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Marches and Protests Predated 1964 March on Washington

By Freddie Allen
NNPA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA) - Although many are nostalgically reflecting on 50 years ago when the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was signed into law, there was no universal agreement on what tactics to deploy in the fight for equality, according to a report on the movement by the Economic Policy Institute.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), both based in Atlanta, were born during the movement and favored direct-action over lawsuits, commonly used by the older National Association for the Advancement of Colored People led by Roy Wilkins.

"There were differences in philosophies and tactics. Eventually younger, more militant protestors, many of them associated with SNCC, broke with the nonviolent creed and tactics of Martin Luther King Jr. and the SCLC and embraced 'Black Power,' stated the report titled, 'Looking Back on the Fight for Equal Access to Public Accommodations.'"

The path to the 1964 landmark civil rights legislation of the mid-1960s has been a long, tortuous one.

In fact, there were strong laws on the books more than 100 years before passage of the 1964 law. There were (Continued On Page 3)



Jazmyn Scruggs, 11th grade, Brittany Tarband, 10th grade and Nora Lawrence, 9th grade, are part of the Enviro-Kids Booth at the Festival for the Eno. The program helps teach you students about how environmental issues affect their lives. Ms. Yasmin Fozard is the leader of the group. They passed out literature and answered questions during the Festival. See more photos from the Festival on page 7.

Join The NAACP

Union, Durham NAACP Join Forces to Fight Firings from City Water Resources

The local branch of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America Union 150 is complaining that two of its workers, Dwight Walker and DeCarlos Stanley were unfairly dismissed from their jobs in the Water Management Department of the City of Durham.

Walker was dismissed Jan. 30 of this year and DeCarlos Stanley Dec. 2, 2013. Both had worked for almost eight years.

The two and representatives of the Union and the Durham Branch of the NAACP delivered a list of concerns and complaints to City Manager Thomas Bonfield. Bonfield was not available, but Ms. Nathanette Mayo, secretary of the Union #150 chapter, left the information him.

The two said that they went through the complaint process but that the panel overseeing their complaint was overturned by City Manager Bonfield.

"I told them that I fell, but I did tell them that they should put down salt and sand. Not to gain anything financially or fraudulently," Walker said. "But they accused me of trying to get money from a fall."

In 2013, he was off of work, and that "a citizen assumed at 1210 Elizabeth St., that he was still on City time, when he was looking at firewood, but the incidence happened at 4:05 p.m., on his own time and this incidence was overturned by the City Manager." "I would have not been suspended now if that incident was not included (in the later disciplinary action."



REP GARLAND PIERCE

'Not on the Backs of Our Children' Says N.C. Black Legislative caucus

RALEIGH - Members of North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus and Democratic House Caucus held a press conference Thursday, July 10, in the General Assembly.

The North Carolina State Senate debated its proposed budget Wednesday both the Senate and the House want to change the way the state determines who qualifies for childcare subsidies. Currently all children under 13 years old whose parents earn less than 75 percent of the state median income -about \$50,244 for a family of four- are eligible for a state subsidiary. The budget proposals would tie the subsidies to the federal poverty level, which is \$28,850.

"This cut will negatively impact working families. Afterschool care is very important to our communities with the safety of our children," said Representative Garland E. Pierce, Chairman, NCLBC. "We are hoping our leaders will not balance this budget on the backs of our children. We are concerned that we are slashing the budget for those who may be blind, disabled and those facing other healthcare needs. That's the real argument between House and Senate leaders, that folks at the bottom of the economic ladder must bear the burden of another tax cut for the wealthy, and this is unacceptable," said Pierce.

"We came into this session with a clear understanding and charge from teachers and education professionals across the state that the issue with pay needs to be resolved and the number one priority in the budget," said Representative Charles Graham, District 47. "We need a budget and a process that provides a long term sustainable plan to ensure that NC keeps the best and brightest teachers in our children's classes. Our Teachers need a budget that maintains Teacher's Assistants. We can no longer afford to lose teachers to South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia and Tennessee," said Graham.

The North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus is an association comprised of Senators and Representatives of African American and Native American heritage. The primary purpose of the Caucus is to operate as a vehicle through which African Americans and people of color residing in the State of North Carolina, will be able to exercise their political power in a unified manner. The Caucus ensures that the views and concerns of African Americans and people of color are carried out by their elected representatives; and work to develop the political consciousness of all people.

Shaw University worker to donate lottery win to school

RALEIGH (AP) - A longtime worker at Shaw University is using her \$2 million lottery prize to fund a scholarship and help with her grandchildren's education.

Mrs. Marilyn Fields is the executive assistant to the president of the historically black college in Raleigh. She says her lottery winnings will allow her to fully fund a scholarship in her family's name in addition to helping her grandchildren.

Mrs. Fields says by awarding a student with the Richardson Johnson Fields Endowed Scholarship, she can give students doing the best that they can academically the same opportunity she had by attending Shaw.

Mrs. Fields won the money in a recent Powerball drawing. Because she added the Power Play feature for an extra \$1, what would have been a \$1 million prize on a regular ticket was worth twice as much.

In a statement from the Union, they say:

"The City of Durham has been under national scrutiny due to racial profiling and murders from its Police Department. Unfortunately, the problems do not stop there. There are suspected patterns regarding promotions, pay raises and disciplinary actions that disproportionately affect Black city worker employees within many city departments.

Most recently, two Black employees in the Water Department have been unjustly terminated and are appealing their cases, with the assistance of UE150 Durham City Workers Union, to the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Dwight Walker, in Regulatory Compliance, and DeCarlos Stanley, in Water and Sewer, have filed charges of racial discrimination for their unjust firings. In June 2014, the EEOC responded assigning their claims to the Enforcement Unit.

The Durham City Workers Union (UE150) is demanding that the city immediately:

- * Due to persistent racial discrimination, all disciplinary actions should be cleared from personnel files.
- * Make the existing grievance process fairer by moving the review panel to be under the authority and appointment by City Council, with union input, and prohibit the City Manager from reversing grievance hearing panel rulings.
- * End discrimination and favoritism in pay raises, all workers should get same across-the-board wage increase annually.
- * Immediately rehire Dwight Walker and DeCarlos Stanley and make them whole for all damages.
- * End police racial profiling, brutality and murders. Support the recommendations of the Fostering Alternatives to Drug Enforcement (FADE) coalition and the Human Relations Commission. Also, grant subpoena and full investigatory power to the Civilian Police Review Board; lobby legislature to respect cities local autonomy, including the right to make this decision

The union staged a press conference, along with community allies to "fight for justice" on July 7 at City Hall,

When asked about the how often the City Manager or Deputy City Manager intervene in disciplinary actions, Ms. Regina Youngblood, director of Human Resources, said not often. Ms. Regina Youngblood "5 out 21 times" the punishments were reduced" for other disciplinary actions this year.

Walker and Stanley admit to disciplinary action in the past, but they contend they have been unfairly targeted.