

Reynolds Health Center Head Equal

Merger Opponents Score Small Victory

by Sharyn Bratcher
Staff Writer

"It is somewhat of a victory," Chairman C.P. Booker told the Reynolds Health Center Advisory Committee Wednesday night, referring to a letter he received from County Man-

ager M.L. "Pete" Jenkins, which stated that the director of the county health department and the director of the Reynolds Health Center are equals. "He is on the road to doing what we want him to do," Booker told his committee, who have opposed the plan

to merge Reynolds Health Center with the county health department since the merger was suggested by then county manager Nicholas Meiszer last summer.

Jenkins' letter, stating that the director of the health center is not

answerable to the head of the health department, indicates that he does not favor Meiszer policy of merger.

Jenkins is reportedly still in the "data collecting phase" of considering the proposed merger, but Reynolds

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Youth Jobs Available

New job opportunities are available for young people in North Carolina this summer through the Youth Conservation Corps, a federally-funded, nationwide program.

Youth, ages 15 to 18, who are interested in working outdoors and learning about conservation of natural resources, are eligible for the program. They will be chosen regardless of race, sex, or family income by a national computer system that insure a good geographic and economic cross-

tion of participants.

"It should be a great opportunity for those who enjoy being outside and doing hard work," said Mary

Freas, field coordinator for the Human Services Department.

"Youth will live at the camp for eight weeks, working 30 hours a week on activities such as building trails, planting trees, tending fish hatcheries, clearing stream banks and surveying land," Mrs. Freas said. "Ten hours

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Land-Loss Is Topic Of Atlanta Meeting

Blacks Losing \$100 Million A Year

Atlanta -- Rural land ownership, control and development, tax sales, and landowners rights under the law are topics to be discussed at the National Association of Landowners (NAL) Second Annual Convention to be held in Atlanta, Georgia from February 24-26.

According to Joseph F. Brooks, president of the national office of the

Emergency Land Fund (ELF) and managing director of NAL, the convention is expected to attract over 300 Black landowners and interested citizens. The topics to be addressed at the convention will deal with possible remedies to the problems ailing Black landowners across the South.

Explaining the nature of the crisis, Brooks said,

"since 1959, the annual rate of Black farmland loss is over 300,000 acres. That translates to 6,000 acres a week valued conservatively at nearly two million dollars or \$100 million annually." "Further," said Brooks, "if the current rate of loss continues unabated, Black people will be virtually landless by 1990."

Conference workshops

focusing on such topics as tax and partition sales, foreclosures and food production are issues important to all Black people, rural and urban, and are among the daily fare addressed by ELF and its sister organization, NAL.

"The tax sale, the result of a landowner's failure to pay his taxes, creates a situation where anyone may pay the de-

linquent tax, thereby, in many cases, gaining legal control of the land," said Brooks. He explained that "procedures for notifying Black landowners have been notoriously lax; sometimes purposefully so that vast amounts of Black-owned land have been unintentionally lost through this maneuver."

"The partition sale," said Brooks, "is a more

vivious instrument than the tax sale. It is the practice wherein property owned by a number of heirs (so called "heirs property") is brought to a forced public sale to transform the land value into cash so that it may be divided among the heirs by anyone who obtains an heir's interest, no matter how small it may be.

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Wallace D. Muhammed stressed education and self-confidence in his keynote address at Saturday's banquet, sponsored by Masjid #56 of the World Community of Al-Islam in the West.

Muhammad Speaks Of Unity, Self-Help

The Honorable Wallace D. Muhammed, Spiritual Leader of the World Community of Islam in the West, addressed several hundred persons at a banquet Friday night at Benson Convention Center. The banquet, sponsored by Masjid Muhammad #56, was entitled "Achieving Oneness Through Education," to benefit the Sister Clara Muhammed School #56, a private institution maintained by the local organization. Emam Irvin Shakir ser-

ved as master of ceremonies at the banquet, which featured Chancellor Douglas Covington, Alderman Larry Little, and Mrs. Lee Faye Mack, president of Concerned Citizens as guest speakers.

Wallace D. Muhammed, son of the late Elijah Muhammed, the organization's founder, stressed brotherhood and unity in his keynote address. Of his father, Muhammed said: "He pulled us out of the fire -- to hate yourself

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WSSU Plans Program On Foreign Policy

Winston-Salem State University, in conjunction with the Adult Continuing Education Division of the Forsyth County Public Library, plans to conduct a series of programs giving citizens an opportunity to express their views on American foreign policy.

As a part of the Foreign Policy Association's "Great Decisions" project, participants nationwide will have an opportunity to vote on eight major foreign policy issues, with the results being forwarded to the Department of State in Washington.

Dr. Bill Sheppard, director of extended education of WSSU, has been named coordinator for the counties of Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin. He is in the process of arranging certificate renewal credit for teachers who take part and holds out the possibility of conducting a credit course on campus which would involve attendance at the lectures.

For additional information call Dr. Sheppard at 761-2121.



Urban League director Thomas Elijah illustrates his point at a workshop held by the Urban League at Reynolds Health Center last Saturday.

Urban League Host Saturday Workshop

Yvette McCullough
Staff Reporter

"Money tends to make us discount our own productivity," Ann Gehlen of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth Library told a small group at the Winston-Salem Urban League Workshop Saturday morning at the Reynolds Health Center Cafeteria.

