

New teachers receive welcome gifts



SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

On Tuesday, Aug. 15, two Forsyth County Delta Kappa Gamma chapters distributed insulated lunch totes to teachers new to the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System. Members of the Zeta and Beta Nu chapters filled the bags with several items, some of which were donated from local businesses.

The Beta Nus contributed bags of pretzels and Tootsie Pops. Wrenn Conrad, Zeta Chapter's chairman of Supporting Early Educators (SEE), contacted local businesses for contributions.

K&W Cafeteria provided a welcome letter with a coupon for a free dessert attached. Dewey's gave a box of Moravian cookies as well as a coupon for a free cake square with any purchase. A free doughnut coupon was included from Krispy Kreme. TW Garner Foods contributed a mini-bottle of Texas Pete hot sauce and a beverage koozie. Both chapters included welcome letters to the new teachers. The Zeta letter included web sites that offer economical and healthy lunch ideas.

According to its web site, Delta Kappa Gamma is an international society that promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

New teachers (from left) Alecia Johnson (Paisley Middle), Chase Culler (Reynolds High), Katy Welborn (Paisley Middle), Winifred Haywood (North Hills), Lauren Miller (Hanes Middle), David House (Glenn High), John Olson (Career Center), Lee Harris (West Forsyth High) and Amanda Marchese (East Forsyth Middle) hold their totes.

ESR adopts Dominion Street

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Experiment in Self-Reliance (ESR) is continuing its legacy of making a difference by adopting Dominion Street, the new location of their headquarters.

On July 31, more than 30 employees walked along Dominion, RJR Boulevard and Akron Drive for the clean-up effort, which was championed by ESR Operations Director Fred Bazemore.

"(ESR) will be cleaning up the Dominion Street area every other month to aid in keeping our streets clutter free and safe for walkers, while (also) greeting and



ESR employees pose on clean-up day.

meeting residence and businesses in the north-east area," said Bazemore.

Wade Armfield, who owns 'A' self-storage company next to ESR, greeted the group with a

smile and indicated he was glad to have the agency as a neighbor. He also commended the staff

for their caring spirit and ESR for enhancing the visual footprint of the street. ESR's primary

objective is to empower working residents to achieve economic and social self-sufficiency by providing them with intensive case management. Each participant's unique situation is assessed and an individualized case plan is developed to address identified needs, objectives and goals.

"We at ESR are gratified to have this confidence placed in our agency to assist the community in the clean-up efforts, as well as continuing to provide much needed services for the residence in Winston-Salem-Forsyth County," said ESR Executive Director Twana Wellman-Roebuck.

Birthday

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sons have gone on to glory. Charles "Richard" Hamlin died several years prior to Larry Leon's passing in 2007. She says her faith brought her through. Rev. Mack H.L. McConnel, pastor of Saint James Missionary Baptist Church, said her quiet strength has inspired others.

"She has encouraged every one of us to stay steadfast," he said during the prayer he delivered to open the celebration.

Hamlin Johnson's own pastor, Dr. Sir Walter Mack Jr. of Union Baptist Church, also led a prayer and gave words of praise for one of the most devoted among his flock.

"She brings a smile to all of our faces," said Mack, who added that Larry Leon's stage presence and gregariousness was inherited from his mother.

Mack and his wife, Kim, had a busy Saturday. There was a funeral, a wedding and other obligations. But when it was time for Hamlin Johnson's get-together, the couple temporarily halted everything.

"I wouldn't have missed this for nothing in this world," Mack said.

Hamlin Johnson began her remarks standing behind a waist-high wooded podium.

"I love Jesus Christ. I love people," she said after thanking attendees.

Then, in a moment that surely would have made Larry Leon proud, she stepped from behind the podium, microphone in hand, to deliver an extemporaneous skit - complete with one-liners and a redacted version of "Stormy Weather."

Hamlin Johnson gave her guests a charge to embrace and live by, simple advice that has served



A photo of Hamlin Johnson and her son Larry was among those showcased at the party.

her well.

"When you are nice to people, they are nice to you," she said.

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For more information, or to register for this program, please visit us online at www.forsyth.cc and click on the Step Up Forsyth logo.

Forsyth County Department of Public Health Promoting Health, Improving Lives

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