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, September 12, 2013

Ready to Lead

Fuse-Hall spent decades preparing for Bennett presidency

BY T. KEVIN WALKER
THE CHRONICLE

Dr. Rosalind Fuse-Hall has long had her eye on the presidency of Bennett College, one of just two historically African American women's colleges in the nation.

"Ten years ago, I applied for the job at Bennett, and I didn't get it," Fuse-Hall confessed last month.

Back in 2002, the Bennett Board of Trustees went instead with Dr. Johnetta Cole, an education luminary who had a momentous reign as the president of Spelman (the nation's other black female school).

Fuse-Hall was no slouch herself, even back then. She'd been a lecturer and adjunct professor at her alma mater, UNC Chapel Hill, and had success in a number of administrative posts, including that of executive assistant to then-North Carolina Central University Chancellor James Ammons. But she knew that to be charged with leading a storied institution like Bennett, she needed to up her game.

Fuse-Hall pictured her resume as a tool box and spent the 10-plus years since her Bennett rejection filling it with the essentials she lacked.

Ammons encouraged her to tackle institutional advancement and student affairs challenges at Central. She learned the ins and outs — and then some — of higher education governance as the corporate secretary to the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina system. In 2007, Ammons asked her to continue to be his right-hand at Florida



Bennett College Photo

Dr. Rosalind Fuse-Hall is the new Bennett College president.

See Fuse-Hall on A6



Welfare drug testing worries officials

BY LAYLA GARMES
THE CHRONICLE

The head of the Forsyth County Department of Social Services said he doesn't expect many local families to be affected by a bill that would require some public assistance applicants to submit to drug tests.

Gov. Pat McCrory had vetoed House Bill 392, calling it "unnecessary government intrusion," but the Republican-controlled House and Senate overrode the veto last week.

Only those who apply to receive benefits through the federal Work First program (which provides both cash assistance and job training) would be impacted.

Those suspected of drug-use will be required to take a drug test. Those who fail tests, will be required to seek treatment and wait a year to reapply for Work First. According to the Associated Press, the bill also allows social workers to screen applicants for outstanding warrants and, in some cases, ask applicants to be fingerprinted.

Many social services leaders across the state are expressing concern about the bill. Financing the law is a key concern. In fact, McCrory has now vowed not to implement

the law until lawmakers find a way to pay for it.

While Forsyth DSS Director Joe Raymond said he doesn't expect the law to have a significant impact on the roughly 100 Work First clients the department serves countywide, he says the law does nothing to address the department's most pressing substance abuse issues — those connected to alcohol.

"In many ways, this legislation doesn't have a dramatic impact," he said. "...We have a long way to go to get state regulatory guidance on this bill."

State Sen. Earline Parmon fought the bill from the beginning.

"I opposed it number one, because it will unduly place a responsibility on workers in the Department of Social Services to try to determine whether people are on drugs and they're not professionals in that way," said Parmon, adding that the bill was passed as the state opted to end funding for three drug treatment centers.

"If there's concern about people's addictions, then why would we close the very facilities that could provide treatment for these people?" she questioned. "It was



Raymond



Terry

See Testing on A2

Incumbents stay put

BY LAYLA GARMES
THE CHRONICLE

After months of campaigning, voters spoke Tuesday, choosing City Council incumbents over their challengers.

Mayor Allen Joines handily won a fourth term. Complete, unofficial results show he received nearly 88.5 percent of the nearly 10,000 votes cast in the Democratic mayoral primary. He faces no Republican opposition in November.



Photo by Layla Garmes

Vivian Burke and James Taylor congratulate each other.

honored with the huge support. It's affirmation of the course that we've had, that the city had."

See Primary on A8

'The Reaves Center'



Photo by Todd Luck

Winston-Salem State University Chancellor Donald Reaves speaks last week at the dedication of a new student center named in his honor. Read more about the ceremony and the new building in the Sept. 18 Chronicle.

Black churches stand by Boy Scouts

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

The Boy Scouts of America's lifting of its policy against admitting openly gay scouts has led to churches across the nation cutting their ties with the organization. Calvary Baptist, a Forsyth County mega church, recently became one of those churches.

Calvary announced that its nearly 60-year-old Boy Scouts troop will be disbanded next year, when



Timmons

See Scouts on A9

Photo by Todd Luck

A sign outside of Mt. Zion Baptist Church touts the church's Cub Scouts program.



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