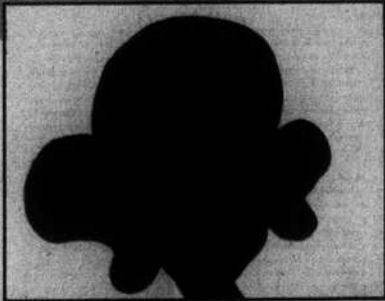


He's back! (Sort of)



Matchup



• See Opinion/Forum pages on A6&7 •

• See Sports on page B1 •

THE CHRONICLE

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EXCLUSIVE

Stolen check leads to agony

BY CASH MICHAELS FOR THE CHRONICLE

Sharon Harrison says she and her son are "...continuing to be victimized by a system that does not protect a parent or student from a school ... that does not accept responsibility for [its] negligent actions ..."

The Winston-Salem mother is being held responsible for a federal student loan refund check she never received for her son that was cashed at an area Wells Fargo bank by someone posing as her.

Did Harrison report the alleged crime? Yes, to every

authority she could think of, seeking not only to solve the problem, but have the loan replaced. Problem is, after dealing with two banks, the Federal Reserve, the U.S. Department of Education, Forsyth Technical Community College (FTC), and the Winston-Salem Police Department since September 2016, she's no closer to resolution now than she was on Day One.

The situation has put an undue, and unfair financial strain on her family, Harrison says. All because an important check was sent to the wrong address, and now, no one wants to take respon-



Dr. Gary Green

sibility for the mishap, but do want to hold her responsible for paying back a loan she never got.

Even Dr. Gary Green, the president of Forsyth Tech – the school that allegedly caused the mishap – has not met with her as recently as last Tuesday, and his staff has done little, she says, to bring about a timely resolution.

"I am a reasonable person, however, eight months of this is unacceptable and unreasonable," Harrison wrote in an April 20th email to a staffer of state Sen. Paul Lowe (D-Forsyth), one of many public officials she contacted for help. "And again I am at the mercy of the school and the

bank while I am incurring interest on funds I do not have. I feel that the school should get a commitment from the bank of the release date of my funds."

Unless the situation radically changes for the best in short order, Harrison may have to ultimately go to court, spending more money to clear up a bad situation not of her making.

And no, she hasn't begun making payments on the missing money yet, though she's been advised to, which ultimately could threaten her personal credit.

See Check on A2



Photo by Tevin Stinson

Joy Hooper-Carter a former student at Bethlehem Community Child Development Center, talks to students on Bethlehem Community Day last week.

'Straight Outta Bethlehem'

Child Development Center celebrates 90 years of service

BY TEVIN STINSON THE CHRONICLE

Before Krispy Kreme opened its doors in 1937, even before the Reynolds Building was added to the downtown skyline in 1929, there was Bethlehem Community Child Development Center.

In September, the early childhood center will celebrate its 90th anniversary. Mayor Allen Joines got the celebration started early last week when he hand delivered a proclamation declaring April 21 "Bethlehem Community Day," to students and

staff at the center, now located at 520 Cleveland Ave.

"It's my pleasure to be here with you today to celebrate this birthday," Joines told the students before reading the proclamation.

Since 1927, Bethlehem Community Development Center has served the community through its early childhood education and after school programs. To serve the vital need for early childhood education for low-income families, tuition is based on income. Although the physical building has changed a few times over the years, the mission to serve those in need has remained the same. Ninety years after the center first opened its doors, Bethlehem is still one of the few local centers that offers tuition on a sliding scale.

According to Bethlehem alum Michael Mason, the idea for the 90-year celebration started shortly after

the film "Straight Outta Compton" was released. Moore said he posted a meme on social media that said "Straight Outta Bethlehem," and the rest is history.

"That's how the idea began. I posted it on Facebook and I started to hear from Bethlehem alumni from all parts of the country," laughed Moore. "I had no idea it would turn into all this."

During the celebration, students who attended the center 50 to 60 years ago stopped by to express their gratitude for the positive start that the Bethlehem Center provided for them as children.

Joy Hooper-Carter, the first woman to serve as stage manager for the famous Apollo Theatre and production assistant for the hit television show "Showtime at the Apollo," said

See Center on A8

Teachers and parents get ESSA crash course

BY TEVIN STINSON THE CHRONICLE

This fall, school districts across the country will be required to submit accountability plans to the U.S. Department of Education in accordance with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the legislation signed by former President Barack Obama in 2015 to replace No Child Left Behind (NCLB).



Photo by Tevin Stinson

National Education Association organizational specialist LaToya Johnson leads a question and answer session during a forum hosted by the Forsyth County Educators Association.

We still must get the Every Student Succeeds Act right, guest columnist says. See Page A7

To jump start the conversation, at a seminar, Forsyth County Association of Educators (FCAE) President Rhonda Mays briefly discussed the law and stressed the importance of working together.

More than two dozen local teachers and parents learned how they can help shape the future of the education system during a forum hosted by the FCAE last week.

Under the ESSA, states are required to establish student performance, hold schools accountable for student achievement, and include a broader measure of student performance in their accountability systems beyond test scores.

ESSA also includes several provisions that will help ensure student success, including a requirement that all

See ESSA on A4

Museum files complaint against Duke Energy

BY CASH MICHAELS FOR THE CHRONICLE

An attorney representing the International Civil Rights Museum (ICRM) in Greensboro has filed a complaint with the North Carolina Utilities Commission against Duke Energy, alleging that the public util-

ity has threatened to shutoff electrical service to the facility at 134 South Elm Street "... unless it posts an \$18,224.00 deposit, in addition to paying the regular electric bill."

However, according to the complaint, filed Monday, the ICRM's account with Duke Energy "... is now up-to-date and current [...]" but



Swaine

that didn't stop the utility from unexpectedly turning off the electricity for several hours without warning in February, a week after the museum paid its bill in full.

The complaint asks the N.C. Utility Commission "... that the service be ordered to remain on until the Commission can rule on this complaint in a final ruling and that no deposit be required until there are further orders of the Utility Commission."

See Museum on A4

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