

Library

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not be closed," Roberts said. "I have fought too many years to keep it open."

City of Winston-Salem Board of Alderman member Joycelyn Johnson said that this rumor is not new.

She served as a page in the library in 1965. The facility was erected since 1953. Johnson heard discussion about the closing of the library during the last Kwanzaa festivities.

"We must be honest with the community" she said.

"How much explanation has been done in the community about these changes," Womble asked. "It is with meetings like this that we find out about the issues. The Roundtable called this meeting."

Roberts admitted more explanation to the community could help to dispel rumors of closing the library.

"If your intention is to keep it open, what will be your recom-

mendation to the Board of County Commissioners," Womble said. "I worked on the library board. I know the kinds of games the library board plays. I remember when they did not fund East Winston for equipment and other activities."

Roberts said according to the book stock, budget and circulation statistics the Forsyth County Public Library compiled earlier this month, East Winston's circulation is a great deal less than its book stock. At the other 11 locations, books circulated at least five times. However, the book stock at East Winston branch did not circulate even once. Based on this information, Roberts said changes needed to be made.

Members of the audience said they often use the library, though they may not check out books. They use the facility for meetings, computer use, reading magazines and newspapers and other activities that would not be recorded on the book stock/circulation statistics. Others believed that it was unfair that the Carver Road

Library, which will open on Aug. 6, will be a full-service library, while the East Winston Branch will be converted into the Heritage Library, which will house only African American literature.

They argued youth closer to the East Winston Branch need access to a full service facility and the Carver Road Branch is not in walking distance.

Roberts said students will still be able to do research in the East Winston Branch. After the book collection is enhanced, the materials could be even more accessible. A similar situation happened at the Southside Library which was a traditional full-service library. The library is now features only popular fiction. Non-fiction books have been removed because they were less in demand.

"I wish to create a library similar to the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, a historical library," Roberts said. Located in New York, the Schomburg is one of the most widely used research facilities in the world devoted to the preservation



William "Bill" Roberts, executive director of Forsyth County Libraries, came to Black Leadership Roundtable Steering Committee Meeting last week to address the fate of the East Winston Library.

I strongly support SmartStart" but I do not want to have to choose between SmartStart and a library," he said. "Both of them are important."

Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin, deputy director of Forsyth County Libraries, said she was very proud of the Heritage branch.

"We are talking about enhancing the materials and making things better," she said. "We want to bring good programs to the East Ward."

Sprinkle-Hamlin distributed flyers on a storytelling festival that was held at the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History in Atlanta which featured storytellers Nancy Sims and LaDoris Bias-Davis, dancing and drumming by the Giwayan Mata African Dance Troup and Wee Williel, the African American Clown.

Dr. H. Rembert Malloy donated the plot of land on which the current library stands. The land was originally slated for a clinic. "This library means a lot to me," he said. "Very few of you were born when we donated that lot. I have lived in East Winston more than 40 years. This is my neigh-

borhood. I use the library, and I want to continue to see it used as a library. If it is kept as a library, I am with you. I just don't want it to be anything other than a library!"

Carter Cue of Winston-Salem State University wanted to make sure the library had the technological resources children need.

"Information does not necessarily come from books," she said. "Only a stone's throw away should be computers. They do need to be able to access information."

One parent, Kamaria Muntu, in the audience said she had lived in Atlanta and in Baltimore and had the opportunity to be exposed to a facility such as the proposed Heritage Library. She sees the branch as a wonderful opportunity to draw scholars from around the world to Winston-Salem to deliver lectures and to provide resources.

Rachel Jackson who has struggled for more than 20 years to keep the library effective is pleased with the proposal.

"This is a renewal," she said. She noted that in the name of urban renewal many things have been lost and destroyed, but this renewal is in the interest of serving children.

"These children will be served only if you are involved," she said. By collaborating with various organizations around the community, the library can be enhanced; Roundtable member Khalid Griggs agreed with the idea.

"This has the potential to build upon what exists. It would promote greater utility of existing and future services," he said.

