

Equal Employment Opportunity

Important To Southern Bell

By Sidney Moore Jr.
Post Staff Writer

"To us, equal employment opportunity is just as important as installing a telephone or collecting the customer's bill," said Ed Welch, a personnel coordinator with Southern Bell.

Welch is also Southern Bell's Equal Employment Opportunity Coordinator for North Carolina. As such, he is interested in spreading the word that his company has an Affirmative Action Program to insure equal employment opportunity.

This program "is a policy of specific and result-oriented procedures to bring our employee work force into approximately the same representation as minorities and females represent in the total labor force in North Carolina," said the "Ma Bell" official.

Efforts to establish this poli-



Ed Welch

Personnel coordinator date back to 1972, according to Welch. He said the policy was prepared in writing in 1973 and re-affirmed with a sanction from the federal government.

Employees of the company were informed of the adoption of this policy by the distribu-

tion of a handbook. Welch is one of the members of the company staff that oversees the implementation of these policies in the eight district operations of Southern Bell in this state.

"I receive, investigate and make recommendations for solutions to charges of discrimination because of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, or handicap," said Welch. "I conduct regular reviews in our districts to determine and insure Equal Opportunity as a fact in Southern Bell's North Carolina organization."

Welch said district and state level committees within his company are responsible for carrying out affirmative action policies. Management employees, district managers, department managers and the vice-president-general manager of Southern Bell, B. F. Skinner, serve on these committees. Because of this widespread concern, Welch feels his company is successfully carrying out equal opportunity policy.

"We feel it has been very successful," Welch said. "Today minorities and women are involved in all facets of our business."

In addition to employment opportunity, Welch listed other ways his company assists minorities to improve their skills. These ways include a tuition plan, correspondence courses, an Assessment Center where the employee can be evaluated for his potential for management, and counseling services.

Public Hearing To

Discuss Freeway Changes

RALEIGH, April 14 — department of Transportation (DOT) officials will hold a public hearing in Charlotte to discuss the proposed location and design for the relocation of Independence Boulevard from I-77 to the Northwest Freeway.

The hearing has been scheduled for May 12 at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in the Fourth Floor School Board Room in the Education Center Building at 701 East Second Street in Charlotte.

The proposals presented will vary from improvement of existing Independence Boulevard to a relocated freeway. The right-of-way for the portion of the proposed relocation from the Northwest freeway to Independence at Kenilworth has been acquired. The remaining right-of-way will be that necessary to contain the construction. Access control will depend upon the design selected.

DOT is conducting the public hearing to provide the public with an explanation of the alternate design treatments, right-of-way requirements and procedures. Relocation advisory assistance will be offered and the State-Federal relationship will be explained.

The public is invited to attend and make comments and submit material pertinent to the proposed relocation.

Maps setting forth the alternate design treatments and copies of the Environmental Statement are available for public review and copying at the Transportation Planning Coordinator's Office, City Hall, 600 East Trade Street, Charlotte, N. C.

Young Hearts To

Sponsor Dramatic Recital

The Young At Heart Club will present Mrs. Sally P. Kelly in a Dramatic Recital at the Greenville Neighborhood Center Tuesday night, May 11.

Plans for the recital were finalized in a meeting Thursday night that was hosted by Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Malone, Mrs. Johnnie Yongue and Ernest Scott.

Bridge and bingo were played following the business meeting. Mrs. Emma Flowe and A. E. Spears were the winners at bridge and Mrs. Virginia Patterson, Mrs. and nebelle McClary, Walter Alexander, Ernest Scott, Mrs. Oli-

via Mitchell, Mrs. Estella Stowe, Dr. J. W. Smith and Mrs. Leticia Martin were the winners at bingo.

Mrs. Patterson and Mr. Spears were the special guests of the organization that had members Elihu Alexander, Dr. J. W. Smith, Mrs. Sally Kelly, Mrs. Annabelle McClary, Mrs. Bessie W. Mulliens, Mrs. Emma Flowe, Mrs. Minnie Gaddy, Mrs. Leticia Martin, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Nash, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Malone, Dr. Clyde Liggins, Mrs. Roxie Ezell, Mrs. Estella Stowe, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Levi, Mrs. Johnnie Yongue and Mrs. Olivia Mitchell in attendance.



OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY HOSTESSES

The lovely ladies who served as hostesses to the annual district meeting of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. here last weekend are pictured front row, left to right, Gloria Pickett, Duffie Hyatt, Rhonda Graddy, Myra Max-

well, Wilma Foster, Sybil Scott, Bonnie Pinder, Shirley Roberts, Lovelia Weddington and Carol Grier. Back row, left to right, are Pat Polk Wilson, Oraphill A. Dargan, Glenda Pyant and Loretta Harry.

Remount Road Closes For Widening

As of Monday, April 26, Remount Road was closed to all through traffic between

West Boulevard and South Tryon Street. This section is being

widened to four lanes as part of the Remount Road Widening Contract approved by the City Council April 5.

Traffic will be detoured around the construction area by

way of West Boulevard, Clanton Road and South Tryon Street. Local traffic will be maintained between West Boulevard and South Tryon Street.

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