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Bull City women receiving honors

Originally published in:

The Herald-Sun

Saturday, September 16, 2006

Edition: Final

Page: B1

JOHN MCCANN Columnist

The Durham Alumnae Chapter of Bennett College for Women is honoring the Bull City's Dr. Marie Clapp Moffitt with the Bennett Phenomenal Woman Award today during the "Women of Vision Awards of Excellence" at the Hilton Durham hotel on Hillsborough Road.

Moffitt, 94, was Durham County's first black high school home economics teacher, according to Bernadette Watts, president of the local chapter of Bennett alums. Moffitt worked for the state Department of Education and also served as acting chairwoman of the home economics department at N.C. Central University.

This is the alumnae chapter's second year of awards, part of the "Sixteenth White Breakfast and Scholarship Fund-Raiser."

Bennett College is a fully accredited four-year liberal arts school in Greensboro.

Durham's Artelia Perry also has been singled out for recognition. She will receive an award for her faith-based and humanitarian deeds. Among her many accomplishments, Perry, in 1972, helped organize the Durham Association of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows, over which she presided for eight years.

Dr. Patsy B. Perry, also of Durham, will receive an award for educational leadership. The former NCCU professor retired from the school as interim provost and vice chancellor of academic affairs.

"These are women who have done some awesome things," Watts said.

*

Durham's DeWarren Langley, a rising senior studying business management at Hampton University, received a certificate of appreciation from Gov. Mike Easley and the N.C. Cooperative Extension 4-H and Youth Development program.

Langley was recognized for building and strengthening Raleigh's youth work force by explaining to a team of INROADS interns the importance of education, career planning, interviewing and maintaining a solid résumé.

"The globalization of the world economy and corporate business has placed an unprecedented demand for our youth," Langley said. "While the demands on today's youth are high, adequate and sufficient resources are not readily available to assist impoverished minority youth to transform professionally to the growing demand of the global business environment and economy," Langley said.

INROADS is a development program for minority youth.

*Sue Wheeler heads up the yard sale committee over at the Center for Senior Life. She needs some volunteers to help out next week.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, helpers are needed to move items from a next-door warehouse, and to set up and organize tables.

Then during the yard sale on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, volunteers are needed to work the tables and help out with the food. You versatile souls out there would be a real blessing by just being available to float and pick up the slack.

So come help, and come shop. Wheeler sure would appreciate it.

"We are looking for ways to introduce the public to our great building," she said.

The Center for Senior Life is at 406 Rigsbee Ave. Proceeds from the yard sale will benefit the Council for Senior Citizens.

For more information, call (919) 688-8247 or visit www.councilseniorcitizens.org.

"Friends & Neighbors" appears on Saturdays. If you have items of interest, contact John McCann at jmccann@heraldsun.com or 419-6601.

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