

# COMMUNITY

SECTION B

Also Sports, Religion and Classifieds

AUGUST 30, 2012



## Community Calendar

### Mall fashion event

On Thursday, Sept. 6 from 6 - 9 p.m., Hanes Mall will host a Fashion's Night Out event, where select stores will feature unique events, food and promotions throughout the evening. Shoppers will be invited to support NC Triad Affiliate of Susan G. Komen as representatives pass out pink lapel ribbons. Macy's will host a "Fashion For a Cause" runway show, featuring breast cancer survivors beginning at 7 p.m.

### Anderson alumni tailgate

The A.H. Anderson High School Alumni Association invites alumni and friends to the WSSU Rams Football Tailgate on Saturday, Sept. 1 at the Bowman Gray Stadium Parking Lot. The tailgate begins at 2 p.m. and continues until game time at 6 p.m.

### Paisley reunion, trip

Paisley High classes 1962-68 will hold their reunion Labor Day Weekend. A meet and greet will be Aug. 31 and a dinner/dance will be Sept. 1. Also, John W. Paisley Alumni Association is planning a bus trip to the WSSU/Bowie State football game. The bus will leave Sept. 29 and return Sept. 30. For more information, contact Robert Noble at 336-764-0980 or Wanda Reader at 336-926-0656, or visit [www.paisleyalumni.org](http://www.paisleyalumni.org).

### Big House Gaines Gala

The Winston-Salem University Unsung Hero Committee will present the 9th Annual Clarence "Big House" Gaines Scholarship Awards Gala during Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 19-21, at the downtown Marriott Hotel. The attire is black tie. For tickets, call 336-766-7799 or email: [tandt42@msn.com](mailto:tandt42@msn.com).

### Trip for seniors

The Senior Travelers of Winston-Salem is sponsoring a trip to Charleston, S.C. on Oct. 26 and Oct. 27. The group will head home on Oct. 28. Call 336-201-2031 for more information.

### Parkland Class of '82 reunion

The Parkland Senior High School Class of '82 will hold its 30th Reunion on Saturday, Sept. 22 from 8 p.m. -1 a.m. at the Millennium Center, 101 West 5th St. Tickets are \$45. For more information, email [phsco82.reunion@gmail.com](mailto:phsco82.reunion@gmail.com).

### Atkins Reunion

Atkins High School Reunion, for classes 1943 through 1951, will have a Reunion Labor Day Weekend, Aug. 31 - Sept. 2. The reunion will honor Amos Harper, who organized this reunion of the classes. Anyone that is interested in attending the reunion can contact David Peay at 336-765-1762 or Annie P. Wilson at 336-723-8149.



Members of the Mami Wata Cultural Arts Collective perform a dance tribute.

Photos by Todd Luck

## Moving Forward by Going Back



Deacon Jerry Dodd (far right) leads the Spiritual Choir in a gospel song.

### Church recalls African Holocaust with series of special events

BY TODD LUCK  
THE CHRONICLE

Maafa is a longstanding tradition at Emmanuel Baptist Church. The annual weeklong slate of events commemorates the "African Holocaust," a term used to describe the countless millions who died and suffered during slavery.

Pastor John Mendez brought the Maafa concept to his church more than a decade ago, inspired by Dr. Johnny Ray Youngblood's program at St. Paul Community Baptist Church in Brooklyn, N.Y. Mendez, a New York native, said he felt that it was important, especially in the South with its ties to slavery, to remember the tragedy and its lingering impact on the black community.

"It's the commemoration of the lives that were humiliated, stolen and lost during the Middle Passage," Mendez said, describing Maafa. "And the millions that did not die, that did not jump over ship but chose to live, we are here because of them."

The term "Maafa" comes from Dr. Marimba Ani's book "Let the Circle be Unbroken: The Implications of African Spirituality in the Diaspora" and is a Kiswahili word that means "disaster."

Nancy Dodd, who chaired the church's Maafa committee, said the events offer African-Americans a chance to claim their history. She also believes it offers an opportunity for healing.

"We're still trying to heal from the disaster that our ancestors suffered because that stems over to us," she said.

Emmanuel held the culmination of this year's Maafa events on Sunday during its morning worship service. For the occasion, the church's lobby was decorated with African art and displays related to the slave trade.

During the service, which was themed "The Way Out is Back Through," the all-female Mami Wata Cultural Arts Collective put on a powerful

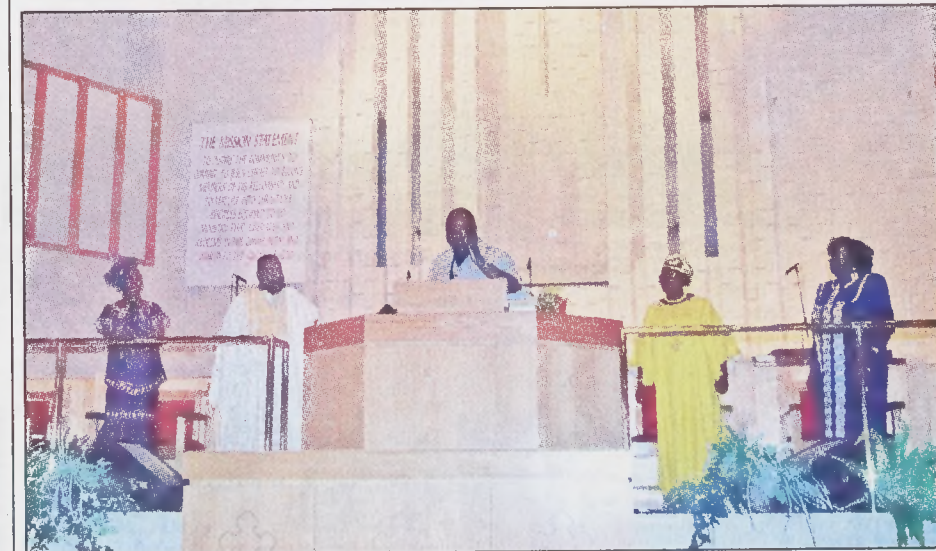
See Maafa on B2



Felicia Piggott Long performs a traditional African libation.



Maafa Committee members Nancy Dodd and Trudy Noland helped plan the week's events.



Rev. Dr. Wendell Anthony preaches from the pulpit as (from left) Rev. Willa Reid, Rev. Dr. John Mendez, Felicia Piggott Long and Rev. Annie Dalton look on.



Rev. Dr. John Mendez started his church's Maafa services more than a decade ago.

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Doby  
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