

God's word falls on deaf ears

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'We told you so ...' and 'The Braddy case: What manner of justice is this?'

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Ann Simmons (center) is joined by supporters: from left, Logan Burke, Vivian Burke, Larry Womble and Pat Hairston (photo by Angela Wright).

Simmons gets key endorsements

By ANGELA WRIGHT
Chronicle Managing Editor

Ann Simmons, Democrat candidate for Forsyth County Commission, picked up four key endorsements Saturday at a fund-raiser held in her behalf.

Aldermen Vivian Burke, Larry Womble and Patrick Hairston joined with state legislator Logan Burke in endorsing Simmons' candidacy.

"We want everyone to think of Ann Simmons as a person who is qualified and capable of holding the position she seeks," said Alderman Burke, who delivered opening remarks to the crowd gathered at Shiloh Baptist Church.

After Burke's remarks, Womble spoke to the group. He likened the need

for the Afro-American community to support Simmons' candidacy to the national movement in support of presidential candidate Jesse Jackson.

"It's a poor testament for us if we can look out for our own here in Forsyth County," he said. "We can't afford to give lukewarm support. We need people out front saying I am for Ann Simmons."

Womble said he supported Simmons because he knows "the kind of person she is."

"She has been involved and involved extensively," he said. "Ann is the type of person that has never said 'no' whenever there is some cause or issue to benefit the community."

Simmons, currently a Wachovia Bank service representative, has been a member of the Winston-Salem Human Relations Commission, the 3rd Vice Chair of the Mt. Sinai Precinct and chairman of the Neighborhood Community Watch. She served on the Coliseum Fact Finding Committee, the Citizens for a New Coliseum Committee and the Shaping Our Future Bond Referendum.

"She's sincere, she's dedicated and she's a hard worker," said Womble. "That's enough for me."

Simmons is one of two Afro-Americans seeking a seat on the County Commission. The other candidate is former county commissioner Mazie

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Community reacts

Health Dept. should stay in East Winston

By KENNETH RAYMOND
Chronicle Staff Writer

Patients who frequently visit the Forsyth County Public Health Department want the Board of County Commissioners to stick to the original plan and try to construct a new building in the East Winston area.

Architects reported in February that the proposed site, just north of the Health Center, was not large enough to meet the parking needs. The County Board of Health then recommended that the facility be built on the 9.8 acres of land along Knollwood Drive, which the county already owns.

Many of the patients said they believe that accessibility would be the main problem if the new facility were built along Knollwood Drive.

"I believe it would be a greater problem for older people," said 60-year-old Floyd Massey, who uses the department's blood pressure facilities. "It should stay around here."

LaVerne Samuel, 45, said that the proposed loca-

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Reigning at the Rodeo

Leila McBride, 1988 Miss Black America, will join Danny Glover and other celebrities at the Coors Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo in Raleigh April 30.

Martin to ban sale of rebel flag tags

By KENNETH RAYMOND
Chronicle Staff Writer

Gov. James G. Martin said Monday that he would order all state and privately contracted license plate agencies that sell the Confederate flag vanity plates to terminate sales immediately. Martin made the commitment during an open forum at Carl Russell Recreation Center last Monday.

The meeting was the last event on Martin's "Capitol for a Day" agenda. He said that he would order the end of the sales after Leon D. Kay, a local East Winston resident, expressed concern about the recent violence in high schools because of the flags being displayed. Martin agreed that selling the plates helped increase racial tension and also demonstrated "bad taste."

"The Confederate flag symbol has been causing some problems," he said. "The sales of the plates will be discontinued immediately."

There are 126 privately contracted offices in North Carolina and two state-owned agencies. The contract offices fall under the jurisdiction of the Division of Motor Vehicles, which is also a part of one of the governor's cabinet offices.

James Rhodes, director of the state license division, said he believes that the choice is in the

hands of the contract agents.

"I think the decision is in the hands of the people who run the place," he said. "But the situation surrounding the Confederate flag symbol has become very sensitive and whatever the governor says is what goes."

Workers at Forsyth County license plate agencies expressed a variety of feelings towards the governor's decision.



Martin

"I think it's a good decision," said Freddie Willis, who is white and the manager of the License Plate Agency at Parkway Plaza. "Some tension might decrease and there's no sense in selling something that's offensive to people anyway."

Glenda Williams, a title clerk at the agency in Rural Hall, said that the decision would not make any difference to them.

"We stopped selling those plates a while ago," she said.

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THE NATION'S NEWS

Compiled From AP Wire
Platform chairman comments

ANSING, Mich. -- Jesse Jackson may not want to over himself by skirmishing over the Democratic platform, said Michigan Gov. James Blanchard, the chairman of the party's platform committee. He denied speculation that Jackson will fight to leave his imprint on the party's blueprint.

Jackson campaign organizer Joel Ferguson said "Everybody running for president wants to influence the platform to some degree," but declined to comment further on Blanchard's remarks.

King papers debate continues

BOSTON -- The estate of Martin Luther King Jr. will vigorously fight Boston University's suit demanding that Coretta Scott King surrender all of her slain husband's papers to the school, her attorney said.

The university filed its response to Mrs. King's suit and also lodged a counterclaim asserting that it not only owned the 83,000 documents King gave to BU in 1964 and 1965 but also owned all other papers he wrote or collected.

Jazz guitarist shot by teens

LOS ANGELES -- Jazz guitarist Larry Carlton, who was shot in the neck at his home by two teenagers, was moved to an undisclosed hospital for security reasons as police puzzled over the motive for the attack.

The Grammy Award winner, was in stable condition in the new hospital.

Long pledges support to minority hiring, business

By ANGELA WRIGHT
Chronicle Managing Editor

Gerald Long said Monday that if he is elected to the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners, he would oppose the recent proposal to relocate the county's health center from its current site in East Winston to the proposed site near Knollwood Hall.

He said also that as County Commissioner he would do all within his power to aid minority businesses and to increase the numbers of minorities hired in professional capacities at the county level.

The chairman of R. J. Reynolds Tobacco USA said that he had taken the initiative about seven weeks ago to visit the Reynolds Health Center. He said that through several visits he had spent between 12 and 16 hours at the center familiarizing himself with the services, the racial break-down of clientele and talking with the people who work there and are serviced there.

"The priority should be to locate the health center within a reasonable proximity of the current location," said



"I have heard that the percentage of minorities hired at the county level is below what would be the norm."

-- Gerald Long, candidate for Forsyth County Board of Commissioners

Long. He said that he did not perceive the issue to be a racial one, noting that a sizable proportion of the people using the Reynolds Health Center were white. Rather, he said it was an issue of access for the people most in need of the health center's services.

In speaking of his support for

minority-owned businesses, Long said that he had been a strong supporter at R. J. Reynolds over the last five years and that the number of minorities doing business with R. J. Reynolds had increased by five percent.

He cautioned that in order to get a reasonable assessment of what more

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