Fire Department to hold recruiting fair

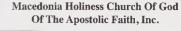
SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Men and women interested in becoming firefighters can learn more about their prospective career at a Fire Department recruiting fair from noon to 5 p.m. Friday, 7, at Fire Station No. 1, 651 N. Marshall St., Winston-

The fair is intended to expand the diversity of the recruiting pool and educate the public that the firefighting field is a challenging and rewarding career. The fair will provide an opportunity to talk to firefighters, watch a video demonstration of the agility test that firefighters must pass, and fill out an application. Women firefighters will be present to discuss fire services as a career for women.

The application deadline for the next firefighter training class is Sept. 10. For more information www.CityofWSFire.org







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Tenisha Fields wrote the skit for the youth portion of the Maafa commemoration.

Maafa

from page B

display of African dance and drumming, while longtime Emmanuel member Dr. Felicia Piggott Long honored the ancestors with a libation. Dr. Wendell Anthony, pastor of Detroit's Fellowship Chapel, preached.

Anthony, who is also the eight-term president of the Detroit NAACP (the nation's largest NAACP chapter), said that Maafa isn't just about remembering hardships, but remembering how God blessed blacks by delivering them.

"Our children need to understand it, our seniors need to be appreciated for it, because we have come through it, we've got the blessings of God ... he's had his hand on our community all along this time period." said Anthony, who also held a Maafa workshop on

Anthony said the continued degradation of African-

Americans, such as the disproportionate number of black men in prison, is a continuation of Maafa. He also said African-Americans can sometimes degrade themselves, citing blacks who took to Twitter to criticize the hair of two-time gold medal-winning gymnast Gabrielle Douglas. Emmanuel's Maafa week gymnast

also included a presentation by psychologist/educator Dr. Ernest Howard Johnson and a black history skit staged by the youth of the church and written by Tenisha Fields.

On Saturday morning, congregants walked to near-by Salem Lake to place the names of their ancestors into a miniature boat that was set afloat. The symbolic sending-off ceremony was followed by a spiritual healing foot wash. Later on Saturday, the film "500 Years Later," an award winning documentary that links the issues facing modern day African-Americans to slavery, was screened.



Rep. Larry Womble

NC House of Representatives

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