

Mauney
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who are eligible for graduation from Carver. Originally planned as a \$500 scholarship, the intended award grew when a page was created for the scholarship on the crowd-funding web site Indiegogo. In just a few weeks, more than \$1,700 has been raised, and there is still more than a month left before the fundraising deadline.

LaShun Huntley, Mauney's best friend, created the scholarship. He said Mauney always talked fondly about his time at Carver, where the two met, so he felt a Carver-based scholarship that would honor his friend while raising awareness about heart disease was a fitting tribute.

"This scholarship just came from his nature of giving and his interest in education and his love for Carver High School," said Huntley, the CEO of Southside United Medical Center.

Huntley and Mauney bonded as high school freshmen, drawn together because they were both "Hip Hop heads." Their love of the genre had them exchanging critiques of Run DMC, one of Mauney's favorites, and other popular acts of the time. Their friendship continued after graduation, when they both attended Winston-Salem State University. After college, Mauney moved away to Charlotte to work as a computer analyst at Wells Fargo.

"He had a huge smile, an infectious smile," Huntley said. "If you were down, it would pick you up. If you were sad, it would make you happy. Most people remember him by that smile."

Mauney was also known for adeptness with computers. Friends would turn to him when technology issues arose, and he would oblige, even if it meant driving from Charlotte to Winston, said Huntley, who last spent time with Mauney on Super Bowl Sunday (Feb. 2). They spent some time looking through old Carver yearbooks while laughing and reminiscing.

Mauney was the youngest of five children. His sister, Barendia, also lived in Charlotte and would often look after his dog, Snoop, when her brother would travel to Winston-Salem to check on his 95 year-



BFFs Lashun Huntley and Brandon Mauney.

old aunt, Maxine Simmons. It was when he failed to drop Snoop off one morning that she knew something was wrong. After there was no answer at his house, she called the police. He had passed away in his sleep. Mauney had been taking medication for high blood pressure but was otherwise healthy, she said, so his death came as a complete shock.

Barendia calls the response to the scholarship "wonderful." "That was my heart," she said of her brother. "That's my baby. I had problems, he's the one I can go and talk to because I know it wouldn't go anywhere."

The impact Mauney had on so many people is the reason why Huntley thinks the scholarship fundraising has been so successful. A decision on whether to give one large scholarship to a single student or smaller awards to several students will be made in the near future.

Huntley expects the scholarship or scholarships to be given this year. He wants a perpetual fund so that awards can be given each year. He plans to turn to corporations to help make that a reality. Plans for a fundraiser next February – a month dedicated to heart disease awareness and when Mauney would have celebrated a birthday – are also in the works.

To contribute to the B. Mauney Heart Scholarship, visit igg.me/at/BMauneyScholarship.

Community Service honorees selected

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Wake Forest School of Law Dean Blake Morant and Twana Wellman-Roebuck, the executive director of the nonprofit the Experiment in Self-Reliance (ESR), have been selected to receive top honors at The Chronicle's 29th Annual Community Service Awards Gala.

A panel of notables selected Morant as Man of the Year, Wellman-Roebuck as Woman of the Year and more than a dozen other people and local entities for several other awards.

Morant has earned national recognition for his leadership of the Law School, including an appointment to the Federal Judicial Center Foundation Board by Chief Justice of the United States John Roberts.

Wellman-Roebuck has spent the bulk of her professional career working to uplift families and communities. She recently spearheaded a multi-million dollar capital campaign that will fund ESR's new headquarters.

Special Recognition Awards will go to Tim Wilson, the Winston-Salem Police officer who subdued a gun-wielding high school student, possibly thwarting a deadly incident; Carrie Vickery, a young attorney who donated a kidney to a man whom she had only known for less than a year; and Carmelita Coleman, a Department of Social Services employee renowned for her dedication to youth in foster care.

Eddie Bines Jr., an accomplished baritone well-known for his direc-



Conrad



Jones

tion of the Big Four Choir, will receive the Curator of the African American Arts Award. The Social Promoters, a decades-old fellowship club, has been named the Organization of the Year. The School of the Year Award will go to Atkins Academic and Technology High, which has emerged as one of the county's most successful schools. The Business of the Year Award will go to Carolina's Vineyards and Hops, a swank and popular spot founded by Christopher Megginson. New Jerusalem Baptist Church has been selected as the Church of the Year for its many outreach ministries and programs. The Human Relations Award will go to the Winston-Salem Legal Aid of North Carolina office, which has provided pro bono services for the past 50 years.

Lifetime Achievement Awards will go to Jim Conrad, a longtime busi-



Matthews

ness owner and public servant; Billie Matthews, a former educator who continues to impact the community through her many volunteer activities; and Elva Jones, the much-venerated chair of Winston-Salem State University Computer Science Department.

