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LINDA MOSES
...W. Charlotte junior

Charming Linda Moses Is Beauty Of Week

by Sherleen McKay
Post Staff Writer

Our beauty for this week is Linda Moses, a junior at West Charlotte High School. She is also an Explorer at CPCC, a club (similar to the Boy Scouts of America), which consists of a group (16) of school age girls who meet to raise money to help disadvantaged children during the Easter and Christmas seasons. If the girls' efforts are successful, they will receive half a credit towards their graduation points.

She is a member of the Future Homemakers of America (FHA), a club (similar to the Boy Scouts of America), which consists of a group (16) of school age girls who meet to raise money to help disadvantaged children during the Easter and Christmas seasons. If the girls' efforts are successful, they will receive half a credit towards their graduation points.

Classifying herself as an honest, trustworthy and ambitious person, Linda's post-graduation plans include attending Winthrop College in Rock Hill, S.C. to fulfill her desire of becoming a dietician. "I like working with sick people," Linda stated. "I've been working with the food service department since I've been in junior high school."

An alternate career plan for Linda is to become a registered nurse, where she yet will be of service to others who lack good health.

Linda's hobbies are tennis and traveling. "I'd like to do more traveling," Linda said, "preferably to some foreign country."

This summer Linda and a group of girls are planning a cruise to the Bahamas in August.

Linda cites her parents as having a positive effect in her life. "My mother and father are always encouraging me to want to succeed in life and to get the best of everything I can," she explained. They are also special "because of the persons they are and the love they've given me."

The youngest of four children, Linda said, "It's okay, I get more attention being the youngest."

Linda recalls her most exciting adventure as being the time that she visited her uncle in Philadelphia and they went to Atlantic City.

"It was really nice," she reminisced. "Linda is anxiously awaiting her senior year. 'I'm looking forward to it very much,' she admitted. 'I'm ready to start on my future (career), beginning with college.'"

The driving force in Linda's life is that she "always keep in mind that where there's a will, there's a way."

Linda is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Moses.

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Local Group Launches Fund-Raising Effort To Support Black School

Disco To Benefit Civil Rights

by Eileen Hanson

Special to the Post
The disco sounds of Bionic Chicken will set feet dancing in Marshall Park Saturday, May 26 starting at 4 p.m. The disco is sponsored by People United for Justice and Friends of Rev. James Barnett to raise funds for special civil rights projects. A \$2 donation is requested.

According to Barnett, the funds will help pay travel expenses for the Charlotte delegation that attended a national civil rights conference, and for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Statue that is to be erected in Marshall Park this year.

Sixteen Charlotteans attended the fifth annual conference of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression in New York City May 11-13.

According to Dr. R. B. Phifer, so many people came to the rally that hundreds had to stand outside the Covenant Baptist Church in Harlem. Angela Davis, co-chair of the Alliance, and writer James Baldwin were among the speakers.

The next two days were devoted to workshops attended by 226 delegates and 273 observers. Danny Gilmore of Charlotte participated in the Political Prisoners workshop.

"Almost everyone there had some person in their family in prison," said Gilmore. "One person had a son who was shot by the Ku Klux Klan."

Other workshops included Repressive Legislation; Rights of Labor; the KKK, Nazis and other Hate Groups; and Behavior Control.

Actor Ossie Davis and Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich) also addressed the meeting. The Rev. Ben Chavis of the Wilmington 10 was re-elected co-chair along with Ms. Davis.



Cherry Community Organization planned a successful Cherry Reunion May 18. Yvonne Bittle (secretary); Wilhemena Adams, Johnson, Jean Thompson, Oscar Here (president), Sybil Lee Johnson (assistant secretary), Lucy Ellis, Jannie Tucker, and Mary Evelyn Arant (seated, secretary), Florence McLaughlin. (Photo by Eileen Hanson)

Cherry Celebrates Own Roots

by Eileen Hanson
Special to the Post

Cherry residents, past and present, dug back to their roots last weekend with a neighborhood reunion on May 18 at Morgan Park. Several hundred Cherryites turned out for 6-hours of activities, including a bike race, ball games, sack races, disco, and historical displays.

"We wanted to dig into our own past and learn from older people who have lived through so much," said Mary Johnson Tison who has spent the last 6 years collecting the history of Cherry.

The reunion was organized by the Cherry Community Organization and was part of the Central Area of Celebrate Charlotte.

The Cherry neighborhood was developed around 1915 when a wealthy white family, the Myers, built houses for black domestic workers who worked in the white homes in Myers Park. The workers could easily walk from Cherry to their jobs.

