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Pint-Sized Pianist

Five-year-old Letisha Jones was the youngest performer during a "jam session" in Winston-Salem State University's Kenneth R. Williams Auditorium. The event showcased local music students and professional musicians. The story appears on the Second Front (photo by James Parker).

one main concern. The two are part of a team conducting a countywide economic growth analysis survey for the Real Estate Research Corp.

"Our impression is that there's a lot of land out there that needs developing," said team manager David Crane of CBT/Crane Associates of Boston. "The question is: for what kind of market?"

opinion after observing the area as part of a countywide

in East Winston and the success of projects like the East Winston Shopping Center, two of the consultants said

last week that the predominantly black community still

has untapped economic potential and named housing as

Noting economic progress that has already taken place

communty in seeing some type of additional housing,

& Partners architectual firm in Charlotte, listed several other concerns for the area that were developed in the

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-- Consultant David Crane

first phase of a \$250,000 economic analysis and survey of Winston-Salem communities.

"I think that there are clearly some implications (for improvement) in terms of boulevards and roadways that would tie East Winston in more with the downtown area," Morgan said.

This, he said, would physically link East Winston with Crane said there is an interest among residents in the the downtown area. There currently is no major street

Please see name 3

Forsyth Court Volunteers Seek To Point Youth In Right Direction

By RUTHELL HOWARD Staff Writer

The penal system usually gets youth after they have become too involved in crime.

But Forsyth Court Volunteers wants them before they get that far.

A non-profit operation that was founded in 1974 at the request of a local district court judge and probation official, the organization is designed to steer youth away from a life of crime mainly through a buddy system that provides a problem youth with an adult friend.

"Primarily, we are a one-on-one program that recruits, trains and screens adult volunteers to work one-on-one with adjudicated youth, youth in trouble or who have been in trouble, youth at risk and children that are ungovernable or undisciplined at home," says James Garrett, 25, a coordinator who has worked with the program since April of 1982.

Tom Kenley, 30, who began working with the program in 1981, explains that volunteers commit themselves to spend four hours a week with their young friends. Through forming a friendship, the volunteer hopes to help the youngster begin a productive lifestyle.

"The concept works," Kenley says. "In fact, the National Council of Juvenile Judges has deemed the single most important experience (for a problem child) a oneon-one relationship with an adult."

Both Kenly and Garrett are optimistic about the future of the young organization, but they are also concerned about the lack of black male volunteers to work with black youth.

"Out of last year's 350 youngsters petitioned for delinquent acts, 37 percent were black males," Garrett says.

The program presently has 40 youth who are unmatched, and because there is a shortage of black males, some black males ages seven to nine are matched with females 30 or older in a mother-son type of relationship.

The organization also makes interracial matches, which both Garrett and Kenley say work very well.

Youth who want to participate in the program are often referred to the volunteers by the court system, probation officers and social workers or a family member. Each child decides if he wants a particular volunteer for a friend and matches are then made based on the background of each party.

Volunteers for the program must be at least 18 years old, have access to reliable transportation, not be on probation or parole and be willing to commit themselves to at least one year of service.

After filling out an application, the volunteers go through a training session with program staff, a district court judge, a child court counselor and an intake counselor, who often decides when a child has committed an offense that should go to court.

New recruits also discuss the program with experienced volunteers and youth who have been through the program. Garrett speculates there is a shortage of black male volunteers because they may fail to realize there is a need for their services. "If black males were to see the need, then a lot more would become involved," He says. "They need to know what's going on with the youth, especially the black youth, in our courts."

Aside from one-on-one companionship, the orgaffization gives volunteers an opportunity to help youth in other capacities through its two other components: a "Resource Pool" program and a "Work And Earn It" Please see page 3



Tom Kenley (left) and James Garrett are coordinators for the Forsyth Court Volunteers, an organization whose aim is to provide assistance to youth offenders and to help keep potential young criminals out of the penal system (photo by James Parker).

Nurses' Group Still Growing

Chapel Hill-Dorothy Cox remembers how inspiring role models can be.

As a graduate student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing, Cox attended the National Black Nurses Association Convention in 1978 and was impressed by the accomplishments of the people she met.

"Those black role models formed a burning image in my mind," she recalled, "and I want to help create that inspiration for others."

Cox, a family nurse practitioner with Dr. Sampson Harrell of Durham, has organized the Central Carolina chapter of the National Black Nurses Association, and she said she hopes its members will serve as role models for blacks who are interested in becoming nurses and for black nurses who wish to further their education. The chapter, only the second in North Carolina, includes nurses from Durham, Orange and Person counties. Cox said it is working to promote professional Please see page 3

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Next Week:

Next week's edition examines herpes and its effects on the black community locally, including why the disease appears to be more prevalent among whites, even though it may not be.

Also, columnist Tony Brown, who obviously is no fan of Jesse Jackson, gives us more reasons he feels the leader of Operation PUSH is not a viable presidential candidate.

Also next issue:

· John H. Johnson Jr., publisher of Ebony, launches a new television show.

Black churches are examined editorially.

· Some of Washington, D.C.'s best young

Catch-22

Apartments Provide Headaches For Church And Tenants

By ROBIN ADAMS Staff Writer

In a display of anger over a \$35 rent increase, tenants of New Bethel Apartments staged an emotion-filled protest in front of the complex last week.

But the situation at New Bethel goes beyond the tenants' anger; both management and the apartments' owners appear to have serious problems of their own.

The tenants feel that the rent increase isn't justified because the apartments need considerable maintenance work.

"We are not going to calm down until they do

ment to \$167 and a four-bedroom apartment to \$171.

According to Harris, the apartments are in very poor condition. She and many other tenants voiced a number of complaints, including faulty electrical wiring, leaky roofs, problems with rats and roaches and the lack of a fire prevention system.

"They promise us things are going to be done on paper, but they never get done," Harris charged. "They have made a lot of idle promises."

She added: "I am not rich and I don't pretend to be. I need something to show for the extra \$35 I am going to have to pay."

The apartments' management says its problems are

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basketball players tackle Winston's best. And much, much more.

based on economics, too, but are a bit more complex something to our apartments," said Betty Harris, spokesman for the tenants. than those of the tenants. Reginald T. McLaurin, resident manager of the apart-Harris said that if the tenants are given assurances that ments for the past two years, said that the tenants are exthe necessary maintenance work will be done, they will periencing "rent shock." agree to pay the rent increase. The \$35 increase raises the "They are complaining about repairs not being made monthly rent for a one-bedroom apartment to \$154, a Please see page 5 two-bedroom apartment to \$161, a three-bedroom apart-