

Family, friends gather to celebrate loved-one's birthday

Amanda Brown Williford is escorted by grandson Shawn Williford and son Michael Williford.



SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The family of Amanda Brown Williford recently celebrated her 80th birthday with a celebration at the Hawthorne Inn Ballroom. Williford was chauffeured to the event in a limousine and was greeted by her children, grandchildren, friends and other relatives.

The Joe Robinson Quartet performed Stevie Wonder's version of "Happy Birthday." There were other special musical guests as well. Bishop John Heath blessed the crowd with "Never Could Have Made It" by Marvin Sapp and "Just a Closer Walk with Thee." Laura Smith sang the beautiful melody "The Battle Is Not Yours, It's The Lord's." And Chris Murrel sang "Have Thine on Way Lord" and "Misty." Even two of Williford's granddaughters, Paris and Krystal Williford, entertained the crowd and their grandmother with "You Didn't Bring Me This Far To Leave Me."

A celebratory proclamation from the City of Winston-Salem and Mayor Allen Joines praised Williford for her understanding the true meaning of citizenship. During the serving of the dinner a slide show was presented with pictures of the birthday girl with her family and friends over the years. During the entire event, Williford's son Dwayne Williford and his family, who live in Japan, were present via web-cam. At the end of the celebration, Williford thanked all of those who made her special day possible.

Kiwanis Club gift will help kids go camping

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Piedmont Kiwanis Club recently presented YMCA Camp Hanes, with a \$1,000 gift to be used to provide two local youth with scholarships for overnight resident camp.

As part of that mission, Kiwanis Club chapters across the world provide monetary gifts to local nonprofits that serve children. The Piedmont Kiwanis Club has chosen Camp Hanes for the second year as one of its recipients. Alan Kirby, President of the Club, presented the check to Camp Hanes Executive Director Val Elliott at the Club's March 17 meeting.

"Val Elliot inspired our group to want to support Camp Hanes. We have members who grew up in this area and have fond memories of Camp Hanes from their youth," said Kirby. "Being Kiwanis, we aim to develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive and service-

able citizenship. Working with children of all ages allows us to accomplish this goal."

The Kiwanis Club's 2008 gift to the Camp Hanes Partner with Youth fund allowed two Walkertown Middle School Builders Club students - Dalton Woody and Will Rierson - to attend Camp Hanes last summer. The students shared their camp experience with Kiwanis Club members during the meeting.

"We appreciated getting to go to Camp Hanes and we have a bunch of great memories," said Woody. "We just want to thank you guys."

The new gift will allow other students to attend the camp, which is about 30 minutes outside of Winston-Salem at the base of Sauratown Mountain.

"We sponsor the Builders Club at Walkertown Middle School so we hope that both children who go to Camp Hanes through this scholarship will come from that school as they did last year,"

Kirby said.

Through the Builders Club, the Kiwanis Club members help students develop skills and understanding of leadership and community involvement.

Elliott said support from organizations like the Kiwanis Club opens doors of opportunity for local youngsters.

"We appreciate your gift to our Partner with Youth fund, which allows us to offer financial assistance to children who might not otherwise be able to attend Camp," said Elliott. "These boys are the greatest testimonial of what Camp can do for young people. You haven't just given them a week of Camp. You have given them experiences that they will keep for a lifetime. You have shared your faith and hope with them and with us. Thank you."

For more information about Camp Hanes, visit www.camphanes.org or call 336-983-3131.



Val Elliott, Dalton Woody, Will Rierson and Alan Kirby.

Play will be staged at Wentz

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Flonnie Anderson Theatrical Association (FATA) will present Archibald MacLeish's "J.B.," a two-act poetic tale of suffering and redemption, at Wentz Memorial United Church of Christ, 3435 Carver School Road, on April 3-4 at 7:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 5.

This is a version of the Book of Job in modern dress by the well-known and popular poet Archibald MacLeish, former head of the Library of Congress. It is a discussion of the problem of good and evil, of God and Satan, of submissions to an overruling will and wisdom just as the Bible story is, from which it quotes large portions. Unto the simple moving story of the Bible, he has added his sense of theatre, by the use of masks, lighting, and above all two protagonists Mr. Zuss and Mr. Nickles.

The play is set in a modern circus. Two vendors, Mr. Zuss and Nickles, begin the

play-within-a-play by assuming the roles of God and Satan, respectively. They watch J.B. (the biblical equivalent to Job), a wealthy banker, describe his prosperity as a just reward for his faithfulness to God. Scorning, Nickles (Satan) challenges Zuss (God) that J.B. will curse God if his life is ruined. The vendors observe as J.B.'s children and property are destroyed in horrible accidents and the former millionaire takes to the streets. J.B. is visited by three Comforters (representing

History, Science, and Religion), who offer contradicting explanations for his plight. He declines to believe any of them, instead calling out to God to show him the just cause for his punishment.

Tickets for the production are now available. Ticket prices are \$12 for adults/advance; \$15 at the door; \$6 for students; \$3 for children age six or younger. For more information about purchasing tickets call 336-767-4235 or 336-767-2805.



GENTLEMEN, INDEED



Members of Winston-Salem State University's Black Men for Change supported the recent effort to end sexual violence against women by serving as ushers for a campus production of the acclaimed "The Vagina Monologues." Garrard Taylor and Neiman Marcus Murrell, left, were among the Black Men for Change who helped ladies to their seats.

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