

Weather

Partial clearing and less humid today. Friday, partly cloudy and mild. Low today, 69; high, lower 80's.

The Franklin Times

Published Every Tuesday & Thursday

Serving All Of Franklin County

Your Award Winning County Newspaper

Giggle

When the kids dance nowadays, they don't talk, they don't touch one another, they don't even look at one another. It's like being married for 30 years.

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Ten Cents

Louisburg, N. C. Thursday, June 13, 1968

(Twelve Pages Today)

99th Year-Number 34

Poverty Group Gets \$42,738

Franklin-Vance-Warren Opportunity, Inc. has been notified that a grant in the amount of \$42,738 has been made for an Emergency Food and Medical Services program for Franklin and Warren Counties.

This is for a six months program to provide emergency food and medical services to low income residents of Franklin and Warren Counties who are suffering from malnutrition and are at present not receiving assistance from other sources.

As soon as funds are received the program will be immediately put into operation under the administration of Franklin-Vance-Warren Opportunity, Inc. through its Neighborhood Center Component in the two counties.

The program will provide for emergency food purchases of food stamps for persons with no income; school lunches for school children where provision for lunches are not available; emergency food for short time (temporary) assistance; and medical examinations and treatment for health problems caused from hunger and malnutrition.

The operation of this program is devised so that the maximum funds will be sent for the benefit of the recipients in the program. This program will assist and supplement all existing programs concerned with solving the problems of poverty with no reduction in their efforts due to this program.

State Board Gets Into The Act

Future Of School Project Doubtful

The Franklin County Board of Education, meeting in special session here Wednesday night, issued a statement to the effect that unless suitable land is made available by the Board of County Commissioners by next Wednesday, the \$83,000 Methods and Material Center project will be abandoned. The federally financed building and its location have been a point of heated controversy between the two bodies for the past several weeks.

The meeting was called to hear the results of a request for approval of the project by the State Board of Education. Supt. Warren Smith informed the Board that the State Board was requiring additional land and ownership by the School Board of the present office building. It was also revealed that a request by the Board to the federal ESEA office for extended time in which to commit the funds for the project, has resulted in only a short extension which ends on August 31.

Supt. Smith explained that plans would have to be drawn and twice approved by school planning in Raleigh, bids would have to be advertised and accepted and contracts let for

the project not later than August 31, if the funds were to be saved. He told the Board, "We've got to move if we're going to do this thing".

State Board of Education and the limited delay granted by the ESEA office at its meeting here Wednesday night.

Three weeks ago, the Board of Education requested the Board of County Commissioners to transfer title of a 60' by 90' tract of land on the county hill complex in order that an \$83,000 federally financed building might be erected. Ownership of the land by the School Board was required by the federal ESEA office. At the time, the School Board believed that only that tract of land would be required. Twice the Commissioners refused to vote on the request and last Friday Chairman Richard Cash stepped down in order to make a motion to grant the request. The move was seconded by Commissioner Brooks Young but Commissioners Norwood Faulkner and E. M. Sykes voted against the approval and Commissioner George Harris, acting as chairman, broke the tie, voting against granting the request.

The full text of the School Board's statement reads as follows: "The Franklin County Board of Education is forwarding to the Board of County Commissioners information received this date that the State Board of Education has recommended additional land and ownership by the Board of Education of the present office building in order to obtain state approval of the proposed Methods and Material Center building. In view of the fact that the federal ESEA office has limited a request for additional time to not later than August 31 for full and final commitment of funds for the project, we are respectfully requesting a definite reply from the Board of County Commissioners not later than June 19. If suitable land is not made available by this date, the Board of Education will be forced to abandon the project entirely."

The School Board learned of the additional requirements by the

These latest developments could spell doom for the project. In light of the unwillingness of the Commissioners to grant an earlier request for land, it is unlikely that they would be willing to grant a request for additional land, plus ownership of the building. The Commissioners, in a letter last week, offered the School Board any of three alternate sites, although the exact location of the sites were not spelled out in the letter. It is believed that at least two of the alternates would require additional purchase of land by the county.