Jackson

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At first, his request was turned down. But he wrote letters and made phone calls, asking Agriculture officials to reconsider. They did, ruling finally that the poor and sparsely populated suburb meets the agency's definition of a rural community after all, even though it is only 20 minutes from downtown Chicago.

The foul-smelling, murky waters of Ford Heights cast a crystal reflection of two politicians, a famous father and his up-and-coming son. They are as strikingly different as they are alike. Both have liberal missions, but they attack on different fronts. Jackson Sr. roams the sky with a searchlight, picking off the biggest targets he can find. His son the congressman hovers low to the ground, doing the little things that often go undetected by radar and have never been his father's strong suit.

"The inside political role is different than the outside prophetic role," Jackson Sr. said in an interview. "Jesse Jr. chooses to be on the inside and that's fine. It's a big country and there's lots of work to be done. There's a role to play for both."

A decade after the restless 36-year-old Jackson last occupied the nation's center stage with his quixotic presidential campaign, aides say the politician/talk show host/author/presidential adviser is struggling somewhat to remain relevant to a public that largely admires him, but has never really known what to do with him. As he tries to sharpen his public profile, his 33-year-old son is carving out his own political image with strokes that are smaller, and perhaps surer, than his father's.

Stylistically, they are alter egos, the preacher and a pragmatist, the outsider and the insider. While Jackson Sr. pickets Wall Street and Hollywood as a self-appointed apostle for affirmative action, the younger Jackson's crusade is for construction of a third regional airport in the Chicago suburbs to help the stalled economy in his district.

The jet-setting father buzzes all over the place - Africa one week, Appalachia the next. The son stays put, lobbying a House subcommittee to approve a regional airport or helping a poor suburb with an even poorer credit rating qualify for federal housing loans.

In his three years on Capitol Hill, Jackson Jr. has never missed a vote on the House floor. Among the accomplishments of which he is proudest is the installation of highway signs identifying a smattering of poor suburbs that have traditionally considered their communities neglected and overlooked.

The son, who as a teenager accompanied his famous father to Syria to retrieve a U.S. Navy pilot taken prisoner, now boasts of his dedication to his 600,000 constituents, an eclectic mix of blue-collar workers, poor blacks and well-off, conservative whites.

"Since I've been elected I've spent almost every weekend at home in my district," he declares.

And if the father's pursuit of publicity leaves him somewhat out of focus, a highly public figure at once the nation's conscience and its caricature, his son earns praise for being just the opposite. Since his election, he and his aides say, he has held only four news conferences and he rejects nearly 400 invitations to speak each week. While Jackson Sr. publicly calibrates his next move leading up to the 2000 election, his son repeatedly says he

has no interest in a nascent grassroots campaign to be drafted as a candidate for Chicago mayor.

"Jackson Sr. is a tree-shaker," said Robert Borsage, a former adviser, repeating an old Jackson line. "Jackson Jr. is a jelly-maker," added Borsage, co-director of the Campaign for America's Future, a Washington-based policy organization. "I think that's a conscious and subconscious decision on Junior's part. When you grow up under a big tree's shadow, you try to find the best spot for you to grow."

The comparisons invite Jackson Sr.'s critics to see in father and son a reverse version of Icarus and Daedalus: a father flying too high, burned up by the sun and his own ambition, while his son flies safely closer to the ground. But that, according to Borsage and others who know the two men, would be simplistic.

For one thing, they say, the younger Jackson encourages his father to soar and is perhaps the most outspoken advocate of a third presidential campaign. Mostly, they work in tandem. Aides for both say they are as close as a father and son can be.

"Certainly Congressman Jackson is more inclined to do things the way his generation does things - with computers, for instance," said Ron Lester, a Democratic pollster who worked on the younger Jackson's campaign and knows both father and son.

"But also, just like his father, he is a phenomenal campaigner. The special election was held on a snowy, cold day in March and still voters turned out to vote. They were energized and charged up by his candidacy. Now, who else do we know that has that kind of ability?"

memo.

Winston said minority broadcasters have been losing advertising dollars since the Federal Communications Commission lifted restrictions on how many stations an individual company could own, opening the way to large broadcast chains of dozens of stations.

