



Children's Home youngsters gawk at the shiny bikes.

Photos by Layla Farmer

Charity ride benefits The Children's Home

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

More than 55 motorcycles roared onto the campus of The Children's Home on Reynolda Road last Friday afternoon. They made their way up the winding driveway toward a small crowd of young people who gathered on the grassy lawn to greet them.

The Children's Home was one of several beneficiaries of the Trinity Children Foundation's Third Annual Charity Ride, which began with a rally in Kure Beach on Aug. 20.

Founded in 2005, the TCF provides funding for nonprofit organizations that work closely with abused and neglected children in the United States and abroad. For the annual TCF ride, bikers take to the road, raising tens of thousands of dollars for charities that help abused children.

"Abuse is a national problem," said TCF Founder Doris Eakes. "It is time to start getting the public (more) aware of the problem."

The Children's Home — which provides mental health, adoption and foster care services to area youngsters — was just one of the stops on the bikers' 600 mile, three-day, 24-county trek.

The sea of helmets and chrome was a welcome sight to young people at The Children's Home. They wasted no time in making their way over to the bikes, eager to get a closer look.

"I thank them all for coming to see us," said one boy, whose name has been omitted to protect his privacy. "I saw them last year at the other group home where I was ... they were very good to ride all that way."

The excitement of the youngsters is something Ride Captain Bob Hetrick says he has come to expect.

"We are generating huge



Doris Eakes with Miss North Carolina, Deanna Chambers.

excitement not only about riding motorcycles, but also about benefitting the children," said Hetrick, who has participated in the event since its inception.

Watching the long line of motorcycles snake their way down the highway in front of her SUV has been a source of great pride for Eakes, who started the foundation in 2005.

"It has just been wonderful," she remarked. "It's very humbling that this many good people ... are willing to help the children."

The bikers, many of whom hail from the Triad area, pay a fee to participate in the ride. The fee covers most of the cost of the ride, Eakes says, which allows the bulk of the profits from it to go directly to designated groups. The organizations help to boost the funds raised by selling raffle tickets. This year's raffle prize was a 2008 Honda Goldwing.

The Sheriff's Department of New Hanover County, where Eakes resides, sent two

deputies to escort the group on their journey this year.

Others lent their support to the campaign by showing up at one of the riders' designated stopping points.

Raising awareness about abuse is part of her duty as Miss North Carolina, says newly-crowned Deanna Chambers, who was on hand at The Children's Home when the riders arrived Friday.

"I try to get out there as much as I can," said Chambers, who was crowned in March and has since made nearly 20 appearances to promote awareness about domestic abuse. Her work in the community is supported by American Queen Pageant, the organization she belongs to. The pageant is a staunch supporter of DASH (Domestic Abuse Stops Here), a nonprofit that fights domestic abuse by educating young people at an early age.

"It's important to reach the children because the children are our future," Chambers noted.



Bikers make their way onto the Children's Home campus.

News Clips

Part of Bowen Boulevard closed

Bowen Boulevard was closed to through traffic between Rosemary Drive and Elbon Drive on Monday so that crews can realign the road in preparation for moving its intersection with New Walkertown Road.

Through traffic is being routed on a detour using New Walkertown Road, Dellabrook Road and Attucks Street. Work is scheduled to be completed by Nov. 21.

For more information, call City Link at 336-727-8000.

Emancipation Association news

The Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Emancipation Association Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 16 at noon at Hanes Hosiery Community Center.

The group will be gearing up for its 2009 Contributions/Membership Drive Kick-off on Oct. 15.

The group has increased its membership dues for the first time in more than 50 years. Dues are now \$10, up from \$5. The group also announced that it plans to publish and distribute its first newsletter, "The Freedom Journey," in October. The newsletter will include a variety of important information designed to educate its members, contributors and others about the organization's goals and objectives. Some of its recent successes and upcoming plans will also be featured.

The issue will also include a list of 2008 contributors and members.

Josephine Jones is the membership chairperson; Alma Barber is the recording secre-

tary; the Rev. Miller Allen is the treasurer; Martha G. Jones is vice president and program chairperson; Betty Meadows is the financial secretary and editor of the newsletter; and Rudolph V. Boone Sr. is president of the association.

Grandparents Day will be celebrated with teddy bear event

In honor of Grandparent's Day, the Children's Museum of Winston-Salem will have a Teddy Bear Picnic on Sunday, Sept. 7 at 1 p.m.

For the indoor event, attendees are encouraged to a blanket (there will be tables) and enjoy a picnic lunch (sandwiches, chips, and drinks), make a teddy bear craft, and listen to stories.

It is a BYOTB (Bring Your Own Teddy Bear) event. There will be a Teddy Bear Parade, featuring a "best dressed bear" contest. Admission is \$5 for museum members; Non-members pay \$7. Pre-registration is required by Thursday, Sept. 4.

For more information, call the Children's Museum at 336-723-9111 or visit www.childrensmuseumofws.org.

YWCA seeking church league teams

The Gateway YWCA is now accepting entries for its second year of church league basketball. The league is open to all faith-based organizations.

The league runs for a minimum of 8 weeks and includes a playoff and championship round format, with 13-member teams.

First through third place teams receive trophies. All games are played at the three-count YWCA facility.

For more information, all Davina Simmons at 336-354-1590, ext. 300.

Reynolds grad completes basic

Air Force Airman Jillian R. Smith has graduated from basic military training at Lackland

Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the

Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

She is the daughter of Robert P. Smith of Winston-Salem. She is a 2005 graduate of R.J. Reynolds High School.



Smith

A&T employees taking Spanish

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University extended its push for diversity recently by starting a Conversational Spanish Lunch and Learn Workshop.

The idea sprouted out of meetings with top administrators to increase diversity throughout the campus to include developing a "multilingual staff" using conversational Spanish as a first step, according to Dr. Lea E. Williams, associate vice chancellor for Academic Affairs/Institutional Planning, Assessment and Research.

Though the initial idea was to focus on staffers located in the Dowdy building, who frequently interact with inquiries from Spanish-speaking visitors, participants who signed up include a cross section of the university departments.

The lunch and learn workshop received a lot of positive feedback after its first day on Monday, Aug. 18.

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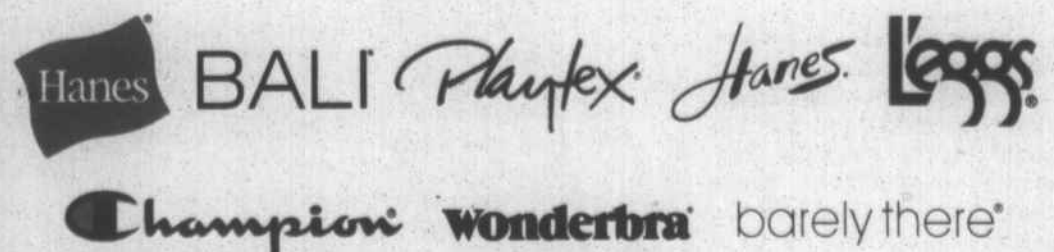
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