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"10", "3" Supporters To Meet



HEW To Limit Medicaid Reimbursements

Payments Limited To Lowest Price

HEW Wednesday announced it will limit Medicaid reimbursement for several laboratory tests to their lowest locally available prices.

This step represents the second stage of an anti-inflation initiative begun by HEW Secretary Joseph A. Califano, Jr., last year.

In July, Secretary Califano published new regulations limiting Medicare and Medicaid payments for laboratory tests and for medical equipment to the lowest price that is widely available for the same quality in a particular community. Initially, HEW applied this limit to the twelve laboratory tests most widely used by Medicare and Medicaid patients and to the most commonly purchased pieces of medical equipment—hospital beds and wheelchairs.

The proposal published Wednesday in the Federal Register for public comment would add seven additional laboratory tests to the list of tests for which Medicaid will limit payments to the lowest price at which they are locally available. These seven tests are frequently paid for by Medicaid but not by Medicare.

The tests are: (1) Sickling of Red Blood Cells; (2) Hemoglobin, Electrophoresis; (3) Microscopic Examination, Stain for Bacteria, (include-in Smear for Gonococcus), Fungi, Ova and Parasites, Any Source; (4) Heterophil Antibodies; Screening; (5) Lead, Blood, Quantitative; (6) Iron, Serum, Automated; (7) Pregnancy Test.

"The list we are proposing today extends our earlier anti-inflation payment limits to items and services that are provided only under Medicaid," said HCFA Administrator Leonard D. Schaeffer. "We feel that substantial savings can be achieved by stimulating competition among suppliers in the medical field.

Periodically, HCFA will review other items and services and may propose that Medicare and Medicaid payment for them also be limited to the lowest price available.

With West Germany

Isaac Heard Jr. Chosen For

Minority Involvement Exchange

Isaac Heard Jr., Transportation Planner, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission, Charlotte, North Carolina, has been selected to participate in a professional ethnic exchange between the United States and Germany. He was chosen from among applicants from throughout the United States to be a member of the 1979 exchange visitation. This will be the third annual visit coordinated by Sister Cities International. The group of ten academic, municipal and professional leaders from the United States will visit the Republic of West Germany beginning January 25, 1979 to study professional minority involvement in West German society to gain an insight into how West Germany is attempting to solve its



Dr. Helen Othow, sister of Wilmington 10 leader Ben Chavis, and Charlotte 3 defendant T.J. Reddy, holding his daughter Nia. Supporters of the political prisoners will hold a conference in Charlotte on Feb. 3. (photo by Eileen Hanson)

President Carter Urges Support For Black Colleges

From the White House Press Special to the Post Washington—President Carter has directed all federal department and agency heads to "personally join me" in taking concerted measures to support and strengthen the nation's historically black colleges.

"I have repeatedly expressed my hope that the historically black colleges will be stronger when I leave office than when my Administration began," the President said in a memorandum to all executive departments and agencies. The President listed four steps that they should take to meet this objective:

—Review their agency's operations to ensure that historically black institutions are "being given a fair opportunity to participate in federal grant and contract programs" and that affirmative efforts are made to inform black colleges of opportunities available.

—Identify and eliminate unintended barriers that may have resulted in reduced participa-

tion in and benefits from federal programs by black colleges.

—Identify areas where historically black institutions can participate more effectively in an agency's activities. (For example: small research contracts or grants which can be let without competition and new or existing cooperative education programs which facilitate minority student access to federal employment).

—Establish goals and timetables for increased participation of historically black colleges in activities of the agencies, with these goals reflecting targets for increased expenditures beyond fiscal 1978 levels.

—Establish a forum for continuing consultation with representatives from historically black colleges and universities and plan visits and other efforts to familiarize agency staff with "the unique and indispensable resources at black colleges."

—Appoint a high-level liaison person to oversee these activities.

President Carter directed

that Louis Martin, Special Assistant for Minority Affairs, in cooperation with the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, monitor the implementation of his directive on a government-wide level.

