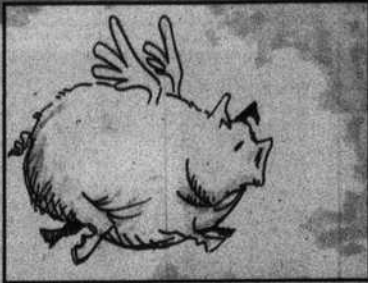


Flying



Female athletes

• See Opinion/Forum pages on A6&7 •

• See Sports on page B1 •

THE CHRONICLE

Volume 43, Number 38 WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. THURSDAY, May 25, 2017

High Court ruling applauded

U.S. Supreme Court strikes down N.C. congressional redistricting maps

BY CASH MICHAELS
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Now that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that North Carolina's 2011 congressional redistricting maps for the 1st and 12th Districts were unconstitutional because more black voters from surrounding districts were added unnecessarily, does this hint that an upcoming High Court ruling on the state's 2011 legislative maps is most likely to be seen the same way?

"Since 2010, North Carolina has been governed by an illegally constituted General Assembly," says Irving Joyner, chair of the N.C. NAACP Legal Redress Committee, and law professor at North Carolina Central University's School of Law. "In its decision, the Supreme Court recognized that this 'right-wing' and power-driven legislature had manipulated political districts in order to erode the impact that African-



Adams

American voters could have on the use of political



Rev. Barber

power in this state," Joyner continued. "In these redistricting plans, race was used to 'stack and pack'



Butterfield

districting plans, race was used to 'stack and pack'

African-Americans into a few political districts and to reduce the ability of racial minorities to impact elections in majority white populated districts." In short, the race-based formula used to illegally configure the 1st and 12th Congressional Districts, was used to draw the 2011 legislative districts as well, Joyner says. "Despite this decision, we can expect the legislative leaders to concoct some other race-based dis-

See Ruling on A4

Sellers to WSSU graduates: Defy the odds



Winston-Salem State University Professor Dr. Jack Monell takes a moment to take a photo with the graduates during the commencement ceremony on Friday, May 19.

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Although the official start of the college football season is still a few months away, last Friday morning Bowman Gray Stadium resembled homecoming weekend as thousands of eager cheering fans, filled the stadium to celebrate the

See WSSU on A4

'Operation Transformation' underway at Philo-Hill

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

When Dr. Essie McKoy decided to take the reins of Philo-Hill Magnet Academy at the start of the 2016-2017 school year, she had one goal on her mind: change. Although still in the early stages, "Operation Transformation" is well underway at one of the state's lowest performing schools.

"It's a journey but I believe in whole school, whole child and whole educator impact. It takes a team in order to make the dream work," said McKoy. "I've had a lot of experience making an impact with the children who need us most and it is so critical that we work together."

To help the transformation process at Philo-Hill, one of 11 "priority schools" in the district targeted for

See Philo-Hill on A8

Ministers join fight for new reappraisal process

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

The Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity (MCWSV) is prepared to do whatever it takes to prove the tax evaluation process used by the Forsyth County Tax Administration to evaluate property is unjust and unfit to residents who live in predominantly minority communities.

After attending a town hall hosted by state Rep. Evelyn Terry last month to discuss community concerns, the group of local



Photo by Tevin Stinson

Dr. Dennis Leach, a member of the Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity (MCWSV) is adamant that residents will need a civil rights attorney to reverse the results of the 2017 tax reappraisal.

ministers, clergy, and faith-based organizations was called into action when several community members complained about the results of this year's tax reviews.

The county does reappraisals every four years using qualified real estate sales in an area and the condition of the properties to estimate their value. This year, 70 percent of residents saw their property values increase, but those who live in in predominately black communities saw major decreases. As report-

See Fight on A4

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