

# The Orchid



## Welcome from the President

Greetings and Happy New Year! I hope that each of you had a joyous and relaxing holiday season. January is the month that we make resolutions and hope we can keep them. As we finalized our program of work for 2019, I was excited that we made a positive impact in the triad area.



We are blessed to serve Greensboro, High Point, and the surrounding communities. Through our media coverage each month, the word is out that we are a great organization. As we continue to strive for excellence, please know of my gratitude for the vital role each of you played in making our organization great. Please let us continue our work in 2020 and continue to make a commitment to make this organization better than the year before.

We need to continue to ask ourselves--how can Guilford County Chapter support the projects and thrusts that have been put before us. Let us continue to make a difference in the community, let us form different partnerships, let us work together, and lastly let us challenge each other to address the issues within our community.

I wish each of you peace, prosperity, love, and a heart full of happiness as we go forward.

Yours in service,

Lady Cynthia Carlton Thompson, President  
Guilford County Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.



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# 2019 HIGHLIGHTS



## January Birthday

Lady Jacqueline Pettiford  
01/13

The Late Lady Rebecca  
Graves, Organizer

## Current Members

- Lady Dahlia Ashford
- Lady Katetia Bennett
- Lady Pearlie Bryan
- Lady Malinda Carmon
- Lady Lisa Hickey
- Lady Vickie Hughes
- Lady Gloria Jackson
- Lady Faye McRavion
- Lady Sharon Mitchell
- Lady A. Rawiya Nash
- Lady Melanie Palmer
- Lady Gwendolyn V. Parker
- Lady Jacqueline Pettiford
- Lady Cynthia Carlton Thompson
- Lady Ijeoma Uzokwe
- Lady Jacqueline White
- Lady Tammy P, Williams
- Lady Theldora Williams

## MEMBER OF THE YEAR



**Vickie Hughes was selected by her peers as Guilford County “Member of the Year”. Vickie has served as Guilford County Top Teens of America Advisor for four years. She currently serves as the 1<sup>st</sup> vice president, community partnership chair, the election committee chair of Area IV, and assistant top teen advisor on the national level. She has also held positions in the chapter as president, 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president, literacy chair, and status of women chair. Vickie has served on the area level as literacy chair, member of the nominating committee, and Area IV Top Teen Advisor.**



MEMBERS HONORED



THE HIGH POINT ENTERPRISE  
**NEIGHBORS**

**DIVINE INSPIRATION**

**YESTERDAY'S QUESTION**  
With the New Year, how do we put off our old selves?

**ANSWER TO YESTERDAY'S QUESTION**  
"To put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new

self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness." (Ephesians 4:22-24)

**TODAY'S QUESTION**  
How do we live in the New Year with our sins behind us?

Divine Inspiration is compiled by Kathy Stuart, High Point Enterprise. Send your favorite inspirational verse to neighbors@hpenews.com.

A9 **Contact us:** Kathy Stuart, neighbors@hpenews.com • 336-888-3657 Wednesday, January 1, 2020



Members of the Guilford County Top Ladies of Distinction and Guilford County Top Teens of America Chapter gathered at their recently held Founders' Day Program. Left to right, A. Rawiya Nash (chairwoman), Lisa Hickey (Top Teens adviser), Teen Emmanuel Uzokwe, Teen Alaina Randolph (Literacy Chairwoman), Cynthia Carlton Thompson (president Top Ladies of Distinction), Tijuana Greene (Jefferson Elementary School representative), Gwendolyn Parker (co-chairwoman), Pearlite Bryan, Jacob Simmons and Faye McRavion (Assistant Top Teen adviser).

**Top Ladies of Distinction, Top Teens of America support literacy**

**ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT** Elementary School. Tijuana Greene, regional behavior support educator, was on site to receive the donations. A luncheon program was held last month at the Sheraton Four Seasons with a tribute to the chapter organizer, the late Rebecca Graves. The program was planned around the chapter's Literacy Program. The mistress of ceremony was Dr. Cynthia Carlton Thompson, president of Guilford County Top Ladies of Distinction. The welcome address was given by Sukiana Abderrahman, president of Top Teens America. Occasion was by Divine Uzokwe, financial secretary of Top Teens, and innovation and grace was by Dr. Alton Thompson. Other presenters were Vickie Hughes, Sharon Mitchell, Pearlite Bryan, and A. Rawiya Nash, Nash and Parker received the chapter's leadership award. Members of the committee were Dahlia Ashford, Pearlite Bryan, Malinda Carmon, Nash (chairwoman), Parker (co-chairwoman), Thompson (President), Tammy Williams, and Jacqueline White (financial secretary).

