



Home For The Holiday

Eight-year-old kidney transplant patient comes home for Christmas



Into The '90s

Clergy share perspectives on black church in next decade

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GENEVA BROWN A teacher's teacher

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Geneva Brown has earned several reputations in her 35 years as elementary school teacher and

administrator in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools.

Students at Moore Alternative School knew to "straighten up" when they saw principal Brown monitoring the halls.

Parents have called her innovative because of her unique approaches to teaching teachers to teach.

And most recently, some members of the schools' central office have been busily making preparations for Mrs. Brown, who, on Jan. 2, will become the system's first director of minority student achievement.

Originally from "down East" - Goldsboro, Mrs. Brown was introduced to teaching by her par-

ents. Her late mother was a teacher and her father retired as a principal. But back then Mrs. Brown was more interested in pursuing a career in commercial art.

"I always wanted to be a commercial artist," she said. "I wanted to go to Pratt Institute in New York. But my parents said no. They said I could go to (North Carolina) A&T (State University) and take art and teaching at the same time. That's how I ended up at A&T."

"She has the insight of Buddha in that she can see what's coming up far ahead and she gives it to us. We do it at Moore, then everybody else in the system catches on."

-- Judy Cox

She agreed to study to be a teacher, but Mrs. Brown had no intention of actually entering the profession. She explained: "I never really intended to teach, but through

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Photo by Mike Cunningham

Climaxing 35 years of service to the city-county schools, Geneva Brown will become the system's first director of minority achievement next month.

Citizens debate toll-free area plan

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

Proponents of a proposal that would establish toll-free telephone services for residents wishing to place calls to municipalities within the Triad say such a service would promote that "regionalism" that large corporations like to see. But those against Expanded Area Service (EAS) say it means higher telephone bills for many low-income and elderly telephone customers.

Citizens for a Toll-free Triad Committee has, for the past three years, been trying to develop a way to extend services to telephone consumers at a cost which would be affordable to the private and business sectors, said Lloyd G. Walter, a member of the committee. Also known as the Triad Telephone Committee, the group is composed mostly of small business people representing Winston-Salem, High Point and Greensboro and Guilford and Forsyth counties.

"Our proposal is to try to get regionalized with our telephone service," Mr. Walter explained. "Frankly, in order to meet the needs of everybody in the region we need to view ourselves as a region. We're not trying to add problems for everybody. But if we're going to promote this area as a region, like some have said, in order to sell it as a great location for big businesses to locate, this is a great place to start. Look at Charlotte. They don't have this problem because they have expanded service that goes out quite a ways."

About 10 months ago the committee sent its proposal to the N.C. Utilities Commission. Estimations as to how much EAS would cost residential and business customers were included in the plan, said Mr. Walter, who owns a small architectural firm. In its review of the proposal, the commission's staff found several discrepancies and has spent the last several

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FBI alerting NAACP officials across North and South Carolina

Rash of mail bombings believed to be the work of white supremacists targeting civil rights activists

By The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE -- Agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation fanned across the Carolinas alerting NAACP officials of possible danger in the wake of mail bombings in Alabama, Florida and Georgia.

The alert was prompted by Tuesday's discovery of a bomb at the NAACP headquarters in Jacksonville, Fla. It's one of four discovered in the three states so far. Two exploded, one killing a federal judge in Birmingham and the other a lawyer in Savannah.

Officials are worried that whoever is responsible for the bombs may not be through.

"That's a tremendous concern, and we are not ruling that out," Paul Daly, special agent in charge of North Carolina's FBI, told The Charlotte Observer in an interview published today. "There is reason to believe that's the case."

... There is evidence of a continuum."

"We are handling this as a priority matter," said Rick Denton, assistant special agent in charge in South Carolina.

The FBI said Wednesday that the bombs were mailed from Georgia on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

U.S. Circuit Judge Robert Vance, 58, was killed by

a package bomb Saturday. Savannah attorney Robert Robinson, 42, was killed Monday. Another bomb was mailed Saturday from the Atlanta area to the Circuit Court of Appeals clerk's office in Atlanta. That bomb and one discovered Tuesday were removed safely. All four were pipe bombs that contained nails for shrapnel.

Links to NAACP school-desegregation efforts have been established in all four cases, leading investigators to speculate that a racist group might be responsible.

There have been no recent similar acts in North Carolina, but federal agents have paid attention to

the state's history of white-supremacist violence.

"Obviously, we are looking at any ties to this particular event," Daly said Wednesday.

"Traditionally there has been a close relationship between these groups," Daly said. "This has been a very fertile ground, probably the leading fertile ground. I think it's probably ... been the site of more violence than anywhere else by right-wing groups."

Meanwhile, on Wednesday afternoon, the McLeansville post office was evacuated when a package began vibrating and officials believed it

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Sometimes the best man for the job is a woman

By TONYA V. SMITH
Chronicle Staff Writer

How many hats can one woman wear? For Patricia Norris - police lieutenant, wife, mother,

"There's just not enough time in a day," Lt. Norris said, adding that time management is her biggest problem.

Pat Norris, whose aliases

Alcohol Resistance Education), Officer Friendly, Neighborhood Watch and Victim Assistance programs are included in the 12-officer unit.

The Winston-Salem native didn't take the most traveled road of entry to the police department. After graduating from R.J. Reynolds High School, Mrs. Norris enrolled in Winston-Salem State University with plans to major in Business Administration.

