

# WINSTON-SALEM CHRONICLE

Vol. IV No. 5

Saturday October 1, 1977

Suite 603 Pepper Bldg.

Winston-Salem, N.C.

\* 20 Cents

## Comer Stress Mental Health Care in Public Schools Here

by Sharyn Bratcher  
Staff Writer

James P. Comer, director of the Yale University Child Study Center and co-author of "Black Child Care" was the featured speaker at the Child Guidance Clinic Institute held here last weekend.

Comer told a group of educators and medical professionals that programs of preventive psychiatry in the public schools can decrease the incidence of mental illness among children.

America's mobilized and mechanized society has removed much of the stability from people's lives. Forty years ago, people tended to spend their lives in a small community, keeping the same set of acquaintances and the same environment for life. Today there is a lack of permanence in communities and in relationships, creating instability and anxiety in many persons.

Comer feels that the school should take the responsibility for helping the child become a well-adjusted member of society. Many psychologi-



James P. Comer

cal problems, he said, stem from the fact that people—particularly poor and minority individuals—cannot cope with social skills. The schools can teach children social skills that will increase their self-esteem.

He also stressed parental interest and involvement in the school system. If parents take an interest in the schools, it will encourage children to take education more seriously. The parents' attitude toward school and school officials greatly influences the feelings of the child.

Low-income and minority parents often feel

unqualified to take an active part in school programs, but they should be encouraged to do so.

Dr. Comer is a professor of psychiatry and Associate Dean for Student Affairs at Yale University School of Medicine, and has served on the Board of Advisors

and Consultants for the Children's Television Workshop (producers of Seame Street.) Besides writing "Black Child Care" with a co-author Alvin Poussaint, Dr. Comer has written many articles in professional journals and is the author of "Beyond Black and White."



Carl Russell First black mayor? Virginia K. Newell unseated Ross Larry Little unseated Davis Vivian Burke will meet Sumler

## Russell Places First-May Become 1st Black Mayor

The day before the city elections, Carl Russell told some of his supporters that he would be waiting out the results at his funeral home.

"What are you going to have to eat?" joked one young man. "I don't know. I may be eating straw, if the results are bad," said Russell.

The results were tallied Tuesday night, and Russell, who said "you always run scared in an election," had the greatest number of votes—62 votes ahead of Wayne Corpening, who is calling for a runoff, to be held October 18th. If Russell wins, he could become the first black mayor in Winston-Salem's history.

Election returns credited Russell with 5,945 votes to Corpening's 5,883. The other two candidates in the mayoral Democratic primary, William Pfefferkorn and Cecil Butler, received 4,855 votes and 705 votes respectively.

The winner of the October 18th run off will face Republican candidate Henry Lauerman in the November general election. November's winner succeeded Mayor Franklin R. Shirley, who chose not to run for a third term.

Russell's main area of strength was East Winston. He carried the Northeast Ward, which he served as alderman for 16 years, as well as the North, East, and 3 of the Southeast Ward's five precincts.

"We are going to concentrate heavily on the South and West Wards," said Russell's campaign manager Tracy Singletary. "We would also like Pfefferkorn's endorsement for the runoff."

Cecil Butler conceded Tuesday night, and immediately announced his support of Carl Russell in the runoff.

In order to win the October 18th rematch, Russell will need much of the white liberal vote that went to Pfefferkorn, and he will need a heavy turnout among the black voters.

The fact that two blacks and East Wards, had opposite results from the 1974 outcome. This time challengers Virginia K.

## Black Incumbents Lose

### Newell, Burke, Little, Sumler Win

By Sharyn Bratcher  
Staff Writer

Newell and Larry D. Little defeated their incumbent opponents C.C. Ross and Richard Davis. Since there was no Republican opposition in either ward, Newell and Little will be the next aldermen from their wards, barring a write-in upset.

Two other incumbents, Bahnon C. Hall, Jr. and Ernestine Wilson, fared better, defeating their primary challengers, but they will still face Republican opposition in November.

Southeast Ward Alderman Eugene Groce is pitted in a runoff with Larry Womble, who claimed 701 votes to Groce's 846.

In the Northeast Ward, Vivian H. Burke defeated attorney David H. Wagner 1,233 to 810. She will face Rodney J. Sumler in the November election. Sumler took the Republican nomination with a total of 26 votes to Clarence Watson's 19, but Sumler may pick up more Democratic support in the general election.

Jon B. Devries was the winner in the Democratic primary of the Northwest Ward, with a tally exceeding the combined total of opponents Arch Scales and Clarence Washington. Devries got 1313 votes, Scales 856, and Washington 449.

In the Southwest Ward, Candy Wood defeated her three male opponents and will face John T. Cavanaugh, winner of the Republican primary.

The East Ward campaign was a hard-fought battle, with Virginia Newell making her second attempt to unseat incumbent C.C. Ross. This time she succeeded, despite Ross's charges that she was running a "smear campaign" against him. He had no comment Wednesday regarding his defeat. Some observers have stated that the large voter turnout in that ward was a demonstration against Ross. His constituents have voiced dissatisfaction with his performance, complaining that he is out of touch with the people, and that he cannot be reached when they have complaints. Mrs.

