

McIntyre Co-Sponsors Bill To Reduce Class Size

Washington, D.C.—Seventh District Congressman Mike McIntyre recently joined U.S. Education Secretary Richard Riley at a Capitol Hill press conference to introduce a new initiative to reduce class size in grades 1-3 by hiring 100,000 well-trained teachers over the next seven years.

Congressman McIntyre said, "There is nothing more important to this county's future than making sure our children have a good education. In order for our kids to learn and compete in the global economy, America's schools must be able to accommodate smaller class sizes. We must do all that we can to help our local school boards and local school systems make this possible. This legislation is essential to doing just that, and thereby, making public education the best it can be."

The Class-Size Reduction and Teacher Quality Act would help reduce class size to an average of 18 students in grades 1-3 by providing funds to help school districts hire and pay 100,000 new teachers. The bill, which McIntyre has co-sponsored, also improves teaching by helping states and school districts to strengthen

teacher recruitment, preparation, and professional development. New teachers would be required to pass state competency tests, and certification requirements would be upgraded.

Research has shown that students attending small classes in the early grades make more rapid educational progress than students in larger classes. Smaller class size can help make schools safer, too. School security experts have told Congress that small class size helps teachers to identify troubled students and get them the help they need.

Congressman McIntyre is Co-Chairman of the Democratic Coalition's Task Force on Education and has been a volunteer in both public and private schools over the last seventeen years. He was the founder of the Citizenship Education Committee to the Robeson County Bar Association in 1981 and served as its chairman for twelve years. Last year he was one of the few members of Congress from across the nation selected to attend the President's Summit on America's Future in Philadelphia because of his involvement with school children.

Gov. Hunt's proposals on juvenile crime is a good starting point

Raleigh—A comprehensive package of reforms proposed by Gov. Jim Hunt last Wednesday gives lawmakers a good starting point for trying to reduce juvenile crime, Rep. Ron Sutton said.

Hunt announced his plan at a news conference last Wednesday morning. "I'm glad that the governor made parental responsibility and community involvement two of the major items in his plan," Rep. Sutton said. "This is not a problem we can solve in Raleigh. We need the help of parents and community organizations and church groups."

One of the dozens of provisions in the governor's package would hold parents accountable when their children broke the law. Parents could be required to attend court hearings with their child, pay court costs and make sure their child complied with court orders or probation requirements.

Parents also could be required to attend family counseling or parenting classes.

In addition to parental responsibility and community involvement, major elements of Hunt's package includes:

*Holding violent juvenile criminals accountable with swift, sure punishment. Making sure all offenders who break the law face consequences.

Overhauling the juvenile justice system to give courts and law enforcement officials the tools they need.

Hunt included \$40 million in his recommended budget for his juvenile crime proposals, but did not spell out where the money would go.

Legislation to implement the governor's proposals was introduced Wednesday afternoon with bipartisan support, Rep. Ron Sutton co-sponsored the bill.

The governor's proposals grew out of a year-long study by the governor's Commission on Juvenile Crime and Justice.

Among other things, Hunt's plan would set up statewide guidelines and standards to make punishment of juvenile offenders more consistent, add more space in training schools and detention centers and provide grants to community groups.

"Not all of the governor's ideas will survive," Rep. Sutton said. "We'll have our own proposals to address juvenile crime. But it's clear that the system needs help, and the governor's package gives us a good foundation to build on."

The bill will receive extensive debate and scrutiny in House Committee Judiciary II, of which Rep. Sutton is a member.



Tracy Bullard

Drs. Dennis Stuart and Connie Locklear-Jones and Robeson Health Care Corp. Sponsor N.C. Rural Health Scholars

This summer Drs. Dennis Stuart and Connie Locklear-Jones of Robeson Health Care Corporation are serving as preceptors for Tracy Bullard and Anisha Patel, rising second-year medical students who have been selected as Rural Health Scholars for the Class of 2001 by the NC Office of Rural Health and Resource Development. Eighteen physicians and interdisciplinary community-based practices that have demonstrated themselves as excellent role models and teaching sites now participate in this innovative program. This is the fourth consecutive summer that Robeson Health Care has sponsored Scholars.

During Summer preceptorships with physician mentors, Scholars are immersed in clinical medicine and community life. But learning skills to treat medical conditions of individuals patients within the four walls of the examining room are not the only lessons that Scholars hope to learn during their summers. By visiting patients in their homes, spending time in other agencies and working in their communities, Scholars learn about the needs of the broader community and how physicians can work effectively with others to address them.

The program dispels many myths about rural practice. During their summers, Scholars see that rural medicine offers patients a wide range of services and excellent quality; that rural areas and populations can be vastly different from each other; and that "it is not all work and no play" for health care providers.

On June 1st, Tracy Bullard will begin her preceptorship with Dr. Stuart at South Robeson Medical Center in Fairmont and Anisha Patel will join Dr. Locklear-Jones at the Julian T. Pierce Medical Center in Pembroke.

State Senator Says fighting juvenile crime is No. 1 priority

Raleigh—Getting tough with juvenile offenders and holding them responsible for their crimes is a top priority for North Carolina this session, Sen. David Weinstein said Tuesday.

