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Gina Scott
...Secretary-receptionist

Vivacious Gina Scott Believes In

"Putting Her Priorities In Order"

By Jayne Strong
Post Staff Writer

Gina Scott is "putting her priorities in order" now that she's completed the Urban League's Job Training Center and has landed a job with LEAD Associates, a management consultant firm. A secretary-receptionist for the company, Gina says she'll also receive extensive training in word processing on the job. She had some clerical experience from attending Central Piedmont Community College, however, through the job training program, Gina informs, "I brushed up my skills, plus developed math skills and was taught a great deal about the business world." Gina's very excited about her new job and has big plans for the future. "I'm looking forward to developing a career in word processing and maybe one day moving up to a management-supervisor position," she projects. Gina also wants to buy a new car for her next

birthday. She calls the opportunity gained through the Job Training Center "my lucky break. It gave me the direction I needed when I had no future outlook," she reveals. For hobbies, this 23-year-old beauty claims she enjoys dancing, shopping, cooking and plants. "I like to get plants, though often I just watch them die," laments Gina. "I don't have a green thumb." She also likes "good, long, mystery novels," listening to music, swimming and working out at Woman's World three times a week. "I can't sit around doing nothing," Gina smiles. "I like to keep my mind occupied." She stays pretty active taking care of her three-year-old son, Terry "T.J." Mackins Jr. "He's all boy," says Gina. T. J. is hearing impaired and his mother says he's recently fallen in love with his hearing aids. "He's realized that they help him," Gina notes.

She often works with her son and his speech therapist and explains, "If I'm there it seems to be an extra incentive for him to try harder." Gina's favorite person is T. J., of course. "He's my little man," she admits. Her favorite celebrity is Jayne Kennedy. "She's a very successful, beautiful black woman," Gina points out. "And from what I've read, she's had a few hard times but has prevailed. "I'm assertive, outgoing and I like to have fun," Gina says about herself. "I'm just a people person." Her interest in other people leads Gina to believe that "all prejudice, fighting and hunger in the world" should be ended. If it was in her power, Gina expresses, "I'd give more people the opportunity I've had, an opportunity to prove themselves. So many people never get the chance." Also if it is possible, the one thing in the world she wants more than anything else is for her son to hear.

Fauntroy Is NCLD Dinner Speaker

Special To The Post
The North Carolina Legal Defense and Educational Fund will hold its annual fund raising dinner on Saturday, April 13, at the Adam's Mark Hotel. The event will begin with a reception at 5:45 p.m. followed by the dinner at 7 p.m. Congressman Walter E. Fauntroy of the District of Columbia will be the guest speaker. The noted civil rights activist and minister is the first person to represent the District of Columbia in the House of Representatives in more than 100 years. Also on the program will be former Charlotte attorney Julius Chambers who now serves as General Counsel for the national Legal Defense and Educational Fund. The Fund provides legal assistance to

minorities who are involved in discrimination cases and also provides scholarships to aspiring young minority lawyers. According to Zoel Hargrave, co-chairperson of the fund raising committee, "We are making an all out effort to make a good financial showing this year in support of Julius and as our vote of confidence in him and the work of the Fund. We expect a sell-out for the event and hope that the contributions will hit a new high," he said. Hargrave said that in addition to the local support, persons in adjacent towns and counties are also making reservations in good numbers.

WANT TO ATTEND?

To make reservations for the LDF dinner, or to receive more information, call Zoel or Esther Hargrave at 399-8897. Deadline for reservations is April 9. Cost: \$30 individual; \$100 sponsor (2 tickets); and \$250 bene-

Spring Classes

The Jewish Community Center of Charlotte opens its Spring classes to the public. Offerings, including adult courses in stained glass, C.P.R., stress management, international Passover cooking and Systematic Training for Effective Parenting, and children's classes in ballet, karate, gymnastics and mom-tot exercise, begin April 21. For a full list of classes and to register, call the J.C.C. at 366-6337.



Learning is a tonic which thinking people take every day.

Mayor Ford Urges War On Social Decay

Special To The Post

Hollywood - Urging civic and religious leaders gathered at Celebrity Center International to join hands in wiping out illiteracy, drug abuse and crime in our cities, Mayor Johnny Ford of Tuskegee, Ala., and president of the World Conference of Mayors (WCM) invited solutions which he could propose to President Reagan in a meeting at the White House.

Ford's distinguished audience at the opening of a weekend conference on global peace included State Senators Diane Watson and Charles Green, WCM International Director Sam Tucker and such civil rights leaders as Heber Jentzsch, president of the Church of Scientology, and Rev. M. M. Merriweather, pastor of the New Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in Inglewood. Mayor Tom Bradley's executive assistant, Wanda Moore, surprised Ford before the assemblage with a commendation from the City of Los Angeles for his humanitarian works.

Ford stressed the urgency of finding new solutions to old problems. "By combing the forces of various religions, the world's mayors and other groups in a grassroots movement," he said, "we can arrest the decline of social and moral values in our cities."

WCM, founded by Ford in 1984, is a non-partisan group which supplements the work of the United Nations and other organizations by



John Ford
...WCM president

solving worldwide problems through "the five T's - trust, trade, technology transfer, tourism and twin city relationships," he explained.

Ford said he would be meeting with President Reagan soon to discuss the Youth Employment Act which Reagan is working on as well as some of the solutions discovered during the weekend conference.

