

The other tragedy



NEW TEAM



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Salem students issue 'call to action'

Sit-in is used to protest what is seen as unfit living conditions and racism

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

In response to unfit living conditions on campus and alleged xenophobia, racism, and sexism going untreated, earlier this week more than 100 students at

Salem College participated in a sit-in protest demanding action be taken at the liberal arts women's college founded in 1772.

As of Wednesday, April 12, at the time of The Chronicle's publication, students still occupied the lobby of Main Hall. On day two of the sit-in - Tuesday - Junior Karina Gonzalez said they will stay put until the board of trustees and administrators institute policies that address their concerns.

"We have to hold

everyone accountable for all these actions and the only way we're going to do that is by adopting policies that fix the living conditions and address all of the components of the call to action that haven't been addressed."

Just before noon on Monday, April 10, students arrived at Main Hall armed with signs and a 10-page list of demands including:

*All board members, administrators, and faculty members be

required to undergo at least 16 hours of diversity training a year.

*The board reflect the racial composition of the student body. Of Salem College's 1,100 students, 7 percent are international students and 40 percent of undergraduate students are students of color.

*New health and counseling staff members be hired reflecting the racial composition of

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Photos by Tevin Stinson

Leniece Linder, a senior at Salem College, makes her way inside Main Hall, where students have been holding a sit-in protest since Monday, April 10.



Photo by Tevin Stinson

Students from South Fork Elementary School listen as Giselle Taylor-Wells gives details on the interior design program offered by Forsyth Tech Community College.

Students get a taste of college life

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

The old saying goes, it's never too soon to start planning for your future, and last week hundreds of local fifth-graders did just that when they got a taste of the college life while touring Forsyth Technical Community College.

While on campus, students visited more than a dozen classrooms and learned about the programs and degrees offered by Forsyth Tech, including mechanical engineering technology, interior design, architectural technology,

welding technology, cybercrime technology, computer engineering technology and electronics engineering technology.

The tour also gave the rising middle schoolers a chance to interact with college professors and students.

Although college may be years away, studies have proven that career development should begin as early as third grade. A study completed by The National Campaign for Grade-Level Reading shows that students who do not

"I think it's wonderful that the students get to see firsthand what Forsyth Tech has to offer."

See Taste on A5

Walter Marshall honored by county, state

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Late County Commissioner Walter Marshall was honored by his colleagues and N.C. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall during a county meeting on Thursday, April 6.

Elaine Marshall was there to present the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, which is among the most prestigious awards conferred by the governor for exemplary service to the state. She warmly greeted Walter Marshall's family, saying all Marshalls are "all kissing cousins, all kin" before handing family members the award honoring the longtime commissioner, who passed away in late February.

"I know public service is a family affair and one cannot be a good public servant without support at home," she said.

The county commissioners also presented a resolution to the family honoring the life of Walter Marshall. They then shared their thoughts on their late colleague and spoke to the family members in the audience, which included Marshall's widow, Paulette, their children and grandchildren.

"The reason why your grandfather was so bold, was because he was right," said County Commissioner Everette Witherspoon.

Witherspoon talked about how, as local NAACP president, Marshall led lawsuits that resulted in greater African American representation on both the school board and county commissioners board.

"Your grandfather was a legend before he even took public office," he said. "This was just icing on the cake."

Witherspoon hoped that there would be other honors for Marshall, like hanging his picture in the commissioners' meeting room and naming the Central Library or another building after him.



Marshall

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City budget proposal addresses city worker pay

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

About half of city employees could see a salary increase, and there may be a 3-cent tax increase in next fiscal year's budget.

City Council received a budget preview during a special meeting held last week that

addressed the city's longtime issues with its employee pay lagging behind market value. The city hired consulting firm Springsted to study the salaries of its employees, doing one-third of positions at a time, comparing the positions to each other and to what other larger cities in the state pay. About half of the city's more than 2,400 employees had positions included in the study.

The study focused on labor, trades and craft positions because that's where many of the severely under market positions are. Police officers, up to the rank of sergeant, were also included.

The study found non-police positions were below other cities by an average of about 8 per-

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