THE HIGH POINT ENTERPRISE  
**NEIGHBORS**

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**Contact us:** Kathy Stuart, nek

**Randolph wins teen spelling bee**

Alaina Randolph won the annual Area IV Leadership conference spelling bee held in Miami, Florida, in the teen division of Top Ladies of Distinction.



Randolph won first place out of 18 participants. Randolph is the daughter of Sonyé Randolph and Dell Johnson. She attends STEM Early College at North Carolina A&T State University. She is in the 10th grade. Randolph is a member of Guilford County Top Teens of America that falls under the umbrella of Guilford County Top Ladies of Distinction. Vickie Hughes is the Guilford County Top Teens of America Adviser, and Lady Lisa Hey and Lady Faye McRavion are assistant advisers. Lady Cynthia Carlton Thompson is president of Guilford County

THE HIGH POINT ENTERPRISE  
**NEIGHBORS**

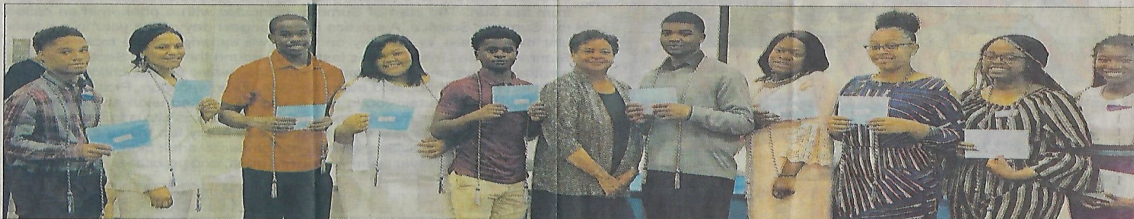


**PET OF THE WEEK**

JR, 19 pounds of joy, lost his home when his owner fell on hard times. He is 7 to 9 years old and has that smart, fun Jack Russell personality but not the hyperness. He is laid back most of the time and loves sleeping in his crate. He is perfectly housetrained. He is good on the leash, but has a few little quirks. See his full listing at [www.lovingpetinnadoptions.org](http://www.lovingpetinnadoptions.org). Adoption donation: \$175.

Loving Pet Inn Adoptions of High Point is not an open door shelter. Submit an application and staff will be in touch. Visit [www.LovingPetInnAdoptions.org](http://www.LovingPetInnAdoptions.org) or call 336-393-0000 for more information.

A9 **Contact us:** Kathy Stuart, neighbors@hpenews.com • 336-888-3657 Friday, June 21, 2019



Seniors from the local chapter of Top Teens of America, from left, include Michael Crenshaw, Madison Dark, Tyler Davis, Tylivia Dewalt, Aaron Pittman, Lady Vickie Hughes (adviser), V. Delano Savage, Jessica Simmons, Katonna Tate, Deborah Uzokwe and Laila Williams. Not pictured is Chris Harper.

**Top Teens of America awarded scholarships**

Eleven high school seniors received the Guilford County Top Ladies of Distinction scholarship award. In addition, Teen Deborah Uzokwe received 2019 Thelma Koger Scholarship. The Top Teens of America Pins were awarded to Teen Alaina Randolph (2019 Area IV spelling bee champion) and Teen Sukiana Abderrahman (Area IV corresponding secretary, 2019-2021), and Teen Wilmedia Florvus and Teen Divine Uzokwe for their participation in Leadership By Design sponsored by The Color of Reason — Women's Community Council.

The monetary winners for most community service points were Delano Savage, first place; Suki Abderrahman, second place; and Joya Upkins, third place. Other Teens who were honored for community service activities were Madison Dark, Makiya Palmer, Alaina Randolph, Katonna Tate, Deborah Uzokwe, Divine Uzokwe, Laila Williams, and Jamison Wilson. Members of Guilford County Top Teens received Achievement Certificate for Community Service Activities. Committee members were Vickie Hughes, Top

Teen adviser; Lisa Hickey, assistant adviser; and Faye McRavion, assistant adviser. Teen Laila Williams, graduating senior, serves as the president of Guilford County Top Teens of America and Cynthia Thompson serves as the president of Guilford County Top Ladies of Distinction.

