

# "Let's Talk" Celebrates By Expanding To Month-Long Schedule

By Audrey C. Lodato  
Post Staff Writer

The fifth annual "Let's Talk" celebration coordinated by the Mecklenburg Council on Adolescent Pregnancy has been expanded to cover the month of October.

In past years, the events have been limited to one week.

Barbara Ziegler, executive director of the Council, explained the purpose of "Let's Talk." "Our emphasis is on parent-teen communication from the beginning. We feel strongly that if a family shares values, goals, and religion as the children are growing up, it becomes easier to talk about more difficult subjects, like sex, drugs, and alcohol. It's easier to tackle sensitive issues if you begin early."

The "Let's Talk" schedule of community activities lists nearly 40 events throughout the month on family communications and teen sexuality. The activities are sponsored by various churches and organizations. Some of the events are free; others have a small fee.

Through "Let's Talk" month, the Council hopes to get people involved and let them know the wide range of resources available.

Commenting on the fact that

"Let's Talk" has been expanded from one week to an entire month, Ziegler said. "This is the biggest outpouring of interest we've ever had."

Opening the month-long celebration is "Parents: It's Time to Talk," sponsored by the March of Dimes and the Junior League. The dates are September 29 and October 6; the place, Pritchard Memorial Baptist Church. Call 377-2009 for more information.

Topping off the month is a Family Relations Media Fair to be held October 29 at St. John's Baptist Church. The fair, noted Ziegler, "is open to anyone, particularly to anyone who deals with teens." A variety of agencies will bring their resources to the fair, and it is hoped clergy, youth ministers, counselors, and teachers will take advantage of the opportunity to learn what is available in Charlotte. "So many churches want to do something, but don't know where to start," she remarked.

Other activities in the early part of October include the following: October 3, 9:30-noon, "How to Survive the 80s in a Family," Mental Health Services, 375-3575, ext. 317, fee-\$8; October 3 - November 17



Barbara Ziegler  
...Council director

(Thursdays), 6:30-8 p.m., Improving communications in families experiencing separation and divorce, for parents and youth ages six and older, YWCA, 4320 Park Rd., sponsored by Family Enrichment Services, call Sally Vanderstraeten, 332-9034, fee-\$35 per family.

October 5, 11, and 26, 2-4 p.m., open house and film, "The Spring-

time of Your Life," sponsored by the Crisis Pregnancy Center, 1311 E. Morehead St., call 375-8981; October 7 and 21, 9:30-noon, "How to be Heard in Your Own Family," Mental Health Services, 374-3575, ext. 317, fee-\$12; October 8, 3:45 p.m., "Gri! Talk," Discovery Place, 372-0261 for registration, fee-\$5 members, \$6.50 non-members.

October 8 and 22, 6:30 p.m., "Teen Sexuality Discussion," Bethlehem Center, 375-1417; and October 8, 7:30 p.m., "Teen-Parent Speak

Out," City Council Chambers, sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, call 332-4450.

A bibliography for parents and teens has been prepared by the Mecklenburg Public Library and is available at the library or through the Council office. Many of these books are also available through local bookstores.

For more information about "Let's Talk" or teen pregnancy, call Ziegler at 332-6721.

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Regina Yvette Russell  
...Mathematics major

### Regina Russell Will Be Crowned

### "Miss Barber-Scotia"

Regina Yvette Russell, a Barber-Scotia mathematics major from Concord, N.C., will be crowned Miss Barber-Scotia College during the coronation activities that will be held on the campus on Friday, September 27, at 9 p.m. in the College Union.

The granddaughter of Mrs. Ozana Jones of 117 Young Avenue and the daughter of Mrs. Delores Carter, Regina Russell is a senior and has served as editor of the yearbook, a member of the newspaper staff, and a peer counselor. She is presently a member of the BSC Student Government Association, the Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society, and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., where she reigned as Miss Delta Sigma Theta for the year 1984-85.

An accomplished organist and pianist, Russell's hobbies include reading and cooking.

"I feel honored that the student body elected me as Miss Barber-Scotia College," said Russell. "It is a challenge that I greatly accept and I feel capable of fulfilling the duties of the position."

Upon graduation from Barber-Scotia College, Regina Russell plans to pursue a career in mathematics and computer science.

### Waste Management

Waste management, a major consideration in the November bond referendum in Mecklenburg County, is the topic for discussion at the Chamber's Issues Forum, to be held from 8-9 a.m. Wednesday, September 25, at the Chamber Action Center.

The speakers will be County Commissioner Fountain Odom and Dr. Tax Tally, UNCC professor.

Odom says the discussion should provide substantial information about waste management in Mecklenburg County.

"Waste management is an important issue that affects practically everyone in the area," he said. "This forum offers a good opportunity for local residents to gain significant information on the topic before the November election."

Sig Hultt of Public Relations-Marketing Associates is to be moderator.

To reserve a seat for the Issues Forum, call Cheryl Phillips or Tony Byrd at 377-6911 before noon, September 24.

### Workshops Scheduled

The Mecklenburg Health Services and Early Intervention program will be holding a series of workshops at the Mental Health Center, 501 Billingsley Rd., beginning in October.

A workshop on feelings and survival of the family into the 80s will be held October 1, 8 and 15 and October 3, respectively.

If interested in attending either workshop, contact the center at 375-3575, ext 317, for times and fees.

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