

# THE Northhampton County TIMES-NEWS

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## Soul City To Be Born In Nov. 9 Ceremonies

By LEE HANSLEY  
NEWS EDITOR

**SOUL CITY** — The first concrete and structural steel will begin rising out of the gently rolling Warren County countryside sometime after Nov. 9, the date announced this week for groundbreaking for Soultech I.

Soultech I is described as an industrial incubator facility and it is included in the first phase of development of this city that has been in the planning stages since 1968 when Asheville-born lawyer Floyd McKissick announced intentions for the black capitalist venture.

A groundbreaking and celebration will be held Nov. 9 at Soul City, 10 miles north of Henderson off U. S. 158-U. S. 1, and political, civil rights and economic development leaders from around the nation are scheduled to attend.

Gov. Jim Holshouser Jr. and Alvin J. Arnett, director of the Office of Economic Opportunity will join

developer McKissick in turning the first shovels of earth toward construction of the giant industrial facility. Mayor Johnny Ford of Tuskegee, Ala., is expected to be among the honored guests.

Soultech I is scheduled to provide employment for up to 350 persons in diversified industries. In announcing plans for the elaborate groundbreaking ceremony and accompanying parade, McKissick noted that creation of the first and only freestanding new community in the United States is underway.

The project is set for 1968. We received our federal guarantee commitment for \$14 million in June 1972 and our final approvals are a matter of days away.

"It is for this reason Nov. 9 has been selected for the groundbreaking," McKissick stated.

The annual banquet of Soul City Foundation, a charitable, non-profit organization, will be held in conjunction with the groundbreaking.

The banquet is set for 8 p.m. at Cameron Indoor Stadium on the Duke University campus the day of the groundbreaking, which is set for 11 a.m.

Present for Monday's announcement of the first major construction project were: Eva M. Clayton of Warrenton, executive director of the foundation; Gordon R. Carey of Washington, D. C., vice president of McKissick Enterprises, Inc.; Lorenzo E. Reid, executive director of HealthCo, Inc.; and Dr. Stanford A. Roman Jr., clinical director of HealthCo.



Drawing of Soultech I

Soultech I is conceived as an incubator structure or shell building which focuses on attracting industrial firms seeking to open markets in the new city.

It is designed to house a complete range of industrial and managerial facilities within a prototypical structure and expands the industrial work environment. The ultramodern facility will feature structure of steel, pre-cast concrete and solar gray glass. It will contain contemporary climate control.

The facility will contain 40,000 square feet of manufacturing and

processing space, plus 12,000 square feet of office space. There will be room for cafeteria and private dining facilities as well as meeting rooms and personnel training space.

The facility, revolutionary in design, will house up to four small industries providing jobs for up to 350 persons.

McKissick announced earlier this year plans that an electronics industry is locating in the industrial park of the new city that will employ 300.

