

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



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THE CHRONICLE

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Breakfast of Champions

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

In an attempt to connect male students with mentors and role models, last week administrators at Julian Gibson Elementary School held their second annual 100 Men Challenge. During the event on Friday, March 15, men from all walks of life showed up to enjoy breakfast with male students in the fourth and fifth grades.

According to Principal Glenn Starnes II, the initiative, which his team started last year, falls under the umbrella of "Big Rock #2." Starnes said at Gibson they focus on three "Big Rocks" that focus on: high quality, core instruction, family and community engagement, and professional development for teachers and staff. Gibson said after holding the event for all grade levels last year, they decided to focus on fourth and fifth graders this year. He mentioned they also have similar events for girls.

"Today is an opportunity for our young scholars to see and engage in conversation with positive role models in the community. We know and realize that a number of our children may have an absent father or absent male role model in their household or immediate community and if they're like me, they won't have a male teacher until they get to high school," said Gibson. "We really want to engage in opportunities for our students to interact with males so they can see what positive role models and positive success looks like."

"... We invite men from across our school district, across our local community, and even across the state to come in and share with our young boys."



Photos by Tevin Stinson

Students enjoy breakfast with male role models

Starnes said he has seen a tremendous improvement from male students since implementing the

100 Men Challenge and other events last school year. Gibson said any child who is in need of a men-

tor is paired with one. He said, "I'm a firm believer that the achievement gap can only be closed by

building relationships with children.

"We have to find a way to regularly build relation-

ships with children, not just with their classroom teacher, not just with their

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Crystal Towers' residents will be forced to move HAWS close to finalizing the sale of Crystal Towers

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

Less than a year after they announced the sale of the building, next month the Housing Authority of Winston-Salem (HAWS) is expected to finalize the sale of Crystal Towers.

Here's what we know: Built in 1968, Crystal Tow-

ers is one of three high-rise towers in the city for senior citizens and those with disabilities. In August of last year, HAWS' Board of Commissioners voted to sell the 11-story high-rise building, citing more than \$7 million in repairs as the reason for the sale. At that time HAWS' Executive Director Larry Woods told The Chronicle Crystal Towers needed renovations to the elevators, drainage lines, electric switch gear room, and resurfacing of the roof. He also said units in the building needed new kitchen



File photo

Crystal Towers located on Sixth Street downtown Winston-Salem.

cabinets and appliances, flooring and new air conditioning systems.

In an article published in The Chronicle on Thursday, Aug. 23, Woods said in recent years HAWS has received less funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which made it impossible for the organization to afford the renovations or get a loan.

Less than two months after the sale of the property was made public, several members of the Win-

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