

Photo by Donna Rogers



Members of the African-American Caucus of the Forsyth County Democratic Party Jacquelyne Barber Branch pose with several candidates for elected office after its Candidate Meet and Greet on Saturday, Jan. 30. Shown here are on the front row (L-R) Sophia Kennedy, secretary of the caucus; Sarah Hill Carter, member; Chenita Johnson, caucus president; Gardenia Henley, candidate for U.S. House of Representatives District 12; Sean Grier, representing Chris Rey, candidate for U.S. Senate; and Ronald Buchanan, member. Shown on the second row (L-R) are Daniel Blue III, candidate for N.C. treasurer; Earline Parmon representing Rep. Alma Adams, incumbent candidate for U.S. House of Representatives District 12; and Henry J. Pankey, candidate for State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Shown on the back row (L-R) John Lawson, candidate for Winston-Salem City Council-South Ward; and Bobby Wilson, member.

## Idea of absentee voting gaining attention

BY DONNA ROGERS  
THE CHRONICLE

An event that allowed voters to meet and greet candidates ended with a surprise plea: Encourage people to vote absentee.

Earline Parmon, first vice president of the Winston-Salem Branch of the NAACP, asked the audience to encourage people to get absentee ballots to vote "so they will not have to face the embarrassment of being turned away in this era of voter disenfranchisement."

Several groups are advocating this tactic for voting in the March 15 primaries in light of the 2013 N.C. law that restricts voting mechanisms.

The African-American Caucus of the Forsyth County Democratic Party Jacquelyne Barber Branch held its Candidate Meet and Greet on Saturday, Jan. 30 at Forsyth County Democratic Party Headquarters on Burke Street.

"You can actually start requesting absentee ballots as of today," Parmon said. People can go online and request those ballots at <http://www.ncsbe.gov/Voting/Absentee-Voting>.

"You can vote 'no excuse' absentee ballot," Parmon said. "I'm encouraging people to vote absen-

tee and vote in the privacy of their home, because you don't have to stand in line, you don't have to be confused."

Parmon said people are



going to be confused during the primary elections because the voting rules are confusing since not all parts of the 2013 N.C. voting law will be implemented on March 15.

She mentioned that early voting is March 2 through the 12, although Forsyth County voters don't know the early voting sites yet because the N.C. State Board of Elections must rule on a contested site.

The African American Caucus (AAC) of the Forsyth County Democratic Party Jacquelyne Barber Branch was the first branch formed under the statewide African-American Caucus of the North Carolina Democratic Party. It was officially organized in May 2003. In May 2007, the name was changed to honor longtime Democrat and founding AAC member Jacquelyne Barber.

According to a pamphlet, the branch "seeks the full representation of African-Americans and their affairs at all levels in all activities to support their continued success within the Forsyth County Democratic Party."

Chenita Johnson, president, said the organization holds forums in barber shops to discuss issues in the community, disseminates a Voter Check-up list to help voters determine whether they have everything they need to vote, and holds primary forums in Winston-Salem wards that have contested races. She said the caucus might hold such a forum in the Northeast Ward before the March 15 Democratic Primary because it is contested.

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/africanamericancaucus-forsythncdp> or contact Johnson at [chenitajohn@hotmail.com](mailto:chenitajohn@hotmail.com) to reach the organization.

Candidates listed on the printed program for the African-American Caucus of the Forsyth County Democratic Party Jacquelyne Barber Branch event were:

\*Candidate for U.S. House of Representatives District 12: Rep. Alma Adams (incumbent, sent

representative)

\*Candidate for U.S. House of Representatives District 12: Gardenia Henley (Winston-Salem)

\*Candidate for Lieutenant Governor: Robert Earl Wilson (Cary)

\*Candidate for Lieutenant Governor: Linda Coleman (Raleigh)

\*Candidate for N.C. Attorney General: Marcus W. Williams (Lumberton)

\*Candidate for N.C. Treasurer: Daniel Blue III (Raleigh)

\*Candidate for State Superintendent of Public Instruction: Henry J. Pankey (Durham)

\*Candidate for Winston-Salem City Council-South Ward: Carolyn Highsmith (Winston-Salem)

\*Candidate for Winston-Salem City Council-South Ward: John Lawson (Winston-Salem)

\*Candidate for U.S. Senate: Chris Rey (Spring Lake) - (sent representative)

Other candidates who showed up included Keith King, a candidate for Winston-Salem City Council-Northeast Ward; and Mazie Butler Ferguson of Greensboro, a candidate for Labor Commissioner.

