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Berean To Break Ground For Evangelistic Education Center

Dr. King Drive Gains Momentum

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr.
Post Executive Editor

Since the appearance of a Charlotte Post article last week questioning the possibility of the Martin Luther King Memorial Statue Fund-raising drive failing, momentum for the project has increased considerably, according to the Rev. James Barnette, chairman of the MLK Memorial Committee.

Barnette said over \$5,000 has been raised toward the initial goal of \$50,000 and three times that amount has been pledged by some of the 73 black churches that have been contacted by letter for support. Support has also begun to come from some of the 500 black-owned businesses that Barnette has communicated with.

While showing considerably more optimism than 10-days ago, Barnette nevertheless indicated that much needs to be done in order to meet the minimum goal of \$50,000 and the statue unveiling date of January 14, one day before Dr. King's birthday.

Posters have been distributed and placed throughout the city that say "Keep the dream alive. Your help is needed." Barnette will probably carry this same message to the New Hope Baptist Church on Sunday where he will be preaching at 6:30 p.m.

Rev. Barnette is also scheduled to speak to a group of white ministers who will be convened at Myers Park Baptist Church by host pastor Dr. Eugene Owens on July 6. Barnette is expected to ask them for a pledge of \$15,000, an amount equal to the pledge of the area black churches.

Barnette noted that persons desiring to contribute to the MLK Statue Project should send their contribution to the Dr. MLK Commission, P.O. Box 1895, Charlotte, N.C., 28233.

Rev. Diggs Says:

Baptists Enjoy "Finest Session"

By Jeri Harvey
Post Staff Writer

"The 15th Annual Session of the Progressive National Baptist Congress of Christian Education closed with resounding success," according to Rev. H.S. Diggs, pastor of Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church and host pastor for the Congress.

The Radisson Plaza, Charlotte's newest and most luxurious hotel, served as headquarters for the Congress which ran June 20-24. Registration and all General Sessions were held at the Charlotte Civic Center and classes were conducted at First Baptist Church on Davidson St.

The Congress began on Monday with registration and a Pre-Congress Musical which was presented in the Civic Center at eight p.m. that evening. The Musical, under the direction of Mrs. Roseph Nichols, well-known musician and teacher of Charlotte, was the culmination of months of preparation. The program included hymns, anthems, spirituals and gospel songs. Several area artists were featured on instruments or as vocal soloists.

At the Pre-Musical, greetings were brought to the Congress by Harvey Gantt, Charlotte City Councilman; Rev. Preston Pendergrass, Pastor of Antioch Baptist Church; Dr. J.J. Johnson, President, General Baptist State Convention of N.C.; Dr. Carl Bates, Pastor of First Baptist Church on Davidson St.; Mrs. Elizabeth Hair, Chairperson, Mecklenburg County Commissioners; Dr. Lawrence Childs, Director of Missions, Mecklenburg Baptist Association; and Dr. W.J. Hodge, President, Progressive National Baptist Congress.

The Congress, which according to a spokesman, drew more than 3,000 registered delegates, elected Rev. James



ONE PRESIDENT GREETES ANOTHER - Hodge, president of Progressive National Baptist Congress. More than 3,500 people attended the congress convention at the Radisson Hotel here last week.

Summer Jobs Create New Atmosphere Of Cooperation

By Jacquie Levister
Post Staff Writer

A congenial atmosphere of cooperation abounds between the Tenant's Association of Earle Village and the Charlotte Housing Authority.

The reason for this new attitude can be attributed to a new summer jobs project. The Housing Authority sanctioned the project after hearing a proposal authored and presented by D. Joseph Hall, a former resident of Earle Village.

Approximately 100 Earle Village students between the ages of 14 and 18 have been hired with the assistance of the local CETA program. The Housing Authority granted \$10,000 to the project which hired 10 local college students

to directly supervise the working students.

According to Hall, an architect with Gantt-Huberman Associates, "The proposal was originally written as an Earle Village project. Too many of these kids need desperately to work. They either can't find employment in the summer or are assigned to desk jobs as secretarial assistants with nothing to do. When placed in those situations the kids develop work habits that are void of any respect for the ethics of working."

The program will be sending clean-up crews to several other local housing projects. Other communities that stand to benefit from the work of this group are: Boulevard Homes, Piedmont Courts, Dalton Vil-

lage, Keyway Apartments and Fairview Homes.

"We, the Earle Village Tenants Association and the Resident Advisory Council, are treating this project as a pilot program," said Hall. "It is mandatory that we perform at a standard of excellence so that next year perhaps between the 15 public housing projects in the city we can assist in the hiring of 500-700 kids. This is not an unreal figure once you consider the number of people housed in the projects," he continued.

The crew of students spent their time last week in Earle Village. The residents of the area were so enthused by their efforts that they too joined in the campaign, with brooms in

\$325,000 Facility Will

Be Built In Two Stages

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr.
Post Executive Editor

Ground breaking ceremonies for an evangelistic and education center for the Berean Seventh-Day Adventist Church will be held on Sunday, July 10 at 3 p.m.

