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**Special Tribute
To Honor Memory
Of Martin L. King**
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Many Services Available Handling Life At Old Age

Elderly Barely Manage

BY W. MASON, JR.
Staff Writer

Like most of our populations, the elderly are struggling—and barely making it.

Some live alone. Others live in housing where they can't have pets. Some have medical problems that leave them bedridden or unable to get out of the home.

Ms. Gene Price, 77, is a part of the elderly's struggle.

"You just can't get all the help you

need," she said recently while taking a break from wiping her windows.

"Looks like the Congress could do a little better. Some things you just can't look after."

As of this year, there are approximately 821,700 people 65 or older in North Carolina. Of those, approximately 20 percent live below the poverty level, according to the Division of Aging with the North Carolina Department of Human Resources.

The 1980 Census showed that more than 95 percent of the elderly lived in independent households, but about 26 lived alone, many without the care of family and friends. That census also showed that the median income for an elderly couple was about \$10,145, compared to \$16,792 for non-elderly families.

"Older people are relatively poor," said William Lamb, chief of planning with the department.

In 1988, 21 percent of North Carolina's elderly were considered to be living in poverty, a figure that is twice the national average, Lamb said.

For Ms. Price, her children come and take her shopping and to church. She lives alone in her apartment at the Summers Haven Apartment Complex on East Martin Street. She attends church and goes to the store to buy groceries only if she can find someone to take her.

"If I had my choice I wouldn't want to be young again," she said. "It's dangerous out here for our children.

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Dr. King Boulevard Opens, Work On Gardens To Begin

From CAROLINIAN Staff Reports

Mayor Avery Upchurch, along with other city and county officials, will formally dedicate Raleigh's new Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard on Friday at noon.

The new King Boulevard starts at Poole Road and extends west to Rock Quarry Road and is in the first phase of construction. Ultimately, the roadway will extend from Poole Road to Western Boulevard, giving Southeast Raleigh a needed east-west thoroughfare.

During his first term in office, City Councilman Ralph Campbell, Jr., who represents the district in which the boulevard is being constructed, successfully negotiated the name change from Eastern Boulevard to Martin Luther King Boulevard. At the time, very few people realized that the name change on a small residential street would one day become a major cross-city roadway. Campbell stated, "It was the input from various community groups who found it appropriate for us to make a change based on long-term projections.

(See KING HOLIDAY, P. 2)



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

NEWS BRIEFS

WARMTH FOR WAKE

Arctic-like weather in late December sparked record donations to the Warmth for Wake Program, but according to E. Eugene English of the Wake Department of Social Services, a higher number of requests and increases in fuel prices have pinched resources and are now seeking more donations. He said \$75,000 had been spent from the \$96,000 received to pay heating bills. Donations may be mailed to P.O. Box 1247, Raleigh 27602.

INFANT MORTALITY EFFORT

The Advisory Budget Commission gave its unanimous support this week to a \$16 million expansion in Medicaid coverage to provide prenatal care to pregnant teenagers. The commission agreed with a proposal by Gov. James G. Martin to provide prenatal and maternal care to about 3,800 women under the age of 21.

HIGH MILK PRICES

Milk prices in North Carolina are likely to remain high for much of the winter, with another increase in the state's support price schedule to take effect in February. The Milk Commission was told this week that next month's increase of 24 cents per 100 pounds of raw milk is lower than increases each month since summer, when prices began to climb nationally. Class 1 milk will rise next month to a record \$19.21 per 100 pounds of raw milk.

ROOMMATE CHARGED IN

(See NEWS BRIEFS, P. 2)

Southern National Bank

Police Trail Robbery Suspect

Reward Offered For Clues

From CAROLINIAN Staff Reports

A lone gunman robbed Southern National Bank early Jan. 10 and escaped with an undetermined amount of money.

The man walked into the bank at 316 W. Edenton St. at about 9:36 a.m. and indicated he had a weapon but did not produce one.

Raleigh police described the man as black, in his middle 20s, about 5'6" to 5'7" and weighing about 150 to 160 pounds.

Police said the man had a medium complexion and was wearing a black or navy blue toboggan, a white satin waist-length jacket with red and blue strips on the collar and cuffs. The man was also wearing blue jeans.

The North Carolina Bankers Association offers a reward of up to \$5,000 for the arrest of the man. Officials with Crime Stoppers also offer a reward of up to \$1,000, hoping it will encourage residents to come forward with information.

Banks and police departments are finding cash rewards help encourage people to give information about a crime.

As of last December in North Carolina, the number of lending institutions that had been robbed totaled 156.

Law enforcement officers and bank security guards are steadily increasing their efforts to prevent future bank robberies, including the offering of rewards.

More than \$800,000 had been taken

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EXCELLING IN EDUCATION—Dr. Jeanette Beckwith (left), Wake County's Principal of the Year at Carnage Middle School honors Wake County's Teacher of the Year, Ms. Ninon Cheek, also of Carnage, while adoring students watch. (Photo by Talib Sahir-Calloway)

Carnage School Noted For Awards, Teaching Techniques, Excellence

BY W. MASON, JR.
Staff Writer

Carnage Middle School knows what success is.

