

Theology graduates among those honored at Union

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Youth Department of Union Baptist honored all graduates on Sunday, June 17. Two were theology school graduates. Felecia Johanna Piggott-Long and Pamela Peoples Haith graduated from the Apex School of Theology (ASOT).

Piggott-Long received a Master of Divinity Degree. Because she matriculated through her degree program with a 3.8 grade-point average or better, she received the Presidential Recognition marked by two golden cords during the graduation ceremony. The

founder and president of ASOT is The Rev. Dr. Joseph E. Perkins. Bishop Sir Walter Mack Jr., pastor of Union Baptist, started a consortium at the church and has partnered with the Apex School of Theology for several years.

"I give God all of the honor and praise for ordering my steps. I am grateful that Bishop Mack has partnered with Dr. Perkins and the Apex School of Theology because hundreds of area clergy, lay leaders, Christian educators, chaplains, teachers, pastors, Christian counselors and nursing/rest home ministers have been able to receive formal theological training through

face-to-face and online instruction," said Piggott-Long. "When I started my degree, my husband Ben Long and my mother, Mae Clarida Piggott, were sick. Attending the classes and learning more about God's word has been very encouraging and spiritually uplifting. Although they are both deceased, I felt their presence at the ceremony, along with my family members."

Piggott-Long is currently an associate minister at Union Baptist Church. She also served as a Youth minister and director of the Kemet School of Knowledge at Emmanuel Baptist Church for 10 years under the direction of

The Rev. Dr. John Mendez. Piggott-Long was ordained into the gospel ministry by authority and order of the Rowan Baptist Association on July 20, 2017 at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in Greensboro. She is also a member of the Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity.

She currently teaches at George Washington Carver High School.

Pamela Peoples Haith received a Master in Christian Education degree.

The daughter of Charles and Shirley Peoples, Haith is the widow of the late Marvin L. Haith Jr., and they have an 11-year-old daughter



Piggott-Long



Haith

Madison. Pamela has been an employee of Kao Specialties American LLC as a chemist technician for 22 years. It was her love for God's Word that led her to want to learn more about theology. This is the reason that she became interested in getting her master's degree. She is involved with the Christian Education Department at Union Baptist Church.

Haith lost her husband in 2011 after 13 years of

matrimony, but she is thankful that, "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning" (Psalm 30:5). "This Scripture carried me through many nights because I knew that one day, joy would come. I didn't know how long it would take me, but God said to me be still and see the salvation of the Lord."

Board

From page B4

Fryer added, "I wanted to help and spread the word about everything we are doing."

"I wanted to get involved because I felt like it was a smart thing she (Williams) came up with and since she needed some help I wanted to be there," Desiree Terrell added.

To achieve their goal of 1,000 bookbags the young women say they have been reaching out to family, friends and classmates for donations. They stated it feels great for them to give back to those who are in need especially when it comes to some-

ones education.

According to Williams the creation of the Dream and Believe Team has been very beneficial in her efforts to fund raise, gather donations and creating new ideas.

"At this year's back to school jam we are giving away 1,000 bookbags this year which is a big goal compared to last year but we can do it," said Reich. "We are also going to have free food, ice cream and vendors as well."

Reich has said that she and her daughter keep God in mind with every venture they take on with The Kyndall Project. They feel through blessing others they are blessing themselves.

The Kyndall Project wanted to thank their sponsors for all of their assistance in the Back to School Jam. Food Lion, Walmart, Harris Teeter, Lowes Food, Volvo, Irie Rhythms restaurant, Eastern Star of Lexington and New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church among others have all contributed to the nonprofits efforts to contribute 1,000 bookbags to the community.

The Back to School Jam is scheduled for Aug. 11 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Rupert Bell Park. Anyone wishing to donate should email Reich at thekyndallproject@gmail.com or visit the website at www.thekyndallproject.org.

Work Force

From page B4

Union Baptist, mentoring his nephew over the summer as a means to give him something to do until his nephew returned to college that fall.

"He did such a tremendous job with us, we decided to expand it to involve other young people, not only in our church but outside of the church as well," said Mack. "Since that time, it has been a phenomenal experience with tremendous growth and development by the young people."

According to Mack, the program is designed to give college students an opportunity to be "shaped and developed" by the church for business success. Mack stated he wanted to have a program like this to also make sure the church stays invested in the children's lives even after they leave for college.

"We take the time to bring in business profes-

sionals, politicians, spiritual and community leaders to talk to them about being on time, ethics in the workplace and dressing for success," he said. "One of the things we try to teach them is you have to dress for an opportunity."

"Many times dress trends are shaped by hip-hop artists or professional athletes, which is fine; however a lot of our young people can't show up on jobs with the LeBron look with a suit jacket and shorts," he continued.