The awards will be presented Saturday, March 22 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Benton Convention Center. Tickets are \$25 and are available by calling 336-722-8624 or at The Chronicle, 617 N. Liberty St.

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'Heaven'
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the week, he visits local salons and businesses – including City Hall and the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office – to hawk his goodies. He also supplies several restaurants. His "mini cakes," oversized cupcakes, are among his most popular items; he typically bakes about four dozen a day.

"I try to make about four to five different flavors a day because I do so many different flavors," he explained.

Furches spends so much time in the kitchen that he wears his work wherever he goes. People often catch a whiff of cake when he is near.

"It's in my pores now," he said with a laugh. "It's part of me."

He licensed A Slice of Heaven, which is named for his goddaughter Heaven Woodbury, as an LLC in 2012, but its history dates back to more than a decade before that, when the quest for a collection of Nike Air Max sneakers laid the foundation for his future career.

"I wanted to have every color every third Saturday when they came out," Furches said of the shoes, which were a hot ticket item when he was in high school. "Although my parents spoiled me to death, I had to find out how to make my own money, so I started baking cakes."

Furches sold the cakes at the bus stop, bringing in \$9-\$11 per cake – enough to support his shoe habit. Later, as an employee at Aon Consulting, he revived the service, selling mini cakes to coworkers all across the call center.

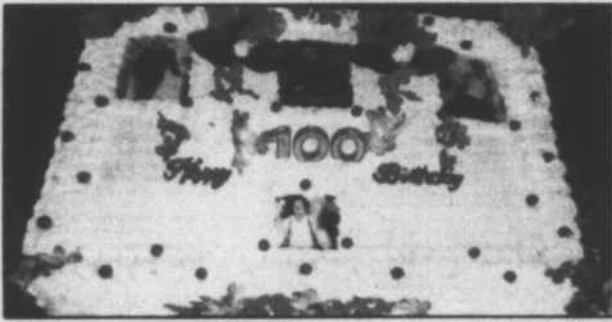
"I love for people to be happy," he said of his desire to continue the work. "... That's a big perk, just to see the smiles on people's faces."

Before long, Furches had a full fledged business model.

"Word of mouth is like wildfire," he declared. "It's been unbelievable the amount of customers I have, just by word of mouth, and it makes me feel great because it means my work is good."

Many of his former East Forsyth classmates are now faithful A Slice of Heaven customers, Furches said.

"It's just so many of my former classmates that support my business – I get



Submitted Photos

Above: Centenarian Frank Manley's cake featured images of his long life.



Left: Will Furches tops his mini cakes with a variety of toppings, from candy to strawberry syrup.



Below: Another of Will Furches' creations for a couple's special day.

orders from Korea from people that are studying abroad," he related. "It just really amazes me ... it's so special to me they support me."

Longtime Winston-Salem resident Brenda Manley is one of Furches' many happy customers. Manley, a retired program manager, purchased a cake for her sister's birthday two years ago and returned to Furches last month, to order a custom cake in honor of her father, Frank Manley, a World War II veteran who turned 100. The cake, which was adorned with edible photographs, delighted her father and his guests, Manley said.

"The cake was so pretty he didn't want to cut it," she declared, adding that she has already contracted Furches to make a cake in honor of her parents' upcoming 68th wedding anniversary. "... He's an outstanding young man. He's very professional. I would recommend him at any time to anyone."

In addition to making custom cakes for everything from birthdays to weddings, Furches also offers additional bridal services, from makeup to catering and decor. Jessica Cannon came to A Slice of Heaven last year in search of a very special cake.

"I was looking for someone to prepare a cake for my wedding and he came highly recommend-

ed," explained Cannon, a nursing assistant. "... He has a passion for what he does, and you can tell that right off the bat."

Cannon had selected orange and silver for her wedding colors, and Furches suggested an orange moscato cake to compliment the motif. He also catered a home cooked meal for the couple's 100 guests and decorated the church for the affair. Cannon said she and her husband couldn't be happier with the way things turned out.

"It was awesome," she said of the wedding, and the cake, which she described as "delectable." "It was everything I dreamed of and more."

Furches is also the sole proprietor of Testimony Mime Company, ministering to people through the art of gospel miming, and puts his culinary skills to good use once a month, by crafting a home cooked meal for dozens of homeless people at Macedonia Worship Center.

He has won back-to-back Forsyth County Entertainment Awards, for his baking skills in 2012 and his miming in 2013. The two companies keep him busy, but Furches sees his work more as a calling than a career.

"A lot of people, they work to get money," he observed. "Me, I work and I mime because I feel honestly that that's something that I have to do."

For more information about A Slice of Heaven, find the company on Facebook or contact Furches at 336-655-6637.



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