"The continuing importance of historically black colleges and universities, not only to students but also to this nation's social, economic and educational life, cannot be over-estimated. This Administration is committed to enhancing their strength and prosperity," the President said.

Cong. Jim Martin

Named To Chair

Task Forces Key

Jim Martin of North Carolina is one of eight Republican Congressmen who have been named to chair key task forces of the House Republican Research Committee during the 96th Congress.

Statewide Conference Will Be Held Here February 3

by Eileen Hanson
A state-wide conference to support the Wilmington 10 and Charlotte 3 will be held in Charlotte Sat., Feb. 3. The conference is open to the public and will begin at 11 a.m. at University Park Baptist Church, 2156 Senior Drive.

The event is sponsored by People United for Justice, the N.C. Political Prisoners Committee and the Wilmington 10 Defense Committee. A \$2 registration fee will include lunch.

Ann Shephard Turner, one of the Wilmington 10, will open the conference. The afternoon workshops will develop strategies for involving community groups in the campaign to free the 13 prisoners. Workshops will focus on churches, unions, women's rights groups, students and political parties.

Highlight of the conference will be a special screening of a new film "Wilmington 10: U.S.A. 10,000." Made by Haile Gerima of Ethiopia and the Howard University Film Crew, the film documents the Wilmington 10 case. It took two years to make the feature-length film.

Over 4,000 people attended the world premiere in New York City in November. "It was a tremendous event. Ambassadors from all over the world were there to show their support for the Wilmington 10," said Dr. Helen Othow who attended the film premiere with her family. Dr. Othow is a sister of Rev. Ben Chavis and teaches at Johnson C. Smith University.

According to Othow, a Western North Carolina premiere of the film is planned for early March in Charlotte. One workshop at the Feb. 3 conference will be devoted to planning the event.

"It is especially important for people here in North Carolina to see this film," Othow said. "It gives a true picture of what really happened in Wilmington."

The Wilmington 10 were convicted of the 1971 burning of a Wilmington grocery. All except Ben Chavis are out on parole. However, supporters claim they are not free because of severe restrictions of their activities. Parolees can be returned to prison for the slightest infraction of the rules.

Chavis will be eligible for parole next January. He is currently in Hillsborough prison.

The Charlotte 3 were convicted in 1972 for burning the Lazy B Stables 4 years earlier. All three are back in prison after the Supreme Court refused to hear their case last October.

T.J. Reddy and Jim Grant are at Camp Green in Charlotte. Charles Parker is at Statesville prison. Supporters want Governor Jim Hunt to grant pardons of innocence to all 13 prisoners. All other legal channels have been exhausted.

Chavis and Grant helped organize Charlotte's first sanitation workers strike in 1970. Along with Parker and Reddy, they were also active in counseling black youth facing the Vietnam War draft.

Most of the Wilmington 10 were high school students at the time of their convictions. They were demanding better education and job training programs and better living conditions.

Luther King Jr.'s birthday when racial disturbances broke out in Wilmington.

Turner was a VISTA volunteer in Wilmington. Chavis was there on behalf of the United Church of Christ Commission on Racial Justice.

Revelations of perjured testimony, paid witnesses and intimidation of defense witnesses have led thousands of supporters and international organizations to believe the 13 prisoners were framed.

Amnesty International considers them prisoners of conscience. Catholic Bishops in See STATE on page 3



Rev. Coleman W. Kerry Jr., Commission chairman

M. L. King Commission

Sets Meeting

The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Commission will hold a Public Meeting Monday, January 29 at 7:30 p.m. at the Friendship Baptist Church, 3301 Beatties Ford Road.

The Commission was formed two years ago by former Mayor John Belk and the City Council, to determine what Charlotte could do to memorialize and honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for his outstanding contribution to American life.

The Commission proposed and it was approved that a statue of Dr. King would be erected in Marshall Park. Funds have been raised and the artist was selected and commissioned to proceed with the statue.

Dr. Selma Burke, a native North Carolinian, born and reared in Mooresville, and a Black sculptress was selected to do the statue. Dr. Burke sculptured the Roosevelt Dime.

