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DEC - 1 1978

VOL. 5 NO. 15

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG COUNTY  
N.C. 28202

CHARLOTTE NORTH CAROLINA-Thursday, November 30, 1978

Price 30 cents

## To Aid Bus Riders

# City Officials Put Together

## Alternative Transportation Plan

### Computer Program To Detect Welfare Fraud

RALEIGH-If you are on welfare in North Carolina and working but not reporting your income, you stand a good chance of being caught, according to Robert Ward, director of the Division of Social Services of the N.C. Department of Human Resources.

The Division has started a computer "match" with the Employment Security Commission to detect welfare fraud. The "match" compares the welfare roles of the state's Aid to Families With Dependent Children (AFDC) program with work records from across the state kept by the Employment Security Commission.

Ward said the initial result has been an increase in discovery of AFDC recipients that are working, or have worked, and have not reported their employment to their local departments of social services which administer the program.

"The number of cases being discovered and prosecuted by the counties has been increasing significantly since the first listing was sent to the counties in July. In October, 95 cases of suspected fraud were reported to the Division by the county departments. It appears that there will be twice as many reported for November," Ward said.

The quarterly "match" listing for every county in the state is mailed to county social services departments for their investigation when determining ongoing eligibility for AFDC assistance. Ward said the "match" should also benefit the local departments to a greater extent in the discovery of fraud in the Food Stamp program.

The "match" listing is the result of the Division's increased efforts to detect and prevent welfare fraud. The Division is using a toll-free number, 1-800-662-7030, for persons across the state to report suspected welfare fraud. It has also established a fraud unit to develop methods of fraud detection and assist in coordinating statewide training for county social services departments personnel.

The Division of Social Services is also participating in "Project Match-Cross-match", a federal match which compares North Carolina's AFDC roles with the other 49 states. The Division is also in the process of comparing recipient roles to Federal Insurance Contributions Act withholding to determine recipients to the Employment Security Commission.

### CBRC Plans Seminars For Minorities

The Charlotte Business Resource Center will be holding three seminars on Federal, State and Corporate Tax responsibilities for minority and disadvantaged business persons on December 12, 14, and 16.

Open to residents of Mecklenburg, Gaston and Union Counties, the Charlotte Business Resource Center and Central Piedmont Community College will co-sponsor Tax Seminars on the following days:

Tuesday, Dec. 12, 7-9:30 p.m. Subject: "Federal Tax Responsibilities for profit making businesses."

Thursday, Dec. 14, 7-9:30 p.m. Subject: "State Tax Responsibilities for profit making businesses."

Saturday, Dec. 16, 8:30-11 a.m. Getsemane Education Building, 509 Campus Street. Subject: "Corporate Tax Responsibilities."

The Charlotte Business Resource Center is a non-profit organization funded to provide assistance to existing minority businesses or persons who want to start a business.

Herb Burns, head of the Accounting Department at CPCC will conduct the seminars and a question and answer session will follow.

To register by phone call, Joyce Burwell of the Charlotte Business Resource Center at 332-8578.



Bus driver Robert Hardin walks the Picketline as Charlotte bus drivers strike to protect the gains they have made in the past 40 years, after rejecting a proposed contract by a vote of 162 to 1. (photo by Eileen Hanson)

Mrs. McNeel:

### "No One's Thinking About Poor People"

Among the estimated 27,000 stranded bus riders weekly, Luciel McNeel, 58, is one of the victims of the Charlotte Transit System strike.

For Ms. McNeel, who is disabled, deprivation of bus service threatens her life. Without transportation she is unable to cash her social security check at the bank, pay bills, buy groceries or collect foodstamps.

"No one is thinking about poor people," she complained.

Since Ms. McNeel of 3203 Faye St. has not been able to join a car pool, she stated, "I'll just have to depend on the mayor and City Council."

Charlotte Mayor Ken Harris has announced plans to help passengers who have no trans-

portation because of the bus strike.

The bus drivers wage demands cannot be met without either increasing taxes or reducing bus services, according to Harris.

