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Wood, aldermen sworn into office

By ROBIN BARKSDALE
Chronicle Staff Writer

The gavel of leadership officially was passed to the city's first female mayor Monday night as Martha S. Wood was installed in the top post in Winston-Salem government.

Mrs. Wood, who succeeded Wayne A. Corpening, and three new aldermen were installed by Judge Margaret L. Sharpe in ceremonies held at the Council Chamber at City Hall. Also installed were newcomers North Ward Alderman Nelson Malloy, who succeeded Patrick T. Hairston; Alderman Nancy T. Pleasants, who captured the seat vacated by Mrs. Wood in the Northwest Ward; and Alderman J. Hugh Wright, who defeated incumbent Frank L. Frye in the race for the South Ward seat.

After being installed, Mrs. Wood recommended a slate of committee assignments that included East Ward Alderman Virginia K. Newell as Finance Committee chair, Southeast Ward Alderman Larry Womble as Public Works Committee chair, Mr. Malloy as chair of the General Committee and Southwest Ward Alderman Lynne S. Harpe as mayor pro tem.

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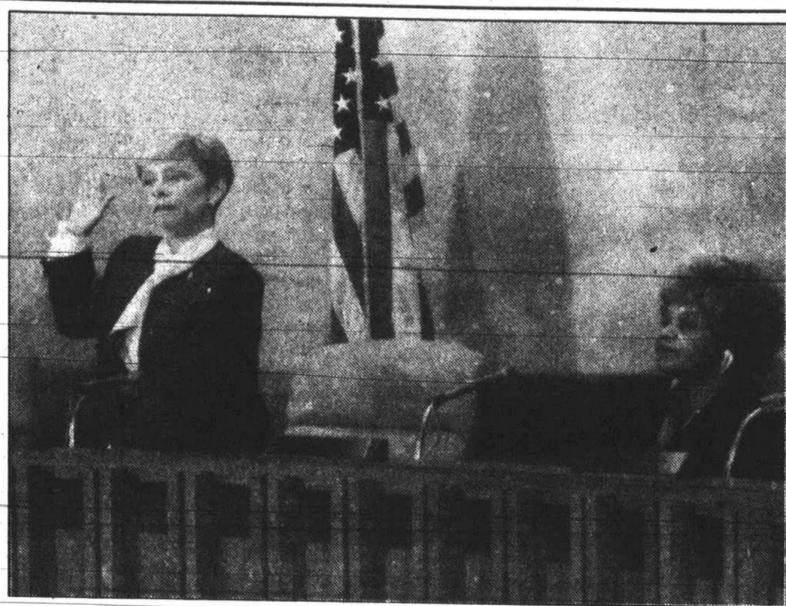


Photo by Mike Cunningham
Mayor Martha Wood takes oath of office as Alderman Vivian H. Burke looks on.

Principal gets reassigned to Bolton School

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Despite a plea for mercy from the Concerned Mothers of Forsyth County, the city-county school board reappointed Monday the man accused of hitting, slapping and kicking nine Afro-American children to a principalship in an elementary school.

William E. Honeycutt, who was relieved of his duties as principal at Mineral Springs Elementary School in October, was appointed to replace retiring James H. Kleu as principal of Bolton Elementary School.

In early September, Mr. Honeycutt was charged with seven counts of assault on children less than 12 years old. The Afro-American children alleged that the white principal shoved, kicked and slapped them on bus #553 on Sept. 11. Mr. Honeycutt was tried by Judge Margaret L. Sharpe and acquitted of those charges on Oct. 10. Two additional charges were subsequently filed against Mr. Honeycutt, but when Judge Sharpe declined to give the prosecuting attorney a continuance on Oct. 24, the state voluntarily dismissed the charges.

Parents hoped to later refile the charges, on behalf of their children, despite Judge Sharpe's warning that Mr. Honeycutt could file charges against them. Daniel S. Walden, Mr. Honeycutt's attorney, had argued that the state was attempting to try his client twice on the same charges and had filed a motion alleging double jeopardy.

He later said that his client's constitutional

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Blacks outraged over Burke 'defection'

By ROBIN BARKSDALE
Chronicle Staff Writer

Some Afro-Americans are irate over the outcome of Monday evening's Board of Aldermen meeting, which they said could spell disaster for the Afro-American community and for disadvantaged segments of the Twin City. Their concerns stem from the

removal of Afro-American aldermen as chairs of several key committees, and they're pointing a finger at Alderman Vivian H. Burke as the culprit.

At the Monday meeting, the first for the city's new mayor and three of the aldermen, Mayor Martha S. Wood presented a slate of committee assignments that positioned four Afro-American

aldermen as committee chairs. She also recommended that Southwest Ward Alderman Lynne S. Harpe be the board's mayor pro tem.