Cathy Sandoval, director of the Office of Communications for Business Opportunities for the FCC, said many advertisers insist on a discount of 15 percent or up to 35 percent for ad time on stations aimed at minorities.

"And by contrast, if they are advertising to a low-income area in, say, West Virginia, there's no low-income discount that's demanded," said Sandoval.

The broadcasters group has already asked the FCC, the Justice Department and members of Congress to investigate the memo.

Sandoval said FCC Chairman William E. Kennard is expected to reply to that request in early June.

The Associated Press contributed to this article.

Black Radio

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bly a third party to spread bigotry and misinformation about our audience," said Winston.

A spokesman for Katz said the material cited from the memo was maliciously taken out of context with "an obvious goal of furthering a preconceived agenda."

Winston said the spring managers meeting, being held on the Caribbean island of St. Thomas, was the first chance the group had had to discuss the controversial

district has only a black majority in one county - Forsyth.

"The whole equation has changed," he said. "Before, we drew the district because (blacks) complained about not having fair representation and the Justice Department ordered the district redrawn. Now it's been sent back again because a judge called it 'ugly' and because there are too many blacks. Race wasn't the only factor that went into the 12th."

Ballance says legislators drew the district the way they did because of "common interests."

"If you look at it, most of the areas were all metropolitan areas," he said. "We felt like the people in the district had common interests because they all lived in urban areas. Now, people who live in the city are with people who live in largely rural areas. What kinds of things do they have in common?"

U.S. Representative Richard Burr, who represents the largely rural and white 5th Congressional District which now includes part of Forsyth County says commonality presents no problem.

"I'll continue to do what I've been doing," Burr said. "From the feedback I receive, what we're doing is pretty effective."

"The issues I push are ones that affect everyone. I spend 70 percent of my time in schools. And healthcare is the No. 1 challenge. Those are

issues that are crucial to everyone." While Burr is optimistic, other legislators are more hesitant.

"There are some of us who feel we would rather have remained in the 12th," said N.C. Rep. Warren Oldham. "The feeling is that they could approach Mel better than Richard Burr. Don't get me wrong, Richard is a fine representative, but people felt Mel understood their issues."

"Those African Americans in Forsyth County really do have little in common with the counties in the northwest part of the state. They have much more in common with the more urban areas like Mecklenburg County."

Whatever the problems of the new 12th, the fact remains that if it passes the scrutiny of both judges panel and the Justice Department, it will remain in effect only for the 1998 and 2000 elections.

After that, its fate may once again be up in the air. The old 12th was drawn to reflect the burgeoning black communities highlighted in the 1990 census. Lawmakers may face the challenge of redrawing it again come Census 2000.

"This is getting to be an ongoing thing," Ballance said. "It didn't take us a long time to draw it. It just takes a long time to get it through the process. I don't want to think about 2000 right now."

Newspaper

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take part in a special commission that will meet Tuesday to look into the crime, which he claims involves a conspiracy.

Johnson said none of the city investigators assigned to the case have been called to testify before that commission.

He said investigators are closer than they've been to solving the case, which he said is a priority.

"The firebombing is more than arson, it's a violation of the first amendment, of free speech," Johnson said.

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12th District

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still meanders, the new shorter, plumper 12th is only 36 percent black. The old one, which was created to ensure black representation, was 46 percent black.

And that, legislators say, presents a problem.

"One of the factors that caused us to draw the district like we did it the first time was incumbency protection," said N.C. Senator Frank Ballance. "There had not been an African American representative in almost 100 years. That was the reason we created the district. Now, African Americans could be left out in the cold again."

While most lawmakers agree U.S. Rep. Mel Watt, who currently represents the 12th "will have no problem" being reelected in a more white district, the next black candidate may be in for a tough campaign.

"I don't think it gives African Americans a chance to get elected in any district," said N.C. Representative Alma Adams. "I believe Mel will do fine because he's an incumbent, but what about the people after him. Not a lot of whites are going to vote for an African American."

The new plan also "dilutes" the black vote by shifting black voters in Guilford County and Statesville to other districts, Ballance said. The old map boasted black majorities in three of six counties. The new dis-

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