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Massive March On Washington

U. S. Homeless Demanding End To Plight

An advocate for the homeless has issued a national call to demand an end to the lack of affordable housing by urging millions to participate in a massive march from the Pentagon to the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Homeless advocate Mitch Snyder, on a three-month tour of the country, says a crisis threatens the nation, affecting every segment of society and citizens must demand the creation of affordable housing. "Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never has, and it never will," Snyder contends.

Snyder plans to meet Triangle-area housing and homeless activists April

27 to discuss the coming national March on Washington scheduled for Oct. 7.

The national march, under the banner "Housing Now," is intended to flood Washington, D.C. with hundreds of thousands of peaceful demonstrators from across the country to deliver a simple message to Congress and the Bush administration: end homelessness through the creation of affordable housing now.

Feeder marches and caravans will begin in mid-September in Roanoke, Va., New York and California. The October rally will follow three days of lobbying, religious observances, and

demonstrations.

Snyder is on a three-month tour of the nation to meet with local activists and leaders in more than 100 cities. "We expect to see broad-based support from all sectors of our society and all parts of the United States represented in Washington this fall," Snyder stated.

The Raleigh meeting will be held at

Fairmont United Methodist Church at 10 a.m. Concerned citizens are invited to attend. A press conference will precede the meeting.

Members of the Community for Creative Non-Violence of Washington, D.C. and Snyder have issued this national call to action:

"A decent and affordable home is but a distant dream for many of our

people. For millions, home is a box, a street corner or a cot. These are our nation's homeless. They live, suffer, and die in our midst. For millions of others, home is a place that costs too much, is too crowded, or is unsafe. We are far from meeting our national commitment to decent homes for all.

"A crisis threatens our nation; it affects every segment of our society.

"Since 1981, budget authority for all federal housing assistance programs has been cut by more than 75 percent—from \$32 billion to less than \$8 billion a year. Substandard and expensive housing are the norm for the poor. Millions live doubled-up or worse, while millions more face the loss of their housing from expiring federal subsidies or property conversions. After 50 years of struggle, only one out of every four eligible poor renters actually receives a federal housing subsidy.

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INSIDE AFRICA

Medium Custody Center

Inmates Get New Dorms

State Rep. Frank J. "Trip" Sizemore, III, chairman of the Correction Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee, will be the featured speaker at the dedication of four 50-man dormitories at the Wake Correctional Center at 2 p.m. on Friday, April 28.

These facilities are part of the \$29.3 million Emergency Prison Facilities Development Program of 1987. Under that program, 2,554 beds and support facilities are being added to the state's prison system in an effort to make it more constitutionally defensible.

The construction at the Wake Correctional Center was completed on a \$4.14 million contract awarded to L.P. Cox Construction Co. of Sanford. That contract also includes the construction of dormitories at the Durham, Orange and Sanford correctional centers. The company also had two separate contracts totaling \$5 million for dormitory construction at six other correctional facilities.

The Wake Correctional Center, a 278-inmate, medium-custody, work-release facility, is located at 1000 Rock Quarry Road in Raleigh.

Craggy Prison near Asheville has been a symbol of North Carolina's aging and overcrowded prisons for many years. That symbol will soon be replaced with another symbol: a modern correctional facility operated at constitutionally defensible standards.

Gov. Jim Martin will head the list of state and local officials who will participate in the formal dedication of the new Craggy Prison and the ad-

(See DORMS, P. 2)



TRY THIS—These two models were displaying apparel for the woman busy working on a career when the photographer caught them in downtown Raleigh. They said they were profling for Hit or Miss, a woman's clothing chair. (Photo by Talib Sabir-Calloway)

Fundraising Efforts To Kick-Off Education Day

Nearly 120 volunteers will call on more than 600 business and industry leaders on Tuesday, April 25, as part of "A Day for Wake County Public Education," sponsored by the Wake

County Education Foundation. The unique, day-long fundraising effort kicks off the foundation's 1989 campaign to raise \$200,000 to support the foundation's efforts on behalf of the Wake County Public School System.

The theme for this year's campaign is "Don't Let a Little Money Stand Between a Kid and a Dream." April 25 was declared "Public Education Day" by the Wake County Board of Commissioners and the mayors of Apex, Cary, Fuquay-Varina, Garner, Holly Springs, Knightdale, Morrisville, Raleigh, Rolesville, Wake Forest, Wendell and Zebulon.

"The foundation is dedicated to supporting our public schools by going beyond what is provided by tax dollars," said Kelly King, chairman of the 1989 campaign. "The quality of our children's education must be among our highest priorities, a responsibility that rests not only with

(See EDUCATION DAY, P. 2)

New A&T Research Facility Will Aid N. C. Agriculture

GREENSBORO—A top official of the U.S. Department of Agriculture said last week that a new \$1.7 million research facility at A&T State University "is a center that will be heard from for many years and will help many people in the United States."

Dr. John Patrick Jordan, administrator of USDA's Cooperative State Research Service, was keynote speaker at the dedication of the Charles Moore Agricultural Research Facility. The facility is the first phase of a \$4 million USDA grant to A&T.

"The challenge," said Jordan, "is for the state and the industry to share in this load, so that the funds the USDA has already given and

The Moore facility is the result of an extensive two-year renovation of a former elementary school purchased from the Greensboro Public Schools and is the first phase of a major agricultural research project.

the \$11 million we are seeking for the 1890 historically black institutions become \$22 million."