Along with learning in the classroom, the interns also have to complete community service projects during the seven-week program. Mack feels it gives the young people a sense of humility by working in soup kitchens and clothing banks, for example.

The main focus for this year's program is financial literacy, Mack said. The church has partnered with several organizations that will come in on a weekly basis to train the interns on how to manage money,

prepare for retirement and how to invest their money.

Each week the group meets with Mack for intense training sessions on things such as leadership principles, integrity and being on time, to name a few. Mack also has the students work on projects inside the church based on their college majors.

"If a student is a sports management major, we connect them with the YCFL football league and if they have a finance background, we have them help us devise a system for the church budget, for example," he said. "We like to use them where they are so at the end of the program, they have a project they would have completed over the summer."

Mack said he loves to see the growth of the young people at the end of the program versus when they first came in.

"I have personally witnessed where a student come in and they know about the reality they have to work one day, but they

really don't understand that world, so there is a fear there," he continued. "So what we try to do is give them information so they won't have to operate in that fear and give them information to prepare them of what to expect."

The program is open to all students from churches around the city. One student has come as far as South Carolina to be involved with the internship.

"We just want to fill the gap so we can start producing business people from the local church," Mack said. "Then they can take those principles into the marketplace and they impact the marketplace with principles from the church without even saying it's the church."



Submitted photo
Vendors hand out information to residents at the North Winston Neighborhood Association Community Block Party on June 15.

Neighborhood association hosts first community block party

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The North Winston Neighborhood Association (NWN) held its first Community Block Party on Friday, June 15, at Ivy Avenue. The association is a Northeast neighborhood community that encompasses neighborhoods and streets within the borders of North Patterson Avenue; Indiana Avenue; Liberty Street and Northwest Boulevard. The North Winston Neighborhood Association was established in 1999 at St. James A.M.E. Church, under President Rodney Sumler.

The block party was a free community event, in coordination with Neighbors for Better Neighbors, which provided community connection information to residents. Neighbors also communed together with food, fun and conversation.

Through community conversations with vendors, residents received information on community gardens, their legal rights as renters, as voters and as parents

with students in school. They were also informed of financial health, and the children received inspiration through art and the spoken word.

Vendors in attendance were Vibe Funktion (exhibition art), Legal Aid, Financial Pathways, Winston-Salem Police Department, Neighbors for Better Neighborhoods, Ambassadors Cathedral and St. James A.M.E. Church. There was information distribution from Experiment in Self-Reliance, Community Care, Winston-Salem Parks and Recreation and City Housing.

The officers of the North Winston Neighborhood Association (NWN) are: James Maurice Barber Sr., president; Chenita Johnson, secretary; and Eva Gray-Allen, treasurer. The association meets 6 p.m. every fourth Monday of the month, alternating between Ambassadors Cathedral on Harriet Tubman Drive and St. James A.M.E. Church, on North Patterson Avenue.

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NCDOT TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS ON LEWISVILLE CLEMMONS ROAD (S.R. 1103) FROM CLEMMONS ROAD (U.S. 158) TO SOUTH PEACE HAVEN ROAD (S.R. 1891) FORSYTH COUNTY

TIP PROJECT NO. U-6004

The N.C. Department of Transportation will hold a public meeting regarding the proposed project to improve Lewisville Clemmons Road (S.R. 1103) from Clemmons Road (U.S. 158) to South Peace Haven Road (S.R. 1891) in Clemmons. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 10th from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the River Oaks Community Church located at 1855 Lewisville Clemmons Road in Clemmons.

The primary purpose of this project is to address safety issues. Another purpose is to improve flow and reduce traffic delays, particularly through the interchange.

The public may drop-in at any time during the meeting hours. A brief presentation will be made at 4 p.m., 5 p.m., and 6 p.m. Each presentation will be the same. There will not be a Q&A session during these presentations; instead, attendees will have an opportunity to talk one-on-one with project team representatives. The opportunity to submit comments will also be provided at the meeting or via email, or mail by August 8, 2018. Comments received will be taken into consideration as the project develops.

Project information and materials can be viewed as they become available online at <http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/publicmeetings>.

For additional information, contact Connie James, P.E., NCDOT Division 9 Project Engineer at 375 Silas Creek Parkway, Winston Salem, NC 27127, (336) 747-7800, or ckjames1@ncdot.gov.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this meeting. Anyone requiring special services should contact Caitlyn Ridge, P.E., Environmental Analysis Unit Public Involvement Officer at ceridge1@ncdot.gov or (919) 707-6091 as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Persons who speak Spanish and do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, may receive interpretive services upon request prior to the meeting by calling 1-800-481-6494.

Aquellas personas que hablan español y no hablan inglés, o tienen limitaciones para leer, hablar o entender inglés, podrán recibir servicios de interpretación si los solicitan antes de la reunión llamando al 1-800-481-6494.

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