The \$325,000 facility, which will also house a 300 student

State Patrol

Predicts Record

Volume For 4th

The State Highway Patrol is preparing for a record volume of traffic during the long July 4th weekend, according to Patrol Commander John T. Jenkins. He said that traffic usually increases on any given weekend, but with the activities normally associated with July 4th, the highways this year are expected to be very crowded. Traffic is expected to be heaviest on Friday night and the evening of the 4th, Jenkins said.

The Patrol is not planning any special programs to cope with the traffic except that every available man will be on duty. Jenkins said the Patrol is going to make travel as safe as possible during the holiday by strictly enforcing all motor vehicle laws. Special attention will be given to speeding motorists and drinking drivers.

According to J. Phil Carlton, Secretary of the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, 19 persons lost their lives on the highways during the July 4th weekend last year. "I am confident the Patrol will do everything possible to make this a safer holiday and that motorists will assist the Patrol by obeying all traffic laws and driving as safely as possible," he said.

City Government

To Observe

Independence Day

All offices of Charlotte City government will be closed Monday, July 4 for Independence Day. There will be no City Council meeting and sanitation schedules will be affected.

Sanitation crews will follow a Tuesday-Thursday, Wednesday-Friday schedule for backyard and commercial collection. There will be NO curbside collection during the week. Landfill operations will observe an 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday schedule because of the holiday. Dead animal collection service will be suspended July 4.

The Animal Control Department will also follow a holiday schedule, providing emergency service only. All City offices will resume regular business hours at 8 a.m. Tuesday, July 5. The next meeting of the City Council will be July 11 at 2 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall.



MISS JO LEATHA PRATT
...Well-rounded person

Jo Leatha Pratt

Is Beauty Of Week

By Jeri Harvey
Post Staff Writer

This week's Beauty of the Week caught the eye of our photographer recently as she went about her duties as a salesperson in Ivey's Jr. Department. (Which Ivey's is our little secret.) Her bright eyes and beautiful smile impressed him enough for him to suggest her as a "beauty" and the POST agreed with his judgement.

A 1972 graduate of Olympic High, Jo Leatha is currently studying fashion merchandising at Biscayne Southern College and has ambitions to be a buyer some day and perhaps to do some modeling in her spare time. She said, "I enjoy dressing well and I take a lot of care with how I look every day. I like pretty clothes but don't try to keep up with every new fashion. I prefer to create my own style by mixing the new with things I'm already comfortable with."

An apparently well-rounded person, Jo Leatha says she enjoys all kinds of sports including tennis (which she says she plays "pretty well"), swimming, basketball and bowling. She enjoys reading, and sews many of her own clothes. She also says she "loves to cook, especially cakes and pies and other sweets."

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Pratt, our beauty has two sisters, four brothers and

a two year old son of her own, Jermaine. She commented, "My son is one of the reasons I am in school now. I want to be sure he has every advantage that money can buy and I want to be prepared to earn that kind of money."

Jo Leatha's mother is Evangelist Letha Pratt and when asked how being the daughter of a minister has affected her life she answered, "Well, for one thing I was raised to go to church every Sunday and if I fail to go it gets my whole week off to a bad beginning and I feel as if something is missing." She went on to say, "Of course my mother expects us to live up to her spiritual ideals and as long as we live in her house she demands that we conform to certain standards of behavior. On the other hand, she recognizes that we are individuals and will one day choose the life style we prefer. She says all she can do is show us the way and after that, it's up to us and God. I haven't had any particular problems as a result of my upbringing. If anything, life has been easier because I have been taught certain values and can incorporate them in my decision-making."

Jo Leatha says she enjoys people but doesn't have to have a lot of friends. She dates occasionally but admits there is a certain marine who is uppermost in her thoughts.

A Libra, Jo Leatha appears to have her life in perfect balance, just as that zodiac sign indicates. She combines work, play and religion in a manner that might provide an example for all of us.

Limited Space Crowds

Out Some Stories

Limited Space Crowds Out Some Stories.

Limited newsprint space and a special feature on "Charlotte's 10 Best Dressed Men" has forced the Post to re-schedule the publishing of some stories. We deeply regret that this has happened; however, the story you missed in this issue will appear in next week's Post.

TURTLE-TALK



Nothing makes some people go into debt like trying to keep up with people who already are.



Rev. H.S. Diggs

Convention spokesman S. Hall of Philadelphia, Pa. as the new president at the Thursday evening session. Dr. Hall also gave the closing address on Friday evening.

A major resolution passed by the Congress dealt with the "Wilmington Ten" situation and read, in part: "We, the Resolution Commit-

tee resolve:

The National Progressive Baptist Congress of Christian Education's position on the Wilmington Ten in North Carolina is that there should be a swift execution of justice. It is obvious that there has been a miscarriage of justice. The key witness that enabled the Wilmington Ten to be incarcerated behind prison walls now readily admits his testimony for the prosecution was false. Other witnesses of the prosecution are willing to rescind their testimonies because they were coached to give prejudicial statements.

We believe that while President Carter has relentlessly made his views known on the human injustices of other nations, he should not overlook the dehumanization in his own back yard. He should answer the question, "What about the Wilmington Ten?" Therefore, we hope the Wilmington Ten will be granted a new trial.



Dr. Robert Connor
...Greatest challenge