

YWCA Empowering Family Center sponsors the K-1st Graders Excellence

By FELECIA P. MCMILLAN
Special to the Chronicle

Courtney Saunders is the director of the YWCA Empowering Family Center's K-1st Graders Excellence Program. The Monday-Friday sessions began Feb. 3, 4-6 p.m., and the Saturday sessions began Feb. 8 and are held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The family center is directly across the street from the Winston-Salem Chronicle. There are 66 students enrolled in the Saturday sessions and 63 in the weekly classes.

"We want to teach our children to stay on task so they can complete assignments," said Saunders. "It is very important to begin early on this skill, because incomplete assignments can develop into a big problem later. Our children are often eager to play, but not eager to work, so we try to stress sticking to the task."

The Excellence Program is free to all kindergartners and first-graders whose parents want them to have additional practice in number and letter identification, writing their names and addresses, and spelling sight words. Many of the participants in the program have been referred by their teachers, but the program is open to all who want to attend.

Lizbeth Smith brings her son Victor to the excellence classes. "I teach Victor Spanish at home, and I think this program will help him with his English," she said.

According to Saunders, the program could use additional volunteers in order to instruct groups of five. Her son Jerry Saunders helps students with Math and Reading. He is a senior at Glenn High School.

Malissa Dance, a volunteer for the excellence program, works regularly at the Human Resources Office at Forsyth Technical College. She works with the academic program and helps prepare snacks for the sessions. She plans to solicit fruit and other nutritious snacks from companies and food stores around the community.

Volunteer Anthony Griffin



Tamika Singletary and Renaldo Caldwell help the students with a list of sight words.

said "We need to give more time to our children and to our community. Our children are our future." His nephew Christopher attends the program. Griffin also volunteers at Sherwood Forest, where his children attend school. He volunteers in their computer lab.

Adults and youths from various churches and organizations volunteer their time with the young people in the Excellence Program. Students from the Upward Bound Program at Winston-Salem State University come each Saturday. Tameja Thompson is the president of Upward Bound and a senior at North Forsyth High School. She plans to continue coming to help the children because, she said, she believes it is her responsibility to contribute to her community in a positive way.

Renaldo Caldwell is a junior from Glenn High School. He believes that the excellence program is very worthwhile. He has had experience working with children during a summer youth camp, and he has enjoyed assisting the young people so far and plans to continue.

Sophomore Tamika Singletary attends Parkland High

School. She wants to be an elementary school teacher. "Working in the excellence programs gives me a chance to work with young children and prepare for my future career," she said.

Ricky May is a parent whose two boys have been coming to the empowering center for two years. His sons have participated in the summer program and the Marching Angels program. "The activities they sponsor here are positive, and they help keep kids off of the street," said May. May encourages more parents to volunteer and to bring their children to participate in the activities.

Angela Childs is the sponsor for the Archonettes, who also volunteer for the excellence program. The Archonettes are sponsored by the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. Ashia Judkins, Nicole McLaurin, and Michelle Chadwick are in this service group. They are a group of young women ages 14-18 who offer services throughout the community.

Patricia "Vickie" Robinson is a part-time programmer during the after-school program from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Currently 40 students are enrolled from Lewisville and Clemmons schools. The students are bused to

the empowering center from their respective schools. Parents pick their children up at 6 p. m. at the Center. This program is free for K-5th graders who may need help in homework assignments and in clearing up concepts that could help them pass on to the next grade level. K-1st graders also

come during the week. The after-school enrollment is 63 students.

Another program at the center is the Rehearsal & Such Program for male students ages 5-11. The sessions focus on grammar, writing, spelling, hygiene, sexual responsibility (age appropriate),

conflict resolution, team work, and drum rehearsal. The enrollment in this program is 55 students. It is held on Saturdays from 1 to 4:30 p.m.

According to Saunders, the center serves 1,200 families per year.

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Dean of Salem College to speak at WSSU

Dr. Eileen B. Wilson-Oyelaran, dean of Salem College, will be the featured speaker for the Joseph N. Patterson Lecture and Assembly Series at Winston-Salem State University Wednesday, March 19, at 10 a.m. The lecture will take place in room 228 in the Hall-Patterson Building on the campus.

Wilson-Oyelaran earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Pomona College. She has a master's degree and a doctorate degree in education from Claremont Graduate School.

Before becoming dean at Salem College in 1995, Wilson-Oyelaran spent a year as a fellow with the American Council on Education, working in the

offices of the provost and the president of Wake Forest University. She is a former chair of the Department of Education at Winston-Salem State University and the vice dean of the School of Social Sciences at Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile-Ife, Nigeria.