One of its own, language arts teacher Ninon H. Cheek, was recently named Wake County Teacher of the Year for 1989.

That award comes on the heels of earlier honors at the school. Carnage Principal Jeanette Beckwith was named Wake County Principal of the Year along with Region Three Principal of the Year, an award that covers Durham and surrounding counties.

The recognition provides inspiration for the students and motivation for the teachers.

"We really love Ms. Cheek," Ms. Beckwith said. "She can teach swimming, she's a bus driver when we want her to be and she's just a really innovative teacher. She can do a little bit of everything."

On top of the \$1,000 that goes along with the teacher-of-the-year award, Ms. Cheek said it's making her students excited about learning that makes teaching fun.

"The students just have a ball," she

said. "They're really excited about it."

Her teaching has been described as really high-energy, creative, and comprehensive. She uses a variety of different techniques and styles to match the students' abilities or the lesson she is teaching.

Through the years, Ms. Cheek has seen many theories and new ideas come and go. She has yet to see one that was a complete failure or a complete success. She has, however, been able to borrow and incorporate many of those ideas into her own teaching.

One of her favorite and most successful techniques is a modified form of cooperative learning. She truly dislikes rows, so her students' desks are arranged in small work groups of four or five. She promotes the theory that we must learn to get along in our society and that the best learning comes from teaching others. No papers are handed in to her without first being proofread by another student. Some quizzes are given as part

(See EXCELLENCE, P. 2)

South Raleigh Citizens Fear Toxic Hazards

Environment Group Examines Problems

From CAROLINIAN Staff Reports

A group of South Raleigh residents is taking steps to clean up toxic chemicals in the community before it's too late.

Concern has arisen in South Raleigh regarding the management and use of hazardous substances by industry in the area, prompting the formation of South Raleigh Communities Leading Environmental Awareness Now, said spokesperson Erica Perlow.

"The bottom line is we want to establish a relationship between us and industry. It's never too late," she said.

The group has researched one plant's practices and has learned that this company releases toxic air emissions regularly, chemicals that can

The group has researched one plant's practices, and they have learned that this company releases toxic air emissions regularly, which are potentially harmful.

be linked to respiratory problems and problems with the body's central nervous system.

"Children are more vulnerable than adults," Ms. Perlow said. "The plant has been in the area since the 1950s." The group also wants to do a health survey.

South Raleigh CLEAN is holding its first public meeting Jan. 16 at 7:30 p.m. at Edenton Street United Methodist Church in the Fellowship Hall, 228 W. Edenton St., in South Raleigh.

Industry representatives have been invited to attend. The meeting will provide a forum to educate citizens about South Raleigh CLEAN and its research, and to establish the beginnings of open dialogue between South Raleigh neighborhoods and area industry.

Sen. Sanford Sponsors Bill Rural Poor Seeking Decent Housing

While poor blacks in cities across America are scrambling to find affordable housing, blacks in rural areas, especially in the South, are in a worsening housing crisis.

Nearly three out of four rural poor households pay more for housing than the maximum considered affordable under federal standards, and almost a fourth live in substandard units,

according to a recent report issued by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and the Housing Assistance Council.

The report found that rural black households are especially hard-hit by what it termed a growing housing crisis in rural areas.

The analysis of government data by the two non-profit research organiza-

tions shows that in 1985, some 72 percent of rural poor households paid more than 30 percent of income for housing. Under standards set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, housing costs—including rent or mortgage payments plus utilities—are outside the affordable range if they consume more than 30 percent of income.

The report also found that 42 percent of rural poor households spent at least half their income on housing in 1985 and 26 percent spent more than 70 percent for housing.

According to the report, the rural poor are more likely than the urban poor to live in substandard housing units. Some 23 percent of all rural poor households occupied housing classified as substandard in 1985, the report said.

The report concluded that the affordable housing squeeze in rural America has worsened considerably since the late 1970s and that households in the rural South are more likely to face serious housing problems than those in other regions.

Low-income blacks in cities like Detroit, Philadelphia and Raleigh wait on long lists to get into public housing. Although rural whites face the same high costs of housing, blacks are harder hit.

The report found that 41 percent of all rural black households—including both poor and non-poor households—lived in substandard housing in 1985. By contrast, just seven percent of the rural white households lived in substandard units, the report said.

The report also found that rural blacks were more likely than rural whites to pay a large portion of their income for housing.

Sen. Terry Sanford, D-N.C., a member of the Democratic Housing

(See HOUSING, P. 2)



HOUSING DECAY—Just blocks from downtown Raleigh, this Cabarrus Street home is an example of the extreme

decay of houses in urban areas. Most rural poor live in homes in worse condition. (Photo by Talib Sahir-Calloway)



NO UNDERGROUND PARKING HERE—Fire and rescue officials wonder how this car ended up underneath the C-6 apartment at Washington Terrace Apts. The apartment was unoccupied at the time of the accident and the unidentified driver was not seriously hurt. (Photo by Talib Sahir-Calloway)