Violet Wallace Robinson

still lives in the same house on Baxter Street where she was born some 50 years ago.

"Cherry was way out in the country then and McDowell Street was city limits," she recalled. "I think it's a nice place to live. We have new people, but it hasn't changed much."

The Cherry community seems to have a special life all its own. Nestled between Independence Boulevard, Morehead and Kings Drive, Cherry still has an air of "country" as you drive through its quiet streets.

Another life-long Cherry resident, Jannie Lucille Wallace, wouldn't live anywhere else. "I love Cherry. It's my home and I'm proud to live here." Residents seem attached to Cherry, almost like to a small town.

At the reunion the younger generation kept time to the disco beat, while older folks admired household articles from the early 1900's. News clippings and photo displays told of Cherry's past and the special role it has played for

black Charlotteans.

When other neighborhoods like Brooklyn were torn down for urban renewal and the residents scattered to every corner of Charlotte, the Cherry community stayed intact. The strong bond between the residents is a glue that has withstood even the bulldozer.

All present and past Cherry residents are being asked to sign the Reunion Quilt. Names will be embroidered and the final quilting will be done by senior citizens.

Those wanting to sign the quilt should call Ms. Tison (372-5902) or Sybil Johnson (375-4641).

On Saturday, May 19, Cherry residents brought their "Cherryscope" program to Marshall Park as part of Celebrate Charlotte. The historical displays, a karate demonstration, a fashion show and disco were Cherry's contribution to the "Heartbeat Charlotte" theme.

Janie Tucker had the original idea for the two-day program, and Lucy Ellis was in charge of arrangements. Many members of the Cherry Community organization worked to make the events successful.

"History usually focuses on people long dead," said Ms. Tison. "Our focus is on the living, on the stories of people standing up for their rights as citizens."

Many other Cherry residents have already made oral history tapes which Ms. Tison plans to make available to schools, the state archives, and CPCC's listening library.

Reception Will Be

Held For Dr. Burke

Dr. Selma Burke, creator of the Martin Luther King Jr. sculpture to be erected in Marshall Park, will be honored at a reception in Charlotte Saturday.

The reception at NCNB will be hosted by Hugh McColl, president of North Carolina National Bank, and members of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Commission.

Fund-raising efforts have been coordinated by the commission and by a committee of Charlotte businessmen headed by McColl.

Laurinburg Institute

"Is Suffering For Money"

Special to the Charlotte Post
When more than 30 percent of black students in public schools failed the state's competency test last year, it created a shock that has completely obscured a much more positive story.

At Laurinburg Institute, a small college preparatory school in Laurinburg, N.C., about 95 miles northeast of Charlotte, only one of 125 students failed the test. And even more surprising, this student, who had entered the school eight months before the test reading on a fifth grade level, failed by only one point.

Laurinburg Institute is only one of two black-owned and operated prep schools in the country. All of its students are black.

School officials took their excellent showing on the state competency test calmly, far more disturbed by the one student who failed, than excited by the 124 who passed.

"We fully expected all our students to pass the test," said Bishop McDuffie, who teaches, coaches the basketball team, and is the school's vice-president. "Existing as we do here in a relative cocoon, we're frankly surprised by some of the negative things we hear about public school education, especially about how poorly black students are doing."

McDuffie, whose father, Frank McDuffie, heads the school, says he feels that students perform to the level of teachers' expectations.

"We expect excellence from our students and we get it," he said. "It's too bad other schools don't expect the same."

But Laurinburg, like all small schools, particularly all small black private schools, is suffering for money.

According to the senior McDuffie, whose father Emmanuel McDuffie founded the school 76 years ago, school tuition is about \$3,000 annually. But the average student pays only about \$800 of that. The rest of the school's annual budget of between \$250,000 and \$300,000 comes from donors, many of whom have been Laurinburg benefactors for years.

But even with good support from donors, who provide much of the school's annual operating costs, Laurinburg is still in trouble because it can't put together enough money to plan growth and development to keep pace with the increasing demands of a complex society.

"Our goal with students has always been to send them from here prepared educationally, motivationally, and emotionally to function effectively in this society," said Dr. McDuffie. "But that gets harder to do each year as more and more of our money goes just to keep up with escalating costs."

A group of Charlotteans, several of them Laurinburg Institute graduates, have organized to solve the school's crippling money problems. Headed by Dr. Ken Chambers, a local gynecologist, and a graduate of the prep school, this organization has pledged to raise \$1.5 million for Laurinburg Institute over the next five years.



