

'Friends' of Black Children To Sponsor Gospelfest Fundraiser October 3

The Durham County Friends of Black Children Council will sponsor a Gospelfest on Sunday, October 3, 4 p.m., at St. Joseph's AME Church, 2521 Fayetteville St. Performances are scheduled by the Greater Joy Ensemble, Orange Grove Cherubs, Greater St. Paul Evangelical Choir, Orange Grove Chancel Choir, TET Ensemble and the In Touch Fellowship. Donations will be welcomed at the Gospelfest for the benefit of the work of the Durham County Friends. Those funds will help the Council in its outreach on behalf of children in need. What is the Friends of Black Children program?

The Friends of Black Children program developed as a response to the problem of a disproportionate number of black children, free and clear for adoption, who do not have permanent homes.

It was developed in 1982 and operated under the auspices of the School of Social Work, UNC-Chapel Hill, until 1984 when the N.C. Division of Social Services assumed responsibility for continuation as an ongoing service within the division. Currently there are approximately 20 county department of social services participating in the program. Limited funding prohibits others. What is Durham's connection?

The Durham County Friends of Black Children Council was organized in July 1990. The Council serves as a link between the black community and the county Department of Social Services resulting in an increased number of black families interested in adopting waiting black children.

The Durham FOBC Council has approximately 15 active members. The local council, along with other FOBC councils, is affiliated with the N.C. Association of Friends of Black Children.

The aim of the Durham council is to better inform the community of the needs of black children and to facilitate the placement of children for adoption.

What are the facts?

National statistics indicate that black children are less likely to achieve permanence through adoption than non-black children. In North Carolina, 505 of the children legally free for adoption are black. Who are these children?

These are children with no parents to care for them. Many people think since there is a shortage of babies, there are no

children to adopt. While there are some infants and toddlers available for adoption, the greater need for adoptive homes is for children from six to twelve years of age and beyond. There are many "special needs" children in North Carolina right now. Some have medical problems, some have emotional problems, some have physical disabilities. Some are school age children. Some are brothers and sisters who should be kept together.

These children need patient and loving parents who can help them feel good about themselves and give them a feeling of belonging and security.

NAACP Plans Boycott Of AT&T

RALEIGH (AP) — The North Carolina NAACP is reacting to an offensive drawing that appeared in an American Telephone & Telegraph Co. internal magazine by planning a switch to a competing long-distance telephone company.

The illustration in AT&T Focus, a magazine distributed to the company's 300,000 employees worldwide, shows five characters on several continents chatting on the telephone. The character representing the African continent is a monkey while most of the other characters are human.

An AT&T spokesman said the use of the illustration in the company's magazine was due to negligence on the part of the company responsible for producing it. The free-lance artist who designed the illustration has been dismissed, said spokesman Walter Murphy.

Backlash over the illustration has prompted some to take their long-distance service away from AT&T.

Murphy told The News & Observer of Raleigh.

"We've had some calls from people so outraged that they say they will switch their long-distance service. I did not get the sense on Friday that there was a great groundswell," Murphy said.

AT&T distributed an apology to its employees via an electronic messaging service on Thursday, and the company's senior vice president for public relations issued a separate apology.

However, the apology didn't satisfy the N.C. NAACP.

The N.C. NAACP issued a statement late Friday night complaining that Robert Allen, chief executive officer and chairman of AT&T, had not responded to the organization's complaint. The statement pointed out that a letter to Allen from executive director Mary L. Peeler of Greensboro said "an apology by AT&T simply to employees is not enough." Ms. Peeler said reports that she had expressed satisfaction with the apology AT&T issued to its employees last week were erroneous.

Murphy said the company plans "a more general apology" this week via ads that will appear in minority newspapers across the country. The ads will feature a letter from Allen apologizing to "AT&T employees, particularly our African-American employees, our customers and the communities we serve." Murphy also said Allen plans to write letters of apology to everyone who has written to him about the matter, including Ms. Peeler.

Ms. Peeler declined to say in advance if other actions are being considered by the N.C. NAACP against AT&T, or whether the actions taken by the company would resolve her complaint.

Reading is Focus of R.N. Harris PTA Meeting

Eighty parents attended the R.N. Harris Elementary School's first PTA meeting of the school year Thursday, September 16, despite the heavy rain storm.

