



Carver takes a hit



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THE CHRONICLE

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Congressional elections in limbo

BY GARY D. ROBINSON
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RALEIGH — It wasn't surprising when a panel of federal judges struck down North Carolina's congressional map, saying Republican state legislators went too far using political data to preserve GOP-held seats. But their suggested timetable to fix the problem was startling.

The judges this week raised the possibility of

redrawing the districts by mid-September so they could be used in November

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elections, or at least before the next session of Congress is seated in January. Late congressional elections could bring



Wynn

huge attention to these races if the party that controls the U.S. House hasn't been settled.

Republican state legislative leaders said Tuesday, Aug. 28, a quick redraw of 13 congressional districts would lead to "unmitigated chaos and irreparable voter confusion." Primaries were already held in May using the current maps, which had been approved for 2016 elections. But the state Democratic Party says voters "should not have to suffer through yet another election" with

unconstitutional districts. Some previous boundaries approved in 2011 were struck down more than four years later as racial gerrymanders.

Monday's decision on two partisan gerrymandering lawsuits largely mirrored the panel's January ruling. The U.S. Supreme Court had directed the judges to revisit the matter based on a Wisconsin case.

What happens next?

The three-judge panel asked the parties in the lawsuits — election advocacy groups, Democrats, Republican mapmakers and the state elections board — to say by Friday whether the 2016 maps should be used again. They also want to know whether the GOP-dominated General Assembly should get another crack at redrawing the maps, potentially by mid-September.

See Limbo on A2



Local educator Constance Hash chats with a parent about M.A.S.T.E.R. Touch Consulting LLC during the Triad Minority and Women's Business Expo on Saturday, Aug. 25 at the Benton Convention Center.

Students welcomed at cleaned-up Ashley

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Earlier this week, students across the local district grabbed their backpacks, pens, pencils and paper and returned to the classroom for the first day of school. As more than 500 students filed into a building at Ashley Academy for Cultural & Global Studies, they were greeted by high-fives, handshakes and words of encouragement from participants in the annual welcome tunnel.

This year, the students returned to schools with some areas cleaned up. Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools (WS/FCS) system decided to spend more than \$1.38 million to replace all the HVAC units at the school



Students at Ashley Academy for Cultural & Global Studies make their way through the 100 Male Reception Tunnel on Monday, Aug. 27.

and other repairs before the start of the 2018-2019 year after hearing concerns of mold inside Ashley causing health problems for students and teachers.

For the past three years, Rev. Dr. Lamonte Williams has invited men from all walks of life to welcome students on the first day of school at Ashley.

This year men from all walks of life — business owners, elected officials and several first responders — showed up almost an hour early to start forming the tunnel, which stretched from the sidewalk outside the school to the cafeteria where students gather before heading to class.

"I'm already excited they're here early, so that's a very good sign that there are people who are willing to do the work and the work is the children," said Williams. "... To me this shows there is a level of unity as it relates to the

See Ashley on A2

Business expo fuels ambition

Fifth annual event draws positive reviews

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

All roads led to Winston-Salem last weekend as thousands traveled from near and far for the Triad Minority and Women's Business Expo.

The festivities began on Friday, Aug. 24 on the campus of Winston-Salem State University with a day filled with free seminars, workshops, food tastings and more. The event held at the Anderson Center was headlined by groundbreaking keynote speakers who gave business owners and entrepreneurs tips on how to run a successful business.

The first to lend his expertise was Dr. Robert J. Brown. The founder of



Dr. George C. Fraser speaks during the Triad Minority and Women's Business Expo on Friday, Aug. 24.

B&C International, a global business management firm headquartered in High Point, Brown told inquiring minds that no matter what type of business they have, it is important that they learn to use everybody and everything.

He said, "Turn over every rock. Don't let any rock be unturned. If you

See Expo on A2

Council considering 3 options for filling E. Ward seat

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

The City Council is hoping to get feedback on its options for filling the East Ward seat that'll be vacated when Derwin Montgomery becomes a state representative.

Montgomery, who is also one of the Chronicle's owners, was picked

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pursue other opportunities earlier

to replace this month. A split City Council was originally going to accept applications from the public and choose Montgomery's successor themselves. They reconsidered that decision after hearing from some Democrats in the ward who demanded that they instead hold a special election.

Mayor Allen Joines said the City Council plans to bring the matter up again during its 7 p.m. meeting on Tuesday with an opportunity for the public to speak before the possible vote. He encouraged city residents to contact him or their City Council member by phone or email to let

See Seat on A8

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