

## Soul City Recreation Complex Dedication Is Held Saturday

The dedication of the Magnolia Ernest Recreational Complex at Soul City on Saturday morning was marked by music, the presentation of presents to the honorees by their grandchildren, and laudatory remarks by a number of distinguished citizens, dedication exercises and a ribbon cutting by the elder McKissicks. Mrs. Delores Talley was mistress of ceremonies.

The invocation was presented by the Rev. Leon White, United Church of Christ, Manson.

The complex, named in honor of Magnolia and Ernest Boyd McKissick of Asheville, parents of Floyd B. McKissick, founder of Soul City, is composed of a pool, tennis courts, basketball courts and a bath house. It is another step forward, providing recreation for those kids who have no recreation, Floyd McKissick said.

Asa T. Spaulding, former president of North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company of Durham, for whom Mrs. Magnolia McKissick worked for 29 years was principal speaker, praising their character and accomplishments. Their roots go deep and the fruit of their marriage is a fine family including Floyd B. McKissick, founder of Soul City. He said that Soul City is destined to do much for Warren County, the state and the nation.

Irwin Holmes, who once taught school in Warren County, said the day of the dedication was a red letter day for Warren County and North Carolina. While teaching at the Warren County Training School at Wise under the principalship of the late G. E. Cheek, he said he learned to know and love the fine people of Warren County, and predicted that Soul City would mean much to them. Holmes is a former director of the Durham Recreation Department.

John J. Hawkins of Warrenton, chairman of Warren County Recreational Advisory Council, talked on the need for and value of recreation, which he said had been defined as anything one liked to do; as anything anyone enjoyed doing after working hours. Mr. Talley brought forth a laugh when she said she would have to question that definition since she recently saw a bumper sticker reading: "Quit work, play tennis." Hawkins praised the recreation facilities at Soul City and said that they would contribute to the growth of the city and the happiness of its people. He predicted that Soul City would grow to the point that Warrenton would be its suburbs.

Mrs. Gail Oettinger, director of project support of new communities administration, Department of Housing and Urban Development, spoke briefly, praising the recreation complex and promising continued support in the future development of Soul City by HUD.

Howard Lee, Secretary of Department of Natural Resources, State of North Carolina, was unable to be present. He was represented by Hank Andrews, who was recognized but did not speak.

Two numbers were presented by the Holy Temple United Church of Christ of Manson.

Mrs. Magnolia McKissick was presented a large bouquet of red roses by her

Gillyflowers

During Shakespeare's time carnations were known as gillyflowers.

daughter-in-law, Mrs. Floyd B. McKissick, and the McKissick grandchildren presented gifts to their grandparents. A poem of praise was written and read by Mrs. Joycelyn McKissick Myers, granddaughter of the honorees, and telegrams were read from other children of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest McKissick, who were unable to be present.

Ernest McKissick, who acknowledged the naming of the center after himself and wife, said he was reminded of an old Negro spiritual, "I Can Tell the World About This," and said he never dreamed the honor would come to them in his lifetime.

Martin W. Doherty, president of Parks and Recreation Association, gave the dedicatory remarks. Mrs. Evelyn McKissick, honorary chairman of the dedication committee, presented a memento to her father and mother-in-law, after which Mr. and Mrs. Ernest McKissick cut the ribbon signifying the opening of the swimming pool.

Floyd B. McKissick made a few closing remarks, after which the participants in the exercises filed to a point outside the pool site where Mr. and Mrs. Ernest B. McKissick unveiled a plaque commemorating the dedication of the Magnolia

Ernest Recreation Complex.

The Dedication Committee was composed of Evelyn W. McKissick, honorary chairperson; Delores Talley, chairperson; Lewis H. Myers, and Sylvan J. Seymann.

The Board of Directors for the Recreation Complex are Eva Clayton, Martin W. Doherty, L. B. Henderson, Jr., Major S. High, Lewis H. Myers, Sylvan J. Seymann, Delores Talley and Dorothy L. Woller.

