

Forsyth Tech, AAMPED host STEM camp for local young men

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Last week Forsyth Technical Community College (FTCC) and Crosby Scholars joined forces to host a computer camp for the young men currently enrolled in the African American Males Pursuing Educational Dreams (AAMPED) program.

“We’re trying to give them everything to get them interested and bring them awareness,” said Wesley. “These are great students and we’re just excited about the partnership and we feel good about what we’re doing.”

Watts spoke highly of the young men in the camp as well. He said throughout the camp, you could see how excited the



Photo by Tevin Stinson

John Brown, an instructor at Forsyth Tech Community College, helps a student during the STEM summer camp hosted by FTCC and Crosby Scholars’ AAMPED (African American Males Pursuing Education Dreams) program.

During the course of the four-day camp, students from various high schools worked with instructors and students from FTCC’s Information Technology department to complete several hands-on experiments including creating their own robots and apps.

Davis ITEC/Cybersecurity Center Associate Dean Dr. Deanne Wesley said the camp gives students an opportunity to get exposed to potential career ideas.

As society continues to rely more and more on technology, there is a need for individuals to pursue careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math). Since 1990, STEM employment has grown 79% and computer jobs have seen an increase as well. While the numbers show there are opportunities out there, minorities are underrepresented in STEM careers.

According to the Pew Research Center, blacks only represent 9% of STEM workers and Hispanics represent only 7%. Wesley said, “Our task is to build a pipeline and this camp is just one way we’re doing that. We want to get the African American males in these career pathways that pay very well.”

She said after meeting with AAMPED Director Richard Watts, they decided their two organizations were a perfect match for the summer program. They decided FTCC would provide all the resources and AAMPED would provide the students.

campers were when completing assignments.

“The young men are excited and engaged, you tell by how they’re behaving. They’re really appreciative of what’s going on,” said Watts. “It’s all about exposure. In order for us to have the same opportunities, we have to provide our young men with more opportunities, because in most cases it just is not there.”

On the last day of camp, there was an awards ceremony where students showed a PowerPoint presentation detailing everything they learned over the four days of camp. When discussing his experiences, Zyaire Williams, a rising senior at Middle College of Forsyth, said he decided to attend the camp because he wanted to sharpen his coding skills.

Sterling Fair, also a rising senior at Early College of Forsyth, said what he enjoyed most was the robotics course. After creating their own robots, campers had the opportunity to take them home. Fair said, “It was very interesting learning how things are put together and using coding to figure out the movements of the robot.”

When discussing his experience, Trevor Helm said he learned a lot about how technology is used in the modern era. He continued, “Technology is a big thing that affects other industries. Even when making stuff like laundry detergent, technology plays an important role. This camp really opens your eyes to a lot of stuff.”

Support is always within reach.



No one likes to think about what they would do if they became seriously ill. But knowing where to turn for guidance and support can help you get through more difficult times. Trellis Supportive Care is here with advance care planning, grief counseling, and the personalized care that patients and their families have been turning to for the last 40 years. Even though our name has changed from Hospice & Palliative CareCenter, our commitment as a mission-driven nonprofit is as strong as ever.

Call (336) 768-3972 or visit TrellisSupport.org to learn more about the range of services we provide in communities throughout our 13-county region.



TRELLIS
Supportive Care

Palliative • Hospice • Family Support

Alumni celebrate the legacy of Atkins High School

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

For their success in their various fields of expertise, contributions to society, and love and passion for their alma mater, four alumni were honored during the Atkins High School Legacy Awards last weekend.

The event, sponsored by the Classes of 1970 and 1971, was started last year to celebrate the legacy and heritage of one of the

city’s most important high schools by honoring students who walked through the halls of the school on Cameron Avenue. The original Atkins opened in 1931 and was the first school in Winston-Salem built to serve African Americans.

In a joint statement on the event, Reginald Day, president of the Class of 1971, and Carolyn Mc-Willis, president of the Class of 1970, said, “The members of the Atkins

High School Class of 1970 and 1971 proudly celebrate our legacy and are dedicated to making a difference in the community, as we render service instilled upon us by our parents and former teachers.

“Tonight we are celebrating the commitment to excellence and service of four distinguished Atkins alumni.”

Following dinner, the

See Atkins on A4



Donna M Jones Ins Agcy Inc
Donna M. Jones, Agent
682 Satrl George Square Ct
Winston Salem, NC 27103
Bus: 336-602-2980 Cell: 336-817-8199



Home & Auto. Smart & Easy.

When you combine your home and auto insurance, good things happen – like saving time and money. Just another way I’m here to help life go right.
CALL ME TODAY.

CONTACTING THE CHRONICLE

www.wschronicle.com

1300 E. Fifth St., Winston Salem, N.C. 27101

Main Phone Number: 336-722-8624

Advertising: Ext. 113

Circulation/Subscriptions: Ext. 100

Editor: Ext. 108

To send news items: email news@wschronicle.com

To send a Letter to the Editor (350 words or less) or column (550 words or less): email letters@wschronicle.com

For advertising: email adv@wschronicle.com

For subscriptions: email plewis@wschronicle.com

Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/WSChronicle

Follow us on Twitter: [WSChronicle](https://twitter.com/WSChronicle)

The Chronicle (USPS 067-910) was established by Ernest H. Pitt and Ndubisi Egemonye in 1974 and is published every Thursday by Chronicle Media Group, LLC, 1300 E. Fifth St., Winston Salem, N.C. 27101. Periodicals postage paid at Winston-Salem, N.C. Annual subscription price is \$30.72.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Chronicle, P.O. Box 1636 Winston-Salem, NC 27102-1636