

Tiger roars



Winter League



• See Opinion/Forum pages on A6&7 •

• See Sports on page B1 •

THE CHRONICLE

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WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

THURSDAY, March 15, 2018

Prep captures fifth state title

Phoenix defeat Pamlico County 70-46 to take NCHSAA 1A Championship

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem Preparatory Academy (WSPA) wrapped up a magical season with a state title last weekend when they defeated Pamlico County by 24 points.

After starting out slow on March 10, the Phoenix caught fire in the second half and never looked backed in route to a 70-46 victory. After trailing 30-28 at halftime, WSPA finished the game on a 33-4 run and held the Hurricanes to only four points in the final period.

WSPA was led by senior guard Daivien Williamson who finished the game with 27 points and was named the game's Most Valuable Player. Senior KJ Watson, who was named West Region Most Valuable Player, had a stellar game for the Phoenix as well; he finished the contest with nine points and eight rebounds.

See Prep on A2



Submitted photo
Winston-Salem Preparatory Academy wrapped up a magical season last weekend with a State Championship when they defeated the Hurricanes of Pamlico County 70-46.



Walter Marshall's family unveils the plaque honoring him inside the Department of Social Services

Walter Marshall building dedicated

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

The Forsyth County Department of Social Services building is now officially The Walter Marshall Building.

Marshall was a county commissioner, former school board member and former local NAACP president who was a long-time member of the Social Services board. He passed away on Feb. 22, 2017. The exterior of the Social Services building now bears Marshall's name and a plaque in his honor was unveiled inside the building during a ceremony on March 8.

"This building is the least we can do to honor his work in this community," said Commissioner Fleming El-Amin.

Each of the county commissioners remembered their former colleague, who

was often outspoken in championing what he believed in.

"He will call you out and that's what leadership is," said Everette Witherspoon.

County Commissioner Vice Chair Don Martin remembered a quieter time with Marshall, when he sat beside him on a five hour flight in which they discussed their upbringings.

"I had this really wonderful glimpse of what it was like to grow up as a young African-American male in the late '50s and early '60s and learned about his values and what that meant and what community meant to him and what he believed in," said Martin.

Numerous community leaders also shared their thoughts, too. Dr. Carlton Eversley described Marshall as a "friend

See Building on A5

City/County applying for 'Opportunity Zones'

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

"Opportunity Zones" that give tax breaks for investing in low income areas are coming to Winston-Salem.

Opportunity Zones were created by a provision in the 2017 tax overhaul bill. The zones will be census tracts that have either 20 percent of households living below the federal poverty line or where median family incomes don't exceed 80 percent of statewide median incomes. Contiguous tracts that don't exceed 125 percent of the qualifying adjacent tract can also be included.

Investors will be able to use Opportunity Funds, certified by the U.S. Treasury, for investing in properties in these tracts. These funds will have capital gains tax relief that grows the longer the investment is held, with investments that exceed 10 years being exempt from capital gains taxes. Funds can be used for company stocks, infrastructure, real estate, affordable housing, transit systems, machinery/equipment and other assets.

Only 25 percent of qualifying census tracts will become Opportunity Zones. City and county staff met to select just over 10 tracts for the program. The recommendations will go through the Piedmont Triad Regional Council of Governments, the Governor's Office and then, ultimately, the U.S. Treasury Department, which is expected to accept at least 10 tracts in Forsyth County.

The intention of Opportunity Zones is to bring investment to distressed areas and opportunity to lower income communities. However, nearly half the census tracts in

See Zones on A5



Witherspoon



Plyler



Paulette Marshall remembers her late husband, Walter Marshall, at a ceremony naming the Department of Social Services building.

Some commissioners want a county sales tax

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Forsyth County commissioners are considering a quarter-cent county sales tax.

A staff presentation was given to the commissioners about the county sales tax option last month. County Commissioner Chair Don Martin likes the idea and renewed the discussion about it during last week's county briefing on March 8.



Whisenhunt

In 2007, the General Assembly gave counties the ability to charge a one-fourth of a cent sales tax. This would have to be approved in a voter referendum on an even numbered year and would not apply to groceries or gas. The county could apply the money to whatever it chooses.

The tax would bring in an estimated \$12.7 million. A 2003 study solicited by the county found that 33 percent of sales tax revenue in Forsyth is from purchases made by non-county residents. According to a 2013 estimate, a quarter cent sales tax would generate \$3.3 million from non-county residents.

Martin has proposed using the generated revenue by in-county residents to lower county prop-

See Sales Tax on A5

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