Dr. Ken Chambers
...Heads drive

"We understand," said Chambers, "the kind of pressures the school faces. It would be easier to get by with settling for less educationally, but the thing that makes Laurinburg Institute unique is that it has always set high standards and met them."

The fundraising organization has an ambitious plan to raise the money for the school from the country's largest industries, and the community-at-large.

It has retained Jordan & Associates, a local communications, research and planning consultant firm, to assist them in raising the money.

Calling themselves "The Friends of Laurinburg Institute," the local group is currently conducting its first fund-raising effort. They are selling raffle tickets for an all-expense paid weekend trip to Hilton Head, the South Carolina resort. The tickets are \$5 and can be bought at the East Independence Plaza branch of Mechanics and Farmers Bank from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Evenings and weekends, tickets can be bought wherever you see a placard advertising the promotion.

"We felt that it was better to try to raise money by giving people a chance to get something in return in addition to the pleasure of helping a very deserving black school," Chambers said. "We certainly hope the community will respond wholeheartedly to this effort."

The drawing for the Hilton Head trip will be held June 17 in the E. Independence Plaza parking lot, during a planned disco dance. Admission to the disco will be a ticket for the promotion. Ticket sales will end Friday, June 15.

The winner will fly from Charlotte on Friday, June 29 to Savannah, and be whisked to Hilton Head where the winner and a companion of their choice will spend a luxurious weekend in a seaside villa on Sea Pines, one of the island's plushiest areas. They will fly back to Charlotte on Sunday, July 1.

Other facets of the fund-raising effort includes organizing other Friends of Laurinburg organizations around the country. The local group has asked former Celtic basketball great Sam Jones, and trumpeter, Dizzy Gillespie, both Laurinburg graduates, to co-chair the national group. Dr. Jacqueline Renee Westcott, a vice-president at Central Piedmont Community College and another Laurinburg graduate, has been asked to chair the state group.

TURTLE-TALK



REMEMBER when the ONLY PAY CHECK deduction was the one slipped out for a BEER on the way home from work?

For Friday, May 25

African Liberation Day Program Set

by Eileen Hanson
Special to the Post

A shocking film about life in South Africa will highlight this year's African Liberation Day program, Friday, May 25 at Spirit Square, 8 p.m. Uhuru Sasa ("freedom now" in Swahili), a youth group studying about Africa, will sponsor the event to mark the founding of the Organization of African Unity in 1963.

A donation of \$1 will be taken to help Geraldine Jones, an 8-year-old girl who was seriously injured when an oil truck overturned on her two weeks ago.

African Liberation Day is observed throughout Africa and by blacks in other parts of the world as a day to focus on the current liberation struggles.

In the last 20 years most African countries achieved political independence from colonial rulers. However, in Southern Africa (South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia) wars of national liberation still continue.

The film to be shown Fri-



Khadijah Abdullah
...Youth group leader

day, "Last Grave at Dimbaza", is a shocking portrayal of life in the "apartheid" (meaning rigid color segregation) system of South Africa. Shot secretly inside the country and smuggled out, the film exposes the inhuman conditions African families face.

According to Dumi Mtinkulu, a South African who escaped in 1976 and is now a

student at Johnson C. Smith, "Many children (in South Africa) grow up with only one parent, the other has to go to work in the city."

Men are often hired as contract laborers to work in the gold mines and are gone 8-12 months at a time. The women are left behind to work as domestics in white homes. They leave their children at 4 a.m. and don't return until after 10 p.m.

Conditions are so bad that half the African children die before the age of 5. The graves at Dimbaza, an African resettlement area, are dug weeks ahead of time, waiting to embrace the small children when they die.

There are 22 million Africans, two million Coloureds (mixed race), one million Asians and four million whites in South Africa. Only the whites are allowed to vote. They also control all the economic power. Strict laws regulate the coming and going of the blacks, who must carry passbooks to prove their em-

ployment and tax payments. If they are not authorized to be in certain areas they will be arrested.

Mtinkulu said he was once arrested for not carrying a pass, though he was not yet 16 years old, the age required for having a pass.

The African Liberation Day program will also focus on the struggle in this country, including speakers about the Wilmington 10 and Charlotte 3 and other problems of discrimination in Charlotte.

Khadijah Abdullah organized Uhuru Sasa to teach young girls about African history and culture. Most of the students live in Earle Village, near Ms. Abdullah's store, Dar Es Salaam (House of Peace) on 7th and Tryon.

"We are not celebrating a holiday. The celebration will come after liberation," said Ms. Abdullah. "We will draw attention to the continuing struggles in Africa today, and also those here in Charlotte, N.C."