

OPINION

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# Winston-Salem Chronicle

The Choice for African-American News and Int

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**75 CENTS** 

"Power concedes nothing without a struggle." - Frederick Doug

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AIRPORT

## **Goins Thumbs Nose at Poor Whites and Blacks**

#### By VERONICA CLEMONS Chronicle Staff Writer

The 14.9 percent of children in Forsyth County who live in poverty -especially those who will be labeled educationally "atrisk" by age 4 — get no sympathy from school board member Jane Goins.

After continuously shaking her head throughout the staff's presentation of a pos-

sible program for "at-risk" 4-year-olds Thursday, Goins voiced her opposition.

"I will not vote for a program that subsidizes day care," she said. "Preparing children for kindergarten is the responsibility of the parent -not the taxpayer."

Despite knowing that the school system has

some programs in place to help parents with parenting skills, Folwell attacked the idea for the program, saving more efforts should have been made in that area instead of assuming the parent's responsibility.

"We're taking the responsibility of Board member Dale Folwell agreed. being a parent away from them." he said. "They're asking us to do what they should

be doing as a parent."

A disproportionate number of black children in this county live in poverty and would probably qualify for this program. However, several white preschool-aged children will also be adversely affected.

Goins said the only way she would consider voting in favor of a preschool program is if it's offered to all 4-year-olds and see GOINS page 3

Jane Goins has never been one to embrace the cause of African-Ameri-Editorial, page 10

cans.

### **Black Lawyers Failed to Use Voting Strategy**

By RICHARD L. WILLIAMS Chronicle Executive Editor

An African-American lawyer who failed last week to win enough votes for nomination for the District Court judgeship said she and the other black candidate should have caucused before the voting took place and decided on one candidate running.



Beverly R. Mitchell

Because they didn't, it is likely that the votes were split for Beverly R. Mitchell and David W. Martin, who had 103 and 101 votes. respectively, finishing last. Their defeat means that the District Court will have only one African-American and t one female judge among the seven judges.

"Liberty Street is a major thoroughfare and a gateway into town. We're trying to get the community involved and draw people into the area."

**Sprucing Up** 

By DAVID L. DILLARD Chronicle Staff Writer

City officials say beautifying a corridor along Liberty Street will attract more tourists and small businesses into the city.

City staff and a citizen's advisory committee - made up of area residents and merchants - have been making plans to improve a section of Liberty Street that runs from

Mitchell, a founding member and former president of the Winston-Salem bar, which is comprised of about 25 dues-paying African-Americans, said she will suggest that African-American lawyers meet to discuss strategy in case a similar situation arises in the future.

"My suggestion is that we ... look at what went wrong this time and try to avoid it again," Mitchell said in an interview. "I was told by political analysts that there should have meetings and that we should have decided on one of us running instead of both. That was not done.

"The question is whether either one of us could have picked up the additional votes to get into the top three. I think the answer is yes," she said.

The Forsyth County bar named three white lawyers - Ronald E. Spivey, Anne Connolly and Lisa V.L. Menefee - as the top choices for the judgeship to replace Loretta C. Biggs. Biggs, the first and only black female judge in the county, resigned last month to accept a posttion with the U.S. attorney's office.

Spivey, 34 and an assistant district attorney who ran for District Court judgeship in 1992, got 240 votes. Connolly, who runs her own general law practice, received 132 votes. Menefee, 38 and a former assistant district attorney, got 123 votes.

Only about 40 members of the Forsyth County bar's more than 800 members are African-American. More than 400 members of the bar - but less than 20 African-Americans - were at the Aug. 3 meeting.

Willie Clark, a lawyer with the National Labor Relations Board and vice president of the Winston-Salem bar, said he was surprised that neither Mitchell nor Martin was among the top three vote-getters. David Wagner, president of the Winston-Salem bar, could not be reached for comment.

Gov. Jim Hunt can appoint one of the three candidates within 60 days of the vote, or the job will automatically go to Spivey as the top vote-getter.

Eighth Street to the Smith-Reynolds Airport.

Toni Tupponce, an assistant planning director with the city/county planning board, said people traveling along the corridor to the airport or downtown should feel good about. the city.

"We want to give visitors the best impression of the city," Tupponce said. "When a stranger goes in the area they should know this is a special place."

