



Photo by Layla Garms

City Council Member Molly Leight and Florence Corpening embrace after Corpening's award is announced.

Women

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group not to shy away from obstacles they may encounter.

"Challenges come into our lives whether we are looking for them or not. It is often in those times of challenge that we are able to show our real gifts," Tutu said. "...We need your gift and we need you to nurture the gift and yourself. I ask you to always remember there is 'a pearl of great price within you.'"

Tutu reminded the women present to make their own health and well being a priority.

"As women ... one of the things we do so well is care for others and forget to care about ourselves, but how can you nurture others if you cannot honor and nurture that gift yourselves?" she questioned. "If we want to be role models for those who are coming after us, it is important that we teach them how to care for themselves."

Atkins Academic and Technology High School senior Tierra Wallace was the youngest of seven Women of Vision honored. Wallace, the recipient of the Student Leadership Award, has lent her support to a variety of community-driven efforts over the course of her high school career, including volunteering at the Bethesda Center, Samaritan Ministries, the YWCA Prom Give Away and as a Young Life leader.

"Before you can go into the world and make a difference in their lives, you have to start with home first," surmised Wallace, the oldest of four children.

Wallace has also worked for the past three summers at the YWCA Best Choice Center, and volunteers weekly at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.

"My favorite community service effort is definitely (volunteering at) Baptist Hospital," said the aspiring physical therapist. "I've always wanted to be in the medical field. Not only does that give me inspiration and motivation ... but it also gives me an opportunity to give back."

Wallace, who is headed to UNCG next year, is also active in a variety of initiatives at her school. She says she often tells her peers about the value of community service work.

"Not only does it look good on your college application, but it helps you as a person," she said. "...I know people have given to me. That's why I'm here right now."

YWCA CEO Florence Corpening was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Corpening, who will retire June 8, listed the creation of the Gateway Y among her crowning achievements. She thanked her staff and supporters for making her more than 17 years at the YW's helm a success.

"I've been honored in my years to have some great people to work with," she said. "I want to congratulate every single one of our community pearls. Thank you for the work that you do, thank you for being the gift-givers that you are. I am truly blessed to be a part of this community and share the stage with you."

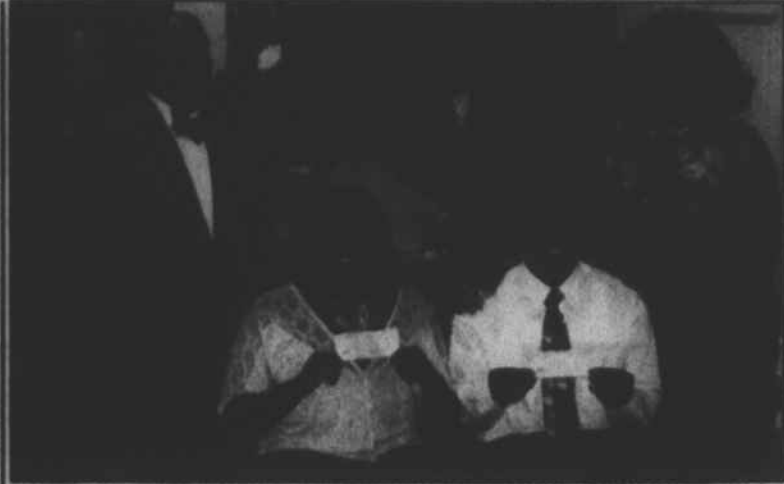
Though she is excited about the future, Corpening said leaving behind an organization she loves so deeply was bittersweet.

"It's kind of like a double-edged sword. I'm really glad ... but oh gosh, it's all over," she declared. "It's really been a great journey - I have no regrets."

Corpening, who was honored with a standing ovation, reflected the praise back unto the audience.

"My many years of service to this community has been my pleasure," she declared. "I have been rewarded much more than I have given."

Middle school teacher Iris Mudt, Prodigals Community Development Director Sally Dudley Harper, community volunteer Cheryl Lindsay; City Council Member Denise "DD" Adams; and Dr. Mary Lou Voytko, director of the Women's Health Center of Excellence for Research, Leadership and Education (WHCOE) at Wake Forest School of Medicine, were also honored with 2012 Women of Vision Awards.



Submitted Photo
Scholarship winners Treyaun Fulton and Brandi Kennedy (seated) with Committee Members (first row, from left) Gregory Bradsher, M e r t i c e Williams, Sonja Samuels, Debra Barr-Cloud, Iman Moore and (back) Chair Carol G. Mitchell, Kelli Perkins and Emory Jones.

Greek social affair to serve as scholarship fundraiser

BY LAYLA GARMS
THE CHRONICLE

Members of local Greek Letter Organizations (GLOs) are holding a party with a purpose next month.

The local Pan Hellenic Council will raise funds for its scholarship program on Friday, June 8 at its Second Annual After Work Social at Platinum Event and Entertainment Center.

The Pan Hellenic Council is made up of "the Divine Nine" historically black national fraternities and sororities: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

"It is the one organization in the country ... that allows all of the Greek Letter Organizations to come together to take on community action and community programs," explained Council President Greg Bradsher, a member of Omega Psi Phi. "It allows the community to see all the fraternities and sororities coming together and working on one common goal."

The event will feature drink specials, heavy hors d'ourves and music by DJ Scorpio. A large turnout will allow the Council to continue to help send local students to college.

For the last decade, the Council has awarded scholarships to deserving high school seniors on a biennial basis. Last year, the Council decided to up the ante by offering the scholarships annually.

"I think there's a great need to reward our students that have performed well, even if it

merely helps them purchase books their first year," Bradsher said. "With the way the economy is, I think it's needed. I think it's a benefit. Every little bit helps."

The inaugural event was a success, says Christopher Martin, who leads the Council's fundraising committee.

"It was a well received event," said Martin, the polemarch (president) of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity's local chapter. "We had people from all over come, we had people from out of town come. It was a big deal for us."

Two Parkland IB Magnet High School seniors, Treyaun Fulton and Brandi Kennedy, were the beneficiaries of last year's social. Both Fulton and Kennedy will attend UNC-Chapel Hill this fall. The two were chosen for scholarships from a pool of more than a dozen applicants based on a combination of factors including academic performance, community involvement and need, according to Bradsher, an administrator for the Triad ABC Board.

"Last year was a great success with 150 (attendees) so we really want to raise enough money this year to really make a statement," said Martin, a student advisor at Forsyth Technical Community College. "I would really like to see us either increase what we're giving or either add two more scholarships based on what we raise."

The Pan Hellenic After Work Social will be held Friday, June 8 from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Platinum Event & Entertainment Center, 875 W. Northwest Blvd. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. Dress code is business attire. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Martin at (336) 671-3410 or cmartin0808@aol.com.



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