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State-Wide Campaign Underway To Stop Natural Gas Decontrol

Extra Fuel Costs To Soar Over 700 Million Dollars

The North Carolina Campaign to Stop Natural Gas Decontrol, a coalition of over a dozen organizations and labor unions, last week announced their campaign to stop President Reagan's plans for decontrol of natural gas prices.

Speaking for the campaign, AFL-CIO President E. A. Britt emphasized that the issue of natural gas decontrol is not dead, despite Reagan's announced plans to back down from decontrol legislation.

"The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has made clear its plans to decontrol gas administratively, bypassing Congress altogether. This back-door decontrol will have virtually the same disastrous impact as legislative decontrol," Britt said.

"This action threatens to cost the people and industries of the state over \$700 million dollars in extra fuel costs between now and 1985," Britt warned. "This includes \$45 million in extra expenses for the textile industry and \$35 million for the stone-clay-glass industry."

"Congress has shown its understanding of the seriousness of this threat by resisting pressures for legislative decontrol, and by fighting Reagan's plans for back-door decontrol. We are today calling on North Carolina Congressmen to join the over 100 colleagues in the House who are standing up to Reagan by co-sponsoring the Dingell Resolution."

The Dingell Resolution (H. Res 371) was introduced by John Dingell, chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, on February 24th and opposes the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's attempts to speed up gas decontrol. The North Carolina campaign is concentrating on getting N.C. Congressmen to co-sponsor and support this resolution.

According to the campaign, administrative decontrol carries the double threat of higher inflation and lost jobs. Britt explained that businesses will be caught in a double bind as consumers have less money to spend on non-energy costs, and as business expenses also rise.

"To take steps which increase both unemployment and inflation at this time is an action which jeopardizes chances for economic recovery in the near future," Britt concluded.

The North Carolina State Grange is another of the many organizations which have announced opposition to Reagan's decontrol plans. Campaign coordinator Elisa Wolper explained that, "Accelerated decontrol will be causing nitrogen fertilizer and other costs to skyrocket, increasing the cost squeeze on farmers. Decontrol is estimated to cost our farmers in N.C. \$83 million in extra fertilizer costs along by 1985."

Jane Sharp, President of the Conservation Council of N.C. added, "Accelerating

the increase in gas prices will encourage gas users to switch to other energy sources. These other sources, oil, coal, electricity, pose greater dangers to our environment than gas. Decontrol is also likely to cause a switch back to imported oil by many users."

Jennifer Henderson of the Fayetteville-based N.C. Hunger Coalition expressed concern about the impact of gas decontrol on the state's over 300,000 residential users. "Most of these users will see their bills double at a time when too many individuals are already struggling to make ends meet."

The organizations which have announced their opposition to accelerated decontrol include: AFL-CIO, United Food & Commercial Workers Union Local 525, AFGE Local No. 3347, N.C. Joint Board Amalgamated Clothing & Textiles Workers, N.C. State Grange, N.C. Hunger Coalition, Carolina Action, N.C. Public Interest Research Group, N.C. Peoples Alliance, N.C. Senior Citizen Federation, Consumers of N.C., Association of Black Social Workers, Conservation Council of N.C., United Electrical Workers, and the N.C. League of Women Voters.



ENGAGING TAMARA OATES
...Dazzles everyone

Tamara Oates Is Beauty Of Week

By Teresa Burns
Post Staff Writer

Blossoming on the verge of a tantalizing angel and a muse of delight, our beauty Tamara Oates can dazzle anyone, anytime with a simple smile.

The daughter of Limuel and Juanita Oates our Independence High School senior is a young lady full of talents and the motivation to achieve.

Her attributes extend far beyond her intellect and pours over to include a humane nature filled with compassion and caring for others.

Ms. Oates was chosen as Miss Independence 1981-82 and selected semi-finalist for Senior Class Beauty.

But beauty was not the only qualification Ms. Oates had to meet. Her poise, charm and personality were also taken into consideration.

Our Capricorn beauty is outgoing and enjoys meeting people. "I also enjoy sewing, arts and crafts and ice skating," Ms. Oates admitted.

Behind those sparkling, congenial eyes of our beauty lies an intelligence Ms. Oates isn't about to waste. Her plans following high school are to attend Hampton Institute and study architecture.

"My ideal person is Harvey Gantt," Ms. Oates stated. "He was the first black in North Carolina to graduate from one of the major universities in architecture. He has done a lot for Charlotte."

