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Nat'l Black Women Leaders Initiate Drive

The heads of national black women's organizations affiliated under the umbrella of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc., (NCNW), have issued a call to members of their organizations to become direct members of NCNW. "Every-member-a-member" is the theme of this intensive drive.

The drive follows an earlier consensus by these organizations to work together in a national collaboration for children and youth. The collaboration will work to turn around unemployment, teenage pregnancy, and school dropout statistics.

This call to action comes at a time when unemployment among black youth is rapidly increasing; when the 38 per cent unemployment rate for girls is the very highest of any group in the population. The figure is compounded by the high incidence of teenage pregnancy and parenthood. One dollar of each direct membership received through the "Every-member-a-member" drive will be earmarked to support the National Collaboration for Youth.

Miss Dorothy I Height, national president of NCNW, remarked: "The collaborative efforts of black women throughout the country to insure the survival and quality growth of the black family reflects renewed determination to live the legacy of Mary McLeod Bethune, NCNW's founder." In her last will and testament, Mrs. Bethune wrote: "I leave you, finally, a responsibility to our young people." "Black women know", Miss Height said, "that it takes action to translate the expression of unity into the reality of power".

The national leaders calling their organizations to participate in this drive include: Ms. Barbara K. Phillips, Supreme Basileus, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; Mrs. Peola McCaskill, National President, Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc.; Ms. Elnora Lane, President, The Chums, Inc.; Mrs. Rosa Stanback, National President, Continental Societies, Inc.;

Mrs. Thelma Daley, National President, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Mrs. Gloria Chapman, National President, Eta Phi Beta Sorority; Mrs. Nettie Smith, Grand Exalted Daughter Ruler, Grand Temple, Daughters of Elks; Dr. Fredda Witherspoon, National President, Iota Phi Lambda Sorority; Mrs. Inez Anderson, National President, Ladies Auxiliary of the National Dental Association;

Ms. Venice Harvey, National President, Lambda Kappa Mu Sorority; Miss Audrey Randell, National President, Las Amigas, Inc.; Mrs. Earnestine Stovall, National President, National Association of Fashion and Accessory Designers; Mrs. Robin Owens, National President, National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs; Ms. Billy Mason, Supreme Basileus, National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa;

Mrs. Evelyn Hood, Grand Basileus, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.; Dr. Julia C. Fitzpatrick, Most Worthy Grand Matron, Supreme Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star; Mrs. Mary Ross, The Women's Convention, Auxiliary Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; Miss Faye Bryant, National President Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.; Mrs. Thelma Daley, President, Trade Union Women of African Heritage; Mrs. Willa Mae Rice, National President, Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society, AME Zion Church

Mrs. Pauline Grant, National President, Woman's Missionary Council, CME Church; Mrs. Laura G. Tompkins, National President, Women's Auxiliary, National Medical Association; Miss Mary Frizzell, National President, Women's Missionary Society, AME Church, Mrs. Janice Kissner, Grand Basileus, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

The members of the Tau Gamma Delta Sorority, headed by Mrs. Norma O. Scott, have already participated one hundred per cent in the "every-member-a-member" drive. Their direct memberships to NCNW are collected along with the Sorority's annual dues.



Golden Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Parker of 1304 West Knox Street, were honored on April 22 by their sons and daughters-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. Quinton Parker and Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Parker on their 50th wedding anniversary, at the home of their son, J. Quinton Parker on 111 Oakmont Circle. The Parkers were married fifty years ago on April 20.

Miss Lahoma Smith Accepted To Join Crossroads

Miss Lahoma Smith, has been accepted to join a select group of people to participate as a volunteer with Operation Crossroads Africa. Called "the Progenitor of the Peace Corps" by President Kennedy, Crossroads is a non-profit, non-governmental organization which has sent over 4500 participants to 34 African countries since 1958. "Crossroads is based on the conviction that communication between persons of different nationalities, races, religions and cultures is both necessary and desirable," according to Jerome M. Vogel, executive Director of Crossroads. The aims of Crossroads are to provide an opportunity for North Americans and Africans to develop mutual understanding and respect through living and working together making a tangible contribution to Africa's needs; and providing the vital educational experience of exposure to another culture.

Miss Smith who will leave for Africa in early July, will be living and working with approximately nine other Americans from around the country and an equal number of African university students in a rural workcamp for six weeks. Upon completion of their project, the volunteers will have a chance to travel to other countries in Africa for two weeks before returning to the United States in early September.

At the invitation of African countries, Crossroads volunteers spend six to seven weeks constructing needed facilities such as schools, youth centers, roads and medical dispensaries, performing such tasks as hauling sand and water, splitting rocks and digging foundations. Crossroads provides Americans with an intense intimate experience as guest of a rural African community. Crossroads is sending a total of 175 volunteers to eleven different countries in Africa and sixty volunteers to five Caribbean islands this summer.