Yet, a union negotiator said Monday that a proposed plan to hire part-time drivers and not wages is the major barrier to a new two-year contract.

Drivers and mechanics went on strike Sunday following a breakdown of negotiations that occurred late Saturday. Negotiators were apart on at least 26 issues.

Harris has warned that strikes drive riders away. After the 36-day strike that ended in Dec. 1976, it took three months for the bus system to recover riders, he pointed out.

### Plan Stresses Need

### For Voluntary Efforts

by Susan Ellsworth  
Post Staff Writer

The City of Charlotte has organized an Alternative Transportation Plan to aid bus riders in finding other travel methods during the Charlotte Transit System's strike.

This plan involves both voluntary efforts and the operation of alternative transportation.

Suggestions of voluntary efforts to help during the bus strike are as follows:

Share rides with relatives, neighbors and friends.

Limit travel, if possible. Many services such as pharmacies, grocery stores and restaurants will deliver. Lists of such establishments will be provided.

Participate in the existing Mecklenburg County Car Pool Program.

Area churches will seek out community members needing transportation.

Employer personnel departments can help match employees living near each other to form car pools. Employers could also arrange for private transportation for some workers.

Neighborhood associations may help citizens in need of transportation.

A special telephone number will be established to provide transportation counseling services. Trained operators will be able to give advice on types of transportation available.

While these activities can accommodate much of the travel demand created by the strike, the City will also arrange to have transportation provided to people not serviced by voluntary methods.

The Charlotte City Council is discussing with the Mecklenburg Taxicab Association

### Public Asked

### To Help Play

### Santa Claus

The Charlotte Neighborhood Centers Department and local merchants are asking the public to donate toys for a "Merchants Play Santa" scheduled for Saturday, December 9 from 10 a.m. to noon at Belmont Center, 700 Parkwood Avenue. The party will provide refreshments, entertainment and toys for 100 children from the Belmont-North Carolina area.

Persons with toys or gifts are asked to bring them to the Vacuum Shop located at 1419 Eastway Drive and 4207 Monroe Road.

The "Merchants Play Santa" party is the idea of Paul Anderson, owner of the Vacuum Shop in Charlotte. Anderson grew up as an orphan in England and decided that he and other merchants should help make the holiday season brighter for Charlotte children. Many merchants are participating, but additional toys and gifts are needed.

Specialists with the Charlotte Neighborhood Centers Department have already screened and selected the 100 participants.

a way to provide service. If discussions are successful, the Charlotte City Council will be requested to temporarily suspend a portion of the City Code which prohibits shared taxi rides without approval of the first customer. Upon temporary suspension, a shared ride taxi service will be established which will operate as follows:

Persons wishing to use this service will be required to telephone a special number at least four hours in advance to reserve a ride.

When using the service, patrons will be required to pay a \$1.00 fare for a one-way trip and \$2.00 for round trip.

The City will subsidize the difference in operating cost and revenues at 1.00 per person.

The taxi operators will "group" trips to take advantage of the shared ride concept. Patrons using the shared ride program can expect to ride with other individuals.

Regular taxi patrons can ride by themselves at normal taxi meter rates if they so desire.

### City To Operate

### Medical Center

### Bus Routes

Starting Wednesday, November 29, two temporary bus routes will be operated by the Charlotte Neighborhood Centers Department to aid citizens needing medical attention during the bus strike. Service on the buses will be free.

The blue and white Neighborhood Centers buses will operate from 8:20 p.m., Monday through Friday. They will stop only at Charlotte Transit System bus stops along the temporary routes.

The routes will originate from the West Boulevard, Greenville and North Charlotte areas and will serve major medical centers in Charlotte.

Route One will serve Boulevard Homes, Little Rock Apartments, Reid Park, Dalton Village, Southside Homes, Brookhill Village and Grierson. Route Two will pick up passengers in Double Oaks, Dillehay Courts, Tryon Hills, North Charlotte and Earle Village.

