



Special People

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Hymns Of Hope

Ugandan youngsters put tragedy behind to spread joy

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Marshall says NAACP board held illegal meeting

Executive board's resolution on election plan is void, says organization's president

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

The NAACP Executive Board's resolution to support a county commissioner election bill sponsored by state Reps. Annie Brown Kennedy and Logan Burke is void and of no effect because the unanimous voting took place during an illegally called meeting, said President Walter Marshall.

"The meeting was not an official meeting and the action taken by the board was not an official action and is not representative of the branch's stand on the issue," Marshall said Wednesday.

Board members Naomi Jones, Vernon Robinson and Mazie Woodruff called the special April 4 meeting to discuss the Forsyth County/NAACP out of court settlement, and the Kennedy-Burke bill for redistricting in the Board of County Commissioner elections. The group's endorsement of the Kennedy-Burke bill counteracted Marshall's support of a rival bill sponsored by the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners.

A special meeting of the executive committee may be called by the president, vice president, secretary or by two members, but two days written notice must be given to all members, Marshall said quoting the NAACP Constitution. "That's the reason I didn't attend the executive board meeting because it was not legal," Marshall said. "Had it been an official meeting I would have been there."

Marshall said he had contacted Diana Williams-Cotton, NAACP district five director; William Tatum, first vice president; and Rodney Sumler, second vice president, and told them last week's meeting was illegal.

"They knew no written notice had been sent out and that it wasn't legal," Marshall said.

According to a press release about the meeting, Cotton was the official who ruled the meeting was legal.

Marshall must direct his allegations to a higher body in the NAACP hierarchy in order to make the resolution void, said Robinson, chair of the organization's Political Action Committee.

"We discussed whether the requirements were met to make the meeting legal and the district director... said in her opinion the requirements were met," Robinson said. "To set aside the board's action, the president would have to appeal to a higher level."

There are five tiers in the NAACP organization, Robinson explained. The

Legislators, Commissioners table plans

From Chronicle Staff Reports

State legislative action on two proposals for a new method of electing the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners has been tabled while sponsors of the rival bills try

to work out their differences.

Reps. Annie Brown Kennedy and Logan Burke met Monday with county commissioners John Holleman and Gerald Long and

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Tucker says bank's assets, deposits up

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Although Mechanics and Farmers Bank suffered a decline in its net income, the company is growing and profiting overall, said Walter S. Tucker, vice president and city executive officer.

At its March 30 shareholders' meeting, Mechanics and Farmers reported a \$919,224 net income for 1988, a 13.7 percent decline from the record level \$1 million gain in 1987. That decline, however, is attributed to differences in reporting requirements implemented in 1988, said Tucker.

"We can no longer take into income fees on loans," he said. "Under the new requirement the loan fees must be spread over the life of the loan rather than taking the entire amount of the fee at the time the loan was made along with increases in interest paid to depositors."

On the plus side, the bank's deposits increased by 1.53 percent and its loans went up by nearly 14 percent, Tucker said. The bank's assets on Dec. 31, 1988, were \$85.9 million, representing a 2.13 percent increase over the same period in 1987.

"The increase in assets marks the bank's growth," Tucker said.

Average return on assets was 1.08 percent and on equity, 11 percent.

Mechanics and Farmers was rated a Blue Ribbon bank by Veribank Inc., a nationally recognized bank rating firm, Tucker said. Veribank also rated Mechanics and Farmers one of the 175 safest banks in the United States

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Peace March

CLEVELAND -- Members of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and members of the Metro Health System striking workers join together recently for a combined march and rally to mark 21 years since the death of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The group marched down Euclid Avenue to Public Square.

Associated Press Laser Photo

City plans to revamp E. Winston under way

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

City officials are on schedule with a menu of redevelopment plans to revamp two run-down areas in the East Winston Community, Dr. Monica R. Lett, director of the Housing and Neighborhood Development office, told the Board of Aldermen Tuesday.

The first section slated for improvements, the East Winston Redevelopment Area (EWRD), contains about 42 acres and was certified as a blighted area by the City-County Planning Board in June 1988. That area is bounded by 14th Street on the south, Cleveland Avenue on the west, 18th Street on the north and Jackson Avenue on the east. More than 80 percent of the homes in that area would need major repairs to meet the city's housing code, according to housing inspectors.

The \$11 million project would involve the city leveling 134 houses, rehabilitating 42, and moving 165 families and four businesses, said Tamzin L. Kelley, a program-development specialist in the city's housing department. Housing bonds approved by voters in a 1987 referendum will help fund the project.