Ms. Oates relaxes to the music of George Benson, one of her favorite entertainers.

She attends St. Paul Baptist Church where Rev. Paul Drummond is pastor. Other activities our beauty is involved in include the Fellowship Christian Athletes Association at Independence Senior High School. She is a member of her school's Spirit of 1982 Club; Head Cheerleader for the Varsity Cheerleading Squad; a member of the NAACP; and the Spanish Club.

She is also a member of the Leo Club Committee and the Civinettes Club.

Ms. Oates finds time to accomplish what she feels is important in her life. Being a member of several organizations has not hampered the quality of her contributions.

"I feel that one should live every day to the fullest. Go for what you can get out of life."

She is concerned for those who may not be able to accomplish their goals because of federal spending cut backs.

"Today high school seniors are faced with a dilemma," she began concerned.

"I would change President Reagan's policies in relation to financial aid for students and for others who have planned to attend college," she continued.

The time has come for Americans to take a good look at not only themselves but at the country as well. Our beauty has realized this and has pooled her strengths and tutored her weaknesses.

Public Hearing

The Charlotte Public Hearing this year will be Monday, April 19 at 1 p.m. in the Science Theatre of Discovery Place, 301 North Tryon Street, Charlotte.

Persons interested in speaking are requested to contact the Study Commission Office (919) 733-6077. Please have your requests in by April 2.

Speakers will be limited to 10 minutes and are to submit a one-page summary or outline of issues and concerns in writing by April 9.

Second Poor People March Planned

The second in a planned series of Poor People's Marches and Rallies will begin 3 p.m., March 27, in front of Johnson C. Smith University.

From the JCSU campus to West Charlotte High School, citizens protesting President Reagan's economic policies and supporting the extension of the Voting Rights Act will march.

"It is high time that poor people and black people stand up and demand an end to President Reagan's economic policies," Rev. James E. Barnett, one of the march's organizers, explained. "We cannot sit by waiting on ministers to lead us, most of them don't feel the effects of the cuts because poor black people have made life too good for them."

The first march drew only about 40 people. According to Rev. Barnett, "many people stated that they did not know about the march."

"Black ministers have been asked to personally encourage their members to join the march or support the rally," Rev. Barnett continued, adding, "This time members of People United For Justice will spend time going from door-to-door asking people for support."

"This march is not only for the poor people of America. Those who do not wish to march are asked to meet the marchers at the West Charlotte High School parking lot," Barnett concluded.

Anyone with questions about the march can call WGIV radio station Sunday night between 9-11.



Rev. William Jones Jr.
...To deliver sermon



Rev. William Lawrence
...Will lecture



Rev. H. S. Diggs
...Host pastor

Here Next Week

Nationally-Known Minister To Head Week-Long Services

By Dan Ketter
Post Staff Writer

Black clergymen of all denominations are banding together to hold a week-long Seminar-Preaching Service that will benefit clergy and laity.

It is hoped that the public would join with the minister each afternoon, beginning Monday and ending Thursday at Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church, 700 Sugar Creek Road West.

Rev. H. S. Diggs is pastor.

Rev. William Lawrence, Dean of Hood Theological Seminary of Salisbury, N.C., will lecture on Systematic Theology from 4:30-6 p.m., Rev. K. Mottz Rollins, pastor of St. Augustine Presbyterian Church of Bronx, N.Y., will lecture on Homiletics, nightly at 7:30 and Rev. William A. Jones Jr., pastor of Bethany Baptist Church of Brooklyn, N.Y., will deliver the sermons.

Rev. Jones received a B.A. degree from the University of Kentucky, he

also received a Bachelors of Divinity degree from Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa. Jones is the recipient of an honorary degree from Benedict College.

Rev. Jones has received many awards from various groups. He was named Man of the Year in 1967 by the Brooklyn Jaycees. In 1972 Jones received the Community Service Award presented to him by the Brooklyn Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma. Rev. Jones also received the Frederick Douglass Award presented by the New York Urban League.

Rev. Jones has preached throughout America, Canada, the Caribbean, Australia, England, Israel, India and Africa.

The Christian Ministers' Fellowship is composed of 143 ministers representing virtually every church denomination where Blacks hold membership. Rev. Bryant Clancy, pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, is president of the fellowship which meets every second Saturday. Secretary of the fellowship is Rev. Edward Newberry, pastor of Memorial United Presbyterian Church on the Salisbury District, serves as Treasurer.

