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THE CHRONICLE

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Local NAACP backs N.C. boycott

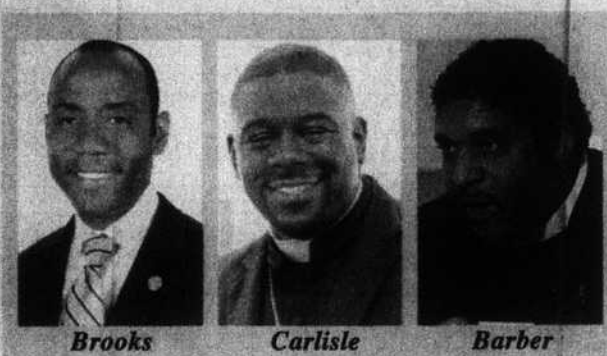
BY CASH MICHAELS
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Controversy abounds in the aftermath of a dramatic announcement last week that the national and state NAACP are calling for an "international" economic boycott of North Carolina because, they say, of "repressive" policies marshaled by the Republican-led state legislature.

"True democracy remains a distant ideal that the racist actions of members of the N.C. state legislature continue to disgracefully push further and further out of the reach of the African-American community," said NAACP President Cornell William Brooks.

"The NAACP refuses to accept this attack on democracy or the commoditization of bias against people due to racial or gender identity here in North Carolina or anywhere else around the nation. This we will fight against with all of our resources until we win."

But despite important questions about how the boycott



Brooks Carlisle Barber

would work, at least one local NAACP leader says leveraging dollars spent in the state is the most effective way to force meaningful change.

"Sometimes the only route to meaningful change is economic boycott," Rev. Alvin Carlisle, president of the

Winston-Salem/Forsyth County NAACP, told The Chronicle this week. "King stated that 'Riot is the language of the unheard. In America, the dollar is a language everyone understands.'"

It was last December that N.C. NAACP President Rev. Dr. William Barber II announced that the state conference would formally ask the national NAACP Board of Directors for permission to call for an economic boycott, in response to various policies and actions emanating from the GOP-led N.C. General Assembly.

Three weeks ago, right before the 11th Annual HK on J March and People's Assembly, the national NAACP Board "announced a resolution calling for an international economic boycott of the state of North Carolina in response to actions of an all-white legislative caucus, which unconstitutionally designed racially-discriminatory gerrymandered districts, enacted a monster voter suppression law, passed Senate Bill 4 stripping the incoming

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Adolfo Briceno with the Hispanic League makes a presentation during a community action forum held by the Family Violence Prevention Initiative, a partnership between 10 local organizations.

Local organizations unite to fight domestic violence

Family Services rallies nine groups to launch the Family Violence Prevention Initiative

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Family Services isn't pulling any punches in the fight against domestic violence here in Forsyth County. Holding fast to their mission to help families and children reach their full potential through community partner-

ships, last October, Family Services rallied nine local organizations from every sector of the community from faith-based organizations, to the local colleges and universities, and law enforcement to launch the Family Violence Prevention Initiative.

"We believe that the ideas and commitments from these local action groups will start to create a community in which family violence is brought out from the shadows and addressed so that all children and families can thrive," said Family Services President and CEO Bob Feikema, who convened the Family Violence Prevention Initiative.

Following weeks of deliberation, and studying among

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Community mourns stalwart Walter Marshall

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Forsyth County is mourning longtime Forsyth County Commissioner Walter Marshall, 74, who passed away on Wednesday, Feb. 22.

The sudden death of Marshall to natural causes came as a shock to his family and colleagues. The week before he died, he'd participated in a daylong work session with county staff and commissioners. He was getting ready to attend a conference in Washington, D.C. with other commissioners when he died.



Walter Marshall stands with a picture of him and his fellow county commissioners at the Forsyth County Government Center last month.

The shock was still felt this week at his funeral on Tuesday at Emmanuel Baptist Church, where Marshall was a member and regular attendee.

"We're all shook," the Rev. Carlton Eversley, pastor of Dellabrook Presbyterian Church, told attendees.

Before he retired and became a commissioner, Marshall was a teacher and activist. Eversley described him as a "warrior teacher" who was part of a generation of leaders that helped shape the city. Eversley said he learned many things from Marshall, who he said was always fighting for the underdog.

Marshall became an advocate with the local NAACP chapter. He worked on the local Catherine Scott case school segregation case. He led several lawsuits as NAACP president in the 1980s, including two that resulted in district elections for county commissioners and school board, which let both boards have greater African-American representation. Marshall would go on to serve on both of them.

Marshall's son, Malcolm, said that work wasn't always easy.

"My dad was a community man, he always took me out in the community," he said. "I saw the good, the bad

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Center announces Mazie Woodruff Scholarship

BY DONNA ROGERS
THE CHRONICLE

For five years, TerCraig Edwards, director of the Mazie S. Woodruff Center, and others kicked around the idea of a scholarship named for Mazie Woodruff. On Thursday, Feb. 23, it was announced.

At the Mazie S. Woodruff Center's Black History Month program, Edwards presented

Woodruff's family with a certificate that announced the Mazie S. Woodruff Scholarship Fund before a large crowd.

"We decided to launch this scholarship because there are literacy gaps in Forsyth County and our hope and our aim is to close those gaps," Edwards said.

He cited statistics from Forsyth Futures for

the 2015-2016 school year that showed most or many kindergarten students, eighth-grade students and 11th grade students had problems reaching benchmarks in math, English, reading and writing.

The scholarship is designed to give one Forsyth Technical Community College student a

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