



Photo by Zavior Pratt
 Friends of Winston Salem members shown (L-R) are Sharon Marshall, Linda Lindsay, Winnie Speas, Sharon Pratt, Sandy Porter, Carrie Fitzgerald, Shirley Bishop, and Elaine Bevels. Absent members are: Carolyn Hayes, Kay Hawkins, Priscilla Jackson-Wiggins, Kim McKenzie-Banks, Mamie Nesbitt, Daisy Walker and Sylvia White

Women's club supports scholarships, other causes

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Friends of Winston Salem supports the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Emancipation Association as it gives scholarships. The club attended the 2016 annual celebration of Emancipation at Morning Star Baptist Church on Jan. 1.

FRIENDS, a community based organization, has supported the scholarship program for over 20 years.

FRIENDS was established in April 1992 when two very close friends, Elaine Bevels and Sandy Porter, thought that there were a lot of intelligent and caring African-American women who could make a difference in the community.

They called a select group of their friends together at Bevels' home to discuss their concept of helping themselves and the community. Out of that meeting, the social/community club FRIENDS was born.

In addition to the support of the Emancipation Association Scholarship Fund, FRIENDS supports the Cherry Hill Apartments for Seniors, Elizabeth & Tab William Adult Day Center, Project Hope, women and children in need and many other areas of need.

It is under the current leadership of President Sharon Pratt. The board consists of 15

Big Brothers Big Sisters recognizes January as National Mentor Month

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

January is National Mentor Month and for Big Brothers Big Sisters, the theme is: "It All Starts With A Little." National Mentor Month is an opportunity to bring more awareness to the importance of mentoring and how it can impact a child's life.

On Friday, Jan. 15, Mayor Allen Joines will make a proclamation declaring it National Mentor Day and some mentors will share their stories.

"Mentoring is powerful, and can help change the direction of a child's life," said Shawan Gabriel, president/ CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters.



Gabriel

"Mentoring is linked to improved academic, social and economic prospects for your people, and that ultimately strengthens our community."

Research has shown that when matched through a quality mentoring program, mentors can play a powerful role in providing a young person with the tools to make responsible decisions, stay focused and engaged in school, and avoid risky behaviors.

Mentoring relationships are basic human connections that let a young person know that they mat-

ter, and mentors are there to help and encourage them in a unique and positive way. As we focus on engaging more of the community in volunteering as mentors, we will share a simple message: "All It Takes Is A Little."

Big Brothers Big

Sisters Services Inc. serves Forsyth and Davie County working with more than 500 children each year. To get involved and learn more about becoming a mentor, contact Big Brothers Big Sisters at 336-724-7993 or email volunteer@bbbsnc.org.

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