Following the dedication exercises, which began at 11:30 a. m., participants and other guests were served a buffet luncheon in SoulTech.



Workmen for the North Carolina Department of Transportation are shown paving the drive leading to Drewry's rural volunteer fire station. The new asphalt

entrance road was completed by workmen on Thursday of last week. (Staff Photo)

## Native Of Norlina Is Content With New Pitt County Post

By CAROL TYER  
Daily Reflector Staff Writer  
Sandra Stokes, new Geriatric Program Director at the Pitt County Mental Health Center, is enthusiastic about her role as organizer of programs for older adults and their families.

Ms. Stokes said her job description called for developing programs for the older adults of the county and she's delighted to be doing just this, but she's also trying to keep in mind the needs of the families of these people.

She's been working only since April 12, so many of her activities are in the preliminary stages. She says she wants to utilize fully the services now already available for older adults and make sure they are known to the public.

She is working with Pitt Technical Institute to set up a retirement counseling course; a telephone reassessment program is in the making and she wants to work out transportation to Mental Health Center Older Adults' service.

In cooperation with the Greenville Recreation De-



STOKES

Street Senior Citizens Club. Mrs. Stokes is hoping to have persons skilled in tating, knitting, weaving, quilting, crocheting, and numerous other crafts to demonstrate their skills and also offer their wares for sale.

The ECU Music Therapy students are helping with a music and social group for older adults. Ms. Stokes is appealing throughout the community for the donation of any kind of musical instruments for this project. These groups will be held in the nursing and family care homes of the county as well as at central points.

A discussion group made up of persons who have older persons living with them in their homes is planned for the near future. "There's a lot of guilt sometimes associated with the reactions of the children of older adults to the behavior sometimes displayed by the older persons. So often, knowledge that you aren't the only one having your kind of problems can help alleviate these problems, as can certain techniques for eliminating certain behaviors and reactions to those

behaviors," Ms. Stokes said.

Ms. Stokes, a Norlina native, earned an undergraduate degree in occupational therapy and is now taking graduate courses in Child Development and Family Relations at East Carolina University. "People ask, 'Why child development, when you're working older people?' but I remind them of the family relations part," she said, "as well as that development of the persons that goes on into adulthood."

"I really like working with older adults better than any other group," she said. "I get so angry with the idea that one must retire at 65 and that younger people don't appreciate what these people who've lived longer have to share and how they can continue to grow if they're given the chance."

"I see my job as that of an instigator, I hope to start older adults' programs in every town and community in the county, get them going well, and then leave them to the members to continue, so I can move on to other areas. That's the only way I can hope to accomplish what I feel I must accomplish."

"A lot of good things are going to be happening for older adults in Pitt County within the next few years if I have anything to do with it as I hope I will," Ms. Stokes said.

### Sheriffs Given Recognition For Solving Murder

The Halifax County Sheriff's Department has been cited by a national magazine for its work in a murder case. The editors of Official Detective Stories Magazine, nationally distributed by Dell, have notified Sheriff Bill Bailey that the publication's Meritorious Service Citation is being presented to his department for its skillful investigation into the March, 1974 rape-murder of Mrs. Diane Burr, 33, in Littleton.

A detailed account of the award-winning investigation, titled, "How Many Did He Rape And Kill?" appears in the July issue of Official Detective Stories which has just reached local news stands.

The magazine cites the Halifax County Sheriff's Department in "national recognition of achievements in the highest traditions of law enforcement."

### Too Late To Classify

BOOKS TO SELL? THE Old Book Corner, Rosemary St., Chapel Hill, N. C., is planning a buying trip to Warrenton the week of June 6. Get in touch! 919-942-5178. May 26-c

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Mr. and Mrs. Ernest McKissick cut ribbon at swimming pool. Assisting is their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Floyd B. McKissick. Looking on is Floyd B. McKissick, founder of Soul City.



Ernest McKissick unveils plaque of Magnolia Ernest Complex while Mrs. Magnolia McKissick looks on.



Martin Doherty delivers dedicatory remarks during ribbon-cutting ceremonies at swimming pool.

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