The importance of reading aloud to children was a major topic and was credited with encouraging children's desire to read. It is credited as being the single most important factor in rearing a reader.



HONORING HHS COACH OF '43 HORNETS — These men of the '43 Hornet Club placed at wreath Sunday at the grave of Coach Herman H. Riddick: Edward Boyd, James Deberry, Russell Blunt, George Quiett, Willie Bradshaw, Luther Smith, Garson McLeod, Thomas Womble, Thomas Allen, James Elliott and Walter M. Grandy. (Photo by Ray Trent)

Hillside Hornets Football 50 Years Later

By Ray Trent

Ask any alumni who attended Hillside High School back in 1943 what was the most fun in that year and they will tell you that it was wearing the little badges with the opponent's name on it and a zero.

It seemed that they were dreaming of an eight-game season and all shut-outs! But in 1943, the Hillside Hornets under Coach Herman H. Riddick and an enthusiastic student body, the impossible dream became a reality. In 1943, the Hillside Hornets of Durham were unbeaten, untied and undefeated on a record not to be broken.

That was half a century ago, but it is still remembered and talked about in memory of the fiftieth anniversary, eleven men, some members of that team, gathered on Sunday, September 19, 1993 at Glennview Memorial Park in Durham to honor Coach Riddick and place a wreath at his grave.

There was a reading of Psalm 145:1-8 and three verses of Psalm

The gladiators then formed a ring around the grave, holding hands to honor the man who made them what they are today — Coach Riddick.

The team left together to gather at one of the members home to do the necessary — go over each game, to recall what made them the greatest team in high school football.

NAACP offices nationwide have received phone calls from individuals who said they planned to drop AT&T as their long-distance carrier, she said.

Friendly Forty

The Friendly Forty Social Club held its annual fish fry Saturday at a local park. Grace was offered by Rev. Percy Jones, after which members and friends enjoyed fellowship and food. Ages of attendees ranged from one month to 87 years.

Among those attending were: Mary Taylor, Winifred Headen, Esther Goods, Margaret Adams, Althea Ingram, Catherine Haskins, Vertie Glenn, Jackie Brown, Dorsey Williams, Charles Noel, Geraldine Pennington, Hattie Dark, Norma Snipes, Cora Brown, Elmira Flintall, Mildred Moore, Louise Jenkins, Nezzie Carter, Doletha Pratt, James Moore, Janet Lynch, Naomi Kollock, Nellie Taylor, Dorothy Cole, Anna Richards, Tiwana Kollock, Burma Pretty, Marshall Henry, Helen Murray, Doris Mae Self, Roslyn Coleman, Lillian Thompson, Laura Boyd, Delores Sellars, Rebecca Hawkins, Daisy Ball, Courtney Brown, Edith Johnson, Edna Haskins, Mary Mills, Telia Coleman, Clyde Moore, Jr.

Dorothy Williams, Gena Coleman, Ted Evans, Ronald Fields, Pat Lane, Eddie Poole, Mary Lyons, Geraldine Burroughs, Grace Justice, Rodney Fields, Krishelle Jackson, Ruth Lee, Leon and Bertha Snipes, J.D. and Clara Williams, Robert and Rebecca Daye, Samuel and Flora Foushee, Roger and Nannie Turner, Ervin and Margaret Trice, Jerry and Frances C. Joyner, Rev. Percy and Helen Jones, Odell and Minerva Fields.

Roy V. and Mildred Smith, Theodore and Gwen Headen, Jr., Wilford and Barbara Hester, Theodore and Gladys Johnson, Ed and Ruby Laster, Terry and Deidre Jackson, Porcia and Dequita Hoster, Terry and Elaine Mayo, Robert and Jessie Reid, Marvin and Lois Smith, Alvena and Minerva Wagstaff, Sadie B. Lloyd, Robert E. Chavis and Servater Evans.

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Durham Friends of Black Children Council Sponsors Its First Gospelfest

Sunday, October 3, 4 PM - St. Joseph's AME Church
 2521 Fayetteville St.

Featuring


- Greater Joy Ensemble • Orange Grove Cherubs
- Greater St. Paul Evangelical Choir
- Orange Grove Chancel Choir • TET Ensemble
- In Touch Fellowship

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