

# Ferlauto Becomes Senior Legislator

Older Brunswick County adults, like their counterparts around the state, will have a new outlet for their legislative concerns, another way to influence state programs and action on their behalf.

Joseph Ferlauto of Ocean Isle Beach is the man local seniors can talk to and call on to convey their messages to Raleigh. As the Brunswick County delegate just appointed to the new Senior Tar Heel Legislature, he will be a direct link between older citizens and their elected state representatives.



FERLAUTO

The new legislature was created in July of this year by the N.C. General Assembly, to be made up of one senior delegate from each of the 100 counties. Their job is to inform and educate seniors on the legislative process and bills being considered and relay questions and concerns in the other direction, as well. The Senior Tar Heel Legislature will have its orientation meeting in Raleigh Oct. 26, and future annual meetings will focus on issues generated in county forums with older adult involvement.

"I've been working with the Cape Fear Council of Governments (COG) since 1985," Ferlauto said, "so they asked me to apply for this position and I did."

His work was with COG's Area Agency on Aging (AAA) that chose the legislative delegates.

"I moved here in 1984 from New York, where I worked 40 years with the State of New York as a bureau director," he explained. "After retirement, I served on a volunteer tax assistance program and in an organization of retired executives."

Concerns about aging that he will pursue in the senior legislature focus on how costs of caring for older persons could be reduced. "We're all living too long and becoming a burden on younger people," said the 77-year-old Ferlauto. "Older persons are usually much happier in a home environment, so we should find out how this would be possible. Adult day care centers are another consideration."

Saying he was "not a joiner," Ferlauto is nevertheless a member of the American Association of Retired People (AARP) and active in St. Brendan's Catholic Church. Here he gets senior feedback and, when county forums take place, he will receive even more of it. "I don't know anything yet about how those will be scheduled," he said. "I'll get more details when we meet in Raleigh."



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

## Cooper Running For Congress

James Murrel "Jim" Cooper talks with local Republicans while announcing his candidacy for U.S. Congress last Friday at the Brunswick County Government Center in Bolivia. Cooper, managing partner in a Fayetteville law firm, hopes to take the 7th Congressional District seat from Democratic incumbent Charlie Rose in 1994. "It's a winnable fight," said Cooper, chairman of the Cumberland County Republican Party since 1990. He served 24 years in the U.S. Air Force as a military pilot and planning and programming officer.

## Low-Cost Flu Shots Offered To 'High-Risk' Individuals

Flu season is just around the corner and the Brunswick County Health Department is making flu shots available to "high-risk" individuals.

Nursing Supervisor Victoria Smith said flu shots are available at the health department during general clinic hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. The department is located at the Brunswick County Government Center at Bolivia. Vaccinations will also be provided at shot clinics across the county in coming weeks.

High-risk people are age 65 and older or the chronically ill, such as those with asthma or other upper respiratory ailments.

Medicare will pay for the vaccinations this year; for those not covered by Medicare, the charge will be \$5.

Flu shots are also available from private physicians.

This year's vaccine includes representation from the three strains of flu virus expected to be most prevalent this winter, "A/Texas 36/91," "A Beijing/32/92," and "B Panama 45/90."

Flu shots aren't for everyone. Those with allergies to eggs or who have had severe reactions to previous vaccines should not get a shot or should first consult with their doctor. Anyone who has had a paralyzing condition such as Guillane-Barre syndrome or who thinks she may be pregnant should also check with their doctor.

A person with a fever or who has been treated with antibiotics within the past two weeks should wait to get a flu shot, said Smith, because the vaccine could aggravate their condition.

"If you do want the vaccine and have any questions in your mind, you should check with your doctor

first," said Smith.

In addition to general clinic hours at the health department, special shot clinics are scheduled in outlying areas of the county as follows:

■Wednesday, Oct. 13, Jennies Branch Baptist Church, N.C. 179 between Ocean Isle Beach and Sunset Beach, 12:30 p.m.-4 p.m.  
 ■Wednesday, Oct. 20, Calabash Fire Station, Persimmon Road, Calabash, 12 noon-4 p.m.

■Friday, Oct. 29, Cardinal Care, Mulberry Street, Shallotte, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

■Friday, Oct. 29, Shallotte Senior Citizens Center, Shallotte, 12:30 p.m.-4 p.m.

■Friday, Nov. 5, Southport Senior Citizens Center, Southport, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

■Friday, Nov. 5, Long Beach Recreation Center, Long Beach, 12:30 p.m.-4 p.m.

■Friday, Nov. 12, Leland Senior

Citizens Center, Leland, 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

■Monday, Nov. 22, Soldier Bay Baptist Church, N.C. 130, Ash, 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

## Shaw Choir Coming Sunday

The Shaw University Gospel Choir will appear in concert Sunday, Oct. 10, at the Brunswick County Government Center in Bolivia.

Directed by Chauncey Stevenson, the choir will perform at 5 p.m. in the Public Assembly Building. The concert is sponsored by the local Shaw University Alumni Chapter.

Sigmond Jenrette, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Jenrette Jr., is a member of the choir. He is a 1992 graduate of West Brunswick High School.

A donation of \$5 is requested of those attending.

## JONES/BYRD PAVILION

# Sea Trail To Sponsor Blood Drive October 15

Sea Trail Plantation, in cooperation with the American Red Cross, will sponsor the Harris Thompson Memorial Blood Drive Friday, Oct. 15, at the Jones/Byrd Pavilion.

The drive will take place from 1-6 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Cholesterol tests conducted by staff of the Brunswick County Health Department will also be available for \$7.50.

Blood donors will have a chance to win a free dinner for two at Tavern on the Tee Restaurant at Sea

Trail. For an appointment, call Bess at 579-5067 or 287-1167.

A blood drive also will take place on Saturday, Oct. 9, from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at Walmart in Shalotte.

The Cape Fear Chapter of the Red Cross has set a 1993-94 goal to collect 11,160 units in Brunswick, Pender and New Hanover counties. "In 1992-93, 10,424 units were collected, so there is quite a challenge for this year," said Susan Wakiid, blood services coordinator.

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