

Highlights from the Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center's God Glorious Charity Ride 2019

This is a release from Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center (BRLC): Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center's Glorious Charity Ride was filled with unity of hearts as riders and BRLC volunteers' borders are enlarging. Through the outreach of neighbors, local businesses, churches, and the medias this annual event continues, to be a successful community affair. Ascthis event continues, BRLC is able to ensure that families are not hungry year 'round.

New and gently used donated items from the community and surrounding areas made the Annual Huge Yard Sale a great success. All volunteers were ask to wear their orange t-shirts to honor the beginning of fall.

The morning started out with volunteers on the job moving yard sale items onto the yard and decorating with God's muscles and love. Anson County Manager Mr. Barron Monroe arrived early, along with the BRLC board of volunteers. He rolled up his sleeves, as we all did, asking what he could do to help. No one was standing around as spectators. In a community everyone helps, no matter what the job is. He began to carry chairs and move tables, doing whatever was needed.

The opening ceremony consisted of words from County Manager Monroe, Sheriff Landric Reid, Burnsville Assistant Fire & Rescue Chief Kyle Leary and Wadesboro Middle School Teacher Gregory Tillman. Each person who spoke gave words of inspiration to the audience.

Before the Glorious Charity Ride began, breakfast was served to everyone. Breakfast consisted of grits, bacon, eggs, sausage, toast, fruits, juice, coffee and water. When the bikers returned from their 2 hour ride lunch was served, with grilled hot dogs, hamburgers, baked beans slaw, sweet potatoe pie, peach cobbler and other fixings.

A fall leaf was given to each rider. The leaf commemorated the former volunteer Roger Thomas. He always rode with the God Glorious bikers when possible. His support and strength is missed. The after school students created the leaves to be distributed to each rider in honor of him.

A total of 44 bikers from Anson, Cabarrus, Union, Mecklenburg, Duval and Stanly counties made this event one to remember.

Carol Smith, Director of BRLC said, "BRLC volunteers are the fuel that keeps BRLC moving. We will continue to rise to the call of helping our fellow man. I would like to give a big Thank You to all volunteers. This event would not have been successful without you."

The volunteers were: Laura Sikes, Nathan Sikes, Jeremy Sikes, Taylor Rorie, Jewel Brewer, Nelson Jackson, James Brewer, Mitchel Liles, Bobby Sturdivant, Johnny Burns, Lucy Smith. Marcella Broadway. Marshall Caple. Harvey Broadway, Louis Smith, Danny Sikes, Inez Williamson, Joyce Ledbetter, Treamenda Caple, Kayesha Nivens, Georgia Blackman, David Perry, Margaret Ridehour, Jamyia Brewer, Rose Brewer, Malerie Selph, Deloris Hammond, Rebecca Hersey. Sarah Hersey, Janis Bennett and Leslie Brewer.

HOLLA! Eagles Reach the Pinnacle of Tennis



Brenre Taylor and Za'Kiyah Hixson

were in New York for the U.S. Open Tennis Tournament. At the U.S. Open, the two were able to go on center court for Net Generation's promotion for Youth Tennis. They also witnessed the unveiling of the Althea Gibson statue and completed tennis demonstrations. It was through a partnership with Mr. Lenny Simpson that they could be present at one of the sport's most respected and highly anticipated events. Simpson is a retired professional tennis player and founder of the One Love Tennis Foundation in Wilmington, NC.

Alex Gaddy, HOLLA's Activities Director, credits the Eagles Tennis Team's success to member participation. "The young people work so hard with very little resources, and in the tennis world they are over-achievers based on that alone", he said. His

This is a release from HOLLA !: The HOLLA! Eagles Tennis Team is continuing its' goal of striving for excellence. In one month's time, members had the opportunity to attend two prestigious events. In July, Eagles Brenre Taylor, Jeremiah Kirkley, and Za'Kiyah Hixson traveled to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. There, they observed and competed in matches for the American Tennis Association's National Tournament. Taylor was paired against the top teen at the tournament. Hixson won a match in the

12-year-old category. In August, Taylor and Hixson



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networking has contributed to the connection with Simpson's non-profit.

Simpson, a Wilmington, North Carolina native, was encouraged by tennis legend, Althea Gibson, to pursue a place in the sport. He later traveled alongside Arthur Ashe and became close friends with him. According to LSTEF's website, its' mission is "to empower and inspire young people, ages 6-12, especially those at risk, to lead healthy, productive lives through participation in a tennis and academic enrichment program."

The HOLLA! Eagles Tennis program was started in 2013 through the LET'S MOVE project funded by a grant from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust. Founder and CEO of HOLLA! Leon Gatewood had the vision and foresight to include a regulationsized tennis court in the plans of the HOLLA! Center's design. Activities Director Gaddy was able to consult with people for resources to help build the tennis program. In doing so, HOLLA! recruited the late coach Alan Blackwell, a well-known tennis professional. HOLLA! also forged partnerships with the USTA, a top governing body of American tennis. Of the tennis program, Gatewood explained, "it has validated the need for the sport in our local schools; we need to give our students an opportunity to play tennis".

The community has been a stark supporter of the program from day one. Travel and

participation have been totally funded from donations from the private sector and generous individuals. For inquiries about enrolling a child into the tennis team or to support the program, please contact Alex Gaddy at 704-851-3144. Donations can be mailed to: HOLLA! P.O. Box 88 Wadesboro, NC 28170

HOLLA! is a 501 c 3 non-profit Commu-Development nity Corporation founded in 2005 to help motivate children to succeed through exposure to amazing people, places and things, while enlarging their social capital. organization The operates from a facility located at 229 East Main Street in Morven, NC. For more information call 704.851.3144.



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