Gehlen, who spoke on

the standards and procedures for organizing, said that an organization should make everyone feel that they are a part of the group and that their contribution is important.

She said that sometimes people equate the success of an organization with the number of members.

"Too often we get involved in the numbers

game and lose sight of why we're involved," Gehlen said.

Don Shanks, vice president of Piedmont Airlines spoke on the functions of officers and committees, and said that to have an effective organization in the community there is a need for empathy. Shanks defined empathy as, "to

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Carter Pressed In 10 Case

Supporters of jailed civil rights activists known as the Wilmington 10 have presented President Carter with 40,000 petition signatures from concerned people throughout Europe calling for their release. Criticizing Carter for not having made a personal appeal to North Carolina Governor Jim Hunt, about 500 D.C. area residents gathered in 20 degree temperature a few days ago to demonstrate against the President.

Wilmington 10 demonstrators presented the petitions to Ed Smith of the White House staff and also presented a letter for Mr. Carter calling for specific federal action in seeking the release of Rev. Ben Chavis and his co-defendants. The letter asked for a public pronouncement by Mr. Carter supporting a new trial in the six (6) year old case, asked that the Justice Department be instructed to file an amicus curiae

brief in behalf of the defendants and recommendation for bail in the U.S. Federal District Court where an appeal is now pending, and suggested that federal aid to states be tied to human rights as foreign aid has been tied to that issue.

Two weeks ago, Governor James Hunt decided to reduce the sentence of the Wilmington 10 in approximately half the original terms. The eight (8) young black men would become eligible for parole in 1978; Rev. Chavis would not become eligible until 1980.

Those connected with the case call this sentence reduction a political ploy and completely unacceptable. Citing the admitted perjuries, irregularities and admitted bribery involved, they maintain that the Wilmington 10 are innocent and should be totally free and exonerated.

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Kennedy Takes Oath For N.C. House

Attorney Harold L. Kennedy was sworn in as a representative to the North Carolina House in a courtroom ceremony witnessed by over a hundred well-wishers last Friday. Judge William Z. Wood administered the oath to Kennedy in a brief ceremony in the hall of justice, officially installing Kennedy in office, replacing Richard C. Erwin, who resigned the position to serve as a judge on the N.C. Court of Appeals.

Kennedy was chosen to succeed Erwin in a special election by the Forsyth County Democratic party in January.

In a brief speech to those assembled for the ceremony, Mr. Kennedy stated: "I view serving in the legislature as an opportunity to serve the people of Forsyth County and North Carolina. I would like to do my best to serve the people of this county and this state."

He reminded the group that he will also be a candidate for re-election



Harold L. Kennedy

to the seat in November. It is his prime concern, he noted, that North Carolina move forward "with all due speed into the third century of this country."

Some of the issues Kennedy mentioned as his special interests are education, employment, growth and new industry, and the problems of senior citizens.

Kennedy has practiced law in Winston-Salem

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Aldermen Hear Revenue Ideas; Veto Historic Properties Plan

There was little public response on the use of \$2.5 million in federal revenue sharing to be discussed in a public hearing at Monday night's meeting of the Board of Aldermen.

The staff proposal on revenue sharing will not be made until the budget is presented in June, but citizens were invited to address the board Monday and give their views on how the money could be spent.

Tracy Singletary suggested that some of the money be used to repair the "old city hospital" building on Third Street, now used for the offices of various organizations, including the Experiment in Self-Reliance.

He also suggested that rehabilitation grants be given to senior citizen homeowners in redevelopment areas, and that an economic development program for minorities be established.

Other comments about the revenue sharing funds included a suggestion to fix up Bowman-Gray Stadium and to use some of the money for the junior league hockey team to rent the coliseum.

The Aldermen defeated a proposal to designate as historic properties eleven buildings recommended by the Historic Properties Commission. The plan, which would have the assessed tax value of the buildings and bar owners

for altering or tearing down the structure without notifying the commission, was defeated in a 5-3 vote, with all three black aldermen voting against the plan.

Jon DeVries, who also voted against the plan, suggested that an in-depth study be made of all historic properties before granting any tax breaks.

The aldermen also heard four speakers from the Citizens Against Per-

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Board Discusses Code Of Ethics

by Yvette McCullough
Staff Reporter

"I was elected by the citizens of Forsyth County and should answer to the citizens of Forsyth County," Dr. James Sheppard, a school board member said Monday night at the Board of Education meeting concerning the proposed Code of Ethics for the school board members.

The Code of Ethics involves the rules pertaining to community and individual responsibility, decision making responsibility, responsibility to the superintendent and staff, and responsibility of confidentiality.

Monday night's school board meeting was a briefing session which was held to inform the public of proposed policies, but action won't be taken until the Monday

February 27th meeting. In other matters of business a protest was voiced by residents in the Rural Hall School District, Artis Bohannon was recommended for promotion to assistant principal at Mineral Springs, and student accident insurance and the school calendar were discussed.

The Rural Hall Protest was in reference to the proposed K-6 school plan. Frank Wells, a spokesman for the group said that they are protesting because in the proposed plan, the districts surrounding the Rural Hall school district will be K-6 and Rural Hall will still be K-4. Under the proposed plan children attending Rural Hall for grades K-4 will be attending Fairview Intermediate for grades 5-6.

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