MEMBERS AND TEENS HONORED

## Chapter Officers

**Lady Cynthia Carlton Thompson**, President

**Lady Vickie Hughes**, 1st Vice President

**Lady Sharon Mitchell**, 2nd Vice President

**Lady Gloria Jackson**, Treasurer

**Lady Jacqueline White**, Financial Secretary

**Lady Melanie Thompson**, Recording Secretary

**Lady Ijeoma Uzkowe**, Assistant Recording Secretary

**Lady Katetia Hargrove**, Corresponding Secretary

**Lady Jacqueline Pettiford**, Parliamentarian

**Lady Theldora Williams**, Sergeant-at-Arms

**Lady A. Rawiya Nash**, Chaplain

**Lady Lisa Nash**, Top Teens Advisor

**Lady Faye McRavion**, Assist Top Teens Advisor

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP



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### Projects:

- 1. Serving Food Project:** Once a week at the Church of Christ for 16 weeks. During the summer (June thru September) for 16 weeks, the chapter provided the food and served lunch to the community. The chapter partnered with the Church of Christ to provide spiritually, social, and cultural awareness that concluded with a meal.
- 2. Bookbag Project:** Partner with the Church of Christ and donated 300 book bags and Carl Chavis YMCA in High Point and donated 50 book bags. These book bags were given to community at the Park in downtown Greensboro and at Carl Chavis YMCA.
- 3. 50+ Forum.** Partner with the Color of Reason for a Forum on Domestic Violence
- 4. Cleaning the scream with High Point University.** Once a year we partner with High Point University, Sigma Mu Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and cleaned the scream.
- 5. Gift wrapping.** Partner with Barnes and Noble to gift wrap packages. The chapter is able to use the funds to assist the teens to attend the Area IV Conferences.
- 6. Elementary School:** Allen Jay Elementary School and Morehead Elementary, the chapter served as principal for a day and assisted students in reading. Jefferson Middle School the chapter donated 6 boxes of books.
- 7. NCA&T State University.** The teens, ladies and lords attended plays for cultural and educational enrichment



Serving Food Projects



Bookbag Project



50+ Forum



Cleaning the Screams at High Point University



Elementary School



NC A & T State University

## STATUS OF WOMEN HEALTH AND WELLNESS



**Breast Cancer Awareness:** A table was set up at Griffin Recreation Center. Handouts were distributed and one on one discussions. Members also setup a table at their church.

**Heart and Stroke Awareness:** Distributed heart and stroke pamphlets at the Griffin Recreation Center. The Top Ladies and Top Teens offered an overview, insight information and guidance to help the public with wellness, longevity and healthy living. Lady Katetia Bennett was the nurse on duty and checked the heart rate of participants to raise awareness to high blood pressure and how high blood pressure affects the heart. In addition, Top Ladies and Top Teens provided information at their church.

**50 Plus activity** held to provide information about the chapter and facilities that are available to assist senior citizen. The chapter partnered with the Commission on Status of Women.

**Domestic Violence.** The chapter partnered with Color of Reason to assist in presentations to bring awareness to domestic violence. One member was on the program. Chapter was responsible for providing speakers. Teens were encouraged to participate.

**Healthy eating.** Chapter collaborated with Church of Christ on healthy eating. Members provided food and presentations. This event was held for four months, once a week.





# COMMUNITY BEAUTICATION

Partnered with the Sigma Mu Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority to clean the streams around High Point University campus

Clean the adopted street at 325 Guilford College Road



# SENIOR CITIZENS

Deliver meals to the Senior Homebound

Provide socialization and wellness check

Monitor volunteer directions and routes for delivery

Planned program at Maple Grove Nursing Home

Alzheimer Walk



# TOP TEENS OF AMERICA



SERVING THE VETS MLK DAY OF SERVICE  
MAPLE GROVE NURSING HOME



## SICKLE CELL

Canned goods were collected and donated to Piedmont Sickle Cell Agency

TLOD donate \$50 to sponsor two sickle cell family members to participate in the Piedmont Health Services and Sickle Cell Agency 2nd Annual “Kaci's Sickle Cell Run/Walk” on Saturday, October 19, 2019



