

Army Awards \$67.4 Million Contracts To Minorities

With Susan Ellsworth

Charlotte is the seventh largest city, population wise, among southeast cities. That is the official word from the Census Bureau.

During 1970-80, Charlotte's population jumped by 28.7 percent. It's 310,800 citizens (by 1980 Census count) make Charlotte the 48th largest city in the country.

Reports indicate Charlotte is the largest city between Washington and Atlanta, and sits in the center of the sixth largest urban region in the U.S.

Southeastern cities larger than Charlotte are Memphis, New Orleans, Jacksonville, Nashville, Atlanta and Miami.

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Nine minority-owned small businesses, including five black-owned firms have been awarded \$67.4 million in Army contracts through a special U.S. Small Business Administration contracting program.

Participants received 11 contracts and 13 additional ones were reserved. Black-owned firms collected \$25 million in contracts and the remainder went to firms controlled by Hispanics and Asians.

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In emergency surgery time is vital...so vital that four years ago the Army Department patented a product called Hydroscrub which reduced a doctor's scrub time from 10 minutes to 90 seconds.

Hydroscrub is now being developed for commercial use by a black-owned company in Arlington, Texas.

"Cutting even one minute off the scrub time can mean saving a life," says James Kellum, president of Delta Manufacturing and Sales, Inc., the company producing the device along with the Minority Business Development Agency.

Kellum said the primary markets for hydroscrub are hospitals and other medical facilities. Delta, however, is also studying the possibilities of its use in restaurants and food service operations.

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Boys Town of North Carolina has received a \$10,000 grant from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation of

Susan's Notes



Susan

Winston-Salem to retain its staff psychiatrist, Douglas Powers.

Opened ten years ago in Pineville, Boys Town provides programs for treatment and rehabilitation of troubled older adolescents.

The UNCC professor will consult with Boys Town to design a therapeutic environment for it.

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A plant called "cannabis sativa" is growing batches of headaches across the nation for U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service rangers.

Cannabis sativa grows under such aliases as "grass," "pot," "Mary Jane" and "marijuana" and Forest Service officials say its acreage in the national forests is rising at an alarming rate.

USDA authorities say the 190 million acres of national forest lands are available to the public for uses ranging from camping to cattle grazing.

"Climate and profitability probably have contributed to increased amounts of marijuana being grown in national forests," says Bill Derr, director of law enforcement for the Forest Service's Pacific Southwest region.

"I'm certain marijuana is being illegally cultivated in all 17 national forests in California," Derr said. "In the northern parts of the state, it has become big business."

Similar problems exist in national forests in the South and Pacific Northwest, according to a

spokesman for Forest Service's southern region.

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The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will host seven regional conferences this year including one in Union, Washington, March 6-8.

These conferences will serve as leadership training sessions for many of the newly elected officers in NAACP branches throughout the country.

Conferences are expected to draw officials from the national office, NAACP members at-large, state conference officers, regional staff persons and the general public.

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Mecklenburg County Commissioners have appointed Maggie Lamb Nicholson to the Nursing Home Advisory Committee.

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If you plan to watch the County Commission meeting on TV March 16 you will be disappointed. The Board approved a request from WTVI not to televise the meeting on that date because it occurs during a station fundraising effort. Yet, the meeting will be held as usual at 9 p.m.

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Governor Jim Hunt has named NASA astronaut Dr. Ronald E. McNair of Houston to the N. C. School of Science and Mathematics Board of Trustees.

Dr. McNair, 30, graduated magna cum laude from the N. C. A&T

State University in 1971, receiving a bachelor of science degree in physics. He received his Ph.D. in physics from M.I.T. in 1976 and an honorary doctorate of law from N.C. A&T in 1978.

The N.C. School of Science and Mathematics in Durham is the nation's first public, residential high school for students who are gifted and talented in mathematics and science.

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Rev. Leon Sullivan, speaking in Kansas City, Missouri, to civic, political and religious leaders praised the Kansas City OIC Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America) Model Auto Repair Training Program.

"This is one of 12 centers that Allstate has been developing in a partnership of OIC of America," he said. "The uniqueness of the Kansas City project is the fact that the Private Industry Council of Kansas City and Department of Urban Affairs of the City Government have joined Allstate and OIC in making the program possible."

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The John Crosland Company will start construction of a \$3.7 million apartment complex, Creekside in Hickory, N.C. during mid-March.

Creekside Apartments will offer one, two and three bedrooms units, some with fireplaces, at rents ranging from \$280 to \$425. Located on 12th Ave., N.W., the complex will be completed within a year.

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