

Rights Bill

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the national battleground for voting rights, the North Carolina leg of the march will concentrate on the most fundamental constitutional right – the right to vote.

While leaving the office, Howard said he was excited to see so many members of the community support the event.

Linda Sutton, field organizer for Democracy N.C. and secretary of the Winston-Salem Branch of the NAACP, said the 2013 law has already disenfranchised a number of African-American voters.

"On the Democracy N.C. website, we have a

document showing how this monster voter suppression bill has already had an affect on African-American voters," Sutton said.

"We had a good turnout," said Howard. "I am glad to see members of the community get involved in this movement."

The letter deliveries were part of America's Journey for Justice, a march from Selma, Alabama, to Washington, D.C. Each state along the 840-mile trip is focused on a different issue. North Carolina has been deemed the national battleground for voting rights.

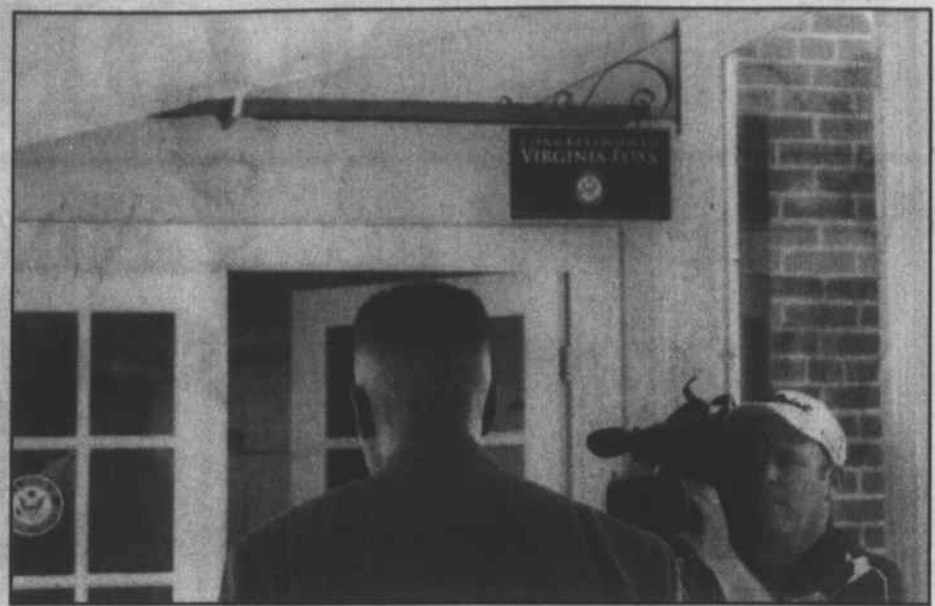
Letters were also delivered to representatives' offices in Wilson,

Asheboro, Greenville, Chapel Hill, Graham, Bolivia, Concord, Mooresville, Gastonia, Spruce Pines, Greensboro, Fremont, Wilmington, Asheville, Charlotte, and Raleigh.

There will be a Mass Voting Rights Rally today (Thursday, Sept. 3) in Raleigh.

People are asked to gather at Shaw University at 4 p.m. to march into downtown Raleigh, and at 5 p.m. to gather at Bicentennial Mall, 16 W. Jones St. for the rally and program.

For more information on America's Journey for Justice visit www.naacpnc.org.



Isaac Howard, president of the local NAACP branch delivers a letter demanding U.S. Rep. Virginia Foxx's support on the Voting Rights Advancement Act to restore, strengthen, and advance the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

Convention

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July 11, a federal court case filed by the state branch began and lasted three weeks in Winston-Salem. A judge now will determine whether recent changes in the state's election laws discriminate against black voters.

To educate the public on the court case (N.C. NAACP vs. McCrory), the state branch sponsored a number of information sessions, and rallies were held across the state.

"We want our annual convention to reflect all the work we have been doing as a state branch," said Holmes-Johnson. "We want this year's festival to be the biggest and best yet."

The annual convention will begin with a Religious Emphasis Day Luncheon at Emmanuel Baptist Church, 1075 Shalimar Drive.

Other events during the convention include a political action luncheon, delegates' reception and awards banquet. The N.C. NAACP Youth & College Division will also sponsor a number of events during the convention, including a youth night and dance.

Legislative meetings will also be held during the convention, where budget reports and elections for officers will take place. Only chosen delegates from each branch can attend these events.

The locations for a number of events are still being decided.

Winston-Salem Branch President Isaac Howard said during a recent meeting that he is happy that the convention will be held in Winston-Salem this year and said he is going to need the help of the entire community.

"We are currently looking for volunteers," said Howard. "We have to make sure our city is well represented when the convention arrives."

For more information on the 72nd Annual North Carolina State NAACP Convention, visit www.naacpnc.org. To volunteer for the convention, contact president Isaac Howard at 336-287-4861.



Howard



Photos by Tevin Stinson

Daphne Holmes-Johnson, state chair for NC NAACP State Convention speaks to members of the local chapter during a recent meeting

UNCSA schedules open houses for prospective high school and college students

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

High school and college students who are interested in careers in the arts are invited to visit the campus of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA) for a day and discover why it is the place for exceptionally talented students to train and study, UNCSA says.

