



On Feb. 16, the City Council voted to change Lawrence Street to Hardesty Lane.

Photos by Tevin Stinson for The Chronicle



Virginia and Ashley Hardesty stand with plaque given to them after the street was renamed in honor of the late Charles Hardesty.

Street renamed to honor businessman Charles Hardesty

BY TEVIN STINSON FOR THE CHRONICLE

On Sunday, April 26, members of the community gathered on the corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. and Lawrence Street to honor Charles Hardesty, founder of Forsyth Seafood, who died in early 2013.

Forsyth Seafood has been a staple to the community, known for giving youth opportunities for employment, and giving back to the community.

On Feb. 16, the Winston-Salem City County unanimously voted to rename Lawrence Street to Hardesty Lane.

Hardesty and his wife, Virginia, started Forsyth Seafood in 1983 in a truck at Cooks Flea Market. In 1984, they opened a market on Liberty Street in downtown Winston-Salem.

In 1991, they moved to the current location on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive when they converted a convenience store into a market and take-out grill. The Liberty Street market closed in 2012 to make room for the BB&T Ballpark.

"We always knew we wanted to open a business; it was just a matter of deciding which direction to go," Virginia Hardesty said.

Charles Hardesty grew up in Beaufort, N.C., where he was a standout quarterback and pitcher at East Carteret High School. He went on to attend Elizabeth City State University, where he earned a degree in industrial arts.

After college, he returned to Beaufort, where he



Virginia Hardesty welcomes members of the community and government officials to the renaming ceremony.

worked as a recreation site director. It was there he began to instill his belief in his dedication of hard work and giving back to others.

Growing up on the coast, both Charles and Virginia's parents were commercial fishermen, so the choice to open a seafood restaurant was a no-brainer. During the early

years, Charles and Virginia would travel back and forth from Beaufort to bring fresh fish to the community.

During the ceremony on April 26, a number of Charles Hardesty's friends talked about how he lived by the same hard-work principles he preached.

John Tyson, a hometown friend and football teammate of Charles, talked about how he was a very hard worker on the field as well.

"Charles was the quarterback and I was the lineman. I was in charge of protecting him," Tyson said.

As a member of Goler Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church, at 620 N. Patterson Ave., Charles Hardesty started a ministry that fed the hungry and homeless every Wednesday. The program has been serving the community for more than 10 years.

The Hardestys have been a staple in the community and have instilled those morals into their daughter Ashley, who graduated from N.C. State in 2013. Ashley now works at the restaurant full time and has kept the business up to date.

"Ashley is very creative. Things have changed a lot from a marketing standpoint from when we first started," Virginia Hardesty said. "She keeps us up to date with things like Facebook pages."

Former N.C. Sen. Earline W. Parmon spoke at the ceremony. She said she believes that the location of the street couldn't have been any better.

"When you look up at that sign, you will know two great men, who made a impact in the African-American community," she said.



Your Bus Route May Be Changing!

For your convenience, the Winston-Salem Transit Authority is holding public hearings throughout the community to discuss the proposed new route changes, and the new booking policy for Trans-AID passengers. If you would like to get a view of the proposed routes and/or the new Trans-AID booking policy before the meeting(s) in your community, you may pick up a copy of them on Friday, May 1, 2015 at the Clark Campbell Transportation Center, 100 West Fifth Street in downtown Winston-Salem or visit our website at www.wstransit.com.

We look forward to seeing you.

Location	Date	Time
Clark Campbell Transportation Center	May 6	9-11am and 5-7pm
KC Boys & Girls Club @ 2100 Reynolds Park Road, 27107	May 7	11a - 1p
The Prosperity Center @ 508 Waughtown Street, 27107	May 8	12:30 - 2:30p
South Fork Community Center @ 4403 Country Club Road, 27104	May 11 & 12	4-7pm (both days)
Rupert Bell Community Center @ 1501 Mt. Zion Place, 27101	May 13	4-6:30pm
East Ward Town Hall Meeting at New Jerusalem Baptist Church @ 1212 North Dunleith Avenue, 27101	May 14	6:00 pm
Robinhood Road YMCA, 27106	May 19	2-5pm
Miller Park Community Center @ 400 Leisure Lane, WS 27103	May 19	6:30-7:30pm
Brown & Douglas Neighborhood Center @ 4725 Indiana Avenue, 27106	May 20	4-6:00pm
Carl Russell Community Center @ Carver School Road, 27105	May 21	4-7:00pm
International Boys & Girls Club @ 2850 New Walkertown Road, 27105	May 22	11:00a - 1:00p
Sprague Street Community Center @ 1350 E. Sprague Street, 27107	May 26	4-7pm
MLK Community Center @ 2001 Pittsburg Avenue, 27101	May 27	3-6pm
Hanes Hosiery Community Center on Akron Drive, 27105	May 28	10a - 12pm
Alders Point - on Mock Street, 27127	May 29	1-4pm
WR Anderson Community Center @ 2450 Reynolds Park Road, 27107	June 1	5-7pm
14 th Street Community Center @ 2020 E. 14 th Street 27101	June 2	5-7pm
Forsyth Tech West Campus @ 1300 Bolton Street, 27103	June 3	10:00 - 12:00pm 3-5:00 pm
Gateway YWCA 1300 South Main Street 27127	June 4	11:00-3:00pm
Reynolda Branch Library	June 5	2-6pm
Clark Campbell Transportation Center	June 8	12-4pm