



Springs



Smith

Highlights

Viola Springs, far left, recently celebrated her 80th birthday at a party sponsored by her children and grandchildren. Mrs. Springs received numerous gifts and greetings. Bernard Smith, left, was recently promoted to fire marshal. He will be in charge of planning fire prevention activities. A graduate of Atkins High School and the University of Colorado, Smith was formerly assistant fire marshal in the fire prevention bureau.

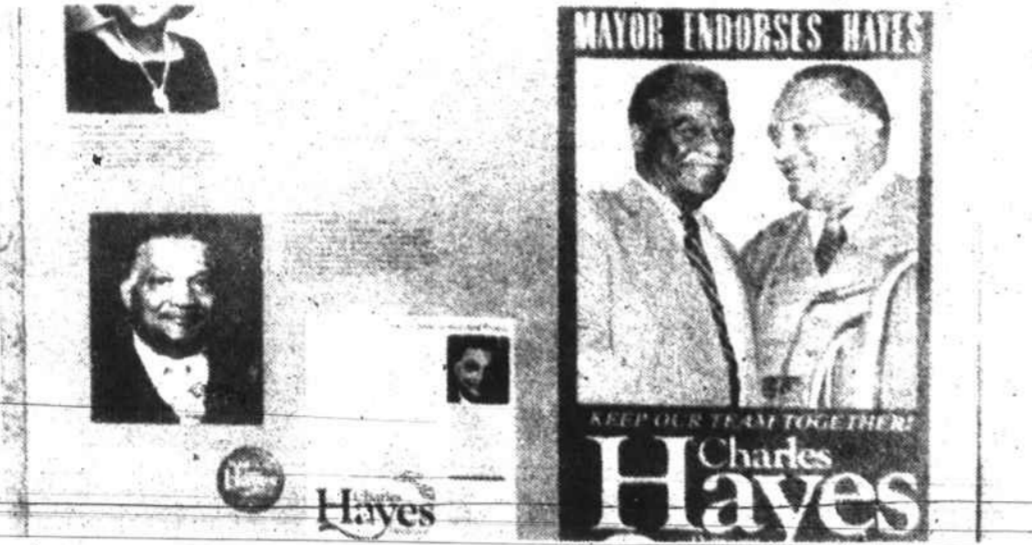
Delta Arts exhibit tells story of African-Americans in Congress

"The Long Road Up the Hill: Blacks in the United States Congress, 1870-1983" is currently on display at the Delta Arts Center. The exhibition of 20 photographic panels opened at the Delta Arts Center, 1511 E. Third St., Sunday, Aug. 2, and will run through Saturday, Aug. 29.

The exhibition is part of the Smithsonian Institution's Traveling Exhibition Services, which organizes exhibitions on art, history and science for circulation in the United States and abroad.

The emancipation of the slaves signified a new era in American history. In 1870, African-Americans exercised their right to vote for the first time. In that same year, Hiram Revels became the first American of African descent to serve in the United States Congress. Representing Mississippi, Revels filled the vacant Senate seat formerly occupied by Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

From 1870 to 1897, 22 blacks were elected to Congress, all from Southern states. These early black congressmen have sometimes been portrayed as ignorant tools of corrupt white politicians. However, the record shows that many of these African-American men, like their white colleagues, were trained lawyers, teachers, ministers and farmers who had gained political experience as state legislators and local government officials. During the period from 1870 to 1897, four blacks were elected to Congress



Documents, articles and photographs depicting African-Americans in Congress will be on display at the Delta Arts Center through Aug. 29.

from North Carolina, all from the eastern part of the state.

John Adams Hyman, a farmer who had served in the state legislature, was elected to the 44th Congress and served from 1875-1877; James E. O'Hara, a lawyer who had served one term in the state legislature and four years as chairman of the board of commissioners of Halifax County, was elected to the 48th and 49th congresses and served from 1883-1887; Henry Plummer Cheatham, a graduate of Shaw University who had served two terms as register of deeds for Vance County, was elected to the 51st and 52nd congresses and served from 1889-1893; George H. White, a lawyer, member of the state legislature for four years and solicitor of the second judicial district for eight years, was elected to the 55th and 56th congresses and served from 1897-1901. White was the last of

his race to serve in Congress for nearly 30 years.

By the end of the 19th century, the enforcement of discriminatory laws, combined with local customs, effectively discouraged blacks from voting. From 1901 to 1929 there were no blacks in Congress. Since 1929, there has been a slow, steady increase, both in the number of black legislators and in the states or districts they represent. By 1984, 59 blacks from 22 states had served in Congress, three in the Senate and 56 in the House of Representatives. Five of these were women: Shirley Chisholm, Cardiss Collins, Barbara Jordan, Yvonne Brathwaite Burke and Katie Green Hall.

Exhibition hours at the Delta Arts Center are 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. For more information call the center at 722-2625.

Twin City Little League honors members

Twin City Little League held its annual awards ceremony at the Masonic Temple on Saturday, Aug. 8.

Awards and certificates were presented to champions from the major division and the senior division. The Mets were the winners from the Major division and the Giants were the runner-up team.

The senior division winner was the Cardinals team and the Astros was the runner-up team.

Special awards were also given to graduate Twin City players by Joan Cloud. The graduate Twin City players included: Napoleon Cloud, attending Clemson University this fall, Earl James, attending N.C. State University, Brian Johnson and Rodney McCoy, attending Winston-Salem State University, Jordan Warkene and Tribert Williamson, attending N.C. A&T State University, and Tyrone Lewis, attending the University of Virginia. Jacques Biting, attending Fayetteville State University, Eddie Gist, attending Appalachian State University and Travis Simpson will be attending the University of N.C. at Chapel Hill.

The speaker for the ceremony was Bobby Kimbrough, assistant fire marshal of Forsyth County.

Kimbrough, a former Twin City player, was introduced by Barbara Puryear, who praised him for his concern for young people.

Aldine Cloud is president of the Twin City Little League.

Easy to get to, just off I-40 at West 4th and Broad, Exit Broad, turn right - 3 blocks.

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