



Proclamation



Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP Founding Day

WHEREAS, the Chapel Hill-Carrboro branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) first convened 75 years ago on October 23, 1947, in Chapel Hill at what is now called the Hargraves Community Center; and

WHEREAS, according to a history of the branch written by local historian Mike Ogle:

Black Americans had been fighting back for generations, during slavery and in the eight decades since, each successive generation making more gains and then demanding more. But progress had been slow and painful. Now it was becoming apparent that they did not intend to live under Jim Crow much longer. In Chapel Hill, we faced what would infamously be called ‘candy-coated racism.’ In Carrboro, a sundown town dangerous for Black people to venture into at night past the railroad tracks, there was nothing sweet about it.

AND WHEREAS, for 75 years, the Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP has worked to empower communities of color and other marginalized groups to transform Chapel Hill and Carrboro into racially just and equitable communities; and

WHEREAS, the Diamond Anniversary theme—“Honor the Past. Build the Future.”—will be explored through several events designed to bring the community together during the month of October; and

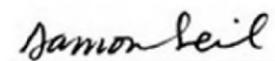
WHEREAS, events commemorating the Diamond Anniversary will include an Umoja Read-In at the Chapel Hill Public Library on October 8 to celebrate the culture, cuisine, and literature of the African Diaspora; a Freedom Journey walk and bicycle ride from Lincoln Center to Hargraves Community Center on October 15; the 75th anniversary gala at the Sheraton Chapel Hill Hotel on October 22; and a Founding Day commemoration on October 23; and

WHEREAS, complete information about the Diamond Anniversary is available online at naacp75.com;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Damon Seils, mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 23, 2022, to be Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP Founding Day in Carrboro. I encourage all residents to participate in the Diamond Anniversary events, to reflect on the history of the movement for equal rights in our community, and to recommit to the fight to end race-based discrimination in Carrboro and beyond.

This the 4th day of October 2022.




Damon Seils, Mayor