

COMMUNITY FOCUS

Winston-Salem Greensboro High Point

1974 - Celebrating 25 Years - 1999

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SECTION C

Be on time - and smile



From left, Ella Joyce, Larry Leon Hamlin and Yolanda King took time out of their busy rehearsal schedules to attend the pep rally to thank the volunteers.

1,000 attend NBTF Pep Rally

BY FELECIA P. MCMILLAN
COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

"As a volunteer for the National Black Theatre Festival, I promise to be kind and courteous to everyone and go out of my way to provide information and assistance...I promise to do everything right so that no one will lose their one good nerve..."

More than 1,000 volunteers for the National Black Theatre Festival took this oath July 29 at the All-Star Volunteer Pep Rally at the Stevens Center. This oath brought closure to the skit titled "Dos and Don'ts of Being an NBTF Volunteer" written by Elwanda Ingram, Ph.D., co-coordinator for hosts and hostesses.

Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin and Joyce Elem have served as the volunteer co-coordinators for many years. Ingram introduced Sprinkle-Hamlin as "Mrs Marvtastic."

"I am here to give special thanks to my co-coordinator, Joyce Elem. She can help me stay on track. We have been working together since 1989, and we have a long history," Sprinkle-Hamlin said.

The 100 coordinators have been meeting every other Saturday since May in order to make the festival special for those who come. Sprinkle-Hamlin reminded the volunteers about the volunteer party that will be held in their honor in the fall.

"This will be a very special

party, and the party is for you. From the bottom of my heart thank you for all of your efforts," she said.

The purpose of the rally was to review the instructions that were distributed during the training sessions for the volunteers and to honor those persons from the community who have come forward to offer their services during the festival.

Men, women, boys and girls from the Triad have volunteered to serve as house managers, hosts/hostesses, ushers, medical nightingales, administrative office personnel, production assistants, Youth Celebrity Project workers, vendor assistants and volunteers for the box office, concessions,

the gala, information desk, transportation, security and other support personnel.

These public servants vowed to be on time, wearing a winsome smile and the signature colors of the NBTF, which are purple and black.

The Winston Lake YMCA Boss Drummers opened the pep rally with a drummers' proces-

sion. They received a standing ovation for their orderly, synchronized movements and lively beats that made it impossible for the audience to keep still.

The Winston Lake YMCA YBA Cheerleaders created a cheering routine just for the pep rally. "Who rocks the house?"

See Rally on C2



Back to school time

Children head back to school next week and several organizations will hold events to make sure the year is off to a good start.

Dr. Ernie Wade and Associates will hold an "Academic Revival" Sunday from 6-8 p.m. at Philips Chapel Baptist Church, 132 N. Glenn Street. The event is open to parents and students grades 6-12.

Students will produce a "What I'm Gonna Do This Year" document that will set goals for the academic year.

On Aug. 14, Union Baptist Church, 406 Northwest Blvd., will host an education rally from 10 a.m.- 12 p.m. The event will feature speakers from the school system who will discuss the importance of parent and student involvement.

The rally will also include a performance by the Union Baptist Church Children's Choir as well as refreshments. The church will also hand out school supplies.

The Black Child Development Center of Greensboro will hold its annual Back-to-School Extravaganza Aug. 21 at Shiloh Baptist Church, 1210 S. Eugene Street.

Experts will be on hand to discuss social promotion, the Parents Teacher Association and the Individual Education Plan process. The first 100 students to show up will receive free school supplies.

Mr. Imagination returns

Chicago artist Gregory Warmack, better known as "Mr. Imagination," will return to Winston-Salem Saturday for the dedication of the newly created "Memory Wall of Peace and Love." The program, sponsored by the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, will also feature Mayor Jack Cavanagh and current SECCA executive director Michele Rowe-Shields. The celebration will be held at 6:30 p.m. on site at the Winston-Salem Transit Authority, on the corner of Fifth and Trade streets.

"The Wall" was designed to celebrate Winston-Salem and includes objects donated by members of the community.

Stress seminar

A free seminar on stress will be held at Carver School Road Branch of the Forsyth County Library Aug. 17. Catherine Jourdan, a licensed professional counselor, will suggest ways to relieve stress.

The seminar is sponsored by the library and the Women's Health Center of Excellence at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. The program is part of "Health at the Well," an effort to educate women about health issues.

The library is at 4915 Lansing Drive. For more information call Alma Wilson, 716-3066.



Left, The YMCA YBA cheerleaders highlighted the efforts of the volunteers with their cheer "Who Rocks The House? NBTF Rocks The House." Right, Joyce Elem and Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin have coordinated thousands of volunteers for the National Black Theatre Festival since 1989.

