

# MUCH NEEDED COURSE OF ACTION

by Sandra Hill

**REIDSVILLE** - On March 10, a Black civil organization, the Fellows Club, presented the City Recreation Commission with a list of improvements needed at Lowe's Community Center, the city's only recreational building located in a Black neighborhood.

The group's spokesman, Joseph Johnson, told the Commission that the building, built here in the early 30's, was desperately in need of improvement.

Johnson pointed out that there were weak boards in the floor of the gym or main building of the center, and that cracks in the wall of the men's bathroom were so large that one could see outside through them.

In addition the group requested

improvements in the outside area of the center -- better lighting around the building, removal of unsightly bushes, more trash cans, a picnic area with a covering and grills, black topping the parking lot, tennis, badminton, and volleyball courts, and horse shoe pits.

The Fellows Club also requested that the whole area be beautified with shrubbery and flowers.

Agreeing that Lowe's Center needed some work done, the Commission set up a committee to investigate the cost of the improvements and additions.

This was an apparent success for the group and for Lowe's Center, but the group didn't just settle for the Commission's word and work no more on

getting money for the center.

When city officials announced public hearings for suggestions from citizens on how to spend funds possibly available through the Community Development Act, the Fellows Club saw another chance for Lowe's Center.

As a result of a proposal presented by the Fellows Club at one of the two public hearings, Lowe's Center was listed as the first priority. Thus, if the federal government approves Reidsville's request for funds under this Act, an estimated \$180,000 will go towards the reconstruction of the center.

The Fellows Club should be commended for their efforts aimed at getting something for Lowe's Center. For

over 40 years the small building on Sprinkle Street has provided recreation for black youths in the city.

It has been the site of basketball games and pool games, checkers and chess tournaments, records hops and benefit dances, senior citizens' clubs meetings and playschool classes.

For a considerable period of its existence, Lowe's Center was our only recreational facility since distinct color lines disallowed our participation in activities in some of the city's other centers.

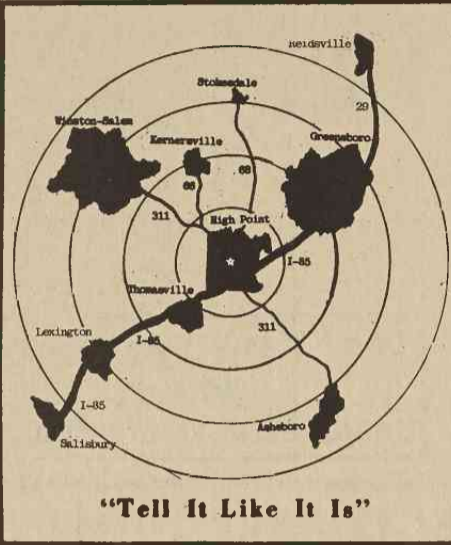
For Blacks of all incomes, low, middle, and upper, Lowe's Center was at one time, the center of all recreational activities; it still provides a considerable

portion of the Black population with an outlet, a place to engage in athletic, creative, or simply time-passing activities.

We went there when we weren't allowed elsewhere. So now, even that "elsewheres" are open to us, we still owe some loyalty to our very own community center.

The Fellows Club has initiated something that the entire Black community of Reidsville should be get behind and give their support.

Lowe's Center deserves a better building and the improvements that the Fellows Club has asked for. It has existed with its inadequacies too long.



"Tell It Like It Is"



## Last Week's Capsule

by Alfred Hinson

### NATIONAL

The states of Michigan, Massachusetts, Puerto Rico, Connecticut, Vermont, Rhode Island, Washington, and New Jersey are states that have now been forced to borrow money from the federal government to pay unemployment insurance benefits. Thus far, the federal government has loaned states a total of \$491 million and it is estimated by Labor Department officials that as much as \$2 billion more will be needed before the year ends.

According to Labor Department officials, the federal-state unemployment compensation system is witnessing the most severe test of its 40 year history.

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President Ford recently stated that he will press Congress for approval of \$222 million in military aid for Cambodia, according to White House officials Saturday. This aid is being requested, in part, because Cambodian officials have decided to continue their fight and are trying to maintain their government. It was anticipated, however, that Cambodian officials would leave when the U.S. Marines evacuated 276 Americans on Friday. The fact that Cambodian officials, did not leave is felt to have influenced Ford to take such an active stance on their behalf.

### STATE

Floyd B. McKissick, developer of Soul City, is still under pressure from the federal government and the Commerce Department is putting a freeze on funding until matters of conflicts of interest have been resolved.

Soul City has been under the fire ever since The Raleigh News and Observer ran a series of articles about its development. Since that time, state and federal officials have requested that investigations be made into the planning, development, and spending activities of the proposed city.

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N.C. Senator William Mills, D-Onslow, Chairman of the Senate Economy Committee introduced legislation that would prevent public school teachers from receiving unemployment compensation during their two-month summer vacation. The introduction of this proposed legislation, which was drafted by Employment Security Commission attorneys, is a result of the federal Special Unemployment Assistance Act. The Act extends unemployment compensation to workers formerly not eligible for compensation.

Federal guidelines for the Special Unemployment Assistance Act are presently non-existent. Until guidelines are established, the decision to dispense unemployment funds will be left up to the states.

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Members of the Guilford County legislative delegate  
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## South West Africa's Ambassador Speaks

**SALISBURY** - The annual observance of International Day, sponsored by the San Francisco based Howard Thurman Foundation, was held Friday on the campus of Livingstone College.

