# Commission Is Ineffective

By Jacquie Levister Post Staff Writer

"The Park and Recreation Commission is ineffective, insensitive and archaic: if I had the authority I would abolish commented Republican mayoral candidate Ken Har-

In an interview with the Post Tuesday, Harris, a one term council-member who did not seek elction to a second term for business reasons, discussed his stance on scattered site housing, usage of the Talent Bank, Charlotte Area Fund funding, the Black Political Caucus' endorsements, the implication he is a ninth hour candidate and the ramifications of being a Republican mayor in a state governed by Democrats.

While discussing his dissatisfaction with the Park and Recreation Commission, candidate Harris pointed out that Jim Whittington is chairman of the committee working on the resolve of the commission (to recommend inculsion of the Park and Recreation as a department under city government or its continuation as an independent body). "It is interesting to note that the committee chairman has not called a single meeting," Harris continued.

As a means of clarfying his no vote for scattered site housing Harris conceded that if he had to vote again on the proposal it again would be negative. He adamantly pointed out "I introduced Section 8 housing to the council but not the way the city is running it. There are four parts to Section 8 housing and the city is only using one, scattered site."

"I favor rent subsidized housing because it does NOT housing," Harris futher explained. "It is incumbent on society to give each child every opportunity to raise their self esteem. It is a matter of economics and not offered. race. It's simply not good to come to a neighborhood where you'll not wanted in mass. Rent subsidy would allow for open living," he concluded.

Considering white flight, an occurance that took place in Hidden Valley and Clanton storook woods ne commented that he was unaware of any problems.

According to Harris the Talent Bank will not accomplish widespread participation.
"The need is for a leadership



Ken Harris

.. Mayoral candidate serving on boards and commissions," he offered. Reluctantly he suggested that the names of those registered for the new Talent Bank should be signed up to attend schools specializing in their area of interest once that can be

The only committment Harris was willing to make for vacancies that may appear in the interium was to be sure a diverse group of people from all areas be represented.

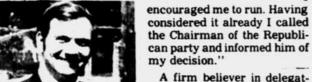
In relationship to the Charlotte Area Fund's need for support, Harris again was non-committal while wondering aloud if it does indeed offer services that the city cannot. However he did state that while he had not made a decision about the Area Fund he felf the conflicts that have developed are due to bureacratic jealousies between the two bodies.

After reiterating the statement "the Black Political Caucus as a body has only endorsement powers," he added that he feels is a part of the Caucus's bylaws that only Democratic candidates he endorsed.

Present was an obvious contrasting view of the Black contain the stigma of public Ministers Coalition. "The Black Ministers Coalition is made up of hard working people who are influential and concerned about issues rather than partisan politics," Harris

date," Harris stated "I considered running for Mayor in the spring and talked to a group of bi-partisan leaders who seemed disinterested. As a result of that meeting I felt Park, Harris commented that there was no need to create a "times are changing. You campaign. Then in the summust realize that took place in mer I decided to file for the the 60's and attitudes have District 5 seat on the council to since changed." However, remain active. However, that when reminded of the plight of same group of disinterested ople began calling Tuesda before filling deadline and

> Check the ads in the Charlotte Post each week for the best bargains in town.



A firm believer in delegating responsiblity, Harris accredits his ability to make such delegations for his being able to offer his services to the City of Charlotte now as its Mayor. "On April 1, 1975 I gained full responsibility for the business (New England Life Insurance Agency) and did not have time to serve on council. Since that time I have hired four staff managers. It is this kind of leadership I will take to the office of mayor," he volunteered.

Putting to rest the idea that a Republican mayor of Charlotte would be ineffective. Harris refered to the fact that we have had a Republican congressman from our area for 25 years concluding, "If anyone thinks Jim Whittington can get more funds than me they don't understand his ties with Jimmy Green are in direct conflict with that of the



PILOT GOSPEL SINGERS

First row left to right Janice Geter, Deborah Ivey, Sharon Redfearn. Second row - Mrs. Louise Managrum, Mrs. Ozzie L. Blount, Mrs. Elizabeth Monteith and Mrs. Addie L. Foster. Back row Fred Henderson

MERCHANTS WHO ADVERTISE IN THE POST ARE TELLING YOU THEY APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS.

Over 60 Years Of Age

## 750,000Citizens Live Alone

Special To The Post

RALEIGH -- She is 75 years

old and lives alone. Her children have moved away and she has no family to turn to. She doesn't drive a car. Inflation has eroded her small social security check. During this past severely cold winter, she had an even rougher time making ends meet because of additional fuel bills. She is eligible for Food Stamps but does not partici-

North Carolina has over 750,000 citizens over 60 years of age. Many of them face the same problems as this lady.

Economically, the state's older adults do not fare as well as those of many other states. Almost one-third (33 percent) of North Carolina's elderly have incomes below the poverty level compared to a national average of only 18.7 percent.

The pinch of inflation, the energy crisis and non-existent or inadequate retirement pensions, force a large percentage of our elderly citizens to live in dire poverty circumstances.

One-third have chronic health problems, with over half of elderly participate in the Food Stamp program which is designed to help people with low

incomes purchase adequate food to meet their nutritional requirements. Only approximately 6 percent of the state's elderly who are considered eligible participate in the pro-Why not? Misunderstanding

of eligibility requirements. transportation and pride are considered to be the major reasons according to those who work with the Food Stamp program in county social services departments across the state.

A statewide effort is being started this month to make sure that senior citizens understand the Food Stamp program and how it can help with their nutritional needs.

Nathan Yelton, Assistant Secretary for Aging for the North Carolina Department of Human Resources, and Robert Ward, director of the Division of Social Services of the Department, are spearheading the statewide effort.

Letters have gone out to all 100 county social services departments, staff members these being directly related to working with projects for the

aging, local councils on aging Yet, very few of the state's and Title VII nutrition site project directors urging a cooperative effort in helping to make senior citizens more aware of the Food Stamp program.

This effort also calls for making the program more accessible to the elderly by providing adequate certification and issuance locations throughout the counties and

transportation where needed. One of the main thrusts will be to have local Food Stamp eligibility workers visit Title VII communal dining sites to explain the program and take applications. There are 238 such sites across the state where a hot meal is provided each day for senior citizens.

### Recreation

### Commission

### Offer Two Classes

Charlotte Park and Recreation Commission announces two classes to begin at the Tuckaseegee Recreation Center, 4820 Tuckaseegee Road.

A belly-dancing class will begin October 24 and will run for six weeks.

# The \$50,000 you'll spendon cars: How to manage it.



From 1929 to 1977, an "average American" 65 years old could have spent some \$50,000 buying all the cars you see here.

And probably borrowed a lot of money for them, since two out of

three people buy "on time." Chances are, you'll be borrowing

a lot of money, too. That's why the people who make

loans at NCNB will help out any way they can.

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So come see us and see how a bank operates when it wants to be your only bank.

