

# The Defender



## Tracking

• See Opinion/Forum pages on A6&7 •

• See Sports on page B1 •

**AMERICAN CLINICS**

WSSU FOOTBALL and BASKETBALL will be hosting camps and clinics.

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# THE CHRONICLE

Volume 43, Number 33

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, April 21, 2016

## 10 digit-dialing: You ready?

BY TEVIN STINSON  
THE CHRONICLE

This Saturday, dialing only seven digits to call friends or relatives in the Piedmont Triad will become a thing of the past. As of April 23, all local calls made within the 336 area code must be placed by using the 10-digit telephone number.

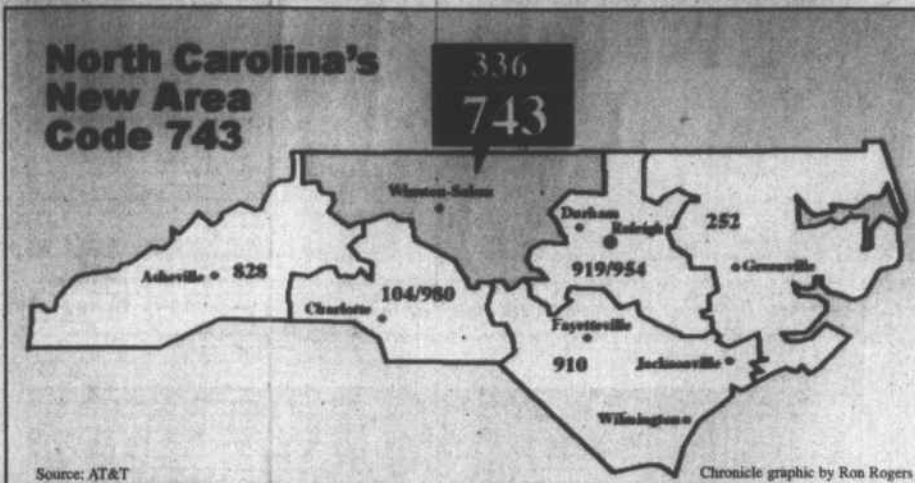
The same dialing procedure will apply to new telephone numbers that will be assigned a new 743 area code as well. According to the N.C. Utilities Commission, the new area code will be introduced to ensure that enough telephone numbers are available for residents in the area.

Cities affected by the change include Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Kernersville, High Point, Burlington, North Wilkesboro, Roxboro, and Asheboro.

While the change is expected to go into effect this weekend, a number of people in the area said they didn't know anything about the change when asked if they were prepared. Amanda Jones of Winston-Salem said she was unaware of the change until she received an automated message from her cell phone provider earlier this week.

"I had no idea that the change was taking place this weekend," said Jones. "I'm sure there are a lot of people in the com-

See 10 digit on A8



Flemming El-Amin, with the microphone, a member of the Forsyth County Board of Elections, discusses the state of education in North Carolina as other panelists listen during the first Transforming Education Community Roundtable held on the campus of Winston-Salem State University Friday, April 15. Other panelists are (L-R) Kimya Dennis, Salem College; Ruth Hopkins, Carter G. Woodson School; Imam Khalid Griggs, Wake Forest University; Donna Rogers, The Chronicle; and Kenneth Simington, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools. T. Sharee Fowler, Forsyth Promise is not visible.

## WSSU, community frankly talk about education reform

### University sparks important conversations during first Transforming Education Community Roundtable

BY TEVIN STINSON  
THE CHRONICLE

Community members from all walks of life gathered on the campus of Winston-Salem State University (WSSU) to discuss ways to enhance public education in the area last Friday.

The first Transforming Education Community Roundtable brought together a variety of community rep-

resentatives and stakeholders from the city and surrounding areas to engage in a series of roundtable discussions on a number of topics including the state of education in North Carolina, creating cultures of curiosity for minority students, and the links between thriving schools and thriving societies.

During the opening roundtable discussion, Forsyth County Board of Elections member Flemming El-Amin said he will not be satisfied with the public school system until people of color are exceeding expectations, not just meeting them. El-Amin mentioned it is up to teachers and members of the community to ensure that students understand the importance of education.

"In the 21st century, meeting expectations is not enough," he said.

"We as a community have to make sure that our students understand how important education is."

El-Amin told those in attendance that when he was a student, he had teachers like Flonnie Anderson who would accept nothing but the best from her students.

Director of Carter G. Woodson School Ruth Hopkins said those who instruct in the public school system need to address the "unconscious internalization of the external social and cultural reality of inferiority that is continually practiced in these United States of America."

"Until that is addressed, they will be unable to instruct those who are in need of instruction," said Hopkins.

See WSSU on A2

## Forsyth might get re-canvas of March vote

BY TODD LUCK  
THE CHRONICLE

Democracy North Carolina leaders and volunteers met with Forsyth Board of Elections Director Tim Tsujii on Tuesday, April 19, to discuss issues with the March 15 primary.

The topic of the meeting was the more than 130 provisional ballots that were rejected because of a lack of signature. Democracy NC Director Bob Hall said that there was an unusually high percentage of provisional ballots rejected in Forsyth.

Statewide, about 60 percent of provisionals were counted, while in Forsyth only 33 percent of the 962 provisional ballots counted. The program that was used to print out the provisional application slips failed to always print out the signature line and, though poll workers were trained to get a signature anyway, many failed to do so. Hall said that Forsyth was the only county that had this problem according to the State Board of Elections.

"As it happens in Forsyth County, African-American and Latino voters are 30 percent of the registered voters, but they were 61 percent of the voters who were tossed out for the lack of signatures."

—Bob Hall, Democracy NC Director

Local Democracy NC organizer Linda Sutton called the list of discounted provisional voters a "travesty." The voting rights organization is hoping Forsyth County does its canvas for the primary again and count the discounted ballots. Tsujii said that it's possible the State Board of Elections, which is currently doing its own due diligence on the primary, may order the county to redo the canvas.

Regardless, Tsujii said that actions will be taken to prevent the problems from happening in the June 7 primary. He said that the program used to print out the provisional applications will not be used again and the BOE will use a manual process that he said will be easier and more efficient for poll workers. He said there will also be additional training for poll workers.

See Election on A2

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10.15.16