Infants focus of county efforts

Continued from page 1A

the death rate for babies born before the 37th week. Deaths among these infants account for two-thirds of all deaths.

"We have no idea when it's going to happen," said Keener. Nor do we know why women go into premature labor.'

According to Keener, doctors do have a few indicators of premature labor. Doctors know that women who had premature births are more apt to go into labor early a second time. Women who are young and uneducated also tend to have a higher incident of premature hirths.

According to Keener, this year's drop is the culminationof a five-year decline in the infant mortality rate as well as increased emphasis on the education of young women about prenatal and post natal care.

Keener points to several programs available to local women that have aided in dropping the mortality rate by providing counseling and education for poor women.

We have prenatal clinics, the well child clinics and child service coordination, as well as

Continued from page 1A

Commissioner Lloyd Scher

delivered the invocation in

which he said "let everyone

who enters this building

remember the person it is

named for, for he loved this

The commission voted unan-

imously in November to name the building after Walton.

Commissioner Linda McCall

challenged the vote in June

reconsidered because Walton

was convicted of assaulting an

By James Hannah

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WILBERFORCE, Ohio - Members of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus said Monday they were pleased with the direction of Central State University and the progress in repoyeting dormination.

progress in renovating dormitories at the financially trou-

State Sen. Jeff Johnson, president of the caucus, toured two of the dorms under

renovation and said it appears they will be ready for students when fall classes begin in

September.

Johnson, D-Cleveland, and other members of the caucus

also met privately with

bled school.

asking the decision to be

very special to me.

community.

things like WIC, which help ensure that children are given a

Featherston and, Jeffrey are perfect examples the system working for African American women, in spite of the odds.

"They (the county) have good program for women," said Featherston. "They teach you how to take care of your baby," said Featherston. "They teach you how to hold it and that babies need a lot of love.'

When Featherston, 19, found out that she was pregnant, she immediately went to the health

department to apply for aid.
For Featherston, the aid came in the form of classes that helped her understand exactly what was going on with her body and how to ensure the best health for her baby.

Featherston says the programs that were most beneficial to her dealt with proper nutrition for both mother and child.

"They taught me that I had to get my nutrients," said Featherston. "I had to get mine in order for the baby to be healthy."

According to Keener, education is one of the keys to ensuring a healthy birth, particularly

18-year-old male in a sexual

The vote was 5-4 not to

rescind the decision and split

along party lines. Ann Schrader, a Republican, voted

Helms pushed vigorously to

have the building named after Walton. He was happy with

"One of the things we need to be reminded of is that our

lives are filled with struggles,

Helms said. "The dedication of

that we call all succeed when

administrators, teachers and

students to hear their con-

cerns.
"We feel there is a sense of priorities we agree with and a sense of momentum,"

sense of momentum,"
Johnson said.
However, he said administrators acknowledged some
fear about debts the school

Central State, Ohio's only state-supported, traditionally black school, owes hundreds of thousands of dollars to ven-

dors and faces a budget deficit of \$8 million. Also, it is expect-ed to cost \$71 million to replace and renovate the school's nine dilapidated dor-

mitories, which the state closed for safety reasons. Meanwhile, Central State

State progress

the building is a reminder

Bob Walton honored

encounter in 1986.

with the Democrats.

the dedication.

for low income, young women.

Keener offered the following tips to parents.

• Have your child vaccinated

against whooping cough.
"Whopping cough has not been eradicated," said Keener. "Many parents are under the impression that the vaccination will make their children ill."

According to Keener the incidence of "poor outcomes" from having the vaccination is much lower than the incident of "poor outcomes" from not having the vaccination.

- · Ensure that your child has a safe sleeping position - on its back on a firm mattress
- Do not send baby to bed with a bottle.
- · Remember babies need special care until their first birth-

Keener also suggests that mothers that fall within the guidelines take advantage of local and federal parenting pro-

For Featherston and Jeffrey, the programs paid off.

we dedicate our lives to the

service of our fellow man."

ment director, was pleased

with the ceremony

Charlotte community develop-

"The family is very grateful

to the county, especially the

voted their conscious rather than politically," Walton said. "Brother Bob always said peo-ple who need people are the

luckiest people in the world.

today because of the support

spokeswoman Anna Taylor-Clarke said the school is try-ing to resolve an outstanding telephone bill of about \$939,000. She said Central State is negotiating with Ameritech and has not been threatened with a shutoff of service

Taylor-Clarke said some of the bill stemmed from "abuse of phone privileges" by stu-dents living in the dorms. She said a group of students used a special code that gave them access to long-distance ser-vice

appears the students had no intention of paying for the calls, but that the school is working to identify them so they can be charged.

vice. Taylor-Clarke

Bob Walton is the luckiest

the people have shown.

county commissioners who

Walton's brother, Jay,

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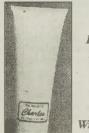
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