Her recommendation was supported by aldermen Virginia K. Newell, Larry W. Womble and Nelson L. Malloy Jr.

Her recommendations for assignments failed, and West Ward Alderman Robert S. Northington Jr. presented an alternate slate that included only two Afro-American chairs and named Mrs. Burke as mayor pro tem. Democratic aldermen Burke and Harpe joined Republican board members Mrs. Pleasants and Mr. Wright in supporting Mr.

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The Race Is On

Parmon, Booker announce candidacy for county commission



Earline W. Parmon

by TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Two Afro-Americans have announced that they will run for a seat on the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners, and at least three others are contemplating their candidacies.

Earline Parmon and C.P. Booker held press conferences Monday and Wednesday, respectively, to announce their bids to run for one of two seats in District A. Former Commissioner Mazie Woodruff, businessman James Grace and Naomi Jones, who ran for a seat on the school board in 1988, said they are "thinking about" running for a seat on the board.

The recently approved county election plan will be tried for the first time in the 1990 elections. The plan divided the county into two districts - A and B - and expanded the Board of Commissioners from five to seven members. District A is made up of the North, Northeast and Southeast wards and two county precincts. Sixty-five percent of the voters in District A are Afro-American, and 80 percent are Democrats.

A native of Forsyth County, Ms. Parmon is the founder and executive director of the LIFT Learning Center and Academy, and was the

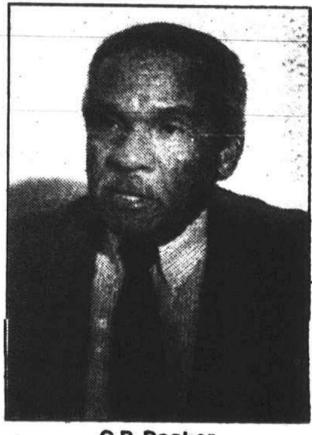
first Afro-American woman to chair the Forsyth County Democratic Party - a post she held for two years. She is a 1989 fellow of the Institute of Politics in Winston-Salem and a member of Leadership Winston-Salem's class of 1988.

Mr. Booker recently retired after nearly 40 years of service with North Carolina Mutual Insurance Co. He worked as district manager for 20 years, sales manager for 11 years and as an agent for two years. He was joined by his pastor Serenus Chum, banker Walter Tucker, former alderman C.C. Ross and his wife, Margaret, during his press conference at Mount Zion Baptist Church.

Both candidates acknowledged that the new county election plan played some part in their decisions, but it was not the deciding factor for them, they said.

"It was not necessarily the deciding factor because I've been thinking about running for public office for about three years now," Mr. Booker explained. "I've had friends who have encouraged me and somewhat motivated me to consider running for public office. It probably would be more difficult without the election plan."

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C.P. Booker

Sorority wants art center at Skyland

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

An arts and humanities center may be established in East Winston if officials with the Delta Fine Arts Center can persuade the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Board of Education to sell them the old Skyland School Property off East End Boulevard.

Representatives from both sides will sit down later today to discuss the specifics of the proposal, said Ms. Scippio, arts center director.

"We're interested in the Skyland property because we have outgrown our present space and we want to implement our programs - the classes, workshops and lectures - in an arts and humanities center."

In 1972, the Winston-Salem Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority established the Winston-Salem Delta Fine Arts as a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation. The center's purpose was to stimulate cultural interest, pride and inspiration in the community by developing an awareness of the contributions of Afro-Americans to the arts in America. Providing educational and cultural experiences for the community through

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Photo by Mike Cunningham
Officer D.D. Adams exhibits drugs and paraphernalia to Citizens Drug Task Force members Wendell Brown, Sophia Brown, Clarthria "Peggy" Wherry and Henry Jones Jr. Dec. 3-9 is "National Cities Fight Back Against Drugs Week."

Panel drafts guide for fighting drugs

Evict public housing tenants who sell drugs, alcohol, task force says

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Public housing tenants who have been convicted of drug and alcohol offenses should be evicted in order to promote a safer and more healthful environment for residents, resolved members of the Citizens Drug Task Force.

The 17-member, mayor-appointed group sat down earlier this week and formulated four resolutions calling on the city's housing authority, businesses and legislative representatives to join the fight against drugs. Public unveiling of the resolutions coincide with "National Cities Fight Back Against Drugs Week," which began Dec. 3 and will climax Saturday with a march against drugs in the Morningside Community.

Two additional resolutions were directed at the county's legislative delegation.

"Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Citizens

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