



Photos by Felicia Long

Larry Leon Hamlin's sister, Sherri Hamlin, left, with Goya Johnson, Cynthia Penn and Nana Vee Terry.



Court members with Pastor Stacey Frazier.



A scene from the Cleveland Avenue Homes project.

Court continues to give back to community

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

"If I Can Help Someone Along the Way" has been the vision of Elizabeth Ct. #7 Order of Cyrene Crusaders PHA, a masonic organization.

Throughout the year, the court has worked diligently in and out of the community, including its recent Clothes and Hotdog Giveaway in Cleveland Avenue Homes. The afternoon ended with the raf-

fle of a handmade poncho donated by PPC Bernice Miller. Gas cards were also raffled. The court also sponsored a tasty Chicken & Salad Fest at the Masonic Temple on 14th St. on Saturday, Aug. 2.

To help celebrate the court's anniversary, members attended church service with Pastor Stacey Frazier and the members of Friendship Baptist Church on Aug. 17. Frazier delivered an inspiring message to all. The deputy of this region, Princess

Sheila Scott, was also in attendance along with several Sir Knights of the Commandery.

The mission of the court is to work together in love and faith and find grace to help in the time of need. These elements have been well represented under the leadership of Princess Commandress Vanessa Lyerly and Chief Engineer Sir Knight David Odom.



Lawrence Evans greets Harweda Coe.



Joel White with Carolyn Hairston.



Lois Leggett walks off with a door prize.

NBTF

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A silent auction offered a smorgasbord of items, all donated by businesses and individuals. African American paintings, African kente cloth, decorative wreaths, pet portraits, tickets to the 2009 NBTF Opening Night Gala, a polka dot rocking chair, hotel stays, jewelry and books were among the items available. Those who helped to collect the items included Cindy Jones, Stella Davis, PJ Amos, Roslyn Hickman and Charlene Edwards.

Events also included a "Deal or No Deal" money raffle and a walk down memory lane featuring some of the highlights of Hamlin's colorful life. Emcee Joel White, a Forsyth County Library administrator, asked several NBTF supporters to recall "marvtastic" moments from Hamlin's life.

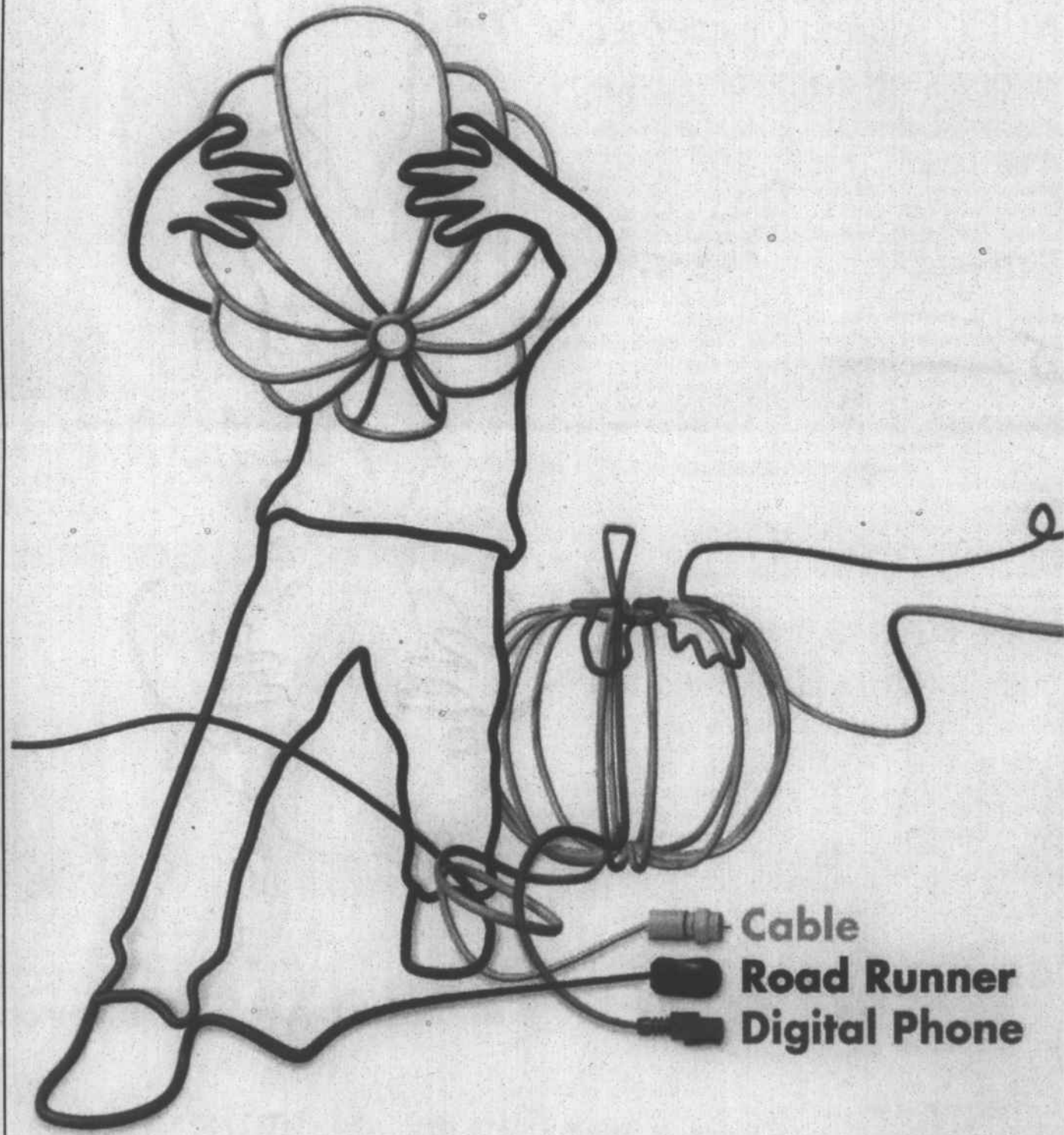
Many events were recalled, including the time President Bill Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton invited Larry Leon Hamlin to the White House, and an honor Hamlin received in New York City shortly before his death for his valuable contributions to the black theater.

"Larry would be elated about tonight. And look at all of this purple and black. The people here are his friends and supporters," said Sprinkle Hamlin.

Annie Hamlin Johnson, Hamlin's mother, agreed. She thanked all of her son's supporters.

"Larry would not have been what he was without you all. You are the stars. Let me tell you something now: Larry was feisty, and he took that after his mother," Hamlin Johnson said. "Tonight, we are at the Apollo (Theater). We are here to celebrate Larry Leon Hamlin's birthday."

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