"The opening of this outstanding research structure will intensify the significant agricultural studies of our professors and scientists," said A&T Chancellor Edward B. Fort. "It will enable us to remain in the mainstream of efforts to improve the quality of life in this state through computerized research."

The Moore facility is the result of an extensive two-year renovation of a former elementary school purchased from the Greensboro Public Schools.

"This is the first phase of a major agricultural research project," said Dr. Burrell Webb, dean of the A&T School of Agriculture. "Another phase will be an extensive upgrading of the agriculture school's Carver Hall."

Webb said the A&T agriculture school is currently engaged in agricultural research valued at more than \$3 million annually.

He said the economics and social science-related research housed in the Moore facility will be designed to improve the efficiency of animal and plant production, to improve human health through proper diet and nutrition, and to provide backup information to help promote new agricultural enterprises among the state's low-income

(See A&T RESEARCH, P. 2)

Reputation For Excellence

Sisters Make Creative Contribution

BY LINDA GILL
Special To The CAROLINIAN

Alpha Theta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority recently honored four local fashion designers for their contributions to heritage. Ms. Willie O. Kay, Ms. Mildred O. Taylor, Ms. Chloe O. Laws and Ms. Elizabeth O. Constant have created countless things of beauty for which they will long be remembered.

The Otey Sisters were to fashion designing in Raleigh what John Winters, Clarence Lightner and Dan Blue are to politics and what local

printer Vivian Irving is to business, just to name a few.

Ms. Willie Otey Kay, the firstborn of the four surviving sisters, is the oldest active member of St. Ambrose Episcopal Church and was the first woman to serve on the vestry there.

Having been left with five children to support following the death of her physician husband in the mid-1920s, she turned her sewing hobby into a business in 1927. Ms. Kay earned a national reputation for excellence when an article about her work appeared in McCall's Magazine in

1935. Subsequent articles have also appeared in the Raleigh Times and the Charlotte Observer.

In April 1988, as a founding donor, Ms. Kay donated her daughter Constance's wedding gown, a negligee, and other items from the bride's trousseau, along with her own silver thimble and the dress form she had used over the years in making her beautiful creations to the National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center in Wilberforce, Ohio.

Like their older sister, Ms. Mildred

Otey Taylor, Ms. Chloe Otey Laws and Ms. Elizabeth Otey Constant also made outstanding contributions in the creative arts. Having been reared in a close-knit family, they worked separately and together to create gorgeous, one-of-a-kind gowns. Ms. Constant, who did not use the sewing machine, did the hand work and beading for her three sisters. Although they specialized in formal attire, they also fashioned beautiful children's clothes, tailored suits and all other kinds of daytime attire.

They are perhaps best known to us for the exquisite gowns, many of which were hand-beaded, that they designed over the years, especially for AKA debutantes, the Terpsichorean Debutantes, and contestants in the Miss North Carolina Pageant. Many of those dresses were later reworked into wedding gowns that have become family heirlooms.

Ms. Taylor's and Ms. Kay's creative talents were not limited to women's and children's apparel; they also used the same creative expertise in making church vestments for their priests and other appointments for the St. Augustine's College Chapel and Saint Ambrose Church. Some years ago, Ms. Taylor traveled to Philadelphia to purchase authentic clerical fabrics for five sets of ecclesiastical linens for the College Chapel, made and donated one complete set, and donated her labor for the other four sets that she also designed and which are still in use there. Ms. Taylor has also been an outstanding civic and community leader and was honored in January 1983 by the Raleigh-Wake Citizens' Association for that leadership.

All four sisters are members of long standing of the Links, Inc., a national organization of which one of the purposes is to promote civic, cultural and educational activities for the benefit of its members and the larger community.

As we travel throughout Raleigh and the state of North Carolina, we can see the results of the Otey Sisters' talents, whether they be in the form of a christening gown, a debutante gown, a wedding gown or everyday attire.

Women Around World Honor Black Woman

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Lt. Gov. L. Douglas Wilder has a desktop statue of Mickey Mouse, a gift from a Disneyland trip, in his office two blocks from Virginia's Executive Mansion, where he hopes to live as governor.

The statue shows Mickey in his original Steamboat Willie role, before Walt Disney changed Willie's name and turned him into one of America's most popular cartoon characters.

Wilder, seeking to become the nation's first elected black governor, also wants to be transformed in the eye of the Virginia public, his critics

(See BLACK WOMAN, P. 2)



BLACK HERITAGE—These creative women were recognized for their contribution to black heritage and the creative arts. Standing, left to right: Mrs. Chloe Otey Laws,

Mrs. Willie Otey Kay, Mrs. Mildred Otey Taylor, and not pictured, Mrs. Elizabeth Otey Constant. (Photo by James O. Williams)



LEGACY OF MALCOLM X—The words of Malcolm X, the fiery orator of the 1960s black nationalist movement, remain as a stirring legacy nearly 30 years after his death. May 19th marks the 64th birthday of the slain Muslim leader who rose to prominence as a follower of the late Nation of Islam leader Elijah Muhammad. Celebrations are planned across the country as a tribute to Malcolm X.