



Students show support for domestic, dating violence survivors with candlelight vigil



Photo by Ella Dobson | Staff Writer

Students gather in silence around a table of lit candles in remembrance of those affected by domestic violence. The candlelight vigil was hosted by the Office of Institutional Integrity and Title IX.

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STAFF WRITER

October is National Dating and Domestic Violence Awareness Month. To show support for survivors, the Office of Institutional Integrity and Title IX hosted a candlelight vigil and awareness day on Thursday, Oct. 9. Students were encouraged to wear purple on Thursday to show a united front for survivors. Purple is the designated color for Domestic Violence Awareness month as it symbolizes courage, peace, and a dedication to ending violence. The Dean B. Ellis Library clock tower was also lit purple in support and remembrance.

Later in the evening, a candlelight vigil was held to

honor survivors and those who have died from domestic violence. Tiffany Mosely, director of Institutional Integrity & Title IX, said hosting events like this is vital to the education and awareness of students.

"It's important to have events like this because they provide educational value to students who may or may not know that these things exist or may not know what all domestic and dating violence survivors go through," Mosely said. "It educates them on being sensitive. It educates them on just being aware, and also, it educates them on how they can support victims of domestic and dating violence."

As students walked across Heritage Plaza Lawn, where the event was held, they were

invited to write an encouraging message on a banner to be hung outside the Title IX office. There were also stickers, candies and small gifts that students could pick up to learn more about Dating and Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The vigil started with Mosley sharing information about the services the Office of Institutional Integrity provides. Then, Casey Kidd, executive director of the Family and Crisis Center of Northeast Arkansas, shared the 2025 statistics for domestic violence in Northeast Arkansas.

Hotline calls to report domestic violence and provide assistance rose 87% this year. The center had a 67% increase in services and helped 272 people. Kidd said they have hope this



Photo by Ella Dobson | Staff Writer

Latika Johnson, director of Multicultural Affairs, shares resources students can take advantage of at the Multicultural Center.

was not due to an increase in domestic violence, but instead an increase in awareness of the center's resources.

Kidd shared the names, ages and hometowns of victims of homicide in Northeast Arkansas. The ages of victims ranged from an unborn baby to an 85-year-old grandparent. Asia Simmons, a senior social work major from Jacksonville, Arkansas, read personal poetry dedicated to survivors of domestic and dating violence. Simmons said she was inspired by her experiences and those of others when writing her poem.

"I was thinking that I have to be selfless. And I also had to consider the survivors and victims in the crowd and those who may read this interview. I had to consider, to include

them, that they can overcome, and peace and grace and healing are possible," Simmons said.

Students were invited to light a candle and observe a moment of silence for those impacted by domestic violence. Latika Johnson, director of multicultural affairs, said she encourages students to support each other.

"No one is alone and no one has to go through hard things alone. Get involved and find your place in the pack," Johnson said.

For more information on dating and domestic violence, contact the Office of Institutional Integrity and Title IX at institutionalintegrity@astate.edu or the Family Crisis Center emergency hotline at 870-933-9449.

Homecoming events scheduled next week

Scan the QR code below to find all the events scheduled for Homecoming next week.



I Love Mi Gente to be held Monday

A student-led panel on culture, identity and experiences will be held Monday to celebrate the end of Hispanic Heritage Month. The event will start at 4 p.m. at the Multicultural Center.

Hot Ones at Home scheduled Monday

Join the Student Activities Board Monday to watch members of various departments from athletics to student life battle through hot wings of various spiciness. The event will take place from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Centennial Hall.

BRIEFS COURTESY OF A-STATE DAILY DIGEST

THIS WEEK IN THE HERALD:

OPINION, 2A

- Dating apps can be damaging
- Fashion crimes of 2025

NEWS, 3A

- Hoops and Howls shows off men's basketball team
- Students celebrate Hispanic culture with game of Loteria
- Collaborative event held to highlight mental health advocacy
- Campus Crime

SPORTS, 1B

- Red Wolves place sixth at Lady Red Wolves Classic
- Van Anel kicks game-winner over Jaguars
- A-State Bowling makes their own luck in 2025

ARTS & E, 2B

- In defense of "Peacemaker" season two
- "Smiling Friends" season three impresses two weeks in

LIFE, 3B

- Student speaks: Is brainrot even funny?
- Homecoming week event schedule
- Horoscopes

Second No Kings protest to be held in opposition to Trump administration

JERRY DON BURTON

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The Coalition for Change of Northeast Arkansas (CCNEA) will hold a second No Kings protest from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18, in Jonesboro at the intersection of Highland and Red Wolf, next to the Turtle Creek Mall.

One of 13 others scheduled in Arkansas and more than 2,500 worldwide as of Oct. 10, the demonstrations aim to protest against policies and alleged authoritarian actions from President Donald Trump and his administration.

Carol Davis, CCNEA member, said those who attend the No Kings protests are rallying together over a variety of concerns and causes. She said government overreach and the safety of her community are some concerns contributing to her expected presence at the protest.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF CRAIGHEAD COUNTY FACEBOOK

Demonstrators protest at the June 14 No Kings protest, organized by the Coalition for Change of Northeast Arkansas. The second protest is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18, at the intersection of Highland and Red Wolf in Jonesboro.

"If what it takes is large amounts of people continually coming out and saying and showing that they disapprove, that they're concerned, that there are issues, then the hope is that

they'll listen," Davis said. "And if they won't listen, then the hope is that we can encourage people to vote with their conscience and with their interests." Jayne Schack, another

member of the CCNEA, said Trump's deployment of the National Guard in certain cities across the United States also highlights the need for another No Kings protest. Schack said

her participation in the first No Kings protest, held June 14, was a singular experience.

CONTINUED: NO KINGS, 4A