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PRICE 20c

17 Westside Neighborhoods To Support District Representation

Federal Court Rules Against Wilmington "10"

U.S. Magistrate Logan Howell in Raleigh, North Carolina has ruled that the recantation by Allen Hall of his perjured trial testimony against the Wilmington 10 cannot be accepted by the federal courts as part of an appeal process at this time. Howell also denied bail for the Wilmington 10. The Wilmington 10 are civil rights activists currently serving a total of 282 years.

The federal magistrate said that it is his opinion that Hall's charges that he had been coerced by the prosecution into lying against the "10" should be considered by the state courts first. Howell implied that the State of North Carolina should be allowed to defend itself against "many serious and vehement accusations that the courts of the state have been and are being deliberately oppressive to these petitioners (The Wilmington 10) and to all other members of their race who come before its courts."

The National Wilmington 10 Defense Committee feels, however, that this move is ironic and appalling. Committee spokesperson, Ms. Imani Kazana, points out that D.A. Allen Cobb who will represent the state in the "post conviction process" is one of the individuals named by Hall as having participated in coercing him to lie in the 1972 trial. "We can't possibly get a fair hearing under these circumstances," said Ms. Kazana.

She continued, "I do want to make it clear, however, that the defense effort is disappointed but not demoralized. This negative decision coupled with the admittance by the Wilmington police department that they did in fact buy another witness Eric Junious a mini-bike shortly after his 1972 testimony may help us to convince Governor James Hunt to take executive action."

She pointed out that last week Governor Hunt did order his staff to conduct a full investigation of this case following the Defense Committee's plea for a pardon of innocence.

CMS Students Get Two-Day Holiday

School will be out for the students in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system Thursday and Friday, with mid-term examinations earlier in the week to enable teachers and administrators to work on the semester grades.

According to Ms. Shirley Johnson, a member of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system, it is essential that teachers have that time to work on the student's grades. "If the teachers do not have the opportunity to do the work," Ms. Johnson said, "it will take longer to compute the grades."

Although most of the grades in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system are done by computer, many are still being done by hand, which takes even longer. Also preparing student records, cumulative records, next semester schedules, and a lot of other work is in store for the teachers during that period.

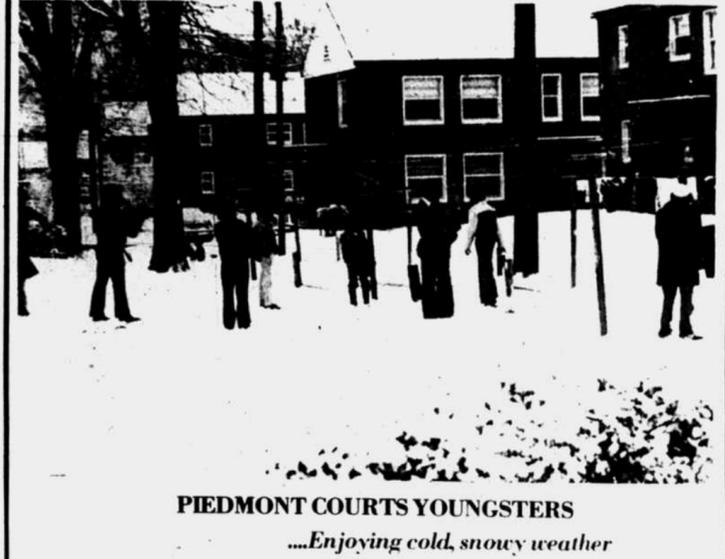
Harvey Gantt To Receive Distinguished Service Award

By Melvetta Wright
Post Staff Writer
Harvey B. Gantt, City Council member, will be presented with the Distinguished Service Award by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Jaycees at their annual Distinguished Service Award-Ten Outstanding Young Men Awards banquet Thursday, January 27 at the Century Motel.

Each year the Jaycees select 10 young men between the ages of 18 and 35, based on evidence of leadership ability, contributions to the community, and integrity of personal character, and presents one of them with the Distinguished Service Award.

Currently serving his second term on the City Council, Gantt has served as a member of the board of many civic organizations, including the UNCC Urban Institute Advisory Board, the Social Planning Council of the United Community Services, the Charlotte Local Business Development Organization, the Mecklenburg Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and the Charlotte Drug Education Center.

Gantt, professionally an architect and a partner of the firm of Gantt, Huberman Associates, graduated with honors from Clemson University with a B.A. in Architecture and received his Master's de-



PIEDMONT COURTS YOUNGSTERS
...Enjoying cold, snowy weather

Historic Breakthrough Charlotteans Serve Peanut Punch At Carter's Inaugural

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr.
Post Executive Editor
Charlotteans Al Midgette and Ernie Alford have gained what appears to be a significant breakthrough in their efforts to market a nonalcoholic "peanut punch."

The two men attracted considerable attention when they cheerfully served the beverage to many of the 5,000 guests at the Maryland Pre-Inaugural Reception honoring Jimmy Carter, Walter Mondale and their wives early last week. The historic event was held at the National Visitors Center in Washington, D.C.

Midgette, founder and president of Creative Enterprise and Associates, said the punch was developed by his mother, Katherine Midgette, and himself in the kitchen of the family home last fall. He said further that, along with two associates, his brother Carol and Ernie Alford, the firm has been attempting to get "some sample public reaction to the peanut punch" before making an all-out marketing effort of the product.

In addition to serving the Marylanders, Midgette and Alford poured their unique



Ernest Alford
...Peanut punch maker

beverage at other Presidential Inaugural activities attended by approximately 35,000 people. Significant among these was serving their punch at the Iowa State Pre-Inaugural Reception attended by 2,000 people and sponsored by millionaire corn farmer Elmer Carlton. Midgette and Alford met Carlton through a number of other contacts that they made during a week long stay in the nation's capital to promote their product during the Inaugural festivities.

