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Local businesses show police appreciation

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

Camel City BBQ Factory served Winston-Salem's Finest during a Law Enforcement Appreciation Day held at the downtown restaurant on Friday, Aug. 26.

The event was sponsored by local businesses who also supplied volunteers who served officers and non-sworn personnel of the Winston-Salem Police Department. A special room was set aside for the volunteers to serve both lunch and dinner to hundreds of officers.

The effort was spearheaded by Camel City BBQ Factory owner Steve Doumas and Twin City Custom Cabinets owner Steve Womble. Doumas said that police were familiar faces at the eatery, which is only a few min-

utes walk from the WSPD's headquarters on North Cherry Street.

"We're one block away from them, so they come to see us all the time, and they eat lunch with us all the time, so we wanted to thank them," said Doumas.

Womble said both he and Doumas have families that have owned businesses in the downtown area since the 1950s, and have seen it transform to a safer place thanks to the WSPD.

"You can look at this restaurant and the downtown development in Winston-Salem and see how great it is, you can see people out at night, and there's one reason: These guys right here," Womble said about the officers there.

WSPD officers and personnel used the opportunity to enjoy a meal and fellowship with each other. Sgt.

Allison Marion said she was grateful for the show of appreciation. She said it's part of a pattern the WSPD has been experiencing recently.

"We've had a lot of support from the citizens of Winston as a whole for the last few months," said Marion.

She said officers have received encouraging calls, cards, letters, baked goods, treats and bottled water from citizens. Last month, a prayer vigil for law enforcement drew a large crowd to the police department. She said the outpouring is in response to recent events with law enforcement in other parts of the country.

There have been tensions between police and the communities they serve in other cities around the country, often highlighted with controversial killings

of black men by the police, which have made national headlines recently. There have also been mass shootings targeting police officers in cities like Dallas, Texas.

Sgt. Mike Allen said he was glad to see the outpouring of local support. He feels the relationship between police and the community is good in Winston-Salem.

"I think we're blessed to have the relationship we do with the community," he said.

"That's a testament not only to the quality officers that we have working here, but the leadership."

The event was sponsored by Camel City BBQ Factory, North Point Jeep, Leonard Ryden Burr Real Estate, Champion Clothing, Twin City Custom Cabinets, Bimco Inc., Bell Davis & Pitt, and



Camel City BBQ Factory owner Steve Doumas and Sgt. Mike Allen greet each other at a police appreciation event held at the downtown restaurant on Friday, Aug. 26.



Womble

Police, lawyers deliver backpacks to schools

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem Police Department and Daggett Shuler Attorneys at Law delivered backpacks filled with school supplies to local elementary schools on Thursday, Aug. 25.

This is the second year that the law firm has teamed with the WSPD to distribute backpacks. Attorneys David Daggett and Griff Shuler, along with WSPD Chief Barry Rountree and numerous officers, helped deliver more than 200 backpacks.

Daggett said the WSPD approached him about participating in a backpack giveaway.

"We were very happy to join the chief and his team and help out," he said.

Daggett is no stranger to working with schools. He is founder of the Safe Sober Prom Night Program in which high school students sign a pledge to stay

drug and alcohol free on prom night. More than 450 schools in North and South Carolina participate in the program.

WSPD is no stranger to school outreach either, having given away hundreds of backpacks filled with school supplies at an event last month.

"We want to make sure our students start the school year off in a safe environment, but also make sure they have the necessary supplies and tools so they can be successful and have a successful academic school year," said Rountree.

The backpacks were filled with notebook paper, a notebook, a two-pocket folder, pencils, a pencil sharpener, an eraser, a bookmark, glue, scissors and crayons. The backpacks are unmarked to avoid stigmatizing students who receive them. Daggett said the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools helped to identify

elementary schools with pockets of students in need. Those schools were Whitaker, South Fork, Moore, Brunson and Bolton elementary schools.

Whitaker was the first stop as Principal Sharon Creasy greeted them. She was glad to receive the dozens of backpacks for her students. Though not a school with a high concentration of students living in poverty, there's still a significant number of students there who have a financial need, and some of whom have even been homeless.

"We do have a wide dichotomy of children in terms of background and economic status," she said. "We try to serve our children at all points of need."

The school's PTA regularly helps those students in need through the Whitaker Alliance, which offers them a backpack full of food to take home for the weekends, school supplies and also pays their fees for school activities.

Several WSPD officers promoted

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Last week a number of officers and other members of the Winston-Salem Police Department (WSPD) received promotions during a ceremony held at the Fairgrounds' Home and Garden Building.

During the event held on Thursday, Aug. 25, fellow officers, family members, and friends eagerly watched as more than a dozen officers were honored for their valor and dedication to protect and serve the residents of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County. Those promoted during the ceremony include: Lieutenant M.D. Weaver to Captain;

Sergeant K.R. Sawyer to Lieutenant; Sergeant E.D. Branshaw to Lieutenant; Corporal J. Morissette to Sergeant; Corporal J.S. Collins to Sergeant; Corporal C.S. Pritchard to Sergeant; Corporal R.P. Nowak to Sergeant; Officer B. A. Daniel to Corporal; Officer M.A. Perkins to Corporal; Officer L.T. Whelan to Corporal; and Officer B.A. George to Corporal.

Following the ceremony, Chief Barry Rountree said he was delighted to see so many officers receive promotions. During a brief discussion with The Chronicle, Rountree said it is an exciting time for the WSPD.

"I love being a part of these ceremonies because it

shows the hard work and dedication our officers are putting in every day," he said.

According to Rountree, the WSPD usually holds promotion ceremonies once or twice a year. He said the number of ceremonies depends on the number of officers who are eligible for retirement.

Others promoted during the event that was open to the public were: Forensic Services Technician Brooke A. Talmadge to Firearms, Tool Mark Examiner (FTME), and Police Records Specialist Scott J. Troutman to Police Records Squad Supervisor.

OLD SALEM MUSEUMS & GARDENS

HOMOWO HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 3, 2016
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The Homowo Heritage Festival is a celebration of African American foodways and culture. It includes food tastings of authentic Ghanaian, Liberian and African American Soul Food, African storytelling, African drumming, dancing, hands on activities such as okra painting, manala, and displays.

All items included in All in One Ticket. Adults \$27, Students \$4, (10-15) \$11, Seniors \$15, Kids \$10, Family \$35, (2 Adults, 2 Kids, 2 Seniors, 2 Children) \$75. Cash only. No substitutions. All items are sold on a first-come, first-served basis. All items are sold on a first-come, first-served basis. All items are sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

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