

Artist

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York closed the show with a few words.

York said when he thought about doing this concert, he wanted to "think outside of the box." His goal was to consider all ages of his congregation, but did want to show the younger generation they were not forgotten.

"Churches need to be more community oriented and be more sensitive to the ages of the people and one of the ways we can do this as a church is to have opportunities for guests to come in," said York. "Whether the guest is a musical artist, comed-

an or entrepreneur, outside of what we do on Sundays, we are dealing with all of these things in life, so the church needs to be a venue that helps speak to the opportunities for people to connect with in life."

York said once he spoke with his minister of music and they thought about what demographic they wanted to appeal to, Babineaux was the perfect choice.

"We wanted to let that age group know that the mainstream church has a need for you," he said. "They are the future of our churches and as a pastor, I cannot be insensitive to the needs of the next generation."

Several years ago, York

says the Lord spoke to him in prayer about ways to attract the younger population.

"He told me if I want to attract the next generation to this church, I have to be intentional," he said. "I can't just talk about it, I have to be intentional, I have to do things that are outside of the box and have to not only have conversation, but want to hear what they have to say."

York says they are already beginning to think of how to plan for next year's event. He said their effort to attract the young people does not end with the concert, but will continue to strive for more in the future.

Food

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initially served 3,300 meals per month. As of 2017, the church was serving more than 61,000 meals. The church needed the new facility to accommodate the rising growth of those in need, to allow for more storage, prep space and equipment.

"His (Cornelius) vision was to have a food pantry in the community, because they have so many on the other side of town, but we need one here," she said. "So, we bought those houses and we started the pantry."

"Ever since Dr. Cornelius retired in 2014, Rev. Ronald Speas has

come in with the same mentality of feeding the needy. He is as dedicated to the food pantry as Rev. Cornelius," said Paul.

Approximately 60 percent of the food supply for the pantry comes from the Second Harvest Food Bank, where the church purchases some food, while other food is donated. The remainder of the food is provided by local and private donations, along with outright purchases from the church.

The church pantry is open every Monday night and helps over 150 families per day. The church does not restrict the food needs based on the size of the families, so the amount of food varies per client.

Paul has been with the church for 35 years and has been involved with the pantry since its inception, especially since her husband was one of the individuals who helped start the pantry.

"It is a blessing to be a blessing to someone else," said Paul. "We let the people know that it is not about our glory, it's about the glory of God. He has commanded us to clothe the naked and feed the hungry, so we are only trying to be the hands and feet for God."

"We are also trying to let the people know that one day they can be on this side to help someone else out to pay it forward."

Community Briefs

FCSO Announces Launch of Interdiction Team

The Forsyth County Sheriff's Office is proud to publicize the launch of its Interdiction Team (I-Team). The I-Team is composed of specially trained deputies who perform duties related to criminal interdiction, focusing primarily on the interstate and major traffic thoroughfares of Forsyth County.

Criminal interdiction is the pro-active attempt of law enforcement officials to prevent, detect, identify, and apprehend criminal activity on roadways in their respective jurisdictions. The I-Team will focus specifically on narcotics but will also target human trafficking, stolen property, and other forms of criminal activity. The I-Team will work closely in partnership with other local, state, and federal agencies.

Duke Energy awards \$15,000 to Crosby Scholars

Duke Energy has awarded the Crosby Scholars Community Partnership \$15,000 to support its SHE Project, which will guide African-American and Latina girls in economically distressed areas to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

The three main goals for SHE include: SHOW African-American and Latino girls that a STEM career is achievable; HELP the girls take steps to pursue a STEM career to increase the number of female African-American and Latino Crosby Scholars who graduate from college with a STEM degree with minimal debt.

The SHE Project will offer a series of workshops and field trips beginning in 7th grade to enable girls to learn about the possibilities for women in STEM jobs so that they will take classes in middle school and high school that put them on that college and career path. The SHE Project will provide role models and mentors as well as guidance in course selection to help these students stay on track for college enrollment in STEM programs.

In Winston-Salem, the edge of the most distressed areas in the community is just 3,000 feet from Innovation Quarter, the city's centerpiece in biotechnology and innovation. As reported in the Women's Fund study, overall, 22 percent of women in our community live below the poverty line. More than half of Hispanic women live in poverty, and the poverty rate among African-American women is 34 percent. The poverty rate has doubled for Caucasian women since 2009, to 16 percent. More than half of women are employed; more than 12 percent of those women still live below the poverty level, the report said. They "teach, wait tables, clean motel rooms, nurse the sick—all jobs that pay less than industries dominated by men."

