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MAY 23 1977

"Charlotte's Fastest Growing Community Weekly"

CHARLOTTE and MECKLENBURG COUNTY  
Charlotte, N.C. 28202

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA-28208-Thursday, May 19, 1977

PRICE 20c

## Raleigh To Host NAACP Youth Meet

The State Youth Conference of the NAACP will hold the first NAACP Youth of the Year Celebration Saturday, May 21, in Raleigh at Saint Augustine's College.

The NAACP Youth of the Year will be selected from participants from all over North Carolina. This person will receive an expense paid trip to the 68th National Convention of the NAACP in St. Louis, Missouri June 27 through July 1. Other awards and certificates will be given to outstanding participants.

Highlights of the day's activities are a Youth Awareness Session beginning at 12:30 p.m. in the New Fine Arts Center. Dr. John Larkins, Special Assistant to the Governor's Office, Mr. Charles Jefferson, Assistant Commissioner of Labor will serve with the State Youth Conference Executive Board in presenting this session. The session will deal with national and state concerns of the NAACP, minority interest in state government and youth employment.

The Youth of the Year Program will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the New Fine Arts Center Auditorium at St. Augustine's College. The speaker will be Dr. Ruth G. Kennedy, Associate Professor of English at North Carolina Central University.

A disco dance will be held in the Martin Luther King Jr. Union at 9 a.m. It is open to the public. Admission is \$1.

The State Youth Conference hopes that many people in this area will attend these functions and hopefully will support the NAACP by becoming an active participant in the cause for freedom.

## LBDO, NAA To

### Sponsor Seminar

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr. Post Executive Editor  
The Charlotte Local Business Development Organization and the Charlotte Chapter of the National Association of Accountants will co-sponsor a seminar on May 25 entitled "How To Do Business With The Farmers Home Administration."

The keynote speaker for the program will be Robert Shaver, Mecklenburg County Supervisor of the Farmers Home Administration. Other members of his staff will offer visual presentations.

Thomas Staton, director of LBDO said the purpose of the seminar will be "for minority contractors to gain greater understanding of how they can provide their services to the Farmers Home Administration."

The seminar will be held in the Action Center of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce at 7:30 a.m. Minority Contractors are invited to attend.

Further information about the seminar may be obtained by calling the LBDO office at 334-7891.

## TURTLE-TALK



A NARROW MIND and a WIDE MOUTH often go together.



ATTRACTIVE VIRGINIA GASKINS  
...Overflowing personality

## Virginia Gaskins

### Is Beauty Of Week

By Melvetta Wright Post Staff Writer

Our Beauty for this week is Miss Virginia Gaskins, a 21 year old dispatcher at the Charlotte Law Enforcement Center whose personality overflows with friendliness and whose voice reflects the enthusiasm she has about life.

Virginia hails from Hampton, Virginia where she attended a junior college. In 1973, she came to Charlotte's UNC on a music scholarship and earned her Bachelor of Creative Arts degree in 1976.

A talented singer who says that she doesn't "want to be famous, just happy," Virginia received an offer about three months ago to sing with the Faets of Life, a nationally known group which has made it to the top in many of the trade publications.

Virginia said that before coming to Charlotte, she was a member of a small band with Levi Monroe, who is now working with Millie Jackson, out of New York. Monroe informed Virginia of the opportunity.

Virginia met the offer with mixed emotions. She loves singing and feels that through her voice she can give people a much needed message. But she was afraid, too, because, as she confessed, she's not a "big city person." The thought of going to New York filled her with apprehension, so she was quietly relieved when the communication process between she and Monroe got crossed.

"I was to meet Levi in Fayetteville, N.C. to plan for my audition but I missed him because he had to return to New York suddenly." She still has the opportunity to try to fill the position, but still has to make up her mind.

Her talent in singing and her present job as a dispatcher are seemingly on opposite ends of the pole, but law enforcement is Virginia's second professional love. As a matter of fact, she plans to return to UNCC to earn a degree in that field.

She's interested in becoming a court probation officer, which will allow Virginia to do something with meaning. "I have always wanted to work with children," she said, explaining. "I've seen a lot of juveniles who just need someone to talk to and I listen pretty well."

Born under the ferocious sign of Leo the Lion, our Beauty will celebrate her 22 birthday on July 29. She said that she likes a lot of attention, is considerably generous and free-hearted, is impulsive; and, because she does not like being alone, she likes people.

Her philosophy of life mirrors her personality in that she believes in "doing what-

ever you can to help somebody." Virginia is also a strong believer in "living each day like it's your last."

Virginia most admires her mother, who is now deceased, and credits her with having contributed the most to her present state of mind. "I remember Mama most for her kindness," Virginia said. "She was an Indian-big, tall, strong, and beautiful. Mama always used to say that if you do something nice for someone, God will see it."