"The juvenile justice system is broken and we must fix it," said Weinstein, a Democrat who represents Robeson, Bladen, Cumberland, Hoke and Sampson counties. "Juvenile criminals threaten our state's future. We should demand more responsibility from them, and more from us as parents and communities."

State senators began this week to consider a comprehensive reform package recommended by the Governor's Commission on Juvenile Crime and Justice. The commission has spent the past six months developing a plan to fight juvenile crime. In the past 10 years, violent juvenile crime in North Carolina has increased 172 percent, and juvenile drug violations and gun crimes have jumped more than 500 percent.

The bipartisan Juvenile Justice Reform Act focuses on three key priorities: swift and sure justice for your

Bullard plans to return to her home county, Robeson, as a family physician when she completes her medical training. As an undergraduate at Duke University, Bullard worked with researchers in the Department of Psychiatry on studies involving members of the Catawba Indian Nation of Rock Hill, South Carolina. Bullard is a recipient of the North Carolina Board of Governors Scholarship. In her free time, she enjoys playing the piano, horseback riding and Native American dancing.

Patel, an Asian-American from Shelby, NC (Cleveland County), is well aware of rural health needs and the unique challenges encountered by minority groups. She came to Durham for high school at the School of Science and Mathematics and to Chapel Hill for college at UNC where she majored in chemistry and anthropology. Patel has worked as a counselor with inner-city youth and burn victims, as a hospital volunteer in India and North Carolina, and with children with Down Syndrome and autism. In the spring of 1997, Patel helped a Habitat for Humanity trip to Siguatepeque, Honduras.

The Rural Health Scholars Program was developed and is administered by the N.C. Office of Rural Health and Resource Development in conjunction with the N.C. Primary Health Care Association, the N.C. Area Health Education Centers Program, the N.C. Medical Society Foundation and the ECU and UNC-CH Schools of Medicine. Now in its sixth year, the program has included a total of 91 Scholars. It is funded through a grant from the National Health Service Corps, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Swimming Classes Available

The Robeson County Chapter of the American Red Cross will sponsor Swimming and Water Safety programs this summer. The first session of swimming class will be held June 8-11 and the second session will be held June 22-25 at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center from 7 until 7:45 a.m.

The third class will be held July 13-16 from 10-10:45 a.m. and the fourth class will be July 13-16 from 11-11:45 a.m. Both these classes will be held at Sleepy Bear Camp Ground, Lumberton.

The classes are open to infants and preschool: TBA. Registration is \$30.00

"Grease" Auditions at Civic Center

Studio One Summer Stage '98, co-sponsored by the Public Schools of Robeson County and the Carolina Civic Center, is holding auditions for the hit musical "Grease." The tryouts will take place at the Carolina Civic Center on Thursday, June 4 at 7 p.m. and Friday, June 5 at 6 p.m. The auditions are open to ages 13 and up, with lots of emphasis on teenagers. Auditionees should bring a pop song or, better still, a rock 'n roll number to sing from memory. Please have either music or prepared instrumental tracks for accompaniment. And please no "sing-alongs," that is, singing along with a vocal recording.

"Grease" will be a full production. It will be presented this July and run Thursday the 16th through Sunday, 19th. It will be directed by Jeanne Koonce, with music direction by Michael Bloomer. Studio One Summer Stage '98 decided to offer "Grease" from popular demand. Interest in the musical is high because of the re-release of the Olivia Newton John/John Travolta film.

Strickland family to hold reunion

The descendants of Alevander and Silas Strickland will hold their family reunion on June 14, 1998 at 1 p.m. at Oak Grove Baptist Church in Scotland County. Everyone should bring a covered dish. For further information call Flora Jane Locklear at 910-844-3271.

AISES Celebrates 20th Anniversary with Conference

Boulder, CO—The American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) is pleased to announce its 20th Anniversary Conference to be held at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver from December 3-6, 1998. The theme for this conference is "Wisdom From the Past—Courage For the Future." The conference will attract over 2,200 American Indian college students, professionals and educators from throughout the United States and Canada. Indigenous peoples from around the world will also be in attendance.

The annual conference is the premiere event hosted by AISES. The goal of the conference is to encourage, nurture and celebrate American Indian and Alaskan Native participation in the sciences and engineering. The conference will host a variety of speakers, workshops, educational sessions and exhibits. Leadership, Indian entrepreneurship, natural resource managements, community based education and research and work opportunities are some of the themes that will be discussed at the conference.

Steven Covey, the author of the best-seller "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People" and the founder of the Covey Leadership Center, will be speaking at the Opening Ceremony of the conference. For more than 25 years, Dr. Covey has taught millions of individuals in business, government and education the transforming power of principles rooted in unchanging natural laws that govern human and organizational effectiveness.

A major highlight of the 20th anniversary conference is the Career Fair. Corporations, government and federal agencies, universities and tribal enterprise will be available to answer questions regarding employment and educational opportunities. Interviews will also be conducted. A special cultural display, sponsored by IBM, will be located in the center of the Career Fair. Another highlight is the traditional dinner and pow wow that will celebrate the rich cultural heritage of American Indian and Alaskan native tribes. The pow wow is open to the public and will be held on Saturday, December 5th from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m.