Parents Voice Concern Over Financial Aid Changes

Special To The Post

The board of directors of the North Carolina State University Parents' Association, meeting on the campus Saturday voiced their concern over proposed Reagan budget pro-

posals which could drastically cut financial aid for undergraduates and eliminate aid for graduate students in the next two years.

The Parents' Association is made up of all parents of NCSU students. The board of directors consists of 40 parents (20 parent couples) from all over the state. James W. "Slug" Claiborne of Charlotte is Chairman of the Board and president of the association.

The directors heard a report on the financial aid outlook from Ron Butler, NCSU's associate dean for student affairs. In his report, presented earlier in February to the NCSU Board of Trustees, Butler said that the proposed budget changes could mean that by the 1983-84 academic year, NCSU support to students could be cut by as much as 50 percent.

Under the Reagan proposals, Pell Grants would be cut 40 percent, work-study programs would be cut 28 percent, and three federally-supported grant and loan programs would be eliminated entirely, Butler said.

In response to the proposed elimination of loans, Butler pointed out that NCSU has had a very favorable experience with the repayment of national defense education loans.

In his report to the group, Acting Chancellor Nash N. Winstead also commented on the financial aid proposals, noting that 40 percent of the students at the university receive financial aid, with 94 percent of black students in that category.

Mayfield Memorial To Celebrate Its 13th Year

Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church will begin its 13th Anniversary Saturday, March 20, with a reception being held in the Fellowship Hall from 7:30 p.m. until 9 p.m.

"It hardly seems possible that the Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church Fellowship having been organized just 13 short years ago, has come as far as they have," says Rev. H. S. Diggs. Meeting in the Oaklawn Elementary School auditorium, Dr. J. Arthur White, pastor of Shiloh Institutional Baptist Church, organized the group in March, 1969, when it was officially named Mayfield Memorial Baptist Church. The church members met in the Oaklawn Elementary School until January 1974. After that time they began worshiping in the formerly all-white Sugar Creek Baptist Church facility. Eight months later the membership voted to purchase the 10-year old church building.

With Rev. Diggs as the only pastor, Mayfield's membership roll has swol-



Dr. Noel C. Taylor
...Mayfield speaker

len to more than 2,000 and their properties are valued at more than \$4 million.

The church is affiliated with the Mt. Peace Missionary Union, Mecklenburg Baptist Association, Mecklenburg County Missionary Union, and the Baptist World Alliance.

Mayfield's special guest for the 13th Anniversary will be Rev. Dr. Noel C. Taylor, Mayor of Roanoke, Virginia, a position he has held since 1975. Dr. Taylor is also pastor of High Street Baptist Church of Roanoke, Virginia, where he has

served as pastor since 1961.

The public is cordially invited to attend the reception on Saturday evening; Sunday teaching at 9:30 a.m. and the corporate worship services which begins at 11 a.m.

Mayfield is located at 700 Sugar Creek Road West.

Talent Contest

The Charlotte Council of Alpha Pi Chi Sorority will hold its annual "Torchlighters Talent Contest" 5 p.m. Sunday, March 28 at the Greenville Center.

Local contestants Johnetta Berry; Andrei Grier; Elaine Jones; Briana Hunter; Enya Flack; Donnell Truesdale; Bridgett Pride; Donna Crawford; Fred Alexander; and Shelia Caldwell will exhibit their talents in the areas of dance, vocals, drama and instrument solos for first, second and third place cash prizes.

The first place winner will enter the North Carolina State Contest.

Talent coordinators for the contest include Geraldine Brandon and Ione Jones.



Barbara W. Skinner
...Assistant coordinator
Mrs. Skinner

To Work With Black Leaders

Barbara Williams-Skinner, former executive director of the Congressional Black Caucus, recently joined the staff of Tom Skinner Associates, Inc. (TSA). Mrs. Williams-Skinner is assistant coordinator of TSA leadership development and support work. She will work particularly among the nation's black leaders.

Tom Skinner Associates is a non-profit, interdenominational service and leadership evolution ministry. Formed in 1964, the group's primary goal is to raise a leadership generation committed to serving the needs of the poor.

The ministry works through youth programs and on black college campuses to develop and train future decision-makers. TSA offers personal and technical support to political, civil rights and public interest organizations.

A native Californian, Williams-Skinner served as Administrative Assistant to California Congressman Ronald Dellums.



All that I have seen teaches me to trust the creator for all I have not seen.