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No Voting Complaints Lodged Here

George Champion, Jr., Secretary to the Franklin Board of Elections said this morning he has heard nothing on complaints of voting irregularities in the county as reported in the press and attributed to Dr. Reginald Hawkins, Negro dentist of Charlotte. Hawkins was defeated as a gubernatorial candidate in the May Democratic primary.

The Negro activist, according to news reports, has written Attorney General Ramsey Clark in Washington asking that federal examiners be sent into forty North Carolina counties, including Franklin, to "assist in increasing the voter registration among non-whites".

"Thus far, no federal examiners have been assigned, as far as I can determine, in North Carolina," Hawkins wrote. "Yet the Voting Rights Act of 1965, did, I believe, include a provision whereby such personnel could be assigned if any political subdivision maintained as of Nov. 1, 1964, any test or device regarding registration, and if less than 50 percent of the persons of voting age

residing therein were not registered to vote on Nov. 1, 1964."

He added: "Various registration projects have been conducted throughout most of North Carolina, with differing results. I believe firmly that each of these projects would have increased significantly the number of registered voters obtained had there been federal examiners within those areas."

Hawkins, a Charlotte dentist, told the attorney general he believes increased political participation of non-whites is a necessary measure to help improve the socio-economic and moral conditions and attitudes on non-white and white citizens.

"I further believe," he wrote, "that meaningful participation in the actual decision-making processes of political subdivisions within the state, and on the State level as well, is the most viable way to reduce the type of violent and destructive acts which seem to be increasing among us."

Hawkins told Clark "there were a number of voting irregularities in the May 4 primary."

He said complaints had been received from Martin County, where, he said, non-whites were not permitted to carry sample ballots with them into polling places and where a registrar and voter workers opened the voting

booth curtain on several non-white voters.

In Halifax, he said, some non-whites were unable to vote because their names apparently had been deleted from the lists.

In Richmond County, he said, whites, "despite protests from the

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Republicans Organize In County

Leaders of the revitalized Republican Party in Franklin County were revealed Tuesday night as GOP gubernatorial candidate Jim Gardner visited here for a campaign rally. Listed among precinct chairmen are three registered Democrats with several other local leaders having recently switched from the Democratic Party to the Republican camp.

Gardner told The Franklin Times that he has not as yet named local campaign aides, but plans to form at least two organizations. The Fourth District Congressman indicated that he will have a Democrats for Gardner organization as well as a GOP campaign organization in Franklin County.

Archie Bunn of Pilot is acting as temporary Gardner County Chairman and presided at Tuesday's rally. Wil-

liam Wagner, a member of the Louisburg College faculty, is GOP party chairman in the county.

Precinct chairmen, as disclosed by Bunn, include: H. O. Gilliam (R), Cedar Rock; Melvin Nelms (R), Cypress Creek; Reginald Lewis (D), Dunn; Larry Robbins (R), Franklin; John Wrenn (D), Harris; Charles Eaves (R), Hayesville; Richard Alston (R), Gold Mine; Willis Dupree (R), Louisburg; Bruet Bunn (D), Peares; Millard-Wester (R), Sandy Creek; and Al DePorter (R), Youngville.

Finance chairman for the rally was Crowell Strickland of Louisburg and publicity chairman was Wallace Pruitt of Franklin. Leon Perry, Vance County GOP Chairman, was a special guest at the rally.



Relaxed Candidate

GOP gubernatorial candidate Jim Gardner relaxes prior to addressing a rally held for him here Tuesday night.

Several Hundred Attend Gardner Rally Here

GOP gubernatorial candidate Jim Gardner told a crowd estimated at near 500 gathered for his campaign kickoff here Tuesday night, "We have too much federal government - too much federal control". The Fourth District Congressman speaking at Ford's Warehouse here at a fund-raising dinner, lambasted "what's going on in this country today."

He said he does not agree with it and added, "I've been in Washington watching our country going down the drain." Congressman Gardner talked about the "breakdown of law and order and said, "The country is not interested in punishing the criminal." "We've got to be concerned with what's going on," he told the audience made up of supporters from Franklin and neighboring counties.

He spoke of the "nerve of the federal government coming to North Carolina to tell us how to run our schools when it can't operate the schools in Washington." His greatest applause was received when the young lawmaker told the group, "As Governor of North Carolina, I am going to enforce the law". He was interrupted nine times by loud applause from his audience.