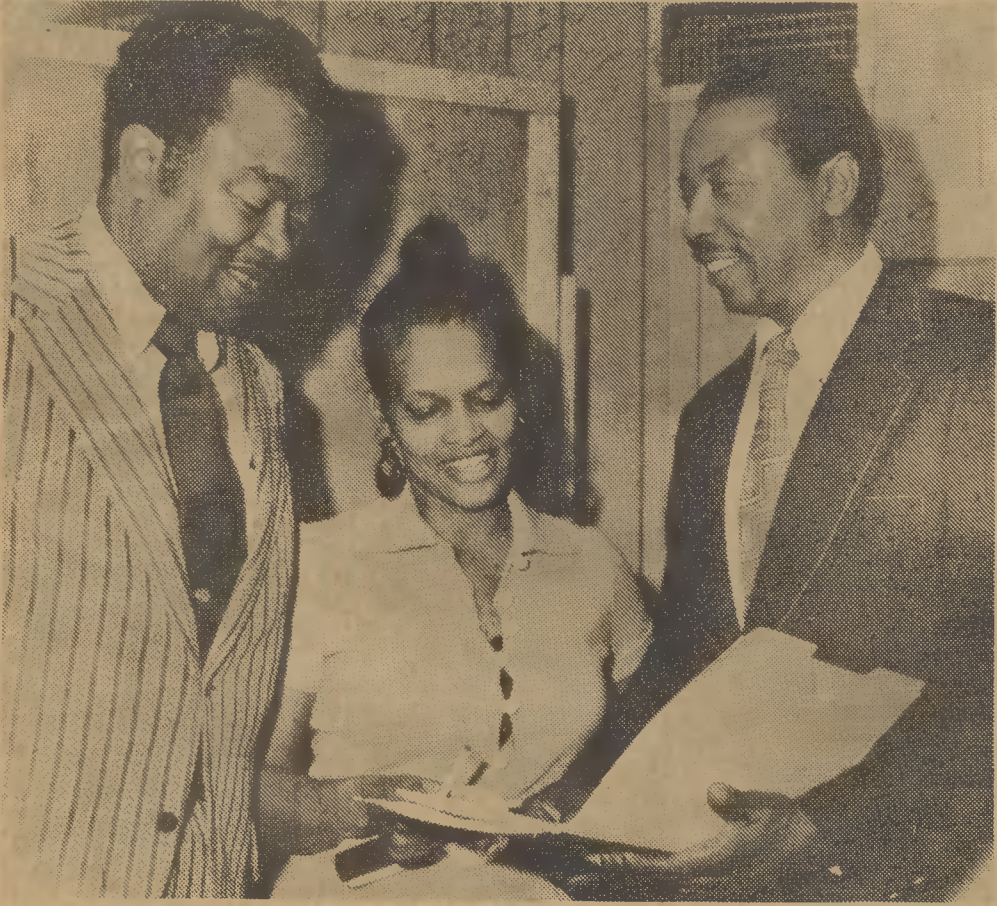
Soultech I is the first industrial facility to be developed in the proposed 928-acre industrial park. The park will ultimately provide jobs

for 8,200 workers.

The city will be served by a regional water supply serving Oxford-Henderson-Soul City. Offices and staff are now housed in trailers and in a building known as The Red Barn.

The only residents of the 5,000 acre city now are residing in mobile homes. Thirty-three persons live on property that is expected to boast a population of 50,000 in 30 years.

McKissick proposes a total planned community complete with homes and apartments, shopping centers and far-reaching recreational and cultural programs.



CITY LEADERS — Discussing plans for the Nov. 9 groundbreaking at Soul City are (from left) Willie Mason of Washington, D. C., groundbreaking coordinator; Evangeline Grant Redding of Tillery, cultural arts director of Soul City; and developer Floyd McKissick.

## Friday Is Deadline For Filing In Towns Elections

**JACKSON** — As the deadline for filing for political office in the Nov. 6 general election nears, candidates are flocking to county registrars to file for municipal offices in the county's nine municipalities.

Noon Friday is the filing deadline.

Filing activity has been heavy in Conway where four incumbent commissioners are being opposed by four newcomers to politics. Mayor Grady Martin is unopposed.

Seeking reelection to the town board are William M. Garriss, James G. Taylor, William D. Johnson and Sidney M. Edwards.

Challengers are B. Halie Bridgers, W. Jennings (Bill) Lassiter, Leo W. Barnes and L. G. Britt Jr. Incumbent Marion Lassiter has not filed.

Incumbent Mayor Firman Myrick is again seeking that town's highest office. Commissioners M. C. Dunlow, Cirven Burnette and Danny Copeland are challenged by Annette Claiborne, James David Allen and Ronnie Owens.

Commissioners Elton Odom and Charlie Bryant haven't filed for reelection.

In Seaboard Mayor H. M. Eastwood has filed for reelection and is unopposed.

Running for commission seats are Reid V. (Vicky) Harris II, Melvin F. Broadnax and Robert L. Wilson.

Dr. John Stanley is unopposed in the Woodland mayoral race. Seeking

commission seats there are Aubrey R. Smith, Kimsey King and W. C. Reese along with newcomer Mrs. James E. Lee.

In Garysburg's first municipal election in the town's history, Mayor W. E. Conwell is seeking that post again. He has no opposition.

Incumbent Commissioner Robert Collier and newcomer Edward (Bill) Lane are seeking commission seats.

Commissioners Marshall Lassiter and J. R. Ralley are running for reelection in Severn. Mayor R. D. Johnson has announced no intention to seek reelection and neither have Commissioners Richard

McGee, Ralph W. Britt and Hugo Umstead.