The speaker at an all-college assembly in Varick Memorial Auditorium was Amos Manyangwa Dambe, Ambassador of the Republic of Botswana (South West Africa) to the United States.

Dambe said, "There are ties between our institutions of which you may not be immediately aware."

"The first and most obvious," he said, "is the missionary-explorer after whom your college is named. Dr. David Living-

stone taught and preached in Botswana and even erected a house and a church in the vicinity of the capital city of Gaborone. Livingstone is still revered by our people as a preacher and teacher."

"The other great figure in the same context," said the ambassador, "is Dr. James Emman Kwegyir Aggrey (the late Livingstone graduate and professor), who was an African and a citizen of the state of Ghana."

"I feel greatly privileged to stand where such great men as Dr. Aggrey stood. He was a great African visionary and spokesman for racial harmony and quality. He has been called

"the finest interpreter which the present century has produced - the white man to the black and the black man to white," said the speaker.

"Both Livingstone and Aggrey are monuments in themselves, in their spirit, to the opening of Africa to the world, and vice versa: introducing the world to the store of culture and history embodied in the African subcontinent," said Dambe.

"Here you are almost 100 years old," he said, "founded by blacks and dedicated to blacks, by their own hand, to prove to themselves that they can bring forth a whole  
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**SALISBURY, N.C.** - HIS EXCELLENCY MR. AMOS MANYANGWA DAMBE (right), Ambassador of the Republic of Botswana to the United States accepts key to the city from His Honor William C. Stanback (left), Mayor of the City of Salisbury, at annual observance of International Day at Livingstone College recently. To the ambassador's right are Mrs. Abna Aggrey Lancaster, International Day Committee chairperson, and Livingstone President F. George Shipman.

## PASOA Spring Conference Announced

**GREENSBORO** - "Toward Economic Independence for Afrikan Peoples" will be the theme of a conference to be held April 18 and 19 at North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro. The conference, which is expected to draw people from throughout North Carolina, is being sponsored by the Greensboro Chapter of the Pan Afrikan Students Organization in the Americas, Inc. (PASOA). The announcement was made by Utem Kamin, president and engineering student at A&T State University.

Keynote speaker for the conference will be Sister Ama Atta Aidoo, noted Afrikan educator, writer and lecturer. Sister Aidoo appeared at A&T during February of this year.

There will be five

workshops wherein various factors contributing to economic independence will be explored, and recommendations made. The workshop topics include Education and Self-Reliance, Media, Politics, Agriculture and Industry, and The Role of the Family in Economic Independence. These workshops will be led by various members of the Greensboro Chapter of PASOA with support from a variety of resource people knowledgeable in the area of focus for the workshop. The conference begins on

Friday, April 18 with an Afrikan Heritage Extravaganza, a cooperative effort of the PASOA chapter and the Afrikan women's organization, Afrikan Youth.

Saturday's activities begin at 8:30 a.m. with registration, followed by the keynote address and the workshops.

All activities will take place in the N.C. A&T State University Memorial Union. The public is invited to participate. For more  
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## To Host NASA Symposium

**RALEIGH** - The aerospace industry and the space program will be the focus of a week-long informational seminar -- Space Symposium '75 -- to

be held April 21-25 at Shaw University, Raleigh, N.C. Workshops and exhibits will be featured in the symposium which is aimed at disseminating information on the space program to the state's minority community.

Upper elementary, junior high and high school students from schools within a 75-mile radius of Raleigh will be bused into Raleigh to view the exhibits and hear a lecture presentation on air and space travel.

College students will be given an opportunity to meet and talk with prominent minority scientists and engineers who hold vital positions both in NASA and in the private sector of the aerospace industry.

Dr. Harriett G. Jenkins, Assistant Administrator for Equal Opportunity Pro-

grams is directing the NASA program.

Objectives of the program, outlined by Dr. Jenkins, are:

-To provide the minority college student with a wider exposure to, and a greater appreciation of the potential that lies within the career fields of science, engineering and technology.

-To assist minority institutions in recognizing and understanding the opportunities for participation in various institutional assistance programs operated by NASA.

-To stimulate the interest of the upper elementary, middle school and high school student, in these career fields.

-To share with the community the various ways in which space age technology has contributed  
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## Bennett Stresses Medical Careers For Women

**GREENSBORO** - Medical professions are wide open to qualified women in today's society. However to gain early success in most medical careers, it is often essential to look for locales where they are needed rather than to head for the

more appealing urban metropolitan areas. This was the opinion given by guest panelist at Bennett College's recent Health Careers Symposium.

The panelists were Dr. Joyce Reese, a staff dentist for the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; Ms. Annie M. Washington, director of minority recruitment in pharmacy for southeast regional colleges; and Dr. Alfreda Webb, Professor of Biology at North Carolina A. & T. State University. They participated in the program entitled "Black Women in Health Professions" which was held in conjunction with Health Careers Awareness Week at the women's college.

Under the leadership of Dr. J. Henry Sayles, Bennett College is undertaking a collaborative health careers preparation program with 15 other institutions in North Carolina and Virginia. Funded by the Bureau of Health Resources Development, the program seeks to strengthen each institution's pre-professional education program, and to increase the number of black graduates of these schools in health careers.

"This symposium, the second since the program started, was centered around careers in dentistry, pharmacology, and veterinary medicine," explained Mr. Willic Young, Director of Bennett's Health Careers Program.

"By bringing black professionals to the campus, the young women are able to receive firsthand information about the problems black women encounter in the medical profession, and the advantages of a health career."

Dr. Webb, a veterinarian by profession, was the first black woman to do so. She cited that there are very few women in the field.

"Opportunities are  
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