Special enrollment period announced for ACA enrollees affected by winter storm

RALEIGH — North Carolina Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey has announced an extended enrollment period for winter storm victims who wish to apply for health insurance on the federal health-care exchange. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has informed the Department of Insurance that individuals who were unable to sign up because of the winter storm that impacted western and central North Carolina may be eligible for an Exceptional Circumstances Special Enrollment Period.

The deadline to enroll in the 2018 federal Affordable Healthcare Act exchange was Dec. 15. However, residents who were unable to enroll because of a power loss or the inability to travel can still apply for coverage. In addition, people who were unable to enroll because healthcare navigators (people designated to help enrollees navigate the application process) lost power or could not travel, can still apply for coverage.

CMS Caseworkers will evaluate an individual's eligibility to enroll under an Exceptional Enrollment Period Circumstances Special on a case-by-case basis.

Here's how to take advantage of this special enrollment period: Applicants must complete an application on the HealthCare.gov website. Even though applicants will receive a rejection notice because their application was completed after the Dec. 15 deadline, their enrollment information will be in the federal healthcare database. This is a critical step.

After receiving the rejection notice, applicants should contact the marketplace call center at (800) 318-2596 (TTY: 855-889-4325) and indicate they are eligible because they were not able to complete their enrollment because of the winter storm emergency.

After talking with a CMS representative, a caseworker will determine whether the individual qualifies for a special enrollment opportunity. This may take several days.

CMS has not set a deadline as to when this Special Enrollment Period will end. However, individuals are encouraged to complete the process as soon as possible.

The Dec. 8 and 9 winter storm left crippling amounts of snow in western and central North Carolina, knocking out power and making travel hazardous in some areas.

For more information, contact the N.C. Department of Insurance at 1-855-408-1212.

NOW - Feb. 15 - Writing Contest

The CDS Documentary Essay Prize will host a writing contest. Submissions can be made until Feb. 15. To enter the contest or for more info, see <https://documentarystudies.duke.edu/awards/documentary-essay-prize/how-to-enter>.

NOW - May 16 - Parent Academy/Community Institute

Do you need to get your GED? Do you need an introduction to computers? Do you need to learn English as a second language or to learn conversational Spanish? Carver High School, 3545 Carver School Road, is sponsoring a Parent Academy/Community Institute in partnership with Forsyth Technical Community College every Tuesday and Thursday starting Nov. 8 until May 16, 2019 from 5:45 - 8:45 p.m. Free childcare will be provided. All of these benefits are free. For more information contact Mr. Javier Correa-Vega at (336) 727-2987, ext. 33048.

Jan. 11 - Writing contest deadline

About Letters, the Library of Congress reading-and-writing contest now in its 26th year, is accepting applications for the 2018-19 cycle. For the first time, letters will be submitted electronically. For more information about the contest, visit read.gov/letters. Letters About Literature asks students in grades 4 - 12 to read a book, poem, speech or essay by an author, living or dead, to think about how that work affected them and to write to the author on the work's impact. Students compete on the state and national level and receive cash prizes of up to \$2,000. Deadline for NC residents is Jan. 11.

Jan. 11 - Marguerite's Coffee House event

Marguerite's Coffee House will host its free monthly event on Jan. 11 at 7 p.m. Kevin Mundy, director of the Green Street Church Choir and director of the Winston-Salem Pops Chorus, will be the featured performer for January. A light dinner will be provided.

Jan. 12 - "Countdown to Kindergarten"

On Saturday, Jan. 12, representatives from the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools will be available to help with the process of registering children for kindergarten in the fall of 2019. "Countdown to Kindergarten" will take place from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Kaleideum North, 400 W. Hanes Mill Road in Winston-Salem. Parents or guardians in need of assistance with transportation or anyone with questions about the event should contact Vanessa Osborne at (336) 748-4000, ext. 34245 or Kelley Bendheim at (336) 341-0539.