Calling his campaign a "Crusade for Progress", he spent most of his time commenting on conditions on the national level. Late in his speech, he referred to his opponent, Democrat Lt. Gov. Bob Scott. "We in this state have not been progressing", he said. He commented on the "same old worn old and tired promises" of the Democrats saying, "Our roads get a little

bumpier in the East, our schools get older and Franklin County's per capita income ranks 77th in the state." He climaxed this comment by adding, "And this is the year the Bob Scotts are going to look after North Carolina."

The Congressman was introduced by Archie Bunn of Pilot, who also presented each of the eleven precinct chairmen to the group. Music for the rally was supplied by a Franklin County string band and an unidentified out-of-town group.

Gardner talked about the proposed guaranteed wage, the 10 percent surtax and the possibility that Vice President Hubert Humphrey would be the next President. "Hubert Humphrey is going to be worse than Lyndon Johnson", he told the cheering audience. "We need a change in leadership", he said, "Put somebody else in Washington to do the job."

On Vietnam, he said, "If we're going to stay in Vietnam, we ought to win. I am sick in my heart of reading every day of our casualty list."

"I call for a total commitment of every person-to make a personal commitment-that we're going to change things", Gardner said and closed his address by saying, "If we don't meet the challenge this year, may God help us."

Gardner was accompanied to Louisburg by his aide Earl Cox, Jesse Austin and Yates Naegle among others. He had started his fall campaign in Roanoke Rapids Tuesday morning, spoke in Littleton and Warrenton before arriving here shortly after 7:30 P.M.

Second In A Series School Suit Started In December, 1965

By Clint Fuller

Note: On June 20, this month, a hearing has been slated on the plan to do away with the dual school system in Franklin County as ordered by the federal courts. This series recounts the many incidents and the series of court actions leading up to this month's hearing.

On September 2, 1965, several members of the Franklin County Board of Education, the Superintendent and the School Board attorney met here with four Negro parents in an attempt to explain why their children had been denied transfer to predominantly white schools. The session lasted three hours, with the attorney repeatedly explaining the Lateral Transfer provisions of the school desegregation plan.

The Negro parents were disturbed because they had only recently been advised of the transfer provisions, although they had been advised that only four grades were to be desegregated that year under a plan approved by the U. S. Office of Education.

On September 21, 1965, the Board of Education received a call from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington concerning the complaints lodged by the parents. On October 8, representatives of the School Board met in Washington with two Negro ministers from Franklin County and an officer of the Office of Education to discuss the matter.

On October 13, 1965, the Board met in official session with the two ministers and one other parent to further discuss the problem. An appar-

ent solution to the differences had been found and the Negro leaders asked to take the agreement back to their people for final approval.

Nothing further was heard by school officials of the matter until December 1, when Board attorneys were presented copies of a brief, a motion and complaints which had been entered in U. S. District Court. The papers were officially served on Board attorneys by U. S. Marshals on December 15.

The action, taken by the NAACP, was followed on December 17, by a letter from Washington officials on the Lateral Transfer section of the plan and on December 21, representatives of the Board conferred in Louisburg with a representative of HEW.

The Board's stand at the time was

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LBA Gets New Name

The Louisburg Business Association has a new name. Mrs. Juanita Pleasants, Executive Secretary of the organization, announced today the name has been changed to the Franklin County Business Association and Credit Bureau.

The reason for the name change, according to Mrs. Pleasants, is because of expanded services. "We want to bring the benefits of the Association to the professional and business people in all of Franklin County", she stated.

A membership drive is planned throughout the county with emphasis being placed on reaching potential members through community civic groups, Mrs. Pleasants said.



Courthouse Slightly In A Mess

Political pundits have been saying for years that the cannon on the courthouse square was aimed in the wrong direction. Jokingly, they have indicated they thought it should have been turned toward the courthouse and used to clean up the mess, they often indicated might be in and around the structure. Scene above should please them since it shows both the cannon aimed in the desired direction and about as much "mess" as one can stand. It's all part of the work now in progress on the \$200,000 renovation of the old landmark, expected to be completed near the end of the year.

Staff photo by Clint Fuller.