

North Hampton neighbors dedicate community sign

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Residents of the North Hampton Community gathered Oct. 15 at the corner of Butterfield Road and Butterfield Circle to attend a sign dedication ceremony.

The neighborhood has a rich history that dates back to the late 1960s, according to Gloria Stinson, president of

the North Hampton Neighborhood Association and longtime resident of the community. Originally, it was known as a "Turn Key Community." The turn key homes were pre-designed, constructed and packaged to relieve the stress of residents' building and designing their own home. Stinson explained, "The homeowners

received a key, turned the lock and enjoyed their home. Overall, this is a neat place to live," said Stinson.

Vice President Steve Valentine and sign committee member Jamie Transou shared special remarks.

"We take pride in our homes and the neighborhood sign is another way to display our gratification," Transou



stated. Ritchie Brooks, director of the city's Neighborhood Services division, was in attendance, along with other

city representatives. He encouraged the association to continue in its efforts to keep their community an attractive and enjoyable place to live,

and pledged the city's continued support of their efforts.

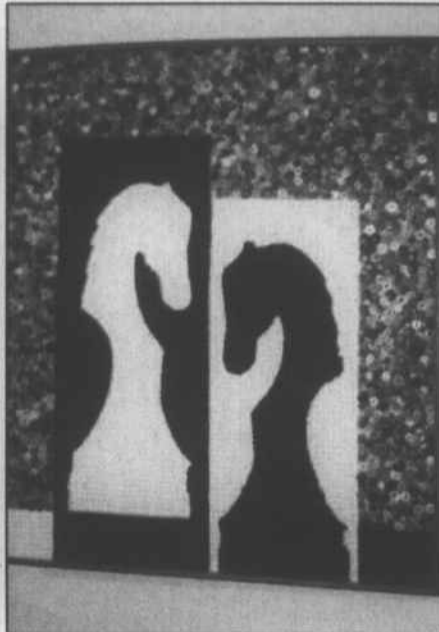
Evangelist Mattie Young, of Bethlehem Baptist Church, extended a prayer and words of support to the residents of the community. NAACP President Stephen Hairston offered words of encouragement and extended an open invitation to the NAACP's headquarters, which is located in the community, to the residents. At the request of Stinson, Deronda Kee-Lucas, neighborhood assistant specialist, led the group in singing "Amazing Grace."

The celebration concluded with a ribbon cutting ceremony and refreshments, which were served at the NAACP building. There, residents continued to fellowship, reflect on past experiences and share ideas in an effort to enhance the quality of life for the community.



A child plays the kabaro drum.

Photos by Jason Pitt



A piece by Elias Sime.

Festival

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"We wanted to call some local attention to this exhibition because it is groundbreaking, contemporary Ethiopian art," said Tate. "Most people are familiar with Ethiopia's rich history in arts and architecture dating back to ancient times. (However) most people aren't aware of the contemporary art in Ethiopia and how it has been impacted by the political and social upheavals in the country over the last century, particularly the last 60 years."

Debela said the work of Ethiopian artists has changed over the decades to reflect the political and social tone of the country. She said that when the pro-Soviet military regime deposed Selassie and established a one-party, communist state in Ethiopia in 1974, artists' work became less abstract and tackled more figurative subject matters. An artistic revolution, akin to the Harlem Renaissance, occurred after the fall of communist rule, Debela added.

The varied art served as the perfect background for the festival, which won rave reviews from attendees. The native food was especially popular among the crowd. Offerings included injera, a pita-like bread usually made like a pizza dough. Injera is often topped with a variety of spicy and sweet chicken and vegetables.

The event was filled with information and energy. Kids made crafts, adults interacted and artists of all stripes mingled among the crowd.

Nigerian artist Wole Lagunju helped children make collages and select



Teyobsta holds her son, Gedlu.

beads for necklaces. Art and crafts created by members of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church were also on display.

Wanda Allen-Abraha, director of the Human Relations Commission, and her husband, Ethiopian-born Aebeyo Abraha, are members of Greensboro-based Kidane Mehret Ethiopian Orthodox Church.

Allen-Abraha stressed the importance of Ethiopian

architecture, some of which dates back to before the birth of Christ.

"Axum (a city in Northern Ethiopia) has this stone monument, completely stone, that the Washington Monument is almost an exact replica of," she said, elaborating on why such information is important, not just to people of Ethiopian or African descent, but all Americans as well.

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BBQ Beef Ribs	Broccoli	And More
Oxtails		

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\$6.99

Dinner

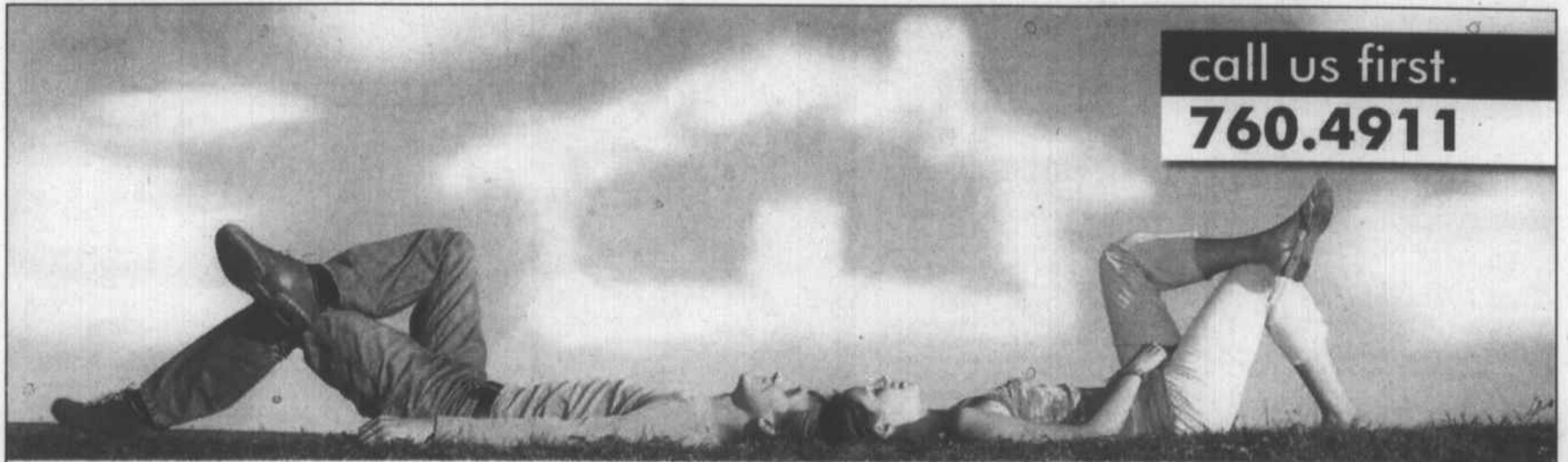
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