Jan. 13 - Concert for Kids

The Winston-Salem Symphony will present a Discovery Concerts for Kids concert entitled "Music Explorers! Discovering Music Around the World." Under the baton of Jessica Morel, the Winston-Salem Symphony's Assistant Conductor, the concert will

take place Sunday, Jan. 13 at 3 p.m. at Reynolds Auditorium, located at 301 N. Hawthorne Road in Winston-Salem. Pre-concert activities will begin at 2 p.m.

Jan. 14 - Medicare Workshop

Compass Financial Services will offer its informational "Lunch and Learn: Medicare" workshop on Monday, Jan. 14, at Bleu Restaurant & Bar, 3425 Frontis Street in Winston-Salem. The workshop begins at 11:15 a.m. Please arrive 15 minutes early for best seating. There is no cost for the workshop and lunch, but registration is recommended. For more information or to register, call (336) 768-5111.

Jan. 14 - Conversation on diabetes

A Community Conversation on diabetes will be held on Jan. 14 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Anderson Center, 601 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, in the Chancellor's Main Dining Room. Hosted by the Forsyth County Department of Public Health and NC Minority Diabetes Prevention Program (MDPP), the event is aimed at bringing interested participants together to engage in dialogue about diabetes and prediabetes and learn more about NC MDPP. RSVP at (336) 703-3219 or robertsc@forsyth.cc to reserve a seat.

Jan. 17 - Award-winning author at Bookmarks

Award-winning author Beth Macy will speak about her new book "Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors, and the Drug Company That Addicted America" on Thursday, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. This event is sponsored by Bookmarks and Kilpatrick Townsend and will be held at Footnote Coffee & Cocktails (634 W. Fourth Street #120 in Winston-Salem). It is free and open to the public.

Jan. 17 - March 3 - SECCA exhibition

The Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art (SECCA) will present "The Same Leaving: 3 Projects" by Christine Kirouac, featuring art by this Canadian prairie-grown artist who creates bodies of work that seamlessly merge subject, concept, process, and medium. The exhibition will be on display at SECCA, which is located at 750 Marguerite Drive in Winston-Salem, from January 17 until March 3. SECCA is free and open to the public Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

Jan. 20 - Twin City Choristers' concert

Grace Presbyterian Church, 3901 Carver School Road, will host the Twin City Choristers' 23rd annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Concert at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 20. The event is free. An offering will be received during the intermission. A reception will follow. For more information, call (336) 725-4105.

Jan. 21 - 39th Annual MLK commemoration

The 39th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

is offering a workshop for individuals turning 65 (as well as those who already have Medicare) to learn about the different insurance options available, including "Original Medicare," Medicare prescription drug programs, Medicare supplements and Medicare Advantage plans. The session will be held on Thursday, Jan. 24 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Shepherd's Center of Greater Winston-Salem, 1700 Ebert St.

Jan. 24 - Lunch and Speaker series

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 520 Summit St., will host its monthly Bag Lunch and Speaker series on Jan. 24 at noon. Sabrina Slade will share the history and current state of income disparities in our community based on factors highlighted in two reports produced by The Winston-Salem Foundation. Bring your own lunch. St. Paul's will provide beverages. All are welcome.

Ongoing

Mondays - Senior Stretch class

The Salvation Army Senior Center holds Senior Stretch Exercise at the LaDeara Crest Resource Center, 2531 LaDeara Crest Lane, on Mondays at 11 a.m. The chair-based class is designed to increase balance, flexibility, range of motion and endurance.

Noon Commemoration will be held at Union Baptist Church, 1200 Trade St. on Jan. 21 at noon. Doors open at 11 a.m. to the general public without charge or reservation. An offering will be lifted. The program will conclude by 2 p.m.

Jan. 21 - Cemetery Work Day

The historic Oddfellows Cemetery Work Day will be held Jan. 21 from 9 a.m. - noon. Please join with our community partners on site at 2881 Shorefair Drive. The public is invited, please call James Clyburn to register at (336) 723-6452.


Jan. 24 - Application deadline

The city is accepting applications for its Successful Outcomes After Release (SOAR) program through 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 24. Participants will receive coaching and training in life skills such as goal setting, planning, interpersonal relationships, financial management, communication, job-search techniques and resume writing. An application link and more information are posted at CityofWS.org/SOAR. Interested citizens can also call (336) 397-7770 or send an email to faithb@cityofws.org or troy@cityofws.org.

Jan. 24 - Medicare workshop

The Shepherd's Center of Greater Winston-Salem

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