

Western Piedmont trustees name new officers

Recently, the trustees of Western Piedmont Community College held their annual meeting. Among the business conducted, the following newly appointed members were introduced and administered the Trustee Oath:

• Elsie H. Childres, appointed to a three-year term by Gov. James Hunt. A native of Burke County, Childres has served continuously as a trustee for the college since 1981.

From July 1996 until June 1998, she served as President of the N.C. Association of Community College Trustees. In June 1998, she received the American Association of Community College's Trustee Leadership Award for the Southern Region, and she will receive the National Trustee Leadership Award later this month.

A former Burke County public school teacher and retired co-owner and manager of Arlene Hostery Mills, Childres and her husband, Rondel, have four children and three grandchildren.

• H. Ray Martinat of Rutherford College, appointed to a four-year term by the Burke County Commissioners. Martinat is also a native of Burke County. He has a bachelor's degree in business from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and is the President of North American Forest Products Company and serves as the plant manager for Spartacraft in Icard.

Minat also serves on the Board of Directors for the Burke County Public Health Department, the Superintendent's Advisory Committee for the Burke County Public Schools, Academics Chair for Heritage Middle School, and as a member and deacon of First Baptist Church in Valdese. He and his wife, Martha, have two children ages 9 and 13.

• Claude S. Sitton, appointed to a four-year term by Gov. Hunt. Sitton serves as the resident superior court judge for Burke County. He is a Morganton native, and received his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his law degree from Wake Forest University School of Law.

He has also served continuously as a trustee for the college for a number of years and has served as Board Chair and Chair of a number of Standing Committees, most recently, the Personnel Committee. Judge Sitton and his wife, Jo, have two daughters and one granddaughter.

• James D. Wilson, appointed to a four-year term by the Burke County Board of Education. Former Superintendent of the Burke County Public Schools, Wilson received his bachelor's degree from Carson-Newman, and his master's and doc-



Charles Taylor



Michelle L. Sullivan



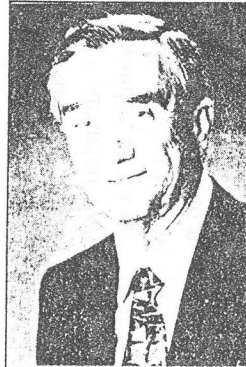
Ray Martinat

torate degrees from the University of Tennessee.

While serving as the Superintendent for the Jackson County Schools from 1975 to 1980, Wilson served



Elsie Childres



Jim Wilson

as a Trustee for Southwestern Community College in Sylva. Wilson is a charter member of the Historic Burke Foundation and is Treasurer of the Valdese Rotary Club. Now retired, he and his wife, Elizabeth, have two sons and live in Valdese.

• Michelle L. Sullivan, Student Government Association President at Western Piedmont Community College and non-voting member of the Trustees, will serve a one-year term. Sullivan is a second year student at WPCC pursuing an Associate in Science Degree. After completing her education at WPCC, she plans to transfer to a senior institution to complete a bachelor's degree. A native of Morganton, Michelle graduated from Freedom High School in 1997.

In other business, the trustees elected the following members to positions of leadership in 1998-99:

Charles E. Taylor, Chair. Having served as Vice Chair for the past two years, Taylor looks forward to the opportunity to continuing to serve the Trustees in this capacity.



Nettie McIntosh



Claude Sitton

Originally appointed to the Trustees in 1992 by the Burke County Commissioners, Taylor has served continuously and has supported the college's efforts to develop workforce training and provide opportunities for local citizens to receive the education necessary to contribute to the community.

He is a graduate of WPCC and was named the 1998 Outstanding Alumnus by the Western Piedmont Foundation, Inc. in May. Recently retired from his position as social worker at Broughton Hospital, Taylor is a native of Morganton and has two children.

Elsie H. Childres, Vice Chair.

a graduate of A & T University, and a retired program director for Vocational Rehabilitation. She is also an active member of the Senior Citizens Advisory Council. She and her husband, the Rev. Flemon McIntosh, have four children.

The officers and members of the Trustees of Western Piedmont Com-

munity College are dedicated to fulfilling the College's mission of providing quality, affordable and convenient vocational, technical, and college training for adults in Burke County, college officials said.

Each trustee volunteers his time, talents, and support to promote community college education.