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Price 30 Cents



NEW POST OFFICE FACILITY
At 3101 Beatties Ford Rd.

Monday, August 11

University Park Post Office Moves To New Site

by Susan Ellsworth
Post Staff Writer

The University Park Post Office will open at a new location on Monday, August 11, according to Willie Stratford, a public information spokesman for the postal system.

Presently located at 3239 Beatties Ford Road, the branch will be moved one block north to 3101 Beatties Ford Road.

Charlotte's General Mail Facility had studied the possibility of relocating the 6,000 sq. foot university

Park branch when the lease expired on the building in 1979.

At \$24,000 a year, the structure was judged too large and costly to maintain.

ain.

As a more economical location, the renovated service station will cost a projected \$66,000 to operate over the next ten years compared with \$240,000 for the present building.

Relocated facilities are projected to save taxpayers \$25,343 during the first year alone, Stratford said.

Since University Park's mail carriers already have been assigned to other facilities, "only one-third of the present footage is needed," Stratford explained.

"We do not need to continue to rent that much space," he continued, emphasizing that all services will be provided at the new

location.

Controversy arose earlier when community groups protested the relocated facility would be too small.

Community leaders expressed concern that elderly people and others seeking food stamps would have to line up outside the post office building in inclement weather.

Contained in a land tract of 33,200 sq. feet, the new facility will provide three service windows (same as current location) in 1,865 sq. feet of interior space.

Stratford said the building has been remodeled to meet all postal service requirements, and the change will not cause a reduction in services.

Kincaid Names Champion Deputy Campaign Manager

Mecklenburg Democratic Chairman Snyder Thompson announced Tuesday that Betty Jo Hamrick will serve as campaign manager for Ninth District Democratic Congressional candidate Randall Kincaid.

Mrs. Hamrick has been active in the campaign since its early stages and will take over the central coordination role as the campaign gears up for its major thrust, from Labor Day onward, Thompson said.

Thompson also announced the appointment of educator Joe Champion as deputy campaign manager. "This campaign is honored that someone with Joe Champion's stature in our community has consented to give time to this important effort," Thompson said. Thompson will continue as chairman of the Kincaid for Congress steering committee.

Mrs. Hamrick first became involved in politics 10 years ago, when she began working in school board campaigns. She has worked

ed in many other Democratic campaigns, including county commission, city council, mayoral and presidential races. She also worked for passage of the Charlotte Memorial Hospital bond issue in 1979.

Mrs. Hamrick, a native of High Point, and a graduate of Wake Forest University, has lived in Charlotte for 25 years and is a former teacher in Charlotte's public schools. She has been active in PTAs and is a Deacon and Sunday school teacher at Myers Park Baptist Church. She is immediate past president of the Baptist Metropolitan Ministers.

Mr. Champion retired from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system this summer after 35 years in education. In addition to working as a guidance specialist in the public schools, he has taught courses at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, served two years as a dean at Central Piedmont Community College and directed Project Spear, a summer enrichment program for low income youth.

July Bus Ridership

Continues Upward

Trend

Charlotte Transit System (CTS) bus ridership continued its upward climb with an increase of 10.09 percent or 53,026 more riders as compared to July, 1979.

Express bus ridership increased 105.69 percent over July, 1979, when 33,918 riders used the City's nine express bus routes.

City Officials Invited To Tour Blight Areas

Mrs. Chavis To Address Conference

By Eileen Hanson
Special To The Post

Mrs. Elizabeth Chavis, mother of civil rights activist Rev. Ben Chavis, will deliver the keynote address

at the fourth anniversary meeting of Concerned Women For Justice, Saturday, August 16 in Raleigh.

The day-long conference will be held at the Sheraton Highlands Inn (US Highway No. 1) from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Registration fee is \$5., which includes luncheon and materials.

Concerned Women for Justice is a state-wide organization concerned with problems of women, minorities and prisoners in North Carolina.

"We strive to promote social and economic opportunities through several county chapters throughout the state," said President Angelia Phillips.

Madie White heads this year's conference planning committee. For more information, contact Armenta Eaton, 919-556-4375; or in Charlotte, Jesse McCombs, 377-3153.

Following Mrs. Chavis' opening address, conference participants will attend two of three workshops: "Practical Approaches to Everyday Legal Problems," "The Woman's Role In Shaping the Future," and "The Plight of Black Education in the Future."

This conference will be beneficial to women who are having problems, especially N.C. mothers who are struggling to help their kids," said Jesse McCombs whose son, John McCombs Jr. is in Central Prison, convicted of killing a man who broke into his college apartment 4 years ago.

The conference is open to the public, both male and female. Advance registrations may be sent to Concerned Women for Justice, 5 West Hargett St., Suite 910, Raleigh, N.C. 27601.



CHARLOTTE YOUTHS WIN MARK CLARK AWARD

CHARLESTON - Retired Vice Adm. James B. Stockdale, president of The Citadel, presented the coveted Mark Clark Award to Campers Todd Victor Mason (left) and Jack Lee Mulligan (center) during graduation exercises concluding the second session of The Citadel Summer Camp for Boys July 26. The Mark Clark Award is presented on the basis of excellence in sports, physical

fitness, tournaments, manners and attitude.

A tenth-grade student at Myers Park High School, Todd is the son of Mr. Raymond and Mrs. Alfordretta M. Mason, 3934 Potomac Court. Jack is in the eighth grade at Carmel Academy and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack L. Mulligan, 3213 Mountainbrook Road.

Report Outlines Piedmont Courts Attendance Project

A report has just been completed and forwarded to the Superintendent outlining the results of the highly successful Piedmont Courts Pilot Attendance Project which was coordinated through the office of Mrs. Elizabeth Randolph who is Superintendent for Program Services, and directed by Mrs. Bobbie Toatley, School Work Specialist.

