

**The Southside Messenger**  
**May 21, 2008**

**Former Gov. Holton to Speak at R.R. Moton Museum**

*By Samuel Weddington, Southside Messenger Staff*

This Saturday at 1 pm, the R.R. Moton Museum will be hosting a lecture and book signing by former Virginia Governor Linwood Holton. The event commemorates the 1951 filing of Davis v. County School Board of Prince Edward County, as well as the March 2008 publication of Governor Holton's memoir entitled, "Opportunity Time," published by the University of Virginia Press. The event is sponsored by the Martha E. Forrester Council of Women, Barnes and Noble of Longwood, and the Virginia Foundation for Humanities and Public Policy, and is free to the public.

A native of Big Stone Gap, Governor Holton held the governorship of Virginia from 1970-1974, and was the first Republican Governor of Virginia since the end of the Civil War. Governor Holton left a tremendous legacy to Virginians, founding the Virginia Governor's School program in 1973, increasing employment in state positions among African-Americans and women, and initiated environmental efforts in the state. Most famously, however, Governor Holton is largely credited with dealing the death blow to the Virginia's Democratic "Byrd" machine's political policy of "massive resistance" to school integration by voluntarily placing his children (including current First Lady of Virginia, Anne Holton) in the Richmond City Public School system, personally escorting them into the school. Governor Holton ran unsuccessfully for the Republican nomination to one of Virginia's U.S. Senate seats in 1978, a nomination eventually claimed by John Warner. Former Governor Holton is also the father-in-law of current Governor, Tim Kaine.

The R.R. Moton Museum can be contacted at (434) 315-8775, or at their website [www.motonmuseum.org](http://www.motonmuseum.org), for more details concerning the event.