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THURSDAY, October 11, 2018

# Candidates share their visions for local schools

BY TEVIN STINSON THE CHRONICLE

With Election Day less than a month away the New South Community Coalition and the Coalition for Equality in Pubic Education invited candidates running for At-Large and District 2 seats on the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools Board of Education to discuss their visions for the future earlier this week at a forum.

The open forum held at the Clemmons Library on Monday, Oct. 8, gave political newcomers who are candidates for the At-Large seats - Jim Smith, Andrea Bramer, and Timothy

Brooker – a chance to build their cases against incumbents Elisabeth Motsinger and board vice-chair Robert Barr, who weren't

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in attendance during the forum. Voters will be allowed to vote for three people in this race.

Bramer, a Democrat who works as an employee benefits specialist at Well Fargo Institution Retirement Trust, didn't waste anytime calling for a

complete overhaul of the board. Using the fact that there was only one incumbent candidate in attendance during the forum as ammo, Bramer said it's time for a change.

Candidates in attendance during the forum running for District 2 were Democrat Marilynn Baker, Republican Leah Crowley, Democrat Rebecca Nussbaum and incumbent Republican Lida Calvert Hayes. Voters will be allowed to vote for four people in this race.

"Lida is here but the other incumbents are not because they don't care. So I strongly suggest that you don't vote for any incum-



Earlier this week citizens gathered at Clemmons Library to hear candidates running for the local school board share their visions for the future of local schools.

bent," said Bramer. "I would like to see the board flip. They've had plenty of time to actually make a dif-

ference and they didn't."
Republican At-Large candidate Timothy Brooker is an accountant for Piedmont Federal Savings & Loan. Brooker said if elected to

the school board, he plans to use his background in finance to make sure funds are allocated through the school system properly. He also put an emphasis on an increased teacher supple-

"The teacher supplement is a huge issue and I would fully support raising the supplement. Not supporting tax increases but maybe finding a way to increase teacher supplement so we're not 26th in the state we should be fourth or fifth," Brooker

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Balloons are released during a Domestic Violence Awareness Month event held by Eliza's Helping Hands at The Chronicle's office on Friday.

### Balloon release marks Domestic Violence Awareness Month

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Eliza's Helping Hands (EHH) held a balloon release in front of The Chronicle's office on Friday, Oct. 5, in commemoration of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The event included remarks from County Commissioner Fleming El-Amin. Chronicle Publisher and City Council Member James Taylor read the names of those who've lost their lives to domestic violence.

EHH, which is a nonprofit that helps domestic violence victims, has two fundraisers planned for the month.

On Oct. 23, dining at participating restaurants – which will be listed on elizashelpinghands.org - will raise money for EHH. There's also a Zumbathon fundraiser on Oct 26 at 6 p.m. at 1208 E. Mountain St., Suite A in Kernersville.

EHH is currently collecting pajamas for kids ages 2-15 along with new, unwrapped toys and gift cards to help families affected by domestic violence.

Donations can be dropped off at EHH's office in the Winston Mutual Building, 1225 E. Fifth Street.

## Democrats pick Annette Scippio for East Ward

BY TODD LUCK THE CHRONICLE

Annette Scippio was chosen by her fellow East Ward Democrats on Sunday to fill the seat that will soon be left vacant by City Council Member Derwin Montgomery. Montgomery, who is also co-owner of The

Chronicle, will be stepping down at the end of the City Council meeting on Nov. 5 to fill the 72nd District seat vacated by Ed Hanes in the General Assembly. The City Council wanted to select his replacement, but that proved controversial among East Ward Democrats. The council decided to let the Forsyth County Democratic Party



Scippio

(FCDP) recommend a candidate, which it will vote on whether to approve.

Scippio, Tony Burton and Abrea Armstrong submit-

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ted their names for consideration. They were all part of a heavily attended two-hour candidate forum for the seat last week, on Oct. 4.

> The vote Sunday, Oct. 7, at FCDP Headquarters was preceded by more than two hours of deliberation on

how the vote was to be conducted. Then the candidates each addressed a weary crowd. Scippio, a 69 year-old retired executive director of Leadership Winston-Salem and a Winston Lake precinct chair, told attendees she was only looking to fill the position until the next election, which she doesn't intend to run in.

"I have my time to give to you," she said. "I will do an excellent job serving you. I am patient.

But what we saw today is what is going to happen in

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## **Gospel Fest** closes on a high note

BY TIMOTHY RAMSEY THE CHRONICLE

Word must have spread quickly about the performances during Day One of Gospel Fest, because the crowd on Day Two was packed from the opening act.

The 136th year of the Dixie Classic Fair came to a close Oct. 7, on Day Two of Gospel Fest, after 10 days of strong attendance starting on Sept. 28. The event drew 325,856 people, an 8.58 percent increase

over 2017. Fair officials included Gospel Fest among the attractions that made it

Day Two of the show featured some familiar faces and some new to the event. Groups such as Willie Mason and Friends, Dionn Owen and Renaissance, Pastor Todd Curry, Bishop Stephen Williams and Raymond and Kim Larkin are all familiar faces to the Gospel Fest crowd. They were joined by The Kingdom Sound,

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