

Walk

from page B1

really experiencing what it's like to be them."

Mar-Que Harris was one of more than 20 members of the Winston-Salem State University student organization Black Men for Change who took part. Harris, a junior marketing major, said he was walking for the women in his own life.

"I'm here in support of women who have been through a struggle (with domestic violence)," he said. "It's some females in my family who have gone through some of those situations. I'm here on their behalf."

The walk held special significance for Chester Coleman Jr., a cook at a Golden Corral restaurant. Coleman, 22, is one of several members from Family Services' Time Out - a group for domestic violence offenders. He and other Time Out members voluntarily participated in Walk a Mile in Her Shoes.

"About a year back, I put my hands on my wife," admitted Coleman, a father of two. "I called the police on myself."

Coleman says he saw the error in his ways right away, and has worked hard to make a change in his life. He said

he was hopeful that the event would encourage women who were suffering to speak out about their experiences.

"It's something that really needs to be addressed," he said. "Women are dying everyday, and we don't even hear about it."



Leonard



Hamlin

A few women participated in the event, walking alongside the men; others held up signs and cheered the guys from sidewalks. DeWanna Hamlin, the coordinator of the Prevention and Education in the Safe Relationships Division of Family Services, was there to support the walkers.

"We have been working to bring about a change in domestic violence and sexual assault," Hamlin said. "A lot of people see it as a women's issue, but

we really need the men to work with us to bring about a change. It doesn't just affect the women who are victims; it affects the whole community."

Hamlin said she was hopeful the meaning of the walk would resonate with the participants long after their sore feet healed.

"We hope that there's a long-term affect in our community, and men will continue to stay engaged and work with us to find ways to end domestic violence," she said.

A&T alumni chapter plans busy year

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Twin City Alumni Chapter of North Carolina A&T State University is gearing up for another year. On the first Wednesday of each month - from September through June - the chapter meets at the Winston Lake Family YMCA, 901 Waterworks Road.

Residents of Winston-Salem and Kernersville are asked to support the fundraisers and events, which are held to provide scholarships Forsyth County students attending A&T. Alumni are invited to join the chapter and attend the meetings, which are an excellent way to keep the local alumni abreast of what is going on at their alma mater. Dues for the association are \$50 a year.

The Alumni Association offers scholarships to graduating high school seniors and continuing students at the university each semester in the amount of \$500. The scholarship becomes renewable if the student maintains a 3.0 grade point average. Scholarship recipients for Fall 2009 are entering freshmen Chris A. Webster and Camille L. Wilkerson, both of whom plan to major in chemistry. The continuing students who earned scholarships are: David Wardlow, a



From left/front row: Jeannette Proter, Terasa Williams-Biles, Carolyn Kerns, (back row) Ronald Kilgore, Lynda Breeden and Diane Piggott.

junior majoring in Civil Engineering; Justin Starks, a senior majoring in graphic communication; and Jerrod Hairston, a senior majoring in Electronics and Computers.

Carolyn Kerns is president of the chapter. The other officers are: Terasa Williams-Biles, vice president; Lynda Breeden, secretary; Jeannette Porter, assistant secretary; Diane Piggott, treasurer; Vanwood Banner, chaplain; and Ronald Kilgore, parliamentarian.



Sabrina Williamson-Gist with her father and grandson, Krishon.

Inmate's story inspires local church to start program

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The inspiration for Abba Father's Ministries' I.C.A.R.E. (Individuals Caring About Rehabilitation and Education) program for ex-offenders is expected to be released from federal prison after a more than 20-year sentence.

Sabrina Williamson-Gist says that her father, Johnny X. Williamson, is slated to leave the federal prison in Butner, NC. Williamson is a former Winston-Salem businessman who was convicted on several charges in 1989 and has been locked up since that time.

Williamson-Gist said that instead of being bitter, her father has used his time in prison to his advantage. He took classes to become a licensed barber and earned a college degree. His efforts to better himself inspired Pastor Scottie White Sr. of Abba Father's Ministries to start I.C.A.R.E. to help others achieve similar successes. White runs the program with his wife, Co-Pastor Earline White. I.C.A.R.E. has launched a prison mentoring project called Second Chance and is presently in the process of developing the a job training program for inmates.

Princeton professor to deliver Gray lecture

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Rev. Deborah K. Blanks, associate dean of Religious Life at Princeton University, will open Winston-Salem State University's 2009-2010 James A. Gray "Religion and Ethics in 21st Century America" Symposia Series on Thursday, Oct. 1, at 9:45 a.m. in Dillard Auditorium of the Albert H. Anderson Conference Center.



Rev. Blanks

Her lecture is free and open to the public.

Blanks is a native of Mount Vernon, NY. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ, and a Master of Divinity degree from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta.

She was among a select group of Navy Chaplains cho-

sen to do post graduate study during the 1989-90 academic year, and earned her Master of Theology degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ. For 10 years, Blanks served as an active duty United States Navy Chaplain. She was featured in Ebony and Jet magazines during her time in the Navy. Blanks - a soror of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority - was honorably discharged from the United States Naval Reserves at the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

Peppers

from page B3

Lesson: Artaxerxes, also known as Xerxes (Esther) gives Nehemiah, his cupbearer, permission to return to Jerusalem to rebuild its walls. The king issues papers that will guarantee his safe return to Jerusalem. Let's not forget that all Jews don't return. The book of Nehemiah tells the events that the third wave experiences. The major divisions of the book are the walls being rebuilt (1-6),

the renewal of the Covenant (7-12), and the purging of sins (13). Upon his arrival, not a word is uttered to anyone about his task. After surveying the conditions of the walls at night, he informs the local priests, ruling officials and nobles about his task. Convinced, they unite the people for this good work. Their enemies, mentioned earlier in chapter one, begin to discourage the people by ridiculing them. Responding to them, Nehemiah tells them about God's Plan while making it

plain that they can't be stopped. The work is organized according to specific portions of the walls. The men living closest to that section worked on it. The plan is to leave no gaps in the project. The opposition mounts an attack. The people are encouraged to keep the faith. To counter the opposition, he has half of the men guarding as the other half works. Amazingly, the walls are completed in 52 days (6:15).

Application: Very often a

large number of us seek various titles or leadership positions in our churches. Wanting to lead God's House is different from the secular world. Each of us is commissioned by God for a task, but all of us aren't called to leadership. Our study this month makes it quite plain that leadership isn't easy! Yes, it has highs and lows but are you equipped for them? What qualities should a leader possess? From Abraham to Nehemiah, God's leaders are faithful, courageous and obedient.

There's no mention about status, sex (Deborah) or perfection. God calls and prepares. He alone transforms the leaders. Each of the leaders studied this month prayed first, indicating their reliance on God and not themselves. He bestows His favor on those chosen. To bring it home, what kind of leader are you? Were you called by God? As leaders in our churches, are we mending the broken places where the enemy can enter to overpower and destroy?

DIXIE CLASSIC FAIR
TASTE the
THRILL

FAIR
FOOD
SHOWS

RIDES
CARNIVAL
GAMES

127 years and still the most fun families and friends can share. Come get your fill.
ADVANCE TICKETS ON SALE UNTIL OCT. 1ST.

OCT 2 thru 11, 2009

WINSTON-SALEM ★ DCFAIR.COM