Other events at the conference include an AISES high school day, a banquet to honor AISES scholarship recipients for their academic achievements and acknowledge scholarship donors for their generous contributions. This year, AISES will award \$591,000 in scholarships to undergraduate and graduate college students.

The annual AISES conference is made possible through donations by sponsors including corporations, institutions and individuals. The 20th anniversary conference sponsors include IBM, US West, 3M, Sandia National Labs, Amoco, and Lucent Technologies.

AISES is a private, non-profit organization which nurtures building of community by bridging science and technology with traditional Native values. AISES' ultimate goal is to be a catalyst for the advancement of American Indians as they seek to become self-determined members of society.

North Carolina Flag Day June 13

The North Carolina Flag Day, will be held on June 13, 1998, at 6:00 p.m. as planned, also to be held at the Bladenboro High School Auditorium.

Application deadline for Flag Day is May 31, 1998. Deadline for Memorial Day is June 15, 1998. Flag Day participants ages are 1 thru 23, and Mrs. participants must be married or widowed.

Memorial Day participants ages are 3 thru 23.

For more information concerning pageants, please call Mrs. Carol McLean at (910) 863-3418 or Mrs. Kay Hester at (910) 863-3383.

Proceeds to benefit those suffering from a life altering illness.

Pow Wow To Be Held

There will be a Native American Pow Wow held at the State Farmer's Market in Raleigh, North Carolina on May 30-31, 1998. The host drum will be Eastern Bull, Red Snake and Piney Woods are the invited drums. Master of Ceremonies is going to be Jim (Two Fox) Chavis. Reggie Brewer is going to be the head Man Dancer. The Head Lady Dancer will be Regan Jones. Their is going to be a special performance put on by the Aztec Dancers. The arena Director is going to be Earl Evans. Queens that are invited: Miss Lumbee, Miss Haliwa-Saponi, Miss Coharie, Miss Indian Senior Citizen, and Junior Miss Lumbee. Their will be no contests. Traditional foods will be available. Admission will be FREE.

For more information call Gwen Locklear - (919) 779-5936 or Darlene Jacobs (919) 779-5044.

This Pow Wow is sponsored by Triangle Native American Society.

Wilkins and Lowery Families to hold reunion

The descendants of Sion and Sarah Wilkins and H.T. "Sonny" and Rosella "Sis" Lowery will hold their family reunion on July 4th beginning at 4 p.m. at Harpers' Ferry Baptist Church in Pembroke. Donations are \$5.00 per person and should be sent RSVP/ASAP to Hazel Strickland at Route 2 Box 401, Pembroke, NC 28372. For more information call Hazel Strickland at 910-521-3663 or John Lowery at 301-587-5434.

The Baltimore Experience

Happy Mother's Day, Every Day

by: Herbert H. Locklear



To all the mothers of the world, here, there and everywhere, Happy Mother's Day. Not belated as to the second Sunday of May, but everyday to the year. Sure we pick a Sunday to celebrate Motherhood, and that's OK. But, we all, including grown-ups are admonished for a life time.

While honor and respect are due all mothers, there one mother about which I wish to speak, about whom I know the most about. That is the lady God provided to me for a wife forty-five years ago. Her name is, and has been, since November 16, 1955 when our first child was born, Mamma. She is also known as Sister Christine, Chris, Tine, and just plain wonderful.

the daughter of Mrs. Quessie Hammonds Oxendine, tine was born August 14, 1936 in Robeson County. I first met her in Fairmont, over an ice cream cone, early summer 1953. We were married a few months later.

Tine had not gone nearly as far in school as I had. She loved to go barefoot, while I preferred to wear shoes. She loved fat, but I only liked lean, so on and on goes the variances between us. But, I loved her and she loved me. That's the way it was, is and always

will be. Now, at nearing 62 years of age, Mamma has blessed our family with five children, four beautiful daughters and one very handsome son. She has made a home for her family, and has kept herself virtuous and beyond reproach, just as prescribed in Proverbs 31.

Maintaining an immaculate home for her family, she nurtured and admonished her children, championed the cause of her husband, and even battled for him when challenged. In this big city with corruption and evil influences all around, not once has this mother been called upon to go to the court house, police department, nor even to the schools to rescue one of her off spring. Yet, she has never been a heavy user of corporal discipline. She scolded, corrected, advised and reared her children by setting and keeping before them the high standard she sought for their lives. Then, her stronghold was love, shown and activated.

On my fiftieth birthday, which she arranged as a surprise, I told the friends gathered there, "when God made me He knew that I would require a very special person in my life. Four years later He designed and made Mamma especially for me." He join her with me on August 23, 1953. Since that time, she has always been nearest and dearest to me.

To my own son, who is now a Lt. Colonel in the US Air Force, I have said, "my greatest wish in life for you, my son, is to meet, fall in love and marry a lady just like your mother."

Happy mothers' day Mamma. And to all the Mammias of the world, I say again, happy Mothers' day.

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