Because she was an only child, Virginia said that she wants to have five children, "all of them small at the same time so that they can drive me crazy." Until the time comes for Virginia to be a mother five times over, she spends a lot of time with her two-year old German Sheppard, Thor, raising plants, and decorating her first apartment.

"I went all the way with this apartment," Virginia said. "I painted all of the walls myself." Subsequently, the whole apartment is painted blue, which is her favorite color.

Virginia laughed as she recalled her first attempt at raising plants. "When I first got my apartment, I bought about forty or fifty dollars worth of plants."

## County Offices

### Will Close Friday

Mecklenburg County offices will be closed Friday, May 20, in observance of Mecklenburg Independence Day, and Monday, May 30, in observance of Memorial Day.

This includes all units of the Health Department, the Food Stamp Office, the Tax Offices, and the Register of Deeds Office.

The Social Services Center on Billingsley Road will be closed both May 20 and May 30, but day care centers operated by the Department of Social Services will remain open both days.

All branches of the Public Library will be closed on the 20th and 30th. In addition, the Main Library will be closed Sunday, May 29, and will remain closed on Sundays for the rest of the summer.

The two County landfills, Harriburg Park and Holsbrooks Road, will remain open on both holidays.

The County Police Department will handle emergency calls for the County Animal Shelter, and the number to call is 374-2391.

The General Court of Justice, including all District and Superior Courts, will be in session on Friday, May 20, but will close Monday, May 30, in observance of Memorial Day.

## Reaction To Carter's Plan

# Black Caucus To Campaign

## For \$3 Minimum Wage

### Post Office Honors City Officials

Two local city officials and the chairman of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Bicentennial Committee, were each awarded framed Bicentennial Souvenir sheet collections illustrating events of historical significance. Also the awards were presented to a representative of the citizens of Charlotte-Mecklenburg County.

Mayor Belk, Elizabeth Hair, Chairman of the County Commission and A. Grant Whitney, chairman of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Bicentennial Committee were presented with the awards by O.B. Sloan, Postmaster and Willie J. Stratford, manager of the Trade Street Branch of the Post Office.

These souvenir sheets consisted of 13 cent stamps that illustrate a part of the Surrender of Cornwall at Yorktown, 18 cent stamps illustrating a part of the Declaration of Independence, July 1776, 24 cent stamps based on Washington crossing the Delaware which was painted by Leutze-Eastman Johnson, and is located at the Collectors Institute, LPD, in Omaha, Nebraska, and 31 cent stamps reviewing the ragged army at Valley Forge, by William Trego. This painting is located at the museum of the Valley Forge Historical Society in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

According to Stratford, 1775 was an important year for the U.S. Postal Service and Mecklenburg County. "Mecklenburg broke away from the crown and we started in business," Stratford said.

Stratford said that in commemoration of the Bicentennial, the U.S. Postal Service of Charlotte wanted to present the souvenir sheets to the city, county, all its citizens and the chairman and members of the Bicentennial Committee who did an excellent job in helping the postal service commemorate this Bicentennial.

### CAF Meeting

The Board of Directors meeting of the Charlotte Area Fund will be held Thursday, May 19 in the upstairs lounge of the Trade Street YWCA, 418 East Trade Street, at 7:30 p.m.

This includes all units of the Health Department, the Food Stamp Office, the Tax Offices, and the Register of Deeds Office.

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MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MEMORIAL FUND

Fund-raising campaign committee

## Food Stamp Allotments Rise

By Jacquie Levister Post Staff Writer

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that as of July 1 food stamp allotments and income eligibility levels will increase. This increase will reflect the rise in food cost for low income households.

Monthly food stamp allotments for all household sizes, except one-person households, will increase by at least \$2. The monthly stamp allotment for a family of 4 will rise from \$166 to \$170.

Since income eligibility levels are tied to the size of food stamp allotments, these levels also will increase in most cases. The net income limit for a family of 4 will increase from \$553 to \$567 a month.

Lee Burgin, Assistant Director

of Food Stamps and Outreach Coordinator for Mecklenburg County, does not anticipate any sizable increase of applicants in the local office due to this change. "Because of the effectiveness of the local outreach program, 38-39 thousand families have been processed since October 1973," Burgin said.

According to Burgin there is a small percentage of applicants denied on a weekly basis. In that small amount of families about one-half is due to income in excess of the standards set forth by the Department of Agriculture.

Burgin added, "this is the first time in the last 18 months that the allotments and eligibility levels have been raised (something that is usually

done every six months). Because of the time elapsed, there may be a slight increase in our traffic but again we don't expect any great influx of applications."

