



**Classes helping pregnant women**

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**Baseball's Beatty hits speaking circuit**

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# THE CHRONICLE

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## Change in GED format may be hinderance

BY LAYLA GARMS  
THE CHRONICLE

In keeping with North Carolina's adoption of the Common Core State Standards Initiative for students in grades K-12, the GED (General Education Development) program is also changing its standards.

The North Carolina Justice Center, an advocacy group that pushes for the elimination of poverty, has stated that the changes, which will go into effect Jan. 1, could disproportionately impact "low-income, low skilled adults," who are among those most likely to be without a GED.



Harris



Bazemore

"The goal of adult education should be to ensure that all students are equipped with the basic skills they need to access higher levels of education that will lead to good, quality jobs," stated the Center's Sabine Schoenbach. "The GED represents an important bridge to further skills training and education. Adequate funding for basic skills training is therefore necessary, and the connection of basic skills to credential attainment in ways that engage low-income working adults is key to strengthening a path to self-sufficiency."

The new GED program includes changes in the administration and test fees for the program and is more rigorous. Michael Harris, dean of Adult Literacy Programs at Forsyth Technical Community College, said the new tests, which cover four areas — math, science, social studies and language — instead of the traditional five-subject format, are necessary to keep GED students on pace with traditional public school students, who are held to a higher standard under Common Core, which was adopted during the 2012-13 school year.

"Just like public schools, we have to keep current,"

See GED on A10



Travellers (front row, from left) Beth Frack, Bray Barto, Jozy Unal, Jordan Shegog, Cashlyn Lovell, (back row) Parker Lovell, Shannon Barto, Don Shegog, Daniel Shegog, Chris Hawley and Dr. Medge Owen.

## Selfless at Thanksgiving

Local group of volunteers on service trip to Ghana

BY TODD LUCK  
THE CHRONICLE

Don Shegog and his son Daniel are forgoing the Thanksgiving traditions of food, family and fun this year. They are a world away, enriching the lives of the people of Ghana.

The Shegogs are among a group of 12 Forsyth County Day School students, faculty and parents who departed for Africa last Friday to help with the ongoing revitalization of Odoi Atsem Preparatory School in La, a suburb of Accra, Ghana's capital. The Shegogs will help set up an Internet-connected computer lab at the school. Local volunteers have taken the school under their wings, dubbing their efforts "The Bridge Project."



Photos by Todd Luck

See Ghana on A9 Some of the clothing the group took for kids in Ghana.

## Not much 109-year-old matriarch has not seen

BY LAYLA GARMS  
THE CHRONICLE

When it comes to U.S. history, Winston-Salem resident Ina Cook has practically seen it all.

Cook, a native of Stokes County, celebrated her 109th birthday on Nov. 18. The second of six children, Cook was born in 1904, one year after the Wright Brothers made their historic first flight in Kitty Hawk and when the country had only 45 states. Women weren't allowed to vote, the stock market had yet to crash and African Americans were decades away from achieving civil rights. The first silent film had premiered just the year before, and Henry Ford's Model T automobiles wouldn't go into production for another four years.

Life was different in those days, recalls Cook, the matriarch of five generations of Cooks. She grew up on a farm, where her daily chores included



Photo by Layla Garms

Ina Cook (center) with her daughters Kathleen Satterfield (left) and Sue Vogler.

feeding the hogs, hoeing tobacco and corn in the growing season, and churning butter for the family. They worked hard, Cook said, but she and her siblings still found plenty of time to have fun.

"We'd ride horses and go to frolics until about 11 or 12 o'clock," she said,

referencing the spirited dance parties she regularly attended as a young woman. Cook and her siblings would sneak away to the gatherings, where the music of banjos and fiddles filled the night.

"Paul wouldn't know," she said, referencing her father with a sly grin. "He

didn't want his horses out in the cold."

On her first day of school, Cook walked to the three room schoolhouse in town, carrying her lunch in a bucket. She remembers crying in embarrassment because she hadn't yet learned her

See Cook on A8

## Couple looks to carve niche with new shop

BY LAYLA GARMS  
THE CHRONICLE

Lovers of all things vintage, antique and designer now have a new place to shop in Winston-Salem.

City natives Marshall and Cynthia Jeffries opened the doors to their upscale consignment shop, Jeff's Shared Treasures, in August.

Nestled in the heart of the East Winston community on New Walkertown Road, the shop represents both heartbreak and a realization of a long-held dream for Marshall Jeffries. Roughly 75 percent



Photo by Layla Garms

Marshall and Cynthia Jeffries stand outside their store on New Walkertown Road.

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