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Alumna Honored for Her Service

March 1, 2010

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – The women of Zeta Phi Beta plan to name a Community Service Award in honor of their sorority sister and Illinois Wesleyan University alumna Monica Taylor, class of '88. The first ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 10 from 2-4 p.m. in the Davidson Room of Illinois Wesleyan's Memorial Center (104 University St., Bloomington).

Taylor, who passed on Oct. 21, 2009, was the director of Illinois Wesleyan's Multicultural Affairs for 11 years before she joined State Farm Insurance Companies in 2004. While on campus, she supported the Black Student Union, the Council for Latin American Student Enrichment and the service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega. With her help, the Kwanzaa program and the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Gospel Festival were established and organized.

In 2008, Taylor was recognized by the Normal Human Relations Commission for her dedication to improving cooperative and respectful relations among diverse groups in the community and was the recipient of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award. She was also awarded the 2008 Spirit of State Farm honor for Community Service.

Taylor also participated as a March of Dimes board member, Boys & Girls Club of Bloomington-Normal mentor, McLean County Diversity Chaperone, Cultural Festival board and committee member, Juneteenth Planning Committee member and Centrillo Council of Girl Scouts board member. Additionally, Taylor held leadership positions in her sorority and participated in the Bloomington-Normal Black History Project, as well as the Bloomington Normal Social and Greek Organization, which provides food to families in need around the holidays.

For more information on the ceremony, contact Jeanine Cribbs at jeanine.cribbs.m5dc@statefarm.com or (309) 242-6920.

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