

# Reagan Wants To Lift Poor Into The Joy Of Independency?

The Reagan Administration has coined a new word form to describe what it wants to do for blacks—create “independency.”

Elizabeth H. Dole, special assistant to the president for public liaison, in a commencement address at Livingstone College, said that the Reagan Administration—through aid to black colleges, training programs, loans to minority businessmen and urban enterprise zones—wants to “lift the poor out of dependency into the joys of independency.”

Paraphrasing a line by black poet Langston Hughes, Mrs. Dole remarked, “My friends, too many Americans have tragic knowledge of dreams deferred.”

Mrs. Dole suggested that old government promises of a “better day ahead” had been made a “mockery” by the economic strain felt by black families as grocery bills escalated and small businesses folded, ending many job opportunities. Reagan’s economic program will improve life for blacks, she promised, by eliminating waste in government programs and providing avenues for “ambitious people” to succeed.

A native of Salisbury, Mrs. Dole was awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters degree at Livingstone’s commencement ceremonies.

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Governor Jim Hunt has appointed 14 members, including Marilea R. Grogan of Charlotte, to serve on the Council on Developmental Disabilities.

The council advises the Secretary of Human Resources on any needed changes in existing laws and services for disabled persons

By Mac Thrower

## Mac's Notes

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and promotes public awareness of developmental disabilities.

Ms. Grogan, a volunteer with the Goodwill Industries Board, the Exceptional Children’s Advocacy Council, and Parents and Professionals for Handicapped Children, is a reappointee to the council.

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Parks Helms, chairman of the Mecklenburg House delegation and one of the most respected members of the N.C. Legislature, may run for the state Attorney General’s Office in 1984.

Helms’ legislative experience includes work on several committees dealing with the state judicial system. The word is that he will seek to carry his concern about reform in the criminal justice system into the job of Attorney General—if the current Attorney General, Rufus Edmisten, decides, as many expect, to run for governor in ’84.

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Larry Cody of Monroe, N.C., has been named branch manager for the Charlotte office of Finance One of North Carolina, Inc., according

to Finance One President A. L. Teti.

Cody, who previously served as manager of the Wadesboro, N.C., office of Finance One, joined the company in 1980. He is a graduate of Spencer High and majored in psychology at Columbia College, both located in Columbia, Ga.

Finance One is a subsidiary of the New York-based Manufacturers Hanover Corporation, the country’s fourth largest financial institution.

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..Some potentially bad news for local taxpayers from the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners meeting at the Education Center on May 17: property taxes may go up again.

County Manager Gerald G. Fox presented a Recommended Budget and Work Program for the 1982-83 fiscal year totaling \$201,025,338 to fund County services for the year. This proposed budget would require a four cents increase in the County tax rate, from 89.7 cents to 83.7 cents, per \$100 assessed value. The Commissioners will review the

budget during the next several weeks and are slated to adopt the final budget and budget ordinance on June 21. A public hearing on the budget will be held at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 2, in the County Office Building, 720 East Fourth Street.

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By the way, regular local and state tax increases could be the wave of President Reagan’s “New Federalism” future.

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Since you might be paying more to maintain your property in Mecklenburg County, you may appre-

ciate that the County Commission wants you to be more aware of how to protect it. The Commission has proclaimed June as Burglary Prevention Month.

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Following the New Testament injunction to care for all men, including those who are imprisoned, Prison Fellowship, the International Christian Ministry to inmates, ex-offenders, and their families, held a three day seminar May 25-27 at Mecklenburg I, Advancement Center in Charlotte.

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