# COMMUNITY & NATIONAL NEWS

#### MLK Park Approved

Courtesy of Laura Kinsler of the Fayetteville Observer-Times.

Fayetteville—Just three months after renaming the CBD Loop to MLK Freeway, the City Council voted on Monday to locate an MLK Memorial Park on Bragg Boulevard. This location was not a unanimous choice.

The N.C. Department of Transportation had offered an alternative site just off the freeway's Robeson Street exit, but city staff estimated it would cost between \$450,000 to \$800,000 to develop it. Instead, the City Council settled on a 17-acre city-owned tract between Bragg Boulevard and Murchison Road. A portion of the park would be visible from the MLK Freeway.

Assistant City Manager, Ben Brown said that by using city-owned property, we will save approximately \$200,000.

Fayetteville parks director Robert Barefoot said that the park might have a walking trail with an audio history of the national civil rights movement and some elements of local black history.

#### Fake Document Business

Courtesy of the Fayetteville Observer-Times

Greensboro—The growing number of illegal aliens in N.C. is creating a market for fake green cards, Social Security cards, birth certificates and drivers' licenses.

The INS office in Charlotte, which covers North Carolina and South Carolina, has grown from four to 10 agents in recent years. But authorities say that is not nearly enough to fight a business that gets as much as \$2000 for a phony document such as green cards, Social Security cards, birth certificates and drivers' licenses.

North Carolina attracts illegal immigrants because it is an agricultural state with plenty of jobs, but there are other reasons. Students from other countries use temporary visas to attend the many colleges here, and some of them never return home.

Also, North Carolina is one of 13 states with open records. This means that birth records are available for anyone to see. It is easy to gather information—such as family names—in order to get a certified copy of someone else's birth certificate, said John Davis, an investigative liaison with the U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Security Office, which handles passport and visa fraud.

Some vendors are traveling salespeople who work their way through small towns in rural areas. Because they are constantly moving, it is hard for authorities to catch them.

## Health Physics Research Awards Available to Faculty Members

College and university faculty members with research interests in health physics-related technical area may apply for the U.S. Department of Energy's 1998 Health Physics Faculty Research Award (HPFRA) Program.

Awards for the 1998-199 academic year will be up to \$50,000. Winners of the awards are eligible for two additional renewals for a total of three years. Travel funds may also be available on a limited basis for trips to and from a collaborating DOE facility, to technical conferences and meetings, and to an annual program workshop.

Program participants must maintain their full-time faculty appointment status and must conduct their research at their home institutions. In addition, they must collaborate with a DOE contractor or approved facility and must submit annual and final reports.

The application deadline for the 1997 HPFRA Program is February 27, 1998. Awards will be announced in July/August 1998. For more information or for application materials, contact Leila Gosslee, Health Physics Faculty Research Award Program, Education and Training Division, Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, 105 Mitchell Rd.., MS 13, Oak Ridge, Tenn. 37831-0117, telephone 423-576-1078, or Email gossleel@orau.gov.

### Summer Intern Program Coordinator

During the summer of 1998, the Institute of Government will have twenty full-time internships available for undergraduate students. These projects offer students the opportunity to be a working part of a professional staff making a meaningful contribution to state or local government.

Applications and supporting materials must be postmarked by January 23, 1998. The deadline for requesting an early interview is January 12, 1998. The initial interview is February 27& 28, 1998. Internships begin May 26, 1998 and ends July 31,1998.

Applications for the tenweek summer program will be accepted from any college sophomore, junior, or senior who is a North Carolina resident or attending a college or University in North Carolina.

If you have questions or need additional materials, please call 919-966-4347.

Information complied by Scherrie Strayhorn

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