See Right, Page 2

### Primary Results

**Mayor; Democrat-Runoff between**  
**Carl H. Russell and**  
**Wayne Corpening**  
**Republican-Henry**  
**Lauerman**

**North Ward; Democrat- Larry**  
**Little**  
**Republican- None**

**Northeast Ward; Democrat-**  
**Vivian Burke**  
**Republican-**  
**Rodney J. Sumler**

**East Ward; Democrat-**  
**Virginia K. Newell**  
**Republican- None**  
See Primary, Page 2



Some 75 marchers protested the incarceration of the Wilmington 10 last week and called for a pardon by Governor Hunt. Hunt has indicated that he will not take any action in the case until all legal remedies have been exercised.

## Succession Rejected Over Pardon Issue

### Wilmington 10 Supporters Blast Hunt

By Carolina Community  
News Service

Advocates of a pardon for the Wilmington 10 have directed criticism toward Governor James Hunt over the issue of the succession referendum, which, if passed in November, would allow Hunt and subsequent governors to serve for two successive terms.

Although Hunt has stated that he does not believe that the Wilmington 10 or any other issue connected with his administration would affect the succession issue, selected leaders in the state's black communities think otherwise.

The survey, although not conducted scientific-

ly, showed that both Democrats and Republicans opposed succession, primarily because of shortcomings in the Hunt administration.

Mrs. Johnnie Mae Nixon, a Hunt campaign worker in the coastal town of Burgaw, located in Pender County, said she supported Hunt as Lt. Governor and Governor because she thought he was a "statesman rather than a politician". Bringing up Hunt's inaction on a May request to pardon the Wilmington 10, Mrs. Nixon said Hunt "is waiting to see if he has a chance to run for a second term." A statesman she continued, "makes a decision based upon what is right or what he has promised to do, but a

politician acts based upon what is expedient." Questioning whether Hunt has fulfilled promises to protect the right of all in the state to education, Mrs. Nixon said: "The school system here is just not right. He could send some people to see if Blacks are qualified (as teachers) or are just being pushed out."

Also typical is Herschel Seets, a Democrat and a member of the Granville County Elections Board. A retired school teacher who boasts of the \$150 he personally gave Hunt an Howard Lee's campaign last year, Seets complains that Black political thrust is weakened since Hunt "picked off top Blacks like Mickey Michaux, John Winters and Ben Ruffin to

give them big jobs while appointments from places other than Durham and Raleigh seldom come." H.M. Michaux was appointed U.S. Attorney by President Carter, and Winters and Ruffin were appointed to the N.C. Utility Commission and Human Relations Commission.

Staunchly set against succession, Seets says he doesn't "want four years of Hunt much less 8 years." He complained about the approximately 35 young Blacks from Roxboro that he has sent to Raleigh from Granville County to meet with Hunt's Assistant for Minority Affairs, John Larkins, and who Seets says have not gotten

See Wilmington, Page 2

## Miss Black Winston-Salem

### Pageant Sparks Controversy

A second black beauty pageant has been scheduled for this fall, and the sponsors of the first one are not happy about it.

The Miss Black Winston-Salem Pageant, which will be held October 21st at WSSU, is sponsored by the Black Business Action League.

"Any girl who enters this pageant will not be allowed to enter the Miss Black America Pageant in May," said Virginia K. Newell.

Mrs. Newell directed the Miss Black America of North Carolina Pageant, held in Winston-Salem in August. That pageant, which was sponsored by the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, was affiliated with the national Miss Black America Pageant. Its winner, Angela Watson, represented North Carolina in the nationally-televised pageant in Hollywood.

The BBAL "Miss Black Winston-Salem" pageant is not affiliated with the national pageant, nor is it endorsed by the AKA Sorority.

There are several major differences between the two pageants. Proceeds from the AKA Pageant went to the United Negro College Fund; proceeds from the BBAL Pageant will be kept by the BBAL. The AKA accepted contestants without fees; the BBAL is charging girls \$50 to enter.

The AKA pageant winner appeared on national television and went to Hollywood; the BBAL winner will appear in WSSU's homecoming parade and wins a trip to Chicago.

The AKA pageant winner is officially recognized by the national

See Pageant, Page 2

## Right To Die Is Subject of Debate

By Carolina Community  
News Service

Sacred attitudes about death and dying, coupled with increased technology in the hands of medical experts, has created an amoral attitude about death, said Dr. Larry Churchill, an Associate Professor of medicine at the UNC medical school. The analysis was made to a forum on the "Right to Die" sponsored by the Concerned Afro-American Christians.

"The Right to Die" was the topic of the forum held at Rush AME Church in Raleigh, the first of three forums funded by the N.C. Committee on the Humanities.

Right to die legislation, Churchill said, has been passed recently by 33 states, including North Carolina. He attributed the sudden activity by state legislatures as response to publicity around the Karen Quinlan case. Amoral attitudes, which he claimed were sup-

pressed until the case, suddenly surfaced in the press. Right to die, often mistaken for euthanasia or mercy killing, allows the patient to agree to suspend extraordinary life sustaining mechanisms which prolong life. Before right to die legislation was passed, physicians held the sole authority to determine whether to prolong life prolonging mechanisms.

Rev. Ralph Stephens, pastor of the St. Matthew AME Church, agreed with a contention of Churchill that physicians previously exercised complete power over the life and death decision. Adding some brief history of the development of black values surrounding death, Stephens noted that death and the process of dying have been until recently regarded by most as "making peace with the master."

Currently doing research with terminally ill cancer patients, Churchill said the process of

See Right, Page 2

See Black, Page 2