Wilson-Oyelaran has administered several grants pertaining to educational programs for public school students and teachers. She has edited a selection of readings, contributed articles to several books and journals. She is also a sought-after lecturer and an activist in the community.

The Joseph N. Patterson Lecture and Assembly Series is a part of the Lyceum Program at



Dr. Eileen B. Wilson-Oyelaran

Winston-Salem State University. Featured lecturers speak on a variety of topics. Wilson-Oyelaran's lecture is free and open to the public.

Fraternity, youth group to hold conference

The Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. and Sigma Beta Conference (Youth group for ages 12-16) will have their conference in Winston-Salem March 14-15. Several events are open to the public.

The conference will feature a public oratorical and debate contest, a step competition at the Anderson Center, an exhibitions contest, and an AIDS awareness rap session. Tom Albert of the Winston-Salem AIDS Task

Force will lead the discussion. Jocole Gilchrist and Mario Friendly will lead a session on the topic "Sigma Beta Rebuilding the Image." Head football coach Kermit Blount from Winston-Salem State University will collaborate with WJMH Radio and the Delta Sigma Chapter to present "Athletes are Students Too" as a topic.

The Sigma Beta will hold a Youth Lock-up and tour the Black Inventors exhibit at Sci-

Works. The Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Dinner and Dance will follow.

The conference will feature national president of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., Carter Womack.

The Alpha Alpha Gamma Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. and the Delta Sigma Chapter will host this event at the Radisson Marquee Hotel in Winston-Salem.

CME Women's Missionary Council meets in Houston

The Executive Board of the Women's Missionary Council of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church met in Houston, Texas, Feb. 25-March 1, at the Adams Mark Hotel. The quadrennial theme is Discipleship 2000: A Missionary Calling.

The executive sessions included the community service, the committee meetings, the business sessions, the missionary

education training sessions, the overseas missions training, the presidents' supper, the dinner meeting, the Phyllis H. Bedford Prayer Breakfast, and the closing service of rededication. A special Phyllis H. Bedford Retreat was held March 1-2.

In attendance from the Winston-Salem area were Marvelle Wilson Willoughby (Connecticut Commission on Missionary

Education and Carolina Conference Historical chairperson), Dinah Pettigrew (Phyllis H. Bedford Breakfast participant), Eula Goodwin (Logan Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church), the Rev. Bobby Best (pastor, St. John Christian Methodist Episcopal Church), and the Rev. Dr. Lloyd L. Watkins Sr. (pastor, Hanes Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church).

Annual Spring Revival at Goler Memorial

The Annual Spring Revival at Goler Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church is set for Monday, March 24 - Thursday, March 27th.

The evangelist will be Rev. Terry L. Jones, Sr., pastor of Warner Temple A.M.E. Zion Church in Wilmington, NC.

The theme of the revival is, "All Things Are Possible To Them That Believe."

Rev. Terry Jones is a native of Jacksonville, Florida. He is very active on all levels of the A.M.E. Zion Church, serving on a number of Boards and commissions, including the Connectional Board on Evangelism. In addition to his pastoral responsibilities Rev. Jones is in much demand as conference speaker, and preacher and has traveled much representing his denomination in ecumenical gatherings,

including a trip to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for the World Methodist Conference on Evangelism.

Under his leadership at Warner Temple, the congregation has recently completed the building of a new ultra-modern church edifice at a cost of more than \$800,000.00.



Rev. Jones is married to the former Donzila Singleton of Henderson, NC and they are the parents of three sons: Terry Jr., Justin Bernard, and Joshua Alan.

Seminars will be held 6:30-7:30 nightly, along with devotion and prayer and praise services at 7:30 to 8:00 PM. Preaching will begin at 8 PM.

Seminars and presenters are:

- Sunday** - "How To Have A Tithing Church," Rev. Seth Lartey
- Monday** - "Parenting" Mrs. Melanee Mills, Guidance Counselor, Winston-Salem Forsyth County Schools
- Tuesday** - "Let's Get To Know Each Other." "What White and Black Christians Need To Know About Each Other." Rick Down, pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church
- Wednesday** - "Dealing With Grief After the Death of A Loved One" Ms. Frankie Lane, Therapist, High Point Mental Health Center.
- Thursday** - "Overcoming Pain and Hurt in An Abusive Relationship."

Devotion Service Leader - Rev. Dairle Scott, pastor of Hickory Grove A.M.E. Zion
Spiritual Singing Leader - L.B. Spears, Center Grove A.M.E. Zion

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Goler Memorial is located at
630 N. Patterson Avenue
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Rev. Dr. Seth O. Lartey, Pastor

