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MISS DAPHNE HICKLIN
...Myers Park sophomore

Daphne Hicklin

Is Beauty Of Week

By Jeri Harvey
Post Staff Writer

Daphne Hicklin, the daughter of Thomas and Lucille Hicklin, and a sophomore at Myers Park High, is The POST Beauty of the Week.

Fifteen year old Daphne is "about in the middle" of a family of six boys and five girls.

A member of Cannon's Cathedral, she is in the choir and belongs to the Junior Church Club. She describes this as a club where activities are planned to make church-going "fun" for young members. They go on trips and have get-togethers at the church and try to contribute to the growth of the church. Just last Sunday our beauty was crowned "Miss Junior Church" for her fundraising efforts in a

recent contest.

Daphne says she's been a member of Cannon's Cathedral ever since she was born and explained that she doesn't go to church because she has to but because she enjoys it. She describes Elder E.C. Cannon, the pastor, as a "true man of God."

Besides church activities, Daphne enjoys attending basketball and football games and likes "all kinds of music." She particularly likes Aretha Franklin.

Her favorite subject at Myers Park is math and her favorite instructor is Mr. Roberts who teaches history. She is a member of the Red Cross Club. After graduation she plans to attend UNC-C but hasn't decided what her major will be.

USDA Increases Payments

To School Food Programs

WASHINGTON -- School lunch, school breakfast, and the child care food programs will receive increased federal payments effective Jan. 1, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Carol Tucker Foreman said today.

The increased payments reflect a 3.1 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) series for food away from home for the six month period, May to Nov. 1977. The payments are made to schools and institutions to help defray meal costs in the national school lunch, school breakfast, and child care food programs.

The national average payment for the school lunch program will be increased from 14 cents to 14.5 cents for each lunch served. Within that average, states are authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to vary the rate of reimbursement up to a maximum of 20.5 cents per lunch.

The additional average payment for lunches served to needy children will be increased from 53 cents to 55 cents for a reduced-price lunch and from 63 cents to 65 cents for a free lunch. The maximum total reimbursement states may pay schools and institutions has been increased from

82 cents to 84.5 cents for a reduced-price lunch and from 92 cents to 94.5 cents for a free lunch.

Under the school breakfast program, the national average payment will be increased from 11.25 cents to 11.50 cents for each breakfast served. The additional average payment for each reduced-price breakfast will be increased from 21 cents to 21.75 cents. The additional average payment for a free breakfast will be increased from 28 cents to 28.75 cents.

Maximum rates of reimbursement for breakfasts which states may pay especially needy schools and institutions were recently adjusted in line with a new provision of law. (See USDA press release 3729-77). The maximum rate of reimbursement for paid breakfasts in such schools and institutions is now set at 11.50 cents. The maximum rates of reimbursement for reduced-price breakfasts and free breakfasts are now set at 45.25 cents and 50.25 cents respectively. By law, these rates will now be adjusted semi-annually on Jan. 1 and July 1.

Under the child care food program, states will receive the same payments for breakfasts as those for the school breakfast program and the same payments for lunches and suppers as those for the national school lunch program. Payments for each mid-morning and mid-afternoon snack allowed under the child care food program have been increased from 5.75 cents to 6 cents. The additional average payment for reduced-price snacks under this program is increased from 11.50 cents to 12 cents; and for free snacks the payment will increase from 17.25 cents to 17.75 cents.

The rates of payment announced today are scheduled to appear in the Federal Register of Jan. 17.

Governor Jim Hunt's Decision

"Disappoints" Black Community

Chase Award

Goes To

Mitchell

By Jeri Harvey
Post Staff Writer

The third annual John D. Chase scholarship and Awards Banquet was recently held at the Cosmos II Super Club in Greensboro. The banquet is sponsored each year by the Midwest Piedmont Area Business Development Organization to honor achievement in small business and to raise funds for the establishment of a permanent scholarship at Johnson C. Smith University (JCSU) in the name of John D. Chase.

As alumnus of JCSU, Chase worked with the Small Business Administration as Community Economic Industrial Planner in charge of Minority Affairs for eastern North Carolina. According to a spokesman, the awards are presented in his name "because of his interest in furthering the cause of minority business development."