Carlton, highly impressed with the taste of the peanut punch, has offered to assist Midgette and his associates in marketing the product on a nationwide scale. Midgette noted that they held two meet-

ings with Carlton's attorneys, and, following a thorough review of the matter with his own attorney's, may sign contracts to market their product in cooperation with Carlton.

In a related development, Midgette said a representative of the Mexican government expressed interest in having him and Alford visit Mexico for the purpose of exploring the idea of building a production plant for the punch. The Mexican official said, according to Midgette, "peanuts equal liberty" in my country.

Midgette said also a number of local people were behind their effort to visit Washington, D.C. for the purpose of contacting people about the peanut punch. Rowe Motley, a former Mecklenburg County Commissioner and prominent local Democratic Party activist, put Midgette and his associates in contact with Frank Valcheck, coordinator of the Presidential Inaugural Catering Services. Valcheck assisted Midgette and Alford in getting a contract for service with Joseph M. O'Connell, coordinator of the Maryland Pre-Inaugural Reception.

E.W. Waddell, recently retired official of the City of Charlotte's Community Development Department, has given Midgette and his associates considerable technical assistance and financed the Midgette-Alford trip to Washington, D.C.

Peanut punch tasters at this and other functions where Midgette and Alford served included noted political personalities, corporate executives and news media people. The governor of Tennessee, the mayor of Trenton, N.J. an executive of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's consumer affairs dept., a vice president of Shasta soft drink company and two dairy companies expressed more than a casual taster's interest in the punch.

In addition, Midgette and Alford reported that they were interviewed by the Associated Press, Mutual Black Network, two Iowa radio stations, the New York "Village Voice" newspaper and a representative of ten radio stations

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Committee To Coordinate Campaign

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr.
Post Executive Editor

A group of largely 17 Westside Charlotte neighborhoods has organized for the purpose of convincing the public during the next three months of the reasons why we need district representation.

At a meeting held early last week in a Westside bank, a six member committee was elected to coordinate the 3-month campaign ending on April 19 when a referendum vote will be held to decide the fate of district representation. Elected to the steering and coordinating committee were: Barbara Mattingly of Coventry Woods, Eleanor Washington of University Park, Nick Nicolai of Grove Park, Rhonda Ennis of Neighborhood United, and John Dunn of Derita-Statesville. Sam H. Smith, an advisor for the Westside Community Organization, will serve as chairman of the committee.

With limited funds and a lot of energy, the 6-member committee will spearhead a drive to educate the electorate about the "7-4" plan for city governance. This plan would create a council composed of seven representatives from seven specific geographic areas of the city and four at-large representatives.

Plans call for the spearhead committee to develop an educational brochure for wide distribution and to solicit the assistance of Dr. William McCoy, a political science professor of UNCC and author of the "7-4" districting plan.

Last week the city planning department sent to the City Council two plans, each involving seven election districts. One of the plans will be part of a public referendum vote on districting on April 19.

The most distinct identifiable characteristics about the two 7-district plans are that one reportedly will have one largely black district and would group Dilworth, Cotswood, Myers Park and downtown Charlotte into one central district.

The other plan calls for grouping similar socio-economic and housing patterns or neighborhoods into districts. This plan supposedly would create two primarily black districts.

Pressure from a citizens' petition headed by Sam H. Smith and the Westside Community Organization has forced the city to place the issue on the April 19 referendum ballot. By mid-February the Council must decide which of the two plans will be placed on the ballot.

Mrs. Eleanor Washington, the University Park representative on the six-member steering committee, said "in echoing what committee chairman Sam Smith has commented on, we hope to get full participation from the 17 neighborhoods in educating the public about the 7-4 plan.

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AMIALE ELMA LYNCH
...Rockingham native

Ms. Elma Lynch Is Beauty Of The Week

By Melvetta Wright
Post Staff Writer
Determined, ambitious and amiable are only a few adjectives that are used to describe Sagittarians. They also apply to this week's Beauty, Ms. Elma M. Lynch, who happens to have been born under the wintry sign of Sagittarius.

Ms. Lynch, a Rockingham native, is presently a Charlotte resident who lives at 914 Capps Hill Mine Road.

The determination in Ms. Lynch's personality can be seen through her career as a student. Now a beautician, Ms. Lynch first started school in 1970, but was unable to finish her training until June, 1976. But finish she did, because Ms. Lynch graduated an outstanding student from Plaza School of Beauty Culture, Inc. Upon graduation, she received certificates for her performances in hair relaxing, hair cutting, and color highlighting.

Presently employed at Penie's Beauty Salon (and formerly of Hair Original Beauty Boutique), Ms. Lynch said that she specializes in removing unwanted facial and body hair.

Ms. Lynch, who is definitely qualified to choose her own title, prefers to be called a hair stylist instead of a beautician.

"I feel that I am more than a beautician," she said. "I'm a hair stylist. I don't like to just perm and comb out someone's hair. I like to style the hair to fit the face and occasion."

Born November 29, twenty-nine years ago, Ms. Lynch is the mother of two children - Jerry, 6, and Bidgetta, 11. And it seems that she is indeed an exciting mother to have. She enjoys bowling, stamp collecting, bike riding and, most important of all, playing Bingo.

Because of her being born under the sign of Sagittarius, Ms. Lynch is a born leader, "sociable, frank, likes doing things that are exciting, and enjoys travelling."

She attends Salem Baptist Church where Rev. Bostic is the pastor, but stresses that she is not yet a member.



Only an intelligent man has sense enough to recognize his own limitations.