In the county's largest town, Rich Square, Joe Gordon, acting mayor and incumbent commissioner, has filed for a commission seat along with challengers Joe Majette and John Bowen III.

Commissioner James C. Outland is running for mayor of Rich Square. He is unchallenged.

Five commissioners being elected in Rich Square, Conway, Gaston, Severn and Garysburg. Four will be elected in Woodland and three in Jackson, Seaboard and Lasker.

## Pornography Issued Studied In RS

**RICH SQUARE** — An ordinance that would prohibit the sale of pornographic literature in Rich Square is under consideration by the board of commissioners here.

Rev. Wilburt Swaim, pastor of the Grace Baptist Church near Rich Square, approached the board and stated that the Red & White Store in Rich Square was selling literature of a "leud and obscene nature."

He called the magazines sold at the store "hard core pornography."

Swaim said all personal efforts to convince the store owner to stop selling the material under question were met with no success.

Swaim proposed a town ordinance based on most recent Supreme Court decisions governing the sale of obscene material. The court allows for communities to set their own standards and attempt to define pornography.

Commissioners Charles Warrack, Jimmy Outland and Gene Brown agreed with

Rev. Swaim and the board voted to seek copies of ordinances in other cities prior to adoption of a law in Rich Square.

In other matters, the board: —Failed to act on a letter of resignation from Mayor Grace Lambertson. Mayor Pro Tem Joe Gordon was named acting mayor, however.

—Agreed to allow the Storeys of Bryantown Road until Jan. 1 to have a foundation laid for a new house and until Jan. 1, 1975 to have the dwelling complete.

The family is now living in a mobile home in a non-conforming area and the board had previously given the family six months to get started on construction and the family missed the deadline.

—Voted to request David Wallace to return to the board meeting and again request the town to pay the cost of a possible trash collection error in which automotive parts may have been taken away by town sanitation crews.

—Agreed to pay \$578 to C. E. Lassiter Insurance Co. for workmen's compensation and \$1,448 in general liability.

—Authorized payment of \$202 to Pope Motors of Rich Square for repair work and a bill of \$298 submitted by R. P. Jones for rocks and sand was authorized paid.

—Discussed the possibility of requiring all future developers of subdivisions to install water and sewer service and open their own streets, relieving the town of that responsibility. The matter was tabled.

—Agreed to pay Town Clerk Gladys Futrell, town registrar, \$100 for serving in the position for two years and \$20 per day was approved as payment to election judges. Elections board members will receive \$40 compensation for working election day.

## Teacher Charged

**GARYSBURG** — A Garysburg Elementary School teacher has been indicted on charges of embezzling \$19,000 in antipoverty funds prior to his employment as a school teacher here.

Melvin Brooks Newton was named defendant in two true bills returned this week by a Wake County grand jury.

The bills charged Newton with taking the money while he was serving as director of the Pitt Action Committee, a local poverty organization in Greenville. The funds were distributed by the U.S. Labor Department.

Newton is a special reading teacher under the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act at the Garysburg school.

The indictments charge Newton with embezzling the money from two separate funds between May 31, 1969 and June 1, 1972.

The case is to be heard Nov. 5 in Washington, N.C.

## Mayor Lambertson Resigns

# Joe Gordon Named Rich Square Mayor

**RICH SQUARE** — Mayor Pro-Tem Joe Gordon Thursday night became mayor of Rich Square following the unexpected resignation of Mayor Grace Lambertson.

Mayor Lambertson informed the town board of her resignation via letter at the Oct. 4 board meeting. Miss Lambertson wasn't present.

Her one-sentence resignation letter gave no reason for her resignation just a month before the municipal election and the former mayor, when contacted, refused to make a statement concerning the matter.

Rumor has it she resigned in a dispute over election procedures in the upcoming Nov. 6 election.

Gordon, who has served on the board for over six years, had already filed for reelection to the board of commissioners when the female mayor stepped down. Acting Mayor Gordon plans to pursue his reelection as commissioner and has no plans for running for the mayoral post.

Commissioner Jimmy Outland is the only contender for the town's highest seat. Noon Friday is the filing deadline.