This year, the first John D. Chase Service to Minority Business Award was given to Congressman Parren D. Mitchell (D-Md). It was presented by Ms. Minnie Maxwell, director of Alumni Affairs at JCSU and accepted by Congressman Mitchell's senior assistant, Clarence Bishop.

Several awards for special achievement in the small business community were also presented and recognition was given to corporate purchasing departments and members of the media for assistance they have given to minority businesses.

Chase was born in Rocky Mount, where his mother still resides, and attended public school there. He graduated from JCSU in 1948 with a BS degree. He received his MS from North Carolina Central University.

Following two years in the army, he worked with the Monroe public schools, where he was principal of Winchester High for 18 years. He also served as dean of JCSU.

In 1971 he joined the Charlotte district office of the Small Business Administration and became "an active activist of minority business ownership."

Battle Announces For School Board

By Jeri Harvey
Post Staff Writer

Rev. George E. Battle, pastor of Gethsemane AME Zion Church, announced his candidacy for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School Board at a press conference Wednesday.

Stating that his campaign theme will be "Providing a Community-Based Education Program," Rev. Battle explained that he feels schools and communities need to share the responsibility for the education of all children in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. Joint efforts by both would greatly enhance the total educational process of all children, he said. He expanded further by saying, "It is my feeling that residents of Charlotte-Mecklenburg have become too dependent upon the educational system for the teaching of basic survival skills. I feel that the schools are doing a commendable job, yet, I feel a complimentary effort by both school and community would better en-



OWNER REV. ODELL BEASLEY

...With Manager Horace Gunn

Easley's Funeral Home Opens

By Jeri Harvey
Post Staff Writer

Rev. Odell Beasley, pastor of Wilson Heights Church of God for the past 11 years, has opened Easley's Funeral Home at 2706 Newland Road.

His father, C.D. Beasley, is the prominent operator of funeral homes, rest homes and furniture stores in Fountain Inn and Laurins, S.C.

Rev. Beasley said his study of funeral homes in Charlotte left him impressed with the services they offer but he feels there is room for his firm. He is starting small, he explained, but expects to grow.

The present staff consists of Horace Gunn, a licensed mortician, and Carl Rhodes. Gunn was associated with another local funeral home for two years before joining Easley's.

Besides the traditional services offered by most funeral homes, Rev. Beasley said he will provide transportation to and from Social Security or Veteran's Administration offices for those in need of it. He will advise bereaved families to their Veteran's rights and will work very closely with social services.

"Often," he said, "families are unaware of the benefits they are entitled to or they have needs they don't know how to meet. Sometimes they need an understanding person to guide them to the proper

resources."

As a minister, Rev. Beasley feels he will be able to counsel individuals and families on domestic, financial and other matters at a time when stress makes it difficult for them to make decisions alone.

Born in Laurins, Rev. Beasley attended public schools there before serving three years in the army. While stationed in Garmis, Germany, he attended specialist school.

Since then he has studied at Clemson University School of Theology, Johnson C. Smith University and Bay Ridge Christian College in Kenelton, Texas.

He has also attended Anderson Indiana College in Anderson Indiana and is a graduate of Teemer School of Religion, where he holds an honorary doctorate.

Rev. Beasley is a licensed barber in South Carolina and has studied real estate investment at Greenville Technical Education Center. The governor of South Carolina has appointed him a Notary Public.

Rev. Beasley has studied exterior and interior decorating under the supervision of his uncle, Willie E. Beasley, a general contractor in Laurins. For about 8 or 10 years he practiced this professionally,

until he entered the ministry 18 years ago. He has used this expertise to remodel an old house into use as Easley's Funeral Home.

The front of the house was redesigned and an adjoining carport and porch were converted into a chapel. The chapel is paneled in birch and has red carpeting, an off white ceiling and drapes of the same color.

The foyer is carpeted in blue and has pine paneling. Contemporary and Victorian furniture is used throughout.

Rev. Beasley said a determined effort has been made to achieve a homelike atmosphere for the family and friends of the deceased.

Present seating capacity is 90-100 with plans to erect a new chapel as soon as business growth dictates.

An ordained minister in the Church of God, Rev. Beasley is married to the former Mary A. Luster and they have two children, Ladell, 8 years old, and Chrystal Michelle, 4 Mrs. Beasley operates a beauty parlor in Laurins.

