

Mrs. Gatha Lassiter Given Community Tribute In Chapel Hill

By ALOIS R. CLEMONS

Organized by The Citizens Action for Progress, the community of Chapel Hill honored one of its most conscientious and dedicated community workers, Mrs. Gatha I. Lassiter, at Hargraves Recreation Center on Saturday evening, July 2.

Mrs. Lassiter attended Hinton-Beckwith Public School - Chatham County from 1917 to approximately 1925. Since no high schools were in the county at that

time, she continued her education by attending night school and adult education classes and took courses at Livingstone College at Salisbury.

Mrs. Lassiter has been involved in many social and community activities, including Chapel Hill P. T. A.'s, Home Demonstration Club, extension worker for the State Agricultural Department at the county and district level. She also has active membership in many organizations in and around the

Chapel Hill area.

Presently, her activities include membership in the Auxiliary of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Memorial Hospital where she first began volunteer work with the American Red Cross. She is also employed by the Joint Orange-Chatham Community Action Agency as a Neighborhood Worker with the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Multipurpose Center.

Mrs. Lassiter is also in charge of the Golden Age

Club which consists of fifty enrollees and thirty active members. She is also supervisor of Bible Classes of the community and church. In addition, other major activities are community

organization, recruitment activities for Manpower Program, and other supportive duties as required in carrying out the mission of the Community Action Agency.



Governor Jim Hunt Speaks To UNC, Black Judges Mentioned In Plan

RALEIGH (CCNS) — Governor James Hunt spoke to a wide range of issues Wednesday at his weekly press conference, including the appointment of black judges in the state's judicial system, recruiting citizens to be a part of the state crime control program, and the department of Health, Education and Welfare's (HEW's) recently announced guidelines for desegregation of the state's predominantly white campuses and improving the facilities at predominantly black state supported colleges.

While discussing the recently enacted "Speedy Trials Act" for which implementation will require eleven new superior Court judges and 24 new assistant district attorneys, Hunt was asked if a substantial number of his appointments would be black. (105) "Out of my appointments, it will be a fair and reasonable number. Now, I can't redress all of those problems of the past, overnight. That's going to take a long time to do, as it is in other areas. Mine will be chosen fairly and I think people will be pleased at it."

Several black organizations have met with Hunt including the N. C. Association of Black Lawyers, since his inauguration requesting that new appointments to judgeships by Hunt be black to make up for the lone black Superior Court judge in North Carolina. Presently there are 106 Superior Court judges in the State. The speedy trials act will become effective October 1, 1978, and Hunt said that he hopes appointments can be made by the first of August or end of July.

Appointments to the new parole board that will be under Hunt's control, he says, can be expected soon. "I'm

going to have them very soon — I hope by the end of this week, and certainly by the end of next week at the latest." Last week Hunt said that "Black people will be very proud of my selection" when asked if he would appoint blacks to the board. Today he said that the delay in announcements was due to some of his appointees having "to do some checking before they could give us their final word." The parole board will replace the board abolished by the state's legislature. Primarily because the board paroled to few inmates thus compacting the state's already overpopulated prison system.

When questioned about U. S. Department of Health Education and Welfare Secretary Joseph Califano's guidelines for white campuses to adopt a five year plan for increasing the number of blacks enrolled and employed on white campuses, the Governor's feathers seemed slightly ruffled. So concerned about the guidelines, Hunt said that he was on the phone Tuesday with Califano about the requirement of prior approval of "any change of any major change in the operations" of the university systems that could have an impact on desegregation goals.

At the press conference, Hunt said he stood behind UNC's President William Friday, in objecting to "prior approval language." Prefacing his remarks with "we want to do what is right and fair in North Carolina" Hunt said "there are an awful lot of considerations. You start talking about the kind of courses that young people ought to be in for example, are we going to say that they have got to be in liberal arts courses rather than technical courses that they want to be in that'll lead to a job?"


Responding to a requirement that white state campuses must enroll 2173 black freshman by 1981, Hunt said he felt that HEW was looking at the problem of past discrimination against blacks simplistically.

While not giving a plan to correct past racial discrimination, Hunt said long range solutions like his reading programs are reasonable and others are "crash."

The HEW guidelines were

ordered by federal appeals judge John Pratt for six state college systems in the South including North Carolina.

John Silard, a Washington, D. C. attorney, representing the NAACP Legal Defense Fund that originated the suit against the school systems and HEW, has indicated that the new guidelines are set in too long a time frame. It is not known whether the guidelines would be appealed to Judge Pratt.



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TUESDAY, JULY 12 -

Registered Democrats living in Precinct 27 - Bacon Fellowship Hall - and Precinct 37 - Carrington Jr. High - will meet at their respective polling places at 8 p.m. to elect their new precinct officers and precinct committee. The officers to be elected are Chairperson, three Vice-Chairpersons, and Secretary-Treasurer. Only registered Democrats are allowed to vote at these meetings, which must be attended by at least 10 persons in order to conduct this business.


Three nominees each for precinct registrar and Democratic judge are to be designated at these meetings, also.

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