

Summer in the City



N.C. Reaction to Trump

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ProTalent

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THE CHRONICLE

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Early voting OK'd without WSSU



Former State Rep. Larry Womble advocates for an early voting site at Winston-Salem State University.

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

After several twists and turns, the Forsyth County Board of Elections (BOE) approved a plan without the Anderson Center at Winston-Salem State University, which angered many attendees at its meeting on Tuesday.

Anderson had been an early voting site from 2000-2012 until a Republican-majority BOE stopped using it. Democrats on the now evenly split board proposed using the site. That

was in doubt during last week's meeting after WSSU told BOE staff it wouldn't be available due to Homecoming activities during the first week of early voting. A new state law requires all sites to be open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. every weekday during the entire early voting period. Any site that can't do this can't be used.

However, since then, WSSU found a way to reserve parking at the Anderson Center for early voting during that week and said the BOE could use it. Several people

appealed for the site, including former Winston-Salem Alderman and State Rep. Larry Womble, who spoke from his wheelchair.

"It serves a purpose for people like me in my condition," said Womble. "Also, it serves as a site for those students over there, also for the people in the neighborhood that are there."

Students spoke as well. Senior Jemma Johnson said between her full-time class load, band practice, her two jobs and two

See Voting on A2



Suah African Dance Theater performs during the CurvyShe Fashion Show on Friday, July 13.

Weekend inspires women to love their curves

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

For the past 10 years, city native Ahmad Johnson has been inspiring women in the Triad to embrace their curves.

In 2008, Johnson held a fashion show designed to empower plus-size women to love themselves and create a venue where women in the area could explore new fashion possibilities. The first "Sista Big Bone" Fashion Show evoked a modest crowd and featured some of Johnson's closest friends as models.

"When I held my first show, it was just a brainchild, just a thought to see if it would catch on," said Johnson. "Once I did do it and once I got the response from the women in the community, I just continued to do it."

"... I wanted the world to see that plus-size women know how to dress and they can feel comfortable in their skin."

From humble beginnings as a one-day event at a local high school, under the new moniker CurvyShe, Johnson's brainchild has grown into a three-day event, which includes two fashion shows, a free workout session, motivational speakers and much more.

While the name has changed, Johnson said the goal remains the same. He said, "CurvyShe Fit2BU is meant to be all encompassing with being comfortable and loving wherever your curves fall. Just being comfortable in your skin and being aware of your health and being fit."

"... Everybody who is fit may not be small. If you are

See Curves on A2

Randy Eaddy set to lead Arts Council

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Rick Moss, board chair of The Arts Council of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County, has announced that Randy Eaddy, corporate attorney and longtime arts advocate, will serve as The Arts Council's President and CEO.

Eaddy will succeed Jim Sparrow, who held the position for five years before resigning effective July 31 to become executive director of the Fort Wayne Ballet.

Moss described Eaddy, who is retiring from the Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton law firm after almost 25 years as a partner there, as "someone who knows the Arts Council well, who knows the needs of Winston-Salem and the Forsyth County community, and has the ability to keep the organization moving forward seamlessly."

Eaddy will assume his duties at The Arts Council on Aug. 1.

"This opportunity came along at a good place in my life," said Eaddy, who has served on The Arts Council board for seven years and chaired several committees. "I was transitioning out of law practice and had not made further commitments. My experiences with The Arts Council have been among the most rewarding I have had as a volunteer in the nonprofit world. I enthusiastically accepted this chance to make a significant contribution to this community."

Moss reflected on Sparrow's tenure as president and CEO, saying, "Jim Sparrow never avoided the tough issues. He has been forward-looking and has guided us through challenging times, as the nature of united arts funds here and across the nation has seen significant changes. The needs of our arts community are ever evolving, and Jim devoted his efforts to positioning The Arts Council and greater arts community to remain important, effective and relevant forces in this commu-

See Arts on A2



Eaddy

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

The 14th annual Accessible Festival offered dancing, food, fun and education for people with all kinds of disabilities on Friday, July 13, at the Winston-Salem Fairgrounds Education Building.

There was a disco themed dance party, lip sync battle and dance off with professional DJs Tim Johnson and Chaka Smith of Tru Masters Inc. There was free food for the roughly 750 attendees that organizers were expecting. The event is held by the Winston-Salem Transit

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'Something that they enjoy'

Accessible Festival celebrates the disability community

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