Judith A. Hunt, the project leader and principal planner with the planning board, said the staff and community groups have come up with a list of recommendations to improve the area.

One recommendation is to create an African-American Business District along "The Strip," located between 11th and 19th streets.

Vivian Burke, alderman of the Northeast Ward, where much of the district lies, said many businesses along the corridor wanted to make a change to improve their own business.

"We haven't been able to showcase our black businesses because the area doesn't look attractive," Burke said. "If the neighborhood looks better, people will want to do business there.'

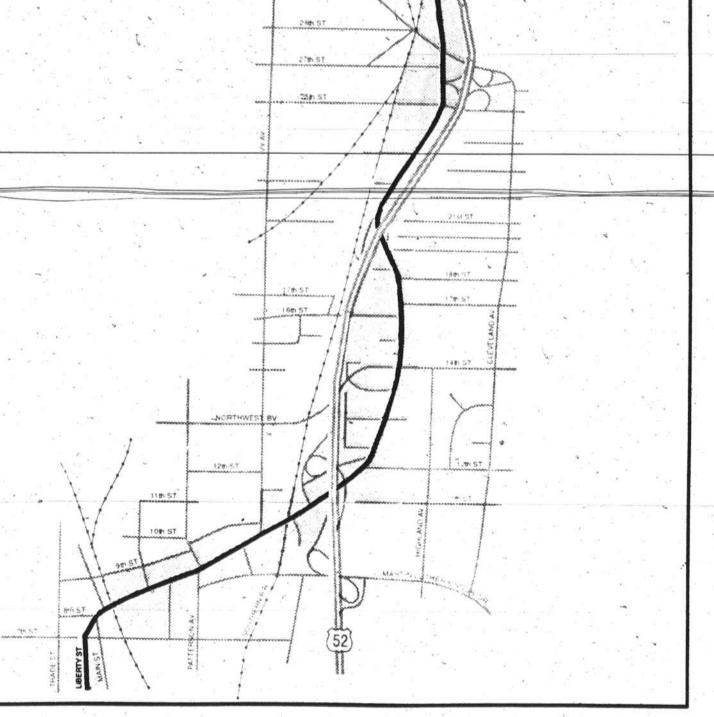
Hunt also said a design study will be done to determine ways to beautify the residential areas as well as the businesses.

"Liberty Street is a major thoroughfare and a gateway into town," Hunt said. "We're trying to get the community involved and draw people into the area."

Burke said making the neighborhood look first-class will also reduce crime and vagrants from the area.

A community meeting to discuss the recommendations will be held Tuesday, Aug. 16, at 7 p.m. at Shiloh Baptist Church.

Hunt said the preliminary recommendations will be examined and there will be a slide show of ethnic districts in other cities.



### Report: Health Care System Shows Lack of Commitment

#### By DAVID L. DILLARD Chronicle Staff Writer

Increased education, early prenatal care and better diet are ways the African-American community can decrease the high infant mortality rate, an expert says.

Dr. Thomas Clark, an obstetrician at 501 N. Cleveland Ave., said high infant mortality rates are a nationwide problem in the African-American community.

"There are several things that contributes to the problem such as health status and poverty," he said. "This is a national trend. It's

not unique to Forsyth County."

The infant mortality rates in North Carolina for 1992 were 9.9 per 1,000 live births. but in Forsyth County the rate was 11.2 per 1,000 live births - the highest of all urban counties in the state. In Forsyth County, the non-white infant death rate was 18.6 compared to 7.0 for white infant deaths. The 1993 figures are not yet available.

According to a study commissioned by the Greater Triad March of Dimes, the health care system in Forsyth County is not ade-

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### Aldermen to Decide Monday on Home Improvement Loans ▲ Measure wins approval in committees

By DAVID L. DILLARD Chronicle Staff Writer

City officials say a number of houses along Hairston Avenue and surrounding streets are showing signs of deterioration.

Richard Brooks, the city's director of housing services, is hopeful that the board of aldermen will pass a revised proposal Monday to offer area homeowners and investors beautification loans.

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"We have a number of streets that are beginning to decline," Brooks said. "If we canget to (houses) just as they are showing signs of decline, we can arrest that deterioration in the early stages and spend less money on repair work."

Last month, the board of aldermen shot down a measure that would have given home beautification loans up to \$7,500 to investors

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