



**UNUSUALLY LARGE CROWD TURNS OUT FOR
...Voter registration promotion
Voter Registration Drive
Attracts 361 New Voters**

By Sidney Moore Jr.
Post Staff Writer

A voter registration drive held Saturday, July 17, at McCrorey Branch YMCA registered 361 people.

The Black Women's Caucus (BWC) of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and WGIV Radio promoted the registra-

tion campaign. The BWC plans to follow-up the registration drive with a "how-to-vote" clinic. It will be held at 4 p.m. Sunday, July 25, at United Memorial Presbyterian Church, 2600 Beatties Ford Road.

"Plans have been made to demonstrate the use of the

machine and to allow participants an opportunity to actually cast some trial ballots," said a BWC statement.

The success of the registration drive, according to a BWC spokesperson, was largely due to the attention getting discotheque party put on by WGIV. Announcer Jim Black gave such prizes as frisbees, record albums, tee shirts, theatre tickets, passes to Charlotte Orioles baseball games, tickets to the Earth, Wind and Fire concert Saturday, July 24, and Orioles baseball caps.

A number of political candidates also made appearances at the registration drive. This was an indication that politicians would be more sensitive to the needs of the black community if more blacks would register to vote, said a BWC official.

Sara Stevenson is president of the BWC. Ethel Martin is the Voter Registration chairperson and Joe Anne Williams is publicity chairperson.

**Austin Seeks School Post
To Aid Mentally Retarded**

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr.
Post Executive Editor

Donald T. Austin, a candidate for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School Board, has for many years been a strong advocate of more and better education for the mentally retarded.

Experiencing the heart-break of a retarded child of his own, Austin's interest and concern with education for handicapped children dates back many years. When the center for the Trainable Mentally Retarded (TMR) was opened six years ago in the old Myers Street Elementary School building, Donald Austin immediately became involved, he said, "in the effort to make the school acceptable and safe for our children."

Commenting further to the POST, Austin noted that "with the opening of the Myers Street Center it was evident to me, and anyone else who would take a close look, that there was much that needed to be done for the retarded. In the past six years I believe that my efforts - along with the efforts of many other interested people - have led to the total involvement of the parents and citizens of Mecklenburg County in a most worthy cause - that is the education of the mentally retarded. Our involvement has led to the new TMR Center now under con-



Donald T. Austin
...School board candidate

struction." "My own interest," Austin continued, "has broadened from just involvement with the retarded to concern for all handicapped children. While great progress has been made in programs for all handicapped children there is still a very great deal that needs to be done for exceptional children."

With regard to his candidacy for the school board, Austin pointed out that, "With passage of Senate Bill 1238 which states, 'it is the policy of the State (N.C.) to insure every child a fair and full opportunity to reach his full potential,' and the mandate of the North Carolina Legislators to have this ruling in effect (at the earliest possible time), I be-

lieve that there will be a great need for someone familiar with the problems of handicapped children to have a voice in the fulfillment of this mandate. With this in mind it is my desire to serve as a spokesman for exceptional children in Mecklenburg County though service on the school board."

School Board candidate Austin says that he has three main goals for the board to pursue, these are: better state and national laws to further insure that every child receives a fair and equal education designed to meet his or her fullest potential; upgrading of vocational programs in the school particularly for those youth not able or interested in attending college; and securing "for teachers a liveable salary."

Austin is an employee of the U.S. Postal Service where he has served as a letter carrier for 23 years.

Active in civic and educational affairs, Austin is a member of the Myers Street Center PTA-Treasurer, Myers Street Center School Committee, and chairman, Education Committee of the Mecklenburg County Association of Retarded Citizens.

Austin is married to the former Lucille Hagler and the proud father of five children.

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BRC Plans Workshop

For Minority Businesses

By Sidney Moore Jr.
Post Staff Writer

"How To Sell To An Audience" is the title of a 5 day course being offered to minority businessmen by the Charlotte Business Resource Center.

The center, a department of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce under contract with the Office of Minority Business Enterprise of the United States Department of Commerce, will present the course from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, beginning July 20 through August 3, at the public library on North Tryon Street. The aim of the course, according to a statement from the center, "is to more effectively prepare them (minority businessmen) to meet the challenging duties of marketing their goods and-or services in oral conversations before groups of corporate buyers."

Instructors for the course are Ernest James Jr. and Dr. Barbara Maran of Johnson C. Smith University and Mrs. Edythe Hall of the Chamber of Commerce. Sixteen students have signed-up for the course. They are: Robert Brooks of Brooks Concrete; Nathaniel Black of Black's Janitorial Service; Johnnie Wallace of Wallace's Typing and Copying Service; Isse Perry of Mr. Travel International; Nathaniel Witherspoon of Nathaniel Witherspoon & Associates; Donald Gray of Smith Advertising; Edward Taylor of Mr. Travel International; Maxie Granger of C&M Heating & Air Conditioning; Mary Tyson

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