The Food Stamp act of 1964 requires USDA to adjust stamp allotments twice a year to reflect food price changes as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The adjustments take effect on Jan. 1 and July 1. July adjustments reflect the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan during February, while January changes reflect plans cost in the preceding August.

Since the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan was higher in February than last August, the stamp allotments were increased accordingly.

## Cause Baseball Problems

# Communication Breakdowns

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr. Post Executive Editor

"A breakdown in communications between the school and the community is probably the primary reason for the recent questions over violations of the double participation rule," Bill Cordell, said Tuesday.

Cordell, athletic director at

Harding High School, added in a telephone interview that "the breakdown in communication is in that we (the schools) do not directly inform the semipro teams of these (baseball) rules. Each student is given a brochure that explains the rules of participation and they are responsible for complying with them (the

rules) because there is no way we can police every youngster's activities."

Cordell's comments were related to published reports late last week that Garinger, Harding and possibly three to five other southwestern 4-A high school baseball teams may be disqualified from participating in the state championship playoffs because they used ineligible players.

Bill Cole, president of the Triple County Baseball League, confirmed Cordell's comment about communication. He said, "unfortunately, our league has had no prior knowledge of the N.C. High School Athletic Association's double participation rule. Triple County League players are required to sign-up according to the rules of the league, however, we would not knowingly encourage a high school player to sign with us if by so doing he were violating a state association rule."

Garinger, the conference's leading team, was declared ineligible because one of its player's parents maintains residence in another state, a rule violation.

Harding High School, the expected benefactor of Garinger's penalty was then apparently declared ineligible also because of reports that senior pitcher-outfielder Emmitt Cherry had participated in

One Hundred Tenth Commencement will be Dr. Anita F. Allen, of the U.S. Office of Education.

Dr. Allen, currently serving as Chief of the Advanced Institutional Development Branch, Division of Institutional Development, Bureau of Post-Secondary Education, of the U.S. Department of Education, has had twenty-four years experience in the Federal Government, beginning with three years at the Library of Congress and seven years with the Department of the Army.

Classes in reunion this year are the classes of: 1902, 1907, 1912, 1917, 1922, 1927, 1932, 1937, 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, and 1972.

## Dr. Anita Allen Is JCSU

# Commencement Speaker



Dr. Anita F. Allen  
...AID Branch chief

Commencement will be held in the Hartley-Woods Gymnasium on Sunday, May 22 at 2 p.m. The guest speaker for the

## Proposes Plan To Raise Wages

By Hoyle H. Martin Sr. Post Executive Editor

Reacting last week to the Carter administration's proposed plan to raise the minimum wage from \$2.30 to \$2.50 per hour, the Congressional Black Caucus took a strong position for raising that minimum to \$3.00. Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins, (D-California) who heads the Caucus' Employment Subcommittee, said that it is "imperative for Congress to provide a minimum wage responsive to rapidly inflating costs, particularly as energy costs are about to rise again."

Hawkins added, "It is time to put into practice the assurance of a living wage by indexing an adequate income level. Indexing is a concept whereby a figure, such as the minimum wage, is increased over time to respond to changes in the economy. It would ensure that the minimum wage stays at the same relative percentage of other wages." Hawkins concluded by calling enactment of the \$3.00 minimum wage "essential." He said that "we violate our own work ethic when we do not protect those fortunate enough to be gainfully employed."

Congressman Parren J. Mitchell, (D-Maryland) Chairman of the Caucus and a member of the House Budget Committee, called institution of a decent minimum wage "one major key to eliminating poverty in the nation. "We must recognize," Congressman Mitchell continued, "that the problems of our welfare system can in large part be eliminated by providing for a full employment economy and providing each worker with a minimum decent living income."

Congressman Mitchell pointed out that the increased minimum wage would mean improved living conditions for millions of whites as well as Blacks and other minorities. He said that according to the Labor Department's Employment Standards Administration, 11.9 percent of all American workers at the end of 1976 earned between \$2.50 and \$3.00 an hour and would benefit from the higher minimum wage level. Blacks average 60 percent the income of whites and have a special concern for the higher minimum wage. Members of the Black Caucus consider the minimum wage one of the most important issues before Congress this year.

The AFL-CIO has taken a similar strong position in favor of raising the minimum wage to \$3.00 per hour.

**City Government**  
To Observe  
Independence Day

All City government offices will be closed on Friday, May 20 in observance of Mecklenburg Independence Day. Offices will reopen for business at 8 a.m. on Monday, May 23.

Due to the four day week the Sanitation Division will NOT collect curbside trash on Wednesday, May 18. Citizens are urged to help keep Charlotte clean by not placing items at the curb until Tuesday, May 24 for pick up on the 25th.