



Family Services employees (from left) Stephanie Jiminez, Quinstar Coleman and Fulton McSwain lay flowers in memory of domestic violence victims.

Awareness

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the nation. She has been featured on Dateline, "Survivors" on the Bio Channel, and in Oprah Winfrey's O Magazine, and regularly travels around the country to share her story of survival. Last week, she returned to her hometown to share her tale at the Broad Street headquarters of Family Services, Inc., which is hosting a series of domestic violence awareness programs this month.

"Her experiences read like a Lifetime movie, but do trust, it's real," DeWanna Hamlin, prevention and education coordinator for Family Services' Safe Relationships Division, said. "She loved, she lost ... and now she lives to use her voice."

Dozens attended Family Services' "Day of Unity." They donned hues of purple in support of Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October) and gathered to celebrate the triumphs of those who have survived heinous acts at the hands of intimate partners or family members. Family Services offers a number of programs for domestic violence survivors, including a



Hamlin

shelter for women and their children.

"I always think it's important to take the time away from work to celebrate," said Hamlin. "Often between the crisis calls and grant reports ... we do forget we have a lot to celebrate."

Day of Unity is also a time to remember those who lost their lives as a result of domestic abuse. Domestic violence remains a top cause of death for young women, especially.

"We look back not to remain in the past, but to learn from it," Hamlin said. "We remember the loss, we grieve for the tragedy, and we heal as best we can."

Though her emotions got the best of her at times during her brief remarks, Cockerham's unconquerable spirit and zest for life were evident as she made an impassioned plea to others to become advocates for victims and survivors.

"I'm looking to end domestic violence in my lifetime," she declared. "In my lifetime, I've seen enough."

Cockerham's remarks were followed by a commemoration ceremony in remembrance of the 60 Forsyth

County residents who lost their lives to domestic violence between 1995-2012.

Yesterday, Family Services was slated to continue its Domestic Violence Awareness Month activities with its Annual Meeting of the Domestic Violence Community Council. The meeting was to include a panel discussion with Forsyth County District Attorney Jim O'Neill, Sheriff Bill Schatzman, District Court Judge William Reingold and two representatives from the Winston-Salem Police Department.

"A lot of times, I hear, 'Why don't we hear their voices at the table - the decision makers?'" Hamlin told the audience on Friday. "This is an awesome opportunity to hear from and dialogue with them."

The agency will host the Home Free Luncheon to End Domestic Violence at Bridger Field House on Oct. 11, and the Fourth Annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event on Oct. 13 at BB&T Ballpark. Family Services is collecting baskets of cleaning supplies for Survivors in Transition throughout the month.

For a full slate of Domestic Violence Awareness month activities, visit www.familyserv.org.

'Carmen Jones' returning to big screen

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Piedmont Opera is sponsoring a screening of the groundbreaking 1954 film "Carmen Jones" on Sunday, Oct. 14 at 8 p.m. at aperture cinema, 311 W. Fourth St.

The screening is one of several promotional events the Opera is holding to promote its staging of Bizet's "Carmen," the timeless opera that inspired the film, which stars Dorothy Dandridge, Harry Belafonte, Pearl Bailey and Diahann Carroll.

For her performance in the film, Dandridge montopera.org.

became the first black woman to be nominated for the Best Actress Academy Award. The movie won a Golden Globe in the Best Motion Picture - Musical or Comedy category.

Tickets to the screening are \$10 each and can be purchased in advance online at www.aperturecinema.com. Contact the cinema at 336-722-8148 for more information.

The Piedmont Opera's "Carmen" will be staged Oct. 26, 28 and 30 at the Stevens Center. Tickets start at \$15 and may be purchased in advance at

Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce

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RAMIVERSARY

OCTOBER 13 - 20

Saturday, October 13

7:00 p.m.

Homecoming Fashion Show

Host: B-Daht

K.R. Williams Auditorium

Stu. Adv.: \$7; Stu. Door: \$10; General: \$15

12:00 midnight - 4:00 a.m.

Homecoming Pre-Dawn

Featuring: DJ Drama

C.E. Gaines Gym

Stu. Adv.: \$13, Stu. Door: \$15, General: \$15

Sunday, October 14

4:00 p.m.

Homecoming Gospel Play

Mama's Girls

Dillard Auditorium - Free with ticket only

Tuesday, October 16

6:00 p.m.

Homecoming Lecture/ Poetry Showcase

Host: Dasan Ahanu

Featuring: MC Lyte

K.R. Williams Auditorium

Stu. Adv.: Free; Stu. Door: \$5;

General: \$10

Wednesday, October 17

7:00 p.m.

Homecoming Comedy Show

Host: B-Daht and special guest!!!

Featuring: The Hudson Brothers and Lil Duval

K.R. Williams Auditorium

Stu. Adv.: \$7; Stu. Door: \$10; General: \$15

Thursday, October 18

9:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.

Red and Black Affair

Host: Kyle Santillian

Featuring: Pusha T and Curren\$y

Millennium Center -

Downtown W-S

Stu. Adv.: \$20;

Stu. Door: \$25;

General: \$30

Friday, October 19

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

RAM Rave

Featuring: Da Reaction Band (Go Go)

Thompson Center Breezeway

Friday, October 19

Doors open at 6:00 p.m./ show starts at 7:00 p.m.

Homecoming Alumni Step Show

Host: Chico Bean

C.E. Gaines Gym

Stu. Adv.: \$15; Stu. Door: \$20; General: \$25



Be sure to check www.ramhomecoming.com for event updates.

For ticket information, call 336-750-3220