The purpose of the project, which began November, 1979 and ended June 6, 1980, was to demonstrate that dramatically improved attendance and school performance CAN result from the mobilization of school and community resources in a planned, coordinated effort.

Ten counselors and six school social workers worked with 176 students

from all ten CMS high schools. Other full time community staff in addition to the CMS staff included two workers from the Charlotte Housing Authority and a parent coordinator from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council. Eleven other community agencies provided continuous service to families in the area including the Department of Social Services and the Seigle Avenue Presbyterian Church.

The Piedmont Courts attendance area was chosen for this pilot project mainly because of the high absentee record of many students who live there, in addition to frequent complaints from residents about school-aged children being seen daily during school hours.

At the start of the project, the 176 students were absent 913 out of a possible 3,520 days - an average of 45.65 students absent 25.9 percent of the time.

In addition to improving student attendance, a number of side benefits were gained through the project including the formation of two on-going parent groups which meet weekly at the Piedmont Courts Learning Center to discuss mutual problems and to learn parenting skills. Topics include promotion, retention, and placement policies of the school system; positive and negative reinforcement of behavior; present functioning of the Juvenile Court Counselors; school rules as related to attendance; parental responsibility; money management and self-awareness.

It is also important that two high school completion classes for parents were formed as an off-shoot of the program, with instructors from CPCC meeting with parents at the project's learning center twice a week for instructions. The recommendation to the Superintendent is that, because of the obvious effectiveness and success of this trial program, it be continued during the coming year in order to better sustain the improved attendance pattern which has been begun by the students involved.

The CMS staff people were from most of the high schools. Also involved in the project were two CETA workers from the Charlotte Housing Authority, a parent coordinator from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council, two community workers from the Seigle Avenue Presbyterian Church, the Youth Services Bureau, 11 agencies providing direct services to residents of the Piedmont Courts area.

Invitation Rejected

By Susan Ellsworth
Post Staff Writer

Plaza Hills and Villa Heights neighborhood groups Monday demanded Chris Griffin, director of the city's Community Improvement Division, tour their area's vacant lots with them.

Griffin agreed to either come himself or send a representative, but has since rejected the invitation without explanation, according to a Carolina Action spokesman, and was unavailable for comment at press time.

"We're tired of being put off and put down," says one member of the neighborhood group affiliated with Carolina Action.

"Those lots are a real hazard. Rats and snakes breed in them and come into our homes. No one likes to live next to a field of weeds and trash."

Griffin's department is charged with ensuring that vacant lots are kept clean.

City inspectors by law are supposed to request the owner clean his property. If he doesn't do the cleanup, the city will do it and then fine the owner \$10 a day for every day the lot has grown messy again.

The fine is not enforced and the city has not cleaned the property, a CA spokesman remarked.

Last November the Community Division promised to see that 20 neighborhood lots were cleaned, according to Carolina Action.

Many of the lots, which the city had cleaned, have degenerated into eyesores again. The group also found 15 more vacant lots which owners and the department have ignored, a spokesman said.

Inspector Ed Lewis and 79 to 100 neighborhood representatives will attend the tour Thursday, August 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Parkwood CME Church at the corner of Parkwood Ave. and Allen Street.

Six hundred homes are affected by lots in the Plaza Hills and Villa Heights area.

Kincaid Opens

"Neighborhood

Week"

Randall Kincaid ninth district Democratic candidate for Congress opened "Neighborhood Week" with a picnic Sunday night at the Summer Pops concert at Freedom Park. Neighborhood leaders and their families were invited to join Kincaid and his supporters at the park.

Kincaid has been discussing neighborhood and family issues throughout the week as his "Issue of the Week" series continues.

The candidate will appear at the Junior Dairy Show at the Iredell County Fairgrounds in Troutman on Thursday, at 6:30 p.m.

He will host a party Friday at 6 p.m. for the precinct organization.

While attending the Dilworth Jubilee Saturday, from noon-4 p.m., Kincaid will appear at the Speaker's Corner at 3 p.m. at Latta Park.

JCSU Summer Commencement Exercise Will Be Held Saturday

The 1980 Summer Commencement Exercises will be at the University Church on campus Saturday, August 9, at 10 a.m.

Forty students are expected to graduate during the ceremony. Guest speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Herman E. Thomas

Thomas, professor of Afro-American & African Studies at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Thomas received his B.S. degree from North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro; his B.D. degree and Th.M. degree from Duke University Divinity School, Durham; and later received his Ph.D. from Hartford Sem-



Dr. Herman E. Thomas
Commencement speaker

inary Foundation, Hartford, Connecticut. In addition to being the author of a number of publications pertaining to black religious thinking, understanding of religion, and slavery, and Blacks in

American politics, Rev. Thomas has been very active in community service projects.

He has also received many awards and honors, including the Outstanding Young Men in America Award; named Who's Who in Black America several times; and received the plaque for Dedicated Service & Assistance to the Black Student Union.

Summer Commencement began at JCSU five years ago when students made the request of the Administration. University President, Dr. Wilbert Greenfield went along with the request as a service to students.

By holding summer com-

mencements, Dr. Greenfield said students can graduate the same year as their classmates without having to wait until the next year's commencement; and said students can reduce expenses by enrolling in summer school without having to attend class a full session to complete a few additional

hours. The number of students graduating this summer is up over last summer where 25 students received degrees.

Rev. Thomas, a Bryson City native, and his wife Julia live at 5913 Crafts-bury Dr. with their three children; Terence, Maurice and Katrina.