"RATEPAYERS SHOULDN'T PAY FOR UTILITY'S MISTAKE, SAYS GROUP

CAROLINA ACTION, the statewide citizens' organization, confronted representatives of the N.C. Utilities Commission's Public Staff today at the staff offices in

Releigh. A dozen members of the organization went to the Public Staff to raise their concerns about who should be financially responsible for electric generating facilities that fail to perform adequately to remain "on line."

"All we've been hearing from Bill Lee (President of Duke Power) and Hugh Wells (head of Utilities Commission Public Staff) is that rates for Duke Power customers will skyrocket if the Oconee plant shuts down. Up to now there has been no discussion of financial liability on the part of the company or its stockholders for the mistakes of management. It seems to us that our representatives on the Utilities Commission and the Public Staff ought to be speaking up for the ratepayers now and acting for us if the plant closes," said CA spokesperson Tom Lominac.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is contemplating closing Duke Power's Oconee generating plant in South Carolina as a safety precaution. The plant was constructed with components built by Babcock

and Wilcox, the same company that designed and built the crippled Three Mile Island facility in Pennsylvania. Duke Power and Utilities Commission spokespersons estimate that rates for Duke Power customers will climb 15 to 20 per cent immediately and more later during the peak summer months. All spokespersons have suggested that Duke Power ratepayers alone will bear the costs of closing the plant and purchasing the necessary power elsewhere.

"We pay for their fuel through the fuel adjustment clause, when Construction Works In Progress goes into effect in July we will be paying for the cost of building their plants, and now they want us to pay for the mistakes of poor management and decision-making. All this and they have the nerve to be asking for a four per cent general increase," said Thelma Denning, a Durham CA member.

"This could not have happened at a worse time for ratepayers," continued Lominac. "Duke Power is asking for a \$35 million dollar rate in-

SEARCH BEGINS FOR MUSICAL ALL-AMERICANS

CHICAGO — Throughout the country, an important musical search is underway for 102 talented high school seniors to represent their states in the 1979 McDonald's All-American High School Band.

Comprised of two musicians from each state and the District of Columbia, the Band is sponsored by McDonald's restaurants. The Band performs annually in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City and the Tournament of Roses Parade on New Year's Day in Pasadena, California.

During the past few weeks, high school band directors across the country have been invited to nominate their most talented musicians to the Band. Paul Lavalle, the Band's director, and a selection committee of educators, choose the final 102 from thousands of nominations. The 102 members will be announced in early October.

Lavalle, former director of the Radio City Music Hall and director of the

Band of America, will conduct the McDonald's All-American High School Band in the nationally televised parade performances and its concert appearances.

Because of the resurgence in jazz among high school musicians, a 17-piece jazz ensemble was created in 1978 from the entire Band membership. The jazz ensemble is featured in all concert performances. Since its inception in 1967, the Band's philosophy has been to recognize outstanding high school musicians and honor them in much the same way all-star teams salute America's leading athletes.

"Traditionally, all-American recognition has almost exclusively applied to athletics," says Lavalle. "We believe, however, that high school musicians deserve as much recognition as athletes. It's because of this that the McDonald's All-American High School Band was created, establishing an all-star 'team' for musical all-Americans."

Often called "the Band whose pants don't match" — because the musicians wear their high school band uniforms with special All-American Band overlays and hats — members can audition for two scholarships offered in the name of Paul Lavalle by the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston.

The National Music Camp at Interlochen, Michigan also is offering two scholarships to its 1980 summer program.

Yamaha International Corporation will award new instruments to the outstanding player in the brass, horn and reed categories, as well as provide all baritone, sousaphone and percussion instruments used by the Band in its parade and concert performances.

Prominent music educators assist with the Band program. James Herbert, formerly of Temple University, and Dr. Bernard Baggis of Farleigh

Dickinson University are members of the selection committee along with Lavalle.

The Advisory Board of the McDonald's All-American High School Band includes: F. Kelly James, director of UCLA marching bands, and the Band's marching instructor; Roger Jacobi, president, Interlochen Center for the Arts; Dr. W.J. Julian, director of bands, University of Tennessee, and president, National Band Association; Dr. William Foster, director of music, Florida A&M University; Emery Fears, director of bands, Norfolk State University; Chuck Suber, publisher, Downbeat Magazine; and Paul Jeffery, associate professor, Livingston College, Rutgers University.

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PUBLIC INVITED TO MEET WITH LEGISLATORS

The last in a series of three public forums designed to give area citizens an opportunity to meet with their elected representatives to the North Carolina General Assembly will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on Monday, May 7 in the cafeteria of the North Carolina Mutual Building. The public is invited to select a Dutch Treat breakfast and visit informally with area legislators or ask them questions.

Invited are: North Carolina Senators Kenneth C. Royall, Jr., and Willis P. "Bill" Whichard, and N.C. House Representatives George W. Miller, Jr. W. Paul Pulley, Jr., and Kenneth Spaulding.

League officials request that people park their cars in the lot behind Home Security Life, corner of Jackson and Gregson Streets.

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