To date, over \$30,000 has been raised. Fifteen thousand dollars has been paid to Dr. Burke and another \$20,000 is now due in order for the statue to move to the foundry.

Dr. Coleman W. Kerry Jr., the newly-elected chairman and Pastor of Friendship Baptist Church said, "This meeting is designed to report to the public and to give factual information on all aspects of the program."

Rev. Kerry continued, "to complete the project we will need \$40,000. With the cash on hand, the collecting of unpaid pledges, the response of the business community and the community at large, we should raise these funds shortly."

The commission is hopeful of announcing an unveiling date at the January 29 meeting. The public is invited.



Photo by Jerry Curry
BEAUTIFUL SHARON REID
... West Charlotte cheerleader

Sharon Reid Is Beauty Of Week

by Sherleen McKay
Post Staff Writer

Our beauty for this week is Sharon Reid, a senior and cheerleader at West Charlotte High School.

A cheerleader for two years, 17-years-old Sharon said excitedly, "it's nice, I have a good time getting to go to different schools and meeting other cheerleaders."

Sharon and her co-cheerleaders are preparing themselves for some stiff competition in a demonstration of their physical agility on March 27 at Carowinds with cheerleaders from 100 different schools across the country. To aid them in their practice, Sharon said, "we're watching films of our year before last cheerleaders who won third place in an out-of-state competition. They're real good!"

First prize winner will receive \$400. With such an incentive as that, there is bound to be cheerleading action at its very best.

Sharon said that she is thinking about going to N.C. Central or Bennett College in Greensboro. Though her plans are not altogether definite, she said that once in college she would probably major in child psychology.

But one thing she is definite about is that she will miss high school.

"I'm going to miss West Charlotte very much," Sharon said wistfully. "Most of all I'll miss my friends." She continued, "everybody's going to different schools."

At West Charlotte, Sharon is a member of the Senior Executive Council, Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Ski Club, Keyettes (a social service club that engages in fundraising projects to secure money for the school), and Modern Music Method (MMM), a singing club.

Sharon describes herself as a "very friendly person who is very talkative."

"A lot of people think I'm shy until they get to know me," she explained. "I like to make conversation."

She likes to listen to music and read mystery and romance stories in her spare

time. She also likes basketball and has promised herself that she would "try" to play tennis this summer.

Sharon said that the most exciting thing that has happened to her so far this school year was when she won her school's homecoming queen title. Though there were two queens, she said that it came as quite a surprise to her when her name was called out. "I was so nervous," she reminisced, "my escort had to calm me down."

Sharon cites her father as the strengthening factor in her life. "My father tries to help us (she has two brothers) to do the right things that will help us in the long run," she said admiringly. "He wants us to work hard and to make up our minds about what we want to do in life."

Sharon "hopes to make a lot of friends in the future." She intends to accomplish this feat by living out a simple, yet profound philosophy, "don't go through life being mad at the world," she concluded. "Treat everybody fair."

Sharon is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Reid.

New Discount

Food Store

Opens Here

by Susan Ellsworth
Post Staff Writer
An abundance of specials await consumers at a recently opened supermarket in the West Charlotte area.

Discount World Foods at 1608 West Boulevard near "Mother's Finest Restaurant" is offering specials in addition to regular discount prices. These specials began when the store opened on Jan. 24 and will be featured during its first two weeks of operation.

"Buy one and get one free," advises co-owner Roland C. Randolph.

After the promotion ends, Discount World Foods will continue to offer savings.

"Our prices are equal or below other grocery stores," Randolph said.

Low overhead, low rent and buying merchandise in large quantities enabled him and co-owner Glenda Laney to provide discount rates, explained Randolph.

Ms. Laney purchases foods wholesale by the truckload, and passes the savings on to the consumer, he continued.

Their medium sized supermarket, employing 10 people, offers food stamp redemption and delivery service.

The store will be open Monday through Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday, Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday it will be closed.

TURTLE-TALK



A handful of good life is better than a bushel of learning. Learning makes a good man better and an evil man worse.