



GIRLS STATE CITIZENS—Angel Allen, left, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Allen, and Jill Plonk, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Plonk, represented the American Legion Auxiliary at the recent week's session of Girls State at UNC-G. They gave a report of their trip at the recent meeting of the Unit and a covered dish supper was served.

Thornburg Challenges Candidates To Open Up Political Campaigns

ASHEVILLE—Into a crowd of gubernatorial candidates claiming to be without sin, Democrat Lacy Thornburg has cast the first stone.

In a bold statement, Thornburg not only pledged an open, full disclosure campaign, but also challenged his fellow candidates to do the same.

Speaking before newspaper editors and publishers gathered for the N. C. Press Association convention Friday in Asheville, Thornburg said his campaign was open in every way to the closest scrutiny by the press and therefore the public.

"Public confidence in the honesty and integrity of elected officials has been eroded and shaken," he said. "It is therefore tremendously important that voters know and understand the character and motives of all candidates for public office."

Political candidates must do more than simply claim the virtues of honesty and integrity, he added. "Our actions must make that statement for us."

In challenging the other candidates to follow his lead by opening their campaigns to full public view, Thornburg said "Government should not operate behind closed doors and neither should we who campaign to lead that government."

He said that in his open campaign, he invited the press to come to his campaign office anytime and without notice, examine his personal and campaign records and financial reports, pull open his files, read his correspondence, and listen to his telephone conversations and those of his staff.

"I invite you to sit in as we make plans," Thornburg told the press. "I invite you to travel with

me as I move about the state and I invite you to report on anything you see, read or hear that is in the interests of our citizens."

A three-term state legislator from Jackson County, Thornburg served for 16 years as a Superior Court judge before resigning in March to campaign for governor.

"Having recently stepped down from 16 years on the Superior Court bench, I do not

enjoy the advantages of campaigning from a highly visible statewide public office," he said.

"But name recognition, alone, is not sufficient qualification to be North Carolina's governor."

Thornburg said his reputation for fairness and honesty, his decision-making experience as a judge and his policy-making experience as a legislator qualified him to lead the state better than any other candidate.

KM Excellent Again

The city of Kings Mountain received notification this week that it has been selected to receive its fourth consecutive Community of Excellence Award.

Governor Jim Hunt will present the award to city officials at

a statewide economic development conference October 19 in Raleigh.

The award is presented to communities with populations less than 15,000 who have met requirements designed to help them recruit industries.

Education Top Goal In Future

After two years of gathering information, analyzing, discussing and planning, the Commission on the Future of North Carolina has outlined its goals and recommendations in a free tabloid newspaper for citizens.

"The Future of North Carolina" tabloid highlights the problems existing or anticipated in North Carolina and the goals and recommendations the commission has made to prepare for the future.

Fifty thousand copies of the tabloid have been printed and are being made available to citizens by the 100 county steering committees that participated in the NC 2000 project. County and city officials and public libraries will also receive copies.

Governor James B. Hunt, Jr., initiated the NC 2000 project in June 1981 to identify critical issues for the future and to develop recommendations for addressing these issues.

The State Goals and Policy Board, consisting of 15 citizens and chaired by Gov. Hunt, now is developing ways to put the goals and recommendations into action.

"The Future of North Carolina" tabloid is divided into four sections: People, Economy, Natural Resources and Community, which correspond to the four commission panels.

Good quality education is the first concern of the 113,000 citizens who respond to the NC 2000 questionnaire, conducted for the NC 2000 project. The People panel recommended re-evaluating and revising the state's schools' curricula to better prepare students for the future. To reduce poverty, the panel recommended improving aid programs for the state's poor and disabled citizens. Another recommendation of the panel is to continue increasing health care assistance to underserved areas.

To maintain a good economic climate, the Economy panel has recommended modifying regulations and tax policies that discourage investment in the state. More women can be involved in the economy, the Economy panel said in the report, by improving access to day care and encouraging women to take non-traditional jobs.

The Natural Resources panel recommended bringing all sources of air and water pollution in compliance with federal regulations, strengthening efforts to modernize family farm management and increasing productivity in natural resource industries while maintaining the natural landscape.

Crime is the fourth highest factor needing improvement and the third highest source of dissatisfaction, according to citizen surveys conducted as a part of the NC 2000 project. Crime can be prevented by identifying and correcting social problems that provoke it, the Community panel said in the report. Other recommendations of the panel include improving lines of communication between citizens and government and reviewing and revising tax policies to ensure fair and adequate taxation while maintaining revenue for services.

Through statewide and local organizations, the Commission on the Future completed the NC 2000 project, emphasizing public input and long-range planning.

A network of steering committees, one from each of the 100 counties in North Carolina, assured local citizen input. The individual committees met locally with citizens and officials to discuss concerns and needs. In July 1982 the committees met with each other at a retreat in Chapel Hill to discuss their findings.

The Commission on the Future of North Carolina, headed by UNC President William C. Friday, consisted of leaders from business, government, education, medicine, law and other areas.

Board Adopts Policy

From Page 1-A

mont Avenue and Cleveland Avenue if the city will pay the energy bill for the lights.

They said the DOT is reviewing the city's request that the state resurface some of the streets upon which traffic was detoured during the construction of bridges and North Piedmont and Cleveland Avenues.

In other action Monday, the board:

*Awarded a bid of \$8,385 plus sales tax to Charlotte Ford Tractor for one diesel tractor for the curb and sidewalk machine.

*Awarded a bid of \$10,718.69 to Earl Tindall Ford of Gastonia for a pickup truck for the sewer department.

*Awarded an informal bid of \$7,655.93 including sales tax to Earl Tindall Ford for a pickup truck for the maintenance department.

*Awarded a bid of \$8,738.58 to Earl Tindall Ford for a mid-sized truck for the Animal Control Officer.

*Authorized advertising for bids for a backhoe for the street department.

*Appointed Mayor Moss and Commissioners Corbet Nicholson, Norman King and Curt Gaffney to a committee to work with the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency, local finance institutions and home builders.

*Appointed Moss and Commissioners Humes Houston and Jim Dickey to a Business Coordinating Committee to coordinate and stimulate business activities and governmental cooperation.

*Requested that the Utilities Committee—consisting of Commissioners Jim Childers, Jim Dickey and City Attorney George Thomasson—work with Southern Bell Telephone Company relative to a pole agreement and clearance of telephone poles and lines.

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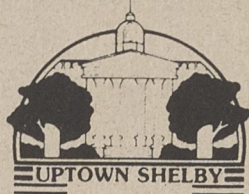
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