

# Letter from the President

For the past two years, construction on the North campus of Wayne Community College has been the largest building project underway in the North Carolina Community College System.

Fall quarter of 1989 was the first time in the history of WCC that the majority of operations were held in permanent facilities.

A primary goal of the trustees and administration will be to complete the next phase of campus relocation as quickly as possible in order to minimize the time that the college must maintain a two-campus operation.

Working drawings for two additional buildings are now being reviewed, and early in 1990, bids will be accepted and construction can get underway.



As the remaining offices, classrooms and programs are moved to the North Campus, continued state and local funding support, plus the sale of South Campus property will help to finance the completion of this phase of construction.

A two-campus operation is inconvenient to students and employees, and it poses unnecessary expenses of duplicated operations.

When the campus relocation is completed, Wayne Community College will be the oldest, if not the last, community college in North Carolina to have a unified, permanent campus.

Until that objective is reached, the administration and trustees will strive diligently to finish the work that remains to be done.

As a member of the Wayne Community College family, you can provide a valuable service to the community and to the college by helping to spread the word about educational opportunities here.

The quality of instruction at WCC is both first-rate and affordable, yet this fact has been called one of the "best kept secrets" in Wayne County.

By telling your friends, neighbors, and relatives about WCC and by encouraging them to visit our new campus, you can help us get the "secret" out to the public.

Please encourage anyone you know who is thinking about college to visit WCC and discuss what is available here.

G. Herman Porter

## TLC empowers students

by Lisa Ransom

Over the summer, The Literacy Center (TLC) moved from its cramped location in two mobile units into what was the South Campus library. The Literacy Center houses the Adult Basic Education (ABE) and the Adult High School (AHS) programs.

"I think it's safe to say that since that time, our enrollment has tripled," said Gloria Wrenn, the Adult Literacy Coordinator.

Wrenn attributes the increased enrollment to the nicer facility and the added space that allows for new programs.

Even with this boost in enrollment TLC is operated by only a handful of paid employees. The Center's success depends on the help of volunteers, according to Wrenn.

TLC presently enlists the help of 10 volunteers, but according to Wrenn, the center can always use more.

The Literacy Center is open from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Friday. It is free for all ABE students. Students in the AHS program pay only for their books.

The students range in age from teenage to retiree. Many attend classes to improve their basic education skills.

Some attend classes to learn to read for the first time ever.

Many students have learned of the program through the literacy hot line or from a friend. Some even bring a friend with them to the center.

One volunteer said that for many people, coming to TLC for the first time is probably the hardest thing they have ever done.

Wrenn added that many first time students are surprised to find other people in their same situation, even some who do not read as well.

According to Wrenn, initially many of the students have a preconceived idea of school. She said the literacy program at Wayne Community College has tried very hard to overcome any negative images and to create a relaxed atmosphere for the students.

"We like to say, 'This is the only class that you can't tell the students from the teachers and we're proud of it,'" said Wrenn.

The Literacy Center's program is about more than just improving basic skills. It's about determination, pride and self esteem, according to the enthusiastic Wrenn who prefers to use the word "empowerment."

by Cathy D. Sutton

When people see TLC, they immediately think "tender loving care", which is exactly what The Literacy Center (TLC) at WCC tries to provide.

Alex Barwick, a 29-year old student presently enrolled in the literacy program is beginning to see a considerable difference.

Alex dropped out of high school before completing the eighth grade.

He says that receiving his diploma is his main objective.

"My main reason for coming back, if for nothing

else, was to catch up on my reading," stated Barwick.

Having been out of school 14 years, Barwick says that coming back is something he has always wanted to do.

"I really like it here," stated Barwick, "everyone is real nice."

Barwick says that TLC has really made a change in his life; he encourages students to complete high school and obtain their diploma.

TLC is definitely making a difference, and each returning student as well as the instructors have a great deal to be proud of.



Algie Davis, instructor at TLC, assists Nathaniel Barnes, a student who is learning to read. Photo: Daniel Heffner