



Carlton Tyson

A donation from Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Tyson and family to South Piedmont Community College will be used to strengthen technical and vocational training and provide student scholarships. It represents the largest gift in the college's history. At a dedication ceremony on September 8, SPCC's Center for Technology & Health Education will be renamed the Tyson Family Center for Technology. The building is where much of the impact from Tyson's generous gift will be seen.

SPCC Foundation Executive Director Dr. Laura Byrd said, "Through this generous gift, the Tyson family is making a strong investment in our students and in the communities we serve, making them better places to live and work."

Tyson, CEO and founder of Ty-Par Realty, a successful commercial real estate and development company in Monroe for nearly 50 years, also serves as vice chairman of the SPCC Foundation. While he is reluctant to be recognized for his generosity, he said that it's important to the close-knit Tyson family, which includes his wife Carol and children Christa and Mark, that future generations of the family understand the importance of giving back to a community that has been so good to them.

At SPCC, Tyson sees a lot of potential in the building soon to be renamed for him and his family. Initial renovation of the former warehouse/distribution center was completed in 2013, providing 12,000 square feet for classrooms and specialty labs for Advanced Manufacturing, Industrial Maintenance, and Construction Technologies. Renovation plans include a second floor for the bay warehouse area, bringing total usable area to approximately 75,000 square feet.



is involved in this work." Tyson said his formula for success has always been "a positive attitude, plus hard work, equals success." It's a formula he hopes countless others in our community will follow - for generations to come.

Because of my background, I can appreciate the families in our community who struggle to send kids off to college," Tyson said.

"South Piedmont is a great place for people to get a jumpstart toward a great career - and maybe even own their own business. That's our vision and why my family



### Toys for Tots Christmas in July Carnival

The Anson County Toys for Tots campaign hosted their first annual Christmas in July Carnival on Saturday, July 9 at Hatcher's Park in Lilesville. Each Executive Board member volunteered to sponsor a carnival booth.

Toys for Tots Coordinator Vancine Sturdivant said, "The purpose of having this event in July was to try and raise funds to help purchase toys for our youth at Christmas. With the economic challenges

facial citizens, the Toys for Tots Executive Board believes contributors may be able to help more earlier in the year. During the holidays people are more concerned with their families and making sure Santa comes to their homes. If we can start early with our fundraising projects, this will ensure a great Christmas for our less fortunate."

During the carnival some of the booths available were: Playaz Elite Motorcycle Club provided motorcycles for the public to take pictures on; Booze It & Lose It Golf Cart; bounce house; basketball, corn toss; bingo; cake auction; ice cream cones; Dee Dee's Famous Grilled Chicken; Dr. Bernice Bennett's Famous Hot Dogs; snow cones & popcorn and Gumby's Famous Chicken & Fish Boats.

The raffle for a computer tablet, Panthers tickets, a 19" tv, a bicycle and a set of luggage was held at noon. During the raffle drawing Tucker Pearson was recognized for selling the most tickets.

Sturdivant continued, "Thank you to Holla's Leon Gatewood and Kim Harrington for providing the music, Kishia Dunlap for presiding over the program, Oasis Development, Johnny Jackson, Nicholette Spencer, Ycaza Robinson and Elissa Sturdivant."

Sturdivant added, "A special thank you goes out to the Lilesville Fire Department and Chief Marty Morton, Lilesville Police Chief Bobby Gallimore, Matthew Walker, Lilesville Town Clerk Lynn Whitlock and Rodney Gatewood. Without the cooperation of Chief Gallimore, Chief Morton, Matthew Walker, Mayor Richard Harrington and the Lilesville Town Commissioners none of this would have been possible. We also thank attorney Fred Poisson who not only came and shared time with us, but purchased tickets for every youth present so that they had a chance in the raffle. And, thank you to attorney Evadne Smith-Little for your support with the raffle ticket sales."

Sturdivant concluded, "The Toys for Tots Christmas in July Carnival will be an annual event. With the ticket raffle, and the booth and food vendors, we raised over \$3,500."

Pastor Mark Perko challenged all churches to take a box and begin collecting toys for Toys for Tots. For more information on how to help Toys for Tots, or to get a box for your church, call Vancine Sturdivant at 704-848-4412.

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