Making A Difference Through Volunteerism By VERONICA CLEMONS

Chronicle Staff Writer

As soon as Reginald Scales Jr. moved into the Piedmont Park housing development, he became a member of the resident volunteer staff. He said he wanted to set a good example for his two children.

"I want them to know they can help other people without a price behind it," he said. "We've been up and down and people have helped us and I figured we can pass it on."

Melanie Tatum, resident-services specialist for the Winston-Salem Housing Authority, organized a resident volunteer group in the Happy Hills development just less than a year ago. She asked for residents to help with the food bank, " which gives out food to senior citizens and handicapped residents. About 23 people signed up.

"The response was overwhelming," she said.

The next idea came from Darlene Dilworth, Tatum said, who suggested the group sponsor a talent show and community day. More than 700 residents participated, and volunteers raised about \$1,000 in donations and prizes by writing to various agencies in the city.

Piedmont Park began with five chore members and has grown to 17, Happy Hills has about 23 members on its volunteer staff. Both: developments also have youth volunteer organizations.

As a specialist. Tatum said she is supposed to coordinate and organize events, but she said some things would be almost impossible without the resident volunteers.

"It's a great strain for the housing authority to do anything," she said. "Without them (volunteers) we wouldn't be able to do it."

In addition to the Community Unity Day, which was Saturday at Piedmont Park, volunteers also celebrate resident birthdays each quarter and plan other events and put them on the monthly activity calendar that goes out to residents. Volunteers take care of the publicity for eventsby delivering flyers to residents. Tatum said the flyers are the reason for so much resident participation in to other communities and events to community events.

One of the group's favorite meetings is "The Gathering," a program that promotes awareness of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Volunteers said the presenter is always interesting and there is always a good crowd -between 20

and 30 people.

The Happy Hills and Piedmont Park volunteer groups have won awards from Leadership Winston Salem and an award from NAHRO, a national organization that recognizes community groups.

Vernett Johnson said the best thing about being a Piedmont Park volunteer is getting out of the house and helping people around her neighborhood.

"They are pioneers for upcoming generations," Tatum said. "They realize this is our community, we live here and if we want to make it better we have to do it."

Both volunteer groups are recognizable at events by their T-Shirts. Piedmont Park has purple and gold shirts. Volunteer Staff President Eva Hagood said a volunteer must work at least six time before they are eligible for a shirt.

"We wear them everywhere ---let people know who we are," she said. Tatum said the volunteers are role models within the community.

"I have seen the community change with the volunteer staff, and people feel more comfortable when they see residents take an active part in their community.



Members of the Piedmont Park volunteer staff prepare food packages for the elderly and handicapped as part of their food bank program.

Youths Celebrate With End of School Party at Rec

By VERONICA CLEMONS Chronicle Staff Writer

Hansel Hentz wanted to'do something special for the youth who frequent the Kingston Green Recreation Center everyday after school. And since Friday was the last day of school, he thought a party would be the perfect thing.

"I basically just wanted to give something back to the kids, show them that someone cares," said Hentz, the center's supervisor. "This is their day."

Hentz said Friday was no dif-

ferent from any other afternoon at Kingston Green. When the neighborhood youth get off the school bus, they come to the center to play games, socialize and have a good time.

"It's somewhere to go after school when you've got nothing else to do," Omekia Williamson, a sixthgrader at Atkins Middle School said.

Randolph Pettigrew, a fourthgrader at Kerners ille Elementary, said fun is the reason he goes to the center every day. The party

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22

Service office will host a program

2 p.m. — The City of Winston-

included plenty of food and drink and music blasting through a specialized Coca-Cola van. There are other things that go on at the center that are constructive. Visitors come to speak to youth and sometimes there are field trips. Todd Shepard, 20, teaches art and music at the center. He started as a volunteer and after a year was hired as a full-time employee. Shepard said it was a little tough to get involvement when of summer activities, and many of he began teaching.

"It took some time when I first started, but they found out I care

and gave a lot more." he said. "They're real good once you get on their good side.

"Residents can do anything."

she added. And no matter what's

done, if it comes from the heart the

community will definitely be, bet-

ter."

Shepard's classroom is decorated with drawing by himself and his students. A lot of the art by his 8- to12-year-olds is detailed cartoons like Garfield and Charlie Brown. He said his class helps · youth build up their self-esteem.

Hentz said there will be plenty the youth, including Pettigrew, said they will still be going to the center every day.



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EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JUNE 16 7 p.m. - Carolyn Haine \$20. Call 748-9029.