## Black History Month events scheduled

The City's Recreation and Parks, the Police Department and the Fire Department are accepting entries through Feb. 6 in their annual Black History Month coloring and essay contests. Entry forms are available at all city recreation centers. Completed entries can be dropped off at any recreation center through Feb. 6. The coloring contest is for children in kindergarten through third grade. The essay contest is for fourth through 12th grades.

On Sunday, Feb. 21,

the Police and Fire departments will honor their retired personnel and the winners of the Black History Month coloring and essay contests during the 3rd annual Public Safety Black History Month Celebration. The celebration will be held at 3 p.m. at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, 4129 Northampton Drive, Winston-Salem. The public is invited.

For more information call CityLink 311.

**King for City Council  
Northeast Ward**




**Keith  
King**

"We Are Better 2Gether"

336-722-4170  
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February is National Children's Dental Health Month



let's make a difference in a child's smile

Tooth decay remains the most common chronic infectious disease among children. However, according to the CDC, the combination of dental sealants and fluoride can drastically diminish the prevalence of tooth decay.

Call your dentist today and schedule your child's dental appointment.

For more information on Preventive Dental Health 336-703-3204

Forsyth County Department of Public Health Promoting Health, Improving Lives

## W-S and Triad go red for National Wear Red Day

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

February is American Heart Month. So, on Friday, Feb. 5, the American Heart Association will be celebrating National Wear Red Day. In recognition of the event, main streets, businesses, and organizations across the Triad are going red.

In Winston-Salem, Corpening Plaza, Fourth Street, City Hall, the WSTA-Clark Campbell Transportation Center, Hanes Mall, Macy's, Piedmont Federal Savings Bank, and Novant Health are just a few of the organizations that will show support through red lights and red displays. Piedmont Federal Savings Bank, for example, will display a lighted red dress that is viewable from Bus. 40. Additionally, Fourth Street and Hawthorne Road will erect honorary street signs, becoming Go Red For Women Boulevard throughout February.


Numerous businesses in Greensboro and High Point will also show their red. For instance, Crumley Roberts will shine a spotlight on its Freeman Mill Road location in Greensboro during the month.

Partnering and sponsoring with the American Heart Association for the event as part of its Go Red for Women movement are: Crumley Roberts, which is the Guilford County Life is Why Sponsor, and Novant Health, which is the Greater Triad Go Red for Women's Wellness Partner.

Together, the organizations encourage the community to get more active and eat healthier so that they can enjoy more of life's remarkable moments. Moreover, they urge everyone in the Triad to help them support women's heart health by wearing red on Friday.

For detailed information on the Triad's Go Red displays, contact [sarah.fedele@heart.org](mailto:sarah.fedele@heart.org).

[www.wschronicle.com](http://www.wschronicle.com)



# Vote for Roy Cooper

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY: MARCH 15

**As Attorney General, Roy Cooper:**

- ✓ Led the fight to end pay day lending
- ✓ Took on companies to stop race discrimination
- ✓ Got millions in refunds for everyday people who got ripped off

**As governor, Roy Cooper will:**

- ✓ Fight to expand Medicaid
- ✓ Make investment in public education a priority
- ✓ Make it easier for all North Carolinians to vote

**ROY COOPER**  
FOR NORTH CAROLINA

PAID FOR BY COOPER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

**Have a Story  
Idea?**

Let us Know

[news@wschronicle.com](mailto:news@wschronicle.com)