"I was there for about two and a half years before I decided that I needed a full-time job," she explained. "I got in the work force because, well the grades were not all that great and because school just wasn't where I wanted to be then. Boy, do I regret making that decision now."

Lt. Norris' career in the work-force has included several seemingly unrelated occupations - including school bus driver, grocery store cashier, day care teacher, hosiery production line worker, a job in the city's traffic engineering department and as intermediate accounting clerk at city yard.

Her motivation to join the police department came from one of her close friends who was an officer, and from the "tomboyishness" in her from her childhood days.

"Ever since I was little I'd always been the tomboy in the

group," Lt. Norris said. "I climbed trees and everything. After seeing what my friend did, I thought it would be nice to try police work."

When Mrs. Norris first applied for the job, there were no openings on the police force. Former city traffic engineer Roy Williams, who helped her get the accounting clerk position, persuaded her to re-apply.

"He asked me if I was still interested in being a police officer and I said yes, and he told me to give the department a call," the lieutenant explained. "I called and talked to them, went down for an interview and tests and the next thing I knew I was in rookie school."

Unfortunately, joining the police force was not the dream Mrs. Norris' mother had for her.

"All my family members were against it," she explained. "But this was something I had wanted for so long that I had to go for it."

After graduating from rookie school in 1977, Lt. Norris was assigned to the department's patrol division - where she worked for about seven years. In that division she became very familiar with every area of the city. She responded to calls, some of them potentially dangerous, but emerged with few altercations.

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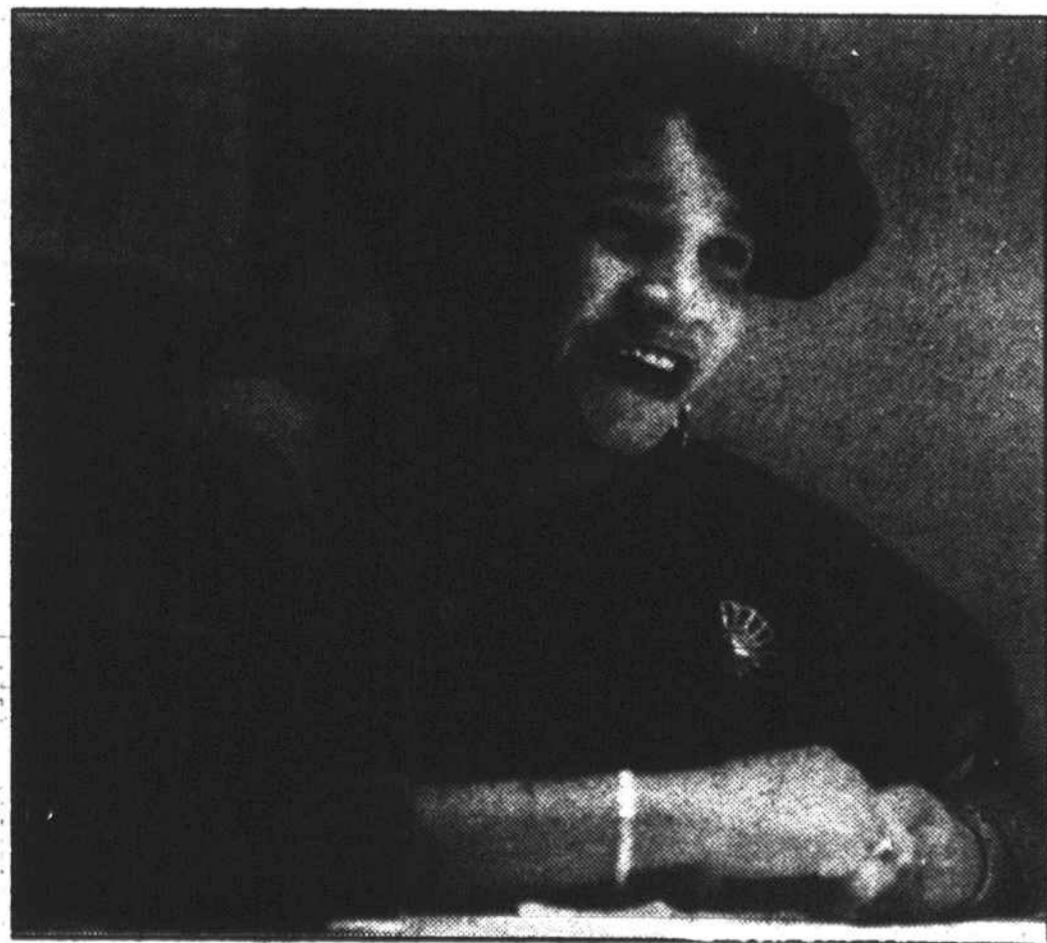


Photo by Mike Cunningham

Being a full-time police lieutenant, wife and mother and part-time student keeps Patricia Norris pretty busy.

student, community worker - there are quite a few.

Her eight-hour work day and evening slate of classes at Winston-Salem State University hammers home the old adage,

included numerous nicknames that she wouldn't allow to be publicly revealed, is the supervising officer of the Winston-Salem Police Department's Crime Resistance Unit. The DARE (Drug,

How Cold Was It?



Photo by Mike Cunningham

Samaria Galny and 22-month-old Tyrez Galny bundle up against the cold as they wait for a bus at East Winston Shopping Center.