

Around Charlotte

News of note

•The National Coalition of 100 Black Women of Greater Charlotte will sponsor "Suit Up for Success," a clothing drive with the Charlotte Housing Authority's Self-Sufficiency program. Professional attire, including men's and women's suits and shoes, are needed. No bags of clothing will be accepted. Clothing drop off will be May 17. For more information, call 391-2600.

Friday

•Sisters on the Move will hold a fish and chicken fry beginning at 11 a.m. at 6424 Eaglecrest Road. Plates are \$5 and include beans and cole slaw. Delivery available for more than five orders. For more information, call 329-5359.

Saturday

•Diane Long, a former New Hampshire state representative and presenter for Emily's List in Washington D.C., has been nominated for third vice chair of the Mecklenburg Democratic Party.

Long, who works for the Department of Environmental Health and Natural Resources,

also served as vice president of the New England Black Caucus of State Legislators. Elections will be held Saturday at Park Road Elementary School, 3701 Haven Drive. The election is open to all registered Democrats.

•Northeast Middle School will host "Hoopin' for Eagles," a three-on-three basketball tournament at Independence High School, 1967 Patriot Drive. Entrance fee is \$60. In addition to the games, there will be slam dunk and free throw challenges. All proceeds will benefit the matching grant campaign to equip the school's computer lab. For more information, call 343-6920.

•The South Iredell NAACP will host its annual banquet at 7 p.m. at the Mooresville Citizen Center on Main Street. The keynote address will be given by Charlotte attorney T. Michael Todd of Todd, Parham and Harris Attorneys at Law. Todd is a former District Court judge. Tickets are \$20.

•The Charlotte Chapter of the N.C. Association of Urban Bankers will host "Back to the '70s - P-Funk Scholarship Dance" at 8 p.m. at the Adams

Mark Hotel. Proceeds will benefit the group's scholarship fund. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. For more information, call 559-6401.

•Parent/Student-Athlete Day will be held at Albermarle Road Recreation Center, 5027 Idlewild Road from 9:30-3 p.m. The event is free and covers issues that affect student athletes: financial planning, employment, education, fitness and how to handle problems that come with athletics. The guest speaker will be Charlotte Knights general manager Pete Moore. For more information, call 367-4235.

•Golden Hue Chapter No. 15 will host its annual Calendar Tea at 7:30 p.m. at Greenville Center, 1330 Spring Street. Tickets are \$5. For more information, call 392-0913.

Sunday

•The Fiber Artists' Guild of Charlotte will meet at 2 p.m. at the Hezekiah Alexander Museum, 3500 Shamrock Drive. The topic will be medieval tapestry. For more information, call Ann at 596-4165.

•The Charlotte-Mecklenburg

Chapter of Las Amigas will present the Second Orchid Parade Pageant at Greenville Center, 1330 Spring Street at 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday

•Thirty of Charlotte's top restaurants will donate their time to eliminate hunger in "Taste of the Nation," 7 p.m. at Founders Hall. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. For more information, call 331-0078 or 376-1785.

Thursday

•Big Brothers Big Sisters Appreciation Banquet, will be held at McDonald's Cafeteria, 2810 Beatties Ford Road at 6 p.m. Charlotte City Council member Patrick Cannon will deliver the keynote address. For more information, call 377-3963.

•National Black MBA Association will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Charlotte Chamber, 330 S. Tryon Street. For more information, call 329-9497.

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Woman shares saga of integration

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which Joseph Holt's future would be played out.

"Raleigh was not going to accept integration as the new order," Deborah Holt says in her documentary, "and the city had the backing of a more influential voice, a governing voice."

That voice was Gov. Luther Hodges.

In a 1956 address Hodges made his position clear. He said, "Let no one be misled as to how I personally feel about mixing the races in the schools. I am unalterably opposed to it and intend to continue seeing that our state uses every lawful and proper means to prevent it."

Their application to junior high denied on a technicality, young Holt and his family were now told they had to be interviewed by the school board before it would address the family's request for Joseph Jr. to go to Needham Broughton High School, a school closer to his home. Their attorneys advised them not to go, and attended in their place.

"You knew they would use any ruse they could find to delay," Taylor recalled.

"One reason we didn't want Joe and his parents to go to that school board meeting was we knew they were going to try to intimidate them, browbeat them, and put him through all kinds of torture," Taylor added. "As their lawyers, it was our business to shield them from that."

But after carrying the fight through the federal courts, the family was told that because they had failed to appear in person before the school board, they had not exhausted their state administrative remedies. They were not entitled to appeal to the federal courts for relief, Joseph Jr. said.

"For years we felt like we had done something that let the black people of Raleigh down," Joseph Jr. said.

It would not be until 1960 that the first black was admitted to school in Raleigh. In the intervening years the potential harm predicted in Chief Justice Earl Warren's opinion in Brown vs. Board of Education came to be a reality in the life of Joseph Holt Jr.

In the opinion, Warren wrote, "To separate Negro pupils from others of similar age and qualifications solely because of their race generates a feeling of inferiority as to their status in the community."

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