Plans for the acquisition and clearance of the area, which will include street improvements, are in line with recommendations laid out in the East Winston Area Plan and will be carried out in two phases beginning in July 1989, and the completion date is set for June 1993. Breaking the project into phases also will enable displaced people to have the option of moving into a house in their same neighborhood. Phase I includes the area

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State NAACP seeks new executive director

The North Carolina NAACP has launched a statewide search for a new executive director. Former executive director Dennis Schatzman left the area abruptly, according to Rodney J. Sumler, public relations director of the NAACP Conference of Branches.

"We are disappointed that he left as soon as he did," said Sumler,

"But it was not because of any dissatisfaction that we had with his work."

Sumler said he believed Schatzman wanted more money than the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was able to pay.

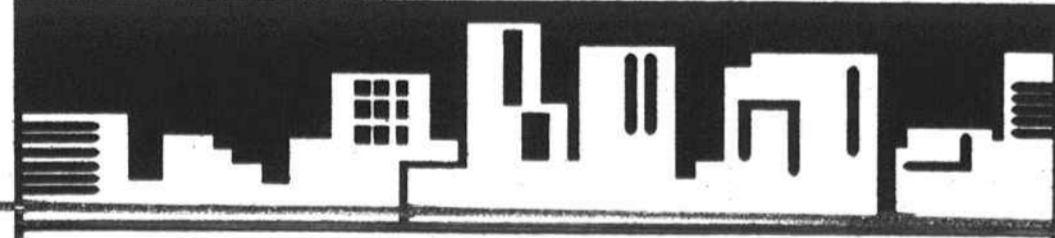
"Most outsiders are not accustomed to our economy here," said

Sumler. For that reason, he said, the NAACP is trying to fill the executive director's position with someone from North Carolina.

The executive director administers the conference office, handles complaints from the public and works with the various chapters around the state on implementation of mandated programs in local

areas. The office is presently located in Greensboro.

Sumler said they are looking to fill the position in mid to late May. "The state board meets May 27. At that time we will look at all the applicants and will make a decision on whether to go with one of those applicants or extend the search."



NEWS DIGEST

Compiled From AP Wire

Students join to promote interaction

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) -- Concerned that racial segregation pervades the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, students have formed a coalition to promote more interaction between blacks and whites.

The university's black and white students, like those at other schools, generally don't mix in dormitories, classrooms or nightclubs. In recent years, the school also has been the scene of several racist incidents, such as the carving of the initials "KKK" on the dormitory door of two black women and the placing of racist remarks in the campus mailbox of a black graduate student.

Black lawyers angry at repeal bill

RALEIGH (AP) -- A bill introduced in the General Assembly recently to repeal the holiday honoring Martin Luther King Jr. sparked an angry response from black legislators.

"You wouldn't be able to print what I think about that," said Rep. Mickey Michaux, D-Durham, chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus. "It is ill-advised," Michaux said. "It is insensitive in nature."

Man says he spit, urinated in new Air Force One

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) -- A white supremacist claims he spit on the seats and urinated on the floor of a new plane being built in Wichita for President Bush.

Dennis Mahon, an aircraft mechanic from suburban Northmoor, had been employed by a contractor that was doing work at the Boeing Co. plant in Wichita, where a new Air Force One plane is being built. He said he was fired recently after someone in the plant noticed his white supremacist belt buckle.

Best Choice Center gets new director

Dunston: Community must take control

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Mobilizing the community to activate change is the first step towards attacking drug and alcohol addiction in the East Winston community, said Anita B. Jones Dunston, pioneer director at the Best Choice Center (BCC).

"My role will be to try to give the center a sense of direction, define goals and direct it to meet the goals," said Dunston, formerly the Outreach Services Director at Step One Inc., a drug abuse treatment facility. "I feel a lot of support from East Winston residents and the community, and their support is necessary to making this center work."

The BCC was established Nov. 20, 1988, to foster a drug-free community through intervention, prevention and education. A \$25,000 grant the center received from the Kate B. Reynolds Poor and

Needy Trust Fund allowed the center to hire Dunston as its full-time director.

Dunston, a native of Washington, N.C., has grown quite accustomed to riding in the pioneer's seat, having developed and implemented the outreach program at Step One. Her duties there included coordinating prevention and education services with other community agencies, developing programs for high-risk youth and their parents, implementing appropriate workshops and seminars, and training staff and counselors.

She was a lead teacher at The Children's Home before beginning her two-year stint at Step One. She also has worked with Nazareth's Children's Home in Rockwell, N.C.; Tideland House and Tideland Mental Health, Washington, N.C.; Haven House in Raleigh, N.C., and the list goes on.



Anita B. Jones Dunston

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