

Local news anchor Natalie Wilson gives speech at elementary school

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Elementary School Academy (ESA) and Cook Elementary School finished up their school year on a positive note when Fox 8's 4 o'clock anchor Natalie Wilson delivered the fifth grade graduation speech. Wilson, a native of Athens, Ga., was invited by her cousin Sam Davis, who works at ESA and is the founder of the Gentleman's Quorum, Inc to address the school's graduating class that will move on to middle school next year.

Wilson told the students that they are at a key point in their lives. She compared their lives right now to a puzzle. "I'm sure that most of you are still trying to figure things out," she said. "I remember when I was your age and it wasn't easy to fit the pieces together. They all seem to go somewhere, but fitting them in at the right place might take some time. You need to take time to

make sure that when you put the pieces in place they all fit together well."

Wilson asked the students to look at many career choices and open themselves up to new experiences to find out their likes and dislikes.

"A lot of what you will find out about yourselves will happen in the next three years in middle school," she said. "There will be all kinds of new experiences. Make sure the choices you make are good choices. Consider the consequences before you do anything that is different or new. You have to make sure that you don't compromise the things that your parents have taught you. I'm sure when you finally get all the pieces in place you're going to find that life is full of adventures and new challenges. Challenge yourself to be exceptional and don't settle for less than your best. Do your best in all that you choose to do in life."



In this photo Natalie Wilson speaks to 5th Grade graduates at Elementary School Academy and Cook Elementary.



In this photo Natalie Wilson is pictured with Gentleman's Quorum, Inc. Founder Sam Davis and GQ member Stefano Buffert.

Homeless Count seeks volunteers and donations

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Homeless Point-in-Time (PIT) Count are seeking volunteers and donations for the July 2015 Homeless Count in Winston-Salem. The Homeless PIT Count is a one-day, unduplicated count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals and families in Forsyth County.

The count, coordinated by United Way of Forsyth County and the Winston-Salem Forsyth County Homeless Council, helps determine the extent of homelessness in our community. The data collected is used to plan services for the homeless throughout the year.

Through efforts in the community to reduce homelessness, chronic homelessness is down over 50 percent and veteran homelessness is down over 72 percent in the last seven years. As part of Zero 2016, a national campaign to end veteran and chronic homelessness the Council plans to meet their goal of ending veteran homelessness by December 2015 and chronic homelessness by December 2016.

Volunteers are needed to help with the identification and counting of people who are sleeping outside on Wednesday, July 29 in Winston Salem and the surrounding areas. Volunteers will count in groups of 4-5 throughout the county for two shifts, 9 p.m.- 12 a.m. and 1 a.m. - 4 a.m. Organizers will be assembling bags of necessities to hand out to homeless men and women and are seeking donations of pre-packaged food.

Volunteers may register by visiting www.forsythunitedway.org. Donations can be delivered to the new Samaritan Ministries building at 414 E. Northwest Blvd. or to the United Way of Forsyth County at 301 N. Main Street.

Officials say that if you take items to the Samaritan Ministries, let them know your items are for the PIT Count so they can keep them separated from other donations they receive.



This picture is of Point in Time Count volunteers from the summer of 2013.



Winston-Salem Foundation provides \$25,000 grant to New Winston Museum

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The New Winston Museum is pleased to announce it has received a \$25,000 grant from the Frances and Jesse Temple Fund of the Winston-Salem Foundation. These funds will support the creation of an interpretive plan and fund the development plans for the museum.

The New Winston Museum will work with nationally renowned museum professionals, R&L Consulting of Asheville, NC to develop these critical planning documents. An interpretive plan is an important step in the planning and design process for informal learning-based institutions like museums, where interpretation is used to communicate messages, stories, information and experiences. A fund development plan will identify opportunities to help ensure the museum's long-term sustainability.

"As we enter the third year of New Winston Museum's life as Winston-Salem and Forsyth County's community history museum, we are taking careful steps to ensure smart growth and long term sustainability," said Katherine Foster, executive director of New Winston Museum. "This generous grant from the Frances and Jesse Temple Fund of the Winston-Salem Foundation is an invaluable vote of confidence for the future of New Winston Museum."

New Winston Museum's mission is to preserve, promote, and present the dynamic history and diverse stories of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County community through education and collaboration. New Winston Museum's focus is on the history since the creation of Forsyth County and our programs emphasize the role of history in shaping our diverse stories. New Winston Museum is a 501c3 nonprofit organization.

Museum hours are Monday-Friday from 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Admission is free and donations are gladly accepted. Please visit the web site for more information at www.newwinston.org.

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