As president of the 600-member network of mayors, including mayors from 16 nations, Ford - who has

been mayor of Tuskegee, Ala., since 1972 - said the problems of cities are growing worse each year. In December, 1984, Ford said, WCM at its first annual meeting at Monrovia, Liberia, overwhelmingly resolved to adopt recent technical breakthroughs developed by L. Ron Hubbard to solve these problems.

"Working together," Ford said, "we are striving to achieve the aim which Mr. Hubbard stated so aptly: 'A civilization without insanity, without criminals and without war, where the able can prosper and honest beings can have rights, and where man is free to rise to greater heights....'"

Hubbard, best-selling author and philosopher, developed technical breakthroughs in such areas as drug reform and rehabilitation, an innovative learning technology to better educational systems and morals and mental health with proven results around the globe.

Ford urged others to join him in implementing all workable means for improving human life.

"Whether you are white, brown, yellow, or red, and whether Catholic, Baptist, Methodist, or Muslim," Ford said, "it is time to stand up and reach out into our cities, seeking new friends with common interests," Ford urged, "and work for the betterment of mankind."

For further information regarding WCM and its programs, contact Sam Tucker, 202-331-7532.

Black Publisher Breaks Ground For Blacks In Newspaper Business

Minorities comprise only 5.8 percent of newsroom professionals, according to a 1984 study by the American Society of Newspaper Editors, and 61 percent of the nation's dailies do not employ any minorities.

Given those figures, Pam Johnson, president and publisher of the Ithaca Journal in upstate New York - and the first black woman to become publisher of a general-market daily in the U.S. - has her work cut out for her.

Johnson, who is the subject of a

cover story in the April issue of Black Enterprise magazine, has a staff that has less than one percent minority representation, but rapid turnover in some areas such as the newsroom will give her a chance to improve that statistic, she told Black Enterprise.

Her present staff, however, is making a noticeable effort to improve its coverage of the black community. "The reporters are much more sensitive, careful, and respectful of the black community's concerns in areas such as education

or police relations than before," explains professor James Turner, director of the African Studies and Research Center at Cornell University.

Gannett Co., Inc., owner of the Journal and 86 other dailies, including the national newspaper USA Today, is pushing for more minority involvement in the newspaper industry - 18.1 percent of Gannett's newspaper work force are minorities.

Jay Harris, a black columnist for the Gannett News Service, told Black Enterprise, "More blacks in the newsroom becomes even more important as we see a reemergence of black and minority issues getting front-page coverage."

"No matter what anyone says, it doesn't just happen," says Madeline Jennings, senior vice president of personnel and administration at Gannett. "It takes effective college recruitment programs and management training seminars."

Mervin Aubespin, president of the National Association of Black Journalists, applauds Johnson's promotion. "Pam's appointment gives credibility to what black journalists have been proposing for years," he told Black Enterprise. "Blacks can indeed run a newspaper, we can manage a diversified newsroom and produce a quality paper that will serve a diversified community."

Johnson was formerly a journalism professor at Norfolk State University. She got her start in the newspaper business in 1967 reporting race riots for the Chicago Tribune as one of only two black reporters. She was hired by the Gannett chain because, "we saw general management potential in Pam," Jennings told Black Enterprise. "We liked her view of what a newspaper should be about and what its role should be within the community."

Aubespin agrees with those criteria. "We must be hired in all areas of newspaper publishing - advertising, promotion, circulation," he says.

Special Celebration To Highlight First Ward School's "Rich Past"

By celebrating their school's rich past, students and supporters of Charlotte's First Ward School are asking the community to help shape its future. The occasion is "Sakes Alive...We're 85!" - a day-long birthday celebration for the school on Saturday, April 13.

First Ward Elementary, at 400 E. 10th St., is the oldest school in Charlotte's city limits and the only true inner-city school. It opened as North School in 1906. With some help from their friends, the school's present students - fourth, fifth and sixth graders - now are honoring the generations of students who preceded them.

But the celebration also marks a beginning. The school is a cornerstone of efforts to revitalize the city's First Ward neighborhood. Parents from diverse backgrounds are working together with teachers, elected officials and business leaders to rebuild the school into a vibrant learning center that's a vital part of downtown Charlotte.

At Sakes Alive, a public auction of treasures as diverse as First Ward's history is scheduled to raise money for the school's fledgling computer program. "In addition to putting a little flesh on the bones of history, we



Nancy Jones
...Co-authors book

want to make this a more effective and vital place to educate all of our children," says First Ward principal Cleo Gullick. "Computers will revolutionize the way we teach."

The stars of the show will be the students, past and present. Today's students helped two parents research a special history book that will be available at the celebration. In interviews conducted by 71 current students, former pupils re-

count delightful and poignant tales dating back to the early 1900s. An intricate 8x12' wall hanging being stitched together with the help of dozens of other present-day students depicts First Ward scenes of the past, including the oldest surviving residence within Charlotte's original four wards. Already 75 former students have been invited to return for the celebration and more are being heard from as the news spreads. "It's not unusual for me to answer the phone and have someone say, 'I went to First Ward in 1920.' It's amazing how much they remember," says school administrative assistance Bettye Hutchison.

The Sakes Alive spirit is spreading to many outside the school as well. More than 300 businesses have donated items for an auction featuring treasures such as one of Arnold Palmer's putters, labor to paint a room, a mink skin scarf, a white-water raft, a case of wine, a medical exam, and a dazzling selection of resort weekends, restaurant dinners, hair cuts, "make-overs," and much more. Items for all size pocketbooks will be offered, with a silent auction at 11 a.m. and a live auction beginning at noon. See SPECIAL On Page 11A