# NAACP

## Information sessions

Promote “when we all vote” activity

Conduct and participate in Vote Registration Drive

Attend Town Hall meetings



# NCNW

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**Overview at each meeting NCNW monthly meetings for Ladies and Teens to keep abreast of events of NCNW.** During the inaugural gathering, the Charles L. Franklin Associates (CLFA), the adult male membership of NCNW, extended an invitation for members to attend. Members and the members of the CLFA met to share sessions with the women of NCNW. There was a male-only workshop/panel discussion on mental/physical health and healthy relationships centered on "lessons our mothers taught us"-followed by Q&A.

**Annual membership drive.** Members are welcome to join NCNW. This year's Uncommon Height Gala took place on November 20, 2019, at the Washington Hilton Hotel. Ms. Susan L. Taylor, Founder and CEO National CARES Mentoring Movement and Editor-in-Chief Emerita, Essence Magazine, was honored with the Crystal Stair Award for her extraordinary service to community and others, as demonstrated by Dr. Dorothy Irene Height.

**Encourage members to attend NCNW conferences.** The Affiliates Assembly of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) is a gathering of its national, state and section leaders. The purpose of convening is to exchange ideas, engage in strategic planning for the future of NCNW and prepare for joint action in support of the NCNW mission.



# UNCF

**Challenge Ladies and Teens to donate annually to HBCUs**

**Distribute UNCF Information to Community**

**Support UNCF Sunday**

**Assist Teens With UNCF Scholarships Application**

**Assist Teens at Completing College Applications Online**



# MLK DAY OF SERVICE

Prepared Food and Served the Veterans at the Servant House





# LITERACY

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The Chapter donated 6 boxes of books to Jefferson Elementary School.

Chapter donated supplies to elementary school in Canoe Cove Jamaica

Once a week a Top Lady and /or Top Teen goes to different schools to read to the students.

Top Ladies and Top Teens attend annually MLK breakfast. The Top Ladies and Top Teens reserved two Tables.



# HARRIET TUBMAN AND JUST MERCY



# MLK BREAKFAST



# FOUNDERS' DAY

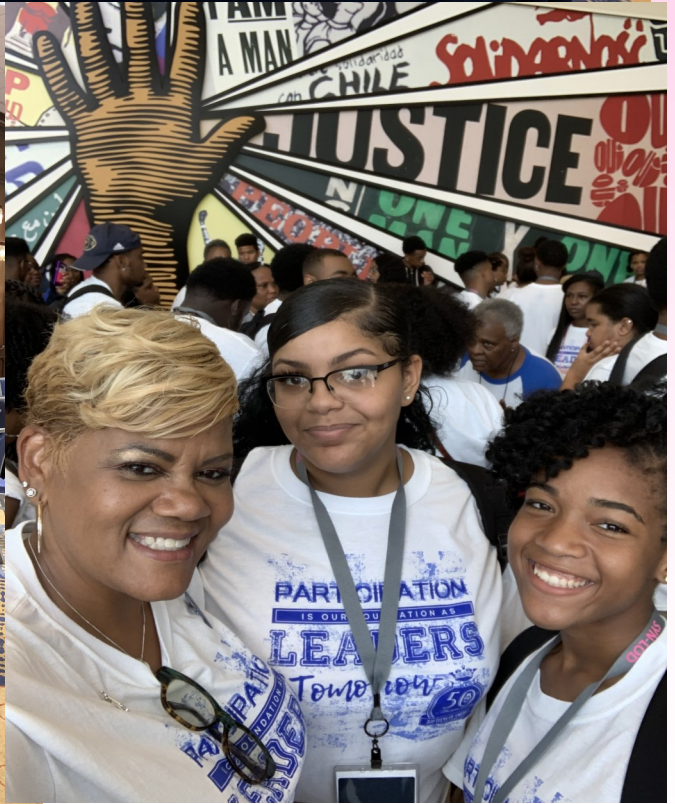
Founders' Day was held at the Sheraton, Four Season on December 7th



# AREA IV CONFERENCE



# SYN-LOD



# RETREAT AND INTEREST MEETING