Open houses have been scheduled for Friday, Sept. 11, for high school programs in dance, drama, music and visual arts, and Friday, Oct. 2, for college programs in dance, design and production, drama, film and music. Online registration is required.

During the open houses, visitors will have a guided walking tour of the campus that includes movie set facades, music and dance practice rooms, and stunning performance venues and screening spaces; will meet the deans, faculty, and current students; and will talk to admissions counselors for information about how to apply.

An arts conservatory of international renown, UNCSA was the first state-supported, residential school of its kind in the nation. The school's mission is unique: to train students in high school through graduate school for professional careers in the performing, visual and film and television arts. Performance is an integral part of the training program, and students, faculty and guest artists present more than 300 public performances and screenings annually.

UNCSA students study with resident master teachers who have had successful careers in the arts and who remain active in their professions. Noted guest artists frequently bring lessons directly from the contemporary arts world.

Prospective students can find links to registration forms and agendas at <http://www.uncsa.edu/admissions/openhouse.htm>. For questions about Open House, contact the Office of Admissions at openhouse@uncsa.edu, or 336-770-3290.

Open House attendees under 18 must arrive with a legal guardian or provide a parental/guardian signature and contact information upon check-in.

About the University of North Carolina School of the Arts

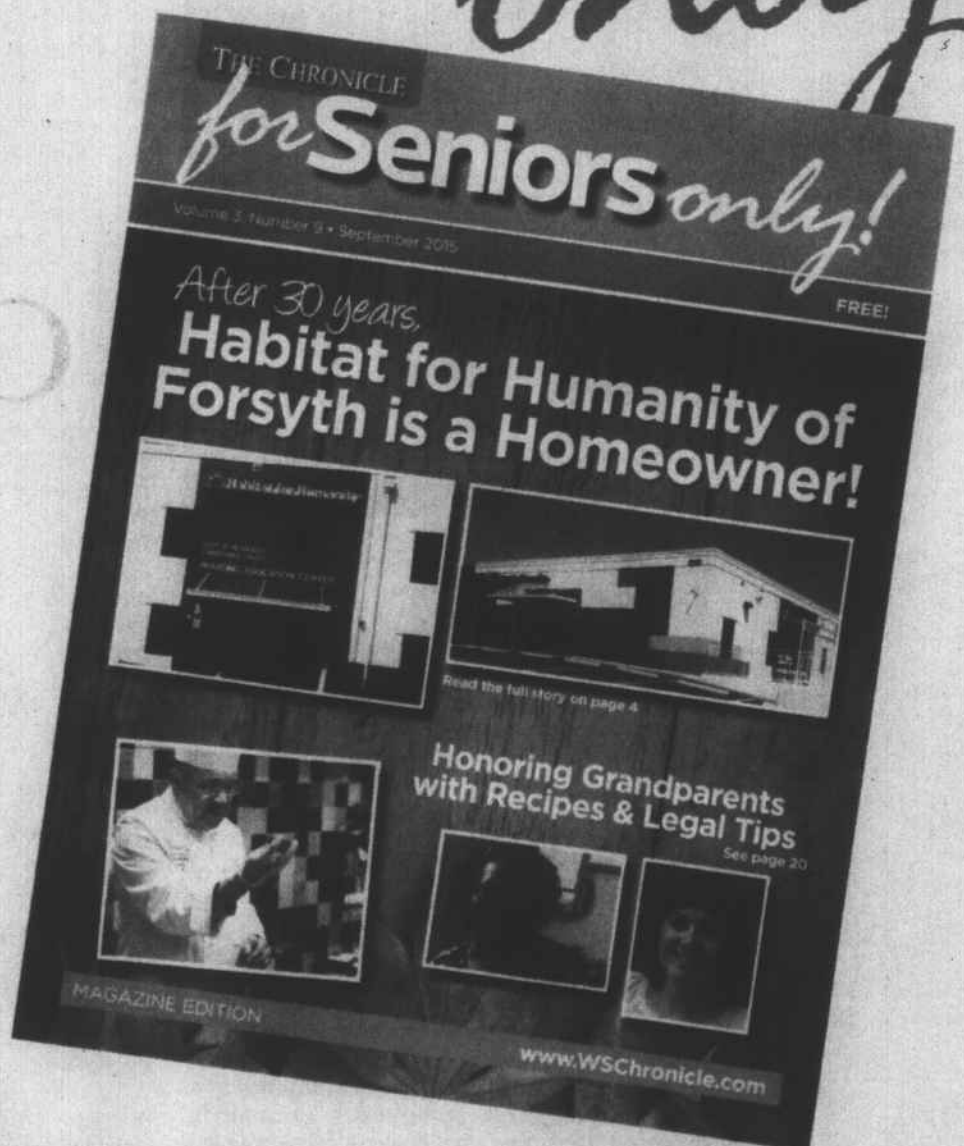
Celebrating its 50th anniversary, the University of North Carolina School of the Arts is America's first state-supported arts school, a unique stand-alone public university of arts conservatories. With a high school component, UNCSA is a degree-granting institution that trains young people of talent in dance, design and production, drama, filmmaking and music.

Established by the N.C. General Assembly in 1963, the School of the Arts opened in Winston-Salem ("The City of Arts and Innovation") in 1965 and became part of the University of North Carolina system when it was formed in 1972. For more information, visit www.uncsa.edu.

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