



## Poverty From Page A4

tightened, too, to exclude the working poor and to limit participation not just to the poor, but only to the poorest of the poor.

For blacks, poverty jumped an astounding 44 percent in the three-year period when including benefits, and 15 percent when including only cash income.

That tells us a number of things: first, that the federal

program cuts have had a disproportionate impact on blacks and on black families; and second, that the numbers juggling backfired.

We're still waiting for the policy-makers to re-enter the real world, where hunger and poverty are on their shameful rise and where policies to deal with that problem are in the deep freeze.

### Still Excited

Evelyn Terry, who placed second in the school board race in the May 8th primary, says she's excited about having fared so well. "It's tough being a candidate," she says, but also says that she's willing to weather the storm and is gearing up for the general election in November (photo by James Parker).

## Terry: Planning for a tough fight come November

By ROBIN ADAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

Evelyn Terry couldn't eat last Tuesday -- her stomach was full of butterflies.

A week later, Terry, a Democrat who won the right to vie for one of the four seats available on the city-county school board, is still nervous, but happy.

"It's difficult being a candidate," Terry said last week while taking a break from work at Winston-Salem State University. "When you're it, you get a little itchy."

Though Terry managed an impressive second-place finish in a Democratic primary jammed with 12 candidates, she's the first to say that the longest, rockiest road to travel lies ahead.

"Right now, I'm sort of pulling in the troops and assessing what we have done and determining how we can go back," Terry said. "This will be difficult, but nothing worthwhile is easy."

"A general election in a presidential election year normally has a heavy voter turnout. But I'm not afraid of that. It shows to me that democracy is working. Being a candidate, you have to determine where your strength lies and I believe I have a broad base of support."

According to the precinct-by-precinct election returns, Terry is right.

She garnered 14,070 votes, second only to incumbent John Wood, and her support in the primary was indeed broad-based, coming in strong doses from predominantly black and white precincts. That support and a desire to bring her ideas and insight -- particularly into how modern technology can play a larger role in education -- to the school board are what Terry said prompted her to run in the countywide election in the first place.

Still, why would the 40-year-old mother of a 22-month-old son with a promising career decide to run for any public office?

"The desire to serve and the obvious confidence in me shown by others who were concerned that I step out," said Terry, who helped coordinate Mazie Woodruff's successful campaign for county commissioner in 1982. "I've been a behind-the-scenes person for a long time. There are those who have encouraged me to step out from behind the curtain."

"I admit that it's scary being out here," Terry added in her routinely soft-spoken manner. "But it's fun and it's important to be of service to your community. If you have the skills, ability and talent, it's important that you step out."

The most obvious reason she decided to run, said Terry, is that she's qualified to do the job.

"I am somewhere between listening and understanding," she said. "I'm firm, yet flexible for the good of order. I will stick to my point until proven differently or incorrectly. I won't bend too easily if I think I'm right."

Like any new candidate, Terry brims with ideas on what changes need to be made to improve the local educational system.

"I'm convinced that, in this changing society, we are going to have to look at the entire system of education with a very critical eye on preparing our young people for a future that is very unlike that which we have come out of," she said. "It's time to re-examine the entire educational system."

"One of the positions I have taken is that public education must be geared toward educating all the students. We must use criteria that motivate and will make all students learn."

Such drastic changes would need the support of the entire school system and the community, Terry said, but they must be implemented.

"This business of graduating high school seniors as unintelligent people has got to cease," Terry said. "Any person who does not have congenital brain damage has got to learn. We can't be afraid to change and throw out that

which is not working. "We are now at a point of stagnation, of keeping things because they have been around for a long time."

Whenever Terry speaks of her ideas, she becomes almost like a small child with a new toy, eager to get the first couple of plays out of it. But unlike that small child, Terry said, she will not become bored with the toy when the newness wears off.

"I have a thirst for knowledge," she said. "Mediocrity bores me. Redundancy bores me. But it will take an awful lot to kill my spirit. I pride myself on being able to put up with almost anything. I went into this thing planning to row the whole length of the river and I'm ready."

One problem that has plagued the present school board is polarization. Before the death of Dr. William Sheppard, for whom Terry worked, board members Beaufort Bailey, John S. Holleman Jr., John Wood and Sheppard usually voted together and Marvin Margaret Calloway, Mary Margaret Lohr, Margaret Plemmons and Garlene Grogran did likewise.

But Terry said she'll vote her conscience.

"I'm definitely an individual," she said. "I can't be or I would hope not be get identified with any one faction or another, but as a person who would

listen to the issues and make the correct decision based on the facts presented."

With only six months left before Nov. 6's general election, Terry has her work cut out for her: a lot of neighborhoods to canvass, a lot of political forums to attend and a lot of speeches to make.

"I'm available. I'm willing. I want to serve," she says.



## Forum in memory of Malcolm X slated

By ROBIN ADAMS  
Chronicle Staff Writer

In the memory of Muslim activist Malcolm X, a forum entitled "Martin and Malcolm, Jesse and Farrakhan" will be held Friday night, May 18, at 7 p.m. at the Jesse Jackson campaign office at 112 W. Fourth St.

The program has a dual purpose, says organizer Clifton Graves, affirmative action officer at Winston-Salem State University and a *Chronicle* columnist.

"First, we will be celebrating Malcolm X's birthday, which is on May 19 (he would have been 59 years old) and, second, we will have a discussion on and analysis of the leadership styles and ideologies of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X and the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Minister Louis Farrakhan.

"Most people know Martin and Jesse, but they are not aware of Malcolm X and Farrakhan. In fact, a lot of people haven't heard of Farrakhan."

The forum will be held in a panel discussion format with audience participation. Serving on the panel will be Khalid Fattah, a member of the local Muslim community, the Rev. Carlton Eversley, pastor of Dellabrook Presbyterian Church, and North Ward Alderman Larry Little, Jackson's Forsyth County campaign coordinator.

While Jackson and the controversial Farrakhan, head of the predominantly black Nation of Islam, have embraced one another and become friends, King and Malcolm X stood for different ideologies.

King preached non-violence and love among the races while Malcolm X, who changed his name from Malcolm Little when he became a Muslim, preached the hatred of

whites during most of his adult life.

Had both not fallen victim to assassins' bullets, however, that might have changed in time, says Graves.

"Had Malcolm and Martin not been assassinated, we may have seen a coming together," Graves says. "And now, 15-20 years later, Farrakhan and Jesse have come together. And that has had an impact on the black community."

## Safety caps can prevent poisoning

Thousands of children are accidentally poisoned each year. Safety caps on medications have helped, but the cleaning and polishing solutions, drain cleaners, bleaches and other household chemicals so commonly stored under the sink are tempting to young ones, point out human development specialists at North Carolina State University.

Crawling children and toddlers are fascinated by the colorful containers that are right at their eye level. These common household chemicals are helpful, safe and effective when used as directed. But they can also be fatal to a child. It is the responsibility of adults to protect children from these substances by keeping them out of reach.

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