Gunn received his degree in mortuary science from the American Academy - McAllister Institute in New York City in 1974. He is married to the former Annie Dunham and they have two daughters, Anita and Annetta, age 2.

Governor's Action Was

Not Surprising To Most

By Jeri Harvey
Post Staff Writer

"Disappointed" was the one word that kept recurring when a sampling of reactions to Governor's Hunt's decision on the Wilmington 10 was made following his television address Monday night. None of those questioned said they expected Hunt to pardon the nine men and one woman convicted of firebombing a grocery store during racial unrest in Wilmington seven years ago, but they all indicated they had hoped he would commute the sentences to time served.

Making what he conceded was a compromise decision, Hunt reduced the sentences of the nine defendants who remain in prison, making all but Rev. Ben Chavis eligible for parole this year. Chavis must remain behind bars until 1980 before he can be considered for parole.

City councilman Ron Leeper said he was disappointed but not surprised by the governor's action and added, "Rarely does an individual have an opportunity to significantly improve the social climate of an entire nation. The governor had such an opportunity and having failed to recognize and use it, is unlikely to ever have that chance again."

Councilman Harvey Gantt said he had one word to say on the subject, "Disappointed."

In spite of his feelings of disappointment, O.N. Freeman, said, "It is still a dream and hope that some day the idea of equal human rights, regardless of color or race, will become a reality. Freeman, who is retired from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School system, said he felt regional racial bias influenced Hunt's decision.

Several ministers, Rev. James Barnett, Leon Riddick and George Battle, expressed severe disappointment with the decision, saying they had hoped the nine would receive more relief, if not outright pardon.

Charges of political expediency, lack of leadership, moral bankruptcy and religious hypocrisy were leveled at Hunt. One woman, Terry Hogan, wondered if "Hunt slept after he made that hypocritical grandstand play."

Jim Black, local radio personality and political activist, said the governor did what was politically feasible. "He wasn't trying to please any group except registered voters," Black charged. "Many of those who loudly support the Wilmington Ten and Charlotte Three are not registered voters. Both these cases are political questions and they require political answers. Blacks let the Wilmington Ten down. Instead of marching and protesting, there should have been massive voter registration drives prior to Hunt's decision. That would have let him know that we mean business. He thinks in terms of votes, not people."

A man who has known Hunt for some time and who worked with him when they were both young Democrats said that he was personally very disappointed by Hunt's position but went on to say, "Realistically, it was about what I expected." Jeff Campbell, the director of ECO, an organization which works with ex-offenders and their families, predicts that

the question of the Wilmington Ten will remain a "thorn in the governor's side because he left too many questions unanswered."

Most of the people contacted agreed with Campbell's assertion that the Governor's statement did not put the matter of the Wilmington 10 to rest. There were promises that the black voters would "remember this at election time three years from now."

In the meantime Governor Hunt has declared the matter closed and the nine men remain in prison, waiting action by the parole commission when their eligibility dates arrive, or hoping for relief from the federal courts.

Attorney James Furgeson has already moved to ask the federal courts for a new trial.



Robert "Bob" Walton
...Receives new honors

Walton To

Head Black

Public Officials

Vice-Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, Robert L. (Bob) Walton, was elected President of the North Carolina Association of Black Public Officials at its organizational meeting held in Carrboro, N.C.

The North Carolina Association of Black Public Officials is a statewide group of elected and appointed black officials including the two N.C. State Senators, the four blacks in the N.C. House, the approximately 15 blacks serving as county commissioners, 15 serving as mayors, 130 serving on City Councils and Town Boards, five serving as judges and approximately 54 serving as school boards making an approximate total of around 210 blacks serving in various elected and appointed positions here in North Carolina.

The NCABPO adopted a statement of purpose and by-laws at the meeting held this past Saturday and in addition to the four officers elected will also have a board of directors of 20 persons who will be elected at the March 11, 1978 meeting to be held in Salisbury, N.C.

In addition to electing Walton as president, the Association elected Mrs. Elizabeth Cofield, Wake County Commissioner, Vice President, Mrs. Delilah Blanks, Town Commissioner of East Arcadia, N.C., Secretary and I.T. Helliard, School Board Member of Weldon, N.C. School District as Treasurer.

The goals of the Association are expressed in its state of purpose:



Only an intelligent man has sense enough to recognize his own limitations.