

Bad effect



Adkins places #2

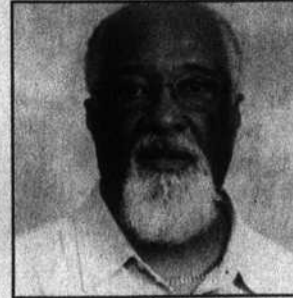
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THE CHRONICLE

Volume 43, Number 40 WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. THURSDAY, June 8, 2017

Will 2017 special election happen?



Joyner



Curtis

BY CASH MICHAELS
FOR THE CHRONICLE

In the aftermath of Monday's unanimous U.S. Supreme Court affirmation of a lower court ruling that Republican lawmakers deliberately created racially-gerrymandered 2011 legislative districts to

undermine the black vote, the question now is, when will new maps be drawn, especially with the 2018 legislative midterm elections just around the corner?

"Now," demand those who initially challenged the 2011 maps, and who still want special 2017 legislative elections, as

originally ordered by a three-judge panel last August, to happen this year before the regularly scheduled 2018 contests.

"That order represented a tough, well-crafted remedy which is now necessary in order to immediately remove the present illegally constituted General Assembly,"

said attorney Irving Joyner, Legal Redress chairman of the N.C. NAACP.

"We think there is still time to implement special elections in the impacted districts, and we will do everything we can to make sure that happens," said Anita Earls,

See Election on A2

'Put on your purple and black; the festival is back!'



Members of THE POINTE! Studio of Dance perform an excerpt from "The Fantasy and Adventure of Oz: The Dance Adaptation of 'The Wiz'" during a press conference for the National Black Theatre Festival.

NBTF announces productions and celebrity guests for 2017

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

The stage has officially been set for the 2017 National Black Theatre Festival (NBTF).

During a press conference held in the Garden Terrace of the Embassy Suites Hotel in downtown Winston-Salem on Monday, June 5, the North Carolina Black Repertory Company (NCBRC) announced the theatrical productions, celebrity guests, and honorees for the 15th biennial festival designed to illuminate theatrical spirit and shine a light on extraordinary tal-

ents that would otherwise go unnoticed.



Sprinkle-Hamlin

This year's festival, scheduled to take place July 31-Aug. 5, guarantees to have something that everyone will enjoy no matter race, age or ethnic makeup. More than 140 different productions will be featured from a variety of theatre companies in North Carolina and across the country.

From dramas, comedies, and musicals to choreoplays, the NBTF will have it all.

Media Relations Director Brian McLaughlin said every day they walked through the doors of the NCBRC, festival founder Larry Leon Hamlin challenged everyone to go beyond excellence, and this year the selection committee did just that.

"This year, the selection committee went well above excellence choosing the shows, the celebrities and participants," he said. "I am really excited."

In March, it was announced that Anna Maria Horsford and Obba Babatundé, who star together on the CBS daytime soap opera "The Bold and the Beautiful," would serve as the celebrity co-chairs.

Other well known celebrities join-

See NBTF on A2

GOVERNING

City budget enhances bus routes and city worker pay

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

The proposed City of Winston-Salem budget covers Winston-Salem Transit Authority's budget shortfall, improves the new bus routes, increases the salaries of many employees and raises property taxes by 1.24 cent per \$100 of property value.

Estimates earlier in the year had the tax increase at a higher level to cover all those things, but a strengthening

See Budget on A8

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Panel discussion shines light on veteran suicide

Although numbers are down from a year ago, each day, 20 veterans die by suicide in the United States. When compared to the general population, those who protect our freedom only make up 7 percent of the total population but, they make up 20 percent of total number of suicides.

During a panel discussion hosted by the Mental Health Association in Forsyth County and several other organizations last week Bill Hayes, who now works as a

mental health social worker at the Veterans Administration (VA) in Salisbury, said soon after joining the Army in 1996 he started to notice a change.

"I noticed that I would have these moments of grandiosity. I felt like I could jump on top of the world, that I could stay up late and not sleep for weeks at a time," said Hayes. "I would get this real high buzz out of it, no drugs involved. Then I would crash and have weeks of incredible depression. Things were going crazy for lack of a better

See Panel on A2

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