Grace Lambertson



Joe Gordon

Gordon is operator of Gordon-Hunter Funeral Home here, a business he has been involved in since 1960. Prior to that he was associated with the now defunct Bishop Funeral Home.

Gordon is the first black mayor in the history of Rich Square and is believed to be the first black man to hold the high municipal post in the county's history.

Gordon is a native of Elizabeth City and has resided in Rich Square most of his life. He attended public school in Rich Square.

He is a member of the Northhampton County Board of Social Services and he is a member of the First Baptist Church and the Prince Hall Masonic Lodge.

Gordon is married to the former Elizabeth Jones of Norfolk. She is general supervisor for Northhampton County schools.

The Gordons reside on South Main Street here and they have one son, Joe Jr., a student at North Carolina Central University in Durham.

## Educational Data Sought For Census

**JACKSON** — A sample of households in this area will take part in the federal

government's annual survey of school enrollment to be taken next week by the Bureau of the Census, part of the U.S. Department of Commerce's Social and Economic Statistics Administration.

Joseph R. Norwood, director of the Bureau's Data Collection Center in Charlotte, said that interviewers will visit homes to obtain information about household members attending school, from nursery school through college, including those taking vocational, technical or business courses.

Results of the October 1972 survey showed that 60.1 million persons 3 to 34 years old were in school. Elementary school enrollment (kindergarten through eighth grade) had declined by about 1.4 million since the fall of 1971 because of a decline in the number of births during the 1960's.

Although college enrollment

had increased considerably in the years since 1962, a lower proportion of college-age men were in college than during the late 1960's, while the college enrollment rate for women has remained about the same since the late 1960's.

School enrollment questions will be in addition to the ones asked regularly in the monthly survey on employment and unemployment conducted nationwide by the bureau for the U.S. Department of Labor.

The survey provides a continuing measure of conditions in the labor force. The August survey found the Nation's employment situation little changed from July. The unemployment rate, at 4.8 per cent, was essentially the same as in June and July but was substantially below the 5.6 per cent of a year earlier. After elimination of seasonal fluctuations, total

(See DATE, Page 13)

## northampton chaff

The air around the Gaston Town Hall is filled with tingles and jingles.

Seemingly bored with the hum-drum sounds of day-to-day office work, Town Clerk Deanie Manning has bedecked the town office with wind chimes galore.

Though the Town Hall, soon to be retired from use, may not contain all the atmosphere of a corner gift shop, at least the sounds are the same and pleasing to the ear.

Margaret Leake, employee in the county office of the Clerk of Court, uses her spare time at home to her advantage.

She spends her hours in front of the television set wrapping clothes hangers with a silk material. She says the dressed up wire hangers sell like dressed up wire hangers should sell and she can't make them fast enough.

Margaret, who lives in Seaboard, would like to have all the straight hangers readers can spare, but she is not as anxious to accept a long list of orders for her product.

George Harris, county economic development planner, is interested in finding a suitable house in and around the county seat.

George has been living in a Jackson apartment for several months while his family has remained in Snow Hill.

George, who is on the Roanoke-Chowan Regional Housing Authority, can attest to the fact that the need for housing in Northampton is real.

Yes, Gladys Futrell is alive and well and living in Rich Square.

After recuperating from two recent automobile crashes and more recent headaches with the municipal election in Rich Square (where she is registrar) the town clerk is back in the full swing of things.

Gladys had resigned as town registrar, but when she was unable to find someone to fill her shoes, the town board was successful in reappointing the friendly clerk.

Something is cooking in Conway — at least, politically it is.

Following last week's candidacy announcement by four of the town's five incumbent commissioners and its present Mayor Grady Martin, a slate of candidates to match the incumbents has entered the race for town this week.

Only incumbent Commissioner Marion Lassiter hasn't filed for office and rumor has it he will not run again.

To date county municipal politics Conway-style is the most interesting in Northampton.

Municipal officials in Lasker, the county's smallest town, were relieved recently to discover that the town needs only to find three persons to agree to run for seats on the board of commissioners there.

The officials were expecting to fill five seats until Barbara Jean Wheeler of the county elections office notified the town that its charter calls for but three commissioners and a mayor.

Incidentally, per capita representation is greatest on the Laster commission than on any other municipal board in the county. Every 30 persons is represented by one commissioner.

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