· Senior Financial Care is Salem's Neighborhood Government offering a variety of in-home services to older adults of Forsyth

Street at 1 p.m. The meeting will Gardens, Columbia Terrace, The

discuss the reunion of Happy Hill Trot, and Salem reunion on July 9.

Open Mon.-Fri.

9am-4pm

Call William "Rock" Bitting at 650-" 0858 or Ben Piggott at 727-2837.

739-0551

author of Summer of The Redeemers, will be reading at Intimate Bookshop at 710 Coliseum Drive. For more information call Allyson Wease at 722-6909.

· The CMSDC and Triad MBEICs proudly announced their plans to host the Third Annual Summer Institute, June 16-18. "Knowledge=Success" is the theme for the minority business development forum which benefits both minority business and corporate members. Classes for the event will be held at Winston-Salem State University and the Regency Best Western will serve as the host hotel. The cost to attend is \$75 per person, or MBEs may choose to be Summer Institute Sponsors. Sponsorship levels are: Gold - \$500; Silver - \$250; and Bronze - \$150. The Regency Best Western rooms are available at \$45 per night for Summer Institute attendees.

For more information, call Vickie Addington at 1-800-854-3745 or CMSDC at (704) 536-2884.

MONDAY, JUNE 20

10 a.m. - The City of Winston-Salem's Neighborhood Government Services office, 2301 N. Patterson Ave., will host a seminar on "Swag and Jabot." The seminar will be discussed by Jo Ann J. Falls of Forsyth County Cooperative Extension Service. The seminar is free and open to the public. For more information, call 727-2975.

TUESDAY, JUNE 21

The City of Winston-Salem's Neighborhood Government Service office invited the public to the following activities:

10:30 a.m. - "Puppet Show" will be performed by Engine Company 3 of Winston-Salem's Fire Department.

2 p.m. - "Importance of Mammograms and Self Breast Exams" will be discussed by Hazel Talton and Donna Griffin (R.T.) (R.M.) of Breast Clinic Incorporated.

These activities are free and open to the public. Call, 727-2975.

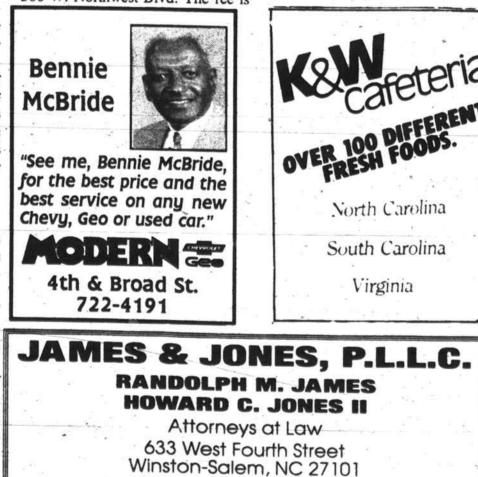
on "Job Readiness." The program will be discussed by James Lucas of the City of Winston-Salem/Personnel Department. The program is free and open to the public. Call, 727-2975.

ONGOING

· Neil and Camilla Wilcox will lead summer sessions for young people in creative writing and enrichment through art at Reynolda House Museum of American Art. The two-week long workshops for young writer in grades 5-10 will be June 13 and June 20 from 9 a.m. to noon. American Arts Discovery for K-5 will be on July 11 and July 18. Each session lasts one week and explores the Reynolda House art collection, gardens and grounds.

The cost is \$95 and early registration is recommended. Call 725-5325.

· The Parent Enrichment Program will be offering the following. parenting classes on "Parenting Your Teen." The program will be held on Wednesday, June 15 - July 6 at 7 p.m. at the Exchange Center, 500 W. Northwest Blvd. The fee is



Auto Accidents • Personal Injury • Wrongful Death Workman's Compensation • Traffic/DWI Criminal and Civil Trials FOR A FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION CALL 725-7531

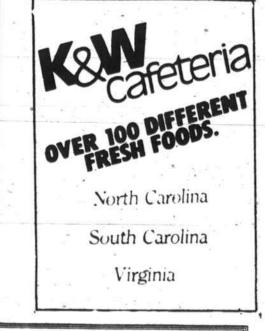
County. They will help balance checkbooks, reconcile bank statements, write monthly checks and help with budget matters. Medicalinsurance claims and drug charges will be filed and monitored to make sure all benefits have been paid. Call 725-1972.

· Happy Hill Gardens Reunion Committee will meet every Saturday at W.C. Sims Center on Alder



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JUNE 23, 1994





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