Both Routes will serve the following medical facilities:  
-Independence Medical Plaza  
-Health Department  
-Memorial Hospital  
-Department of Social Services  
-Mental Health Center  
-Randolph Clinic and Medical Building  
-Piedmont Eye Clinic  
-Presbyterian Hospital  
-Providence Medical Center  
-Charlotte Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital  
-Doctor's Building  
-The Metroview Building

Flyers describing the times and routes will be distributed to all Neighborhood Centers, public housing offices and neighborhood associations. For route or schedule information, persons should call Neighborhood Centers at 374-2637.



ATTRACTIVE VIVIAN MCDANIELS  
...Allstate employee

## Vivian McDaniels

### Is Beauty Of Week

by Sherleen Mckoy  
Post Staff Writer

"You only live this life once, so you may as well greet everyone with a smile," chided Vivian McDaniels, the Post's beauty of the week. Vivian likes to smile a lot and that is her response given to people who ask her why she smiles so much.

A native of Concord, 22-year-old Vivian is presently employed by Allstate Insurance Company. A two-year veteran, she works in the Services Department.

Vivian's secret ambition is to soar the skies. "I want to become an airline stewardess," she said. "I love to fly."

Describing herself as the kind of person that seems to get along with everybody, Vivian enjoys bike-riding, tennis and jogging. She also likes to dance and attend concerts.

"I like a lot of love songs," Vivian confessed. Teddy Pen-

dergrass, who "sings sweet songs for the ladies," and Ashford and Simpson rate high among her favorite recording artists.

Vivian said that she also likes to read the Bible. "Revelation is my favorite Book," she stated, "mainly because it's so interesting and scary too."

Vivian has the highest regard for her mother whom she said has had the greatest influence in her life. "My mother is a very religious person," she said. "She tries to keep all her children straight. She's such a sweet person," she added. "Maybe one day I'd like to be just like her."

Vivian is a 1975 graduate of Northwest Cabarrus High School. The youngest of five children, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John A. McDaniels.

## Minority-Owned Business

### Promised More Opportunities

Special To The Post  
Local minority-owned businesses are promised more access to Government contracting opportunities with establishment of a Federally sponsored Minority Business Opportunity Committee (MBOC) in Washington.

C. Robert Kemp, executive director of the Interagency Council for Minority Business Enterprise, announced formation of the new committee saying that Washington becomes the 40th U.S. city where an MBOC has been set up to assist minority firms.

The 19 members of the Washington committee represent 16 Federal agencies and the District of Columbia government. Members are Federal officials who have responsibility for the Washington region.

Another member is from the

Greater Washington Business Center (GWBC), a private minority business technical assistance agency. GWBC is funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Office of Minority Business Enterprise (OMBE), the Federal agency responsible for minority business development.

OMBE Director Randolph Blackwell called formation of the Washington MBOC an important step for the city's minority entrepreneurs.

"Too often local minority business needs have gone unattended because of the national focus of many programs," Blackwell explained. "Establishment of the MBOC should help fill this gap for Washington minority business owners."

In announcing formation of the MBOC, Interagency Council head C. Robert Kemp explained that an MBOC is a local counterpart of the council which crosses departmental lines and draws from over 20 Federal agencies. MBOCs duplicate the council in 40 cities by having members who are regionally based Federal officials.

"The Washington MBOC is unique in that it addresses local needs in a metropolitan area which is the seat of the National Government," Kemp explained. "But its function is the same as other MBOCs: to help local minority firms gain access to procurement officials, training, capital or whatever they require to do business with the Government."

## HUD Grant To Increase Effective

## Enforcement Of Fair Housing Law

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has awarded a \$211,852 cooperative agreement grant to the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing Inc. (NCDH) for a demonstration which could lead to more effective enforcement of fair housing laws.

The HUD-NCDH Fair Housing Demonstration Project will create a formal working relationship between HUD and nine local private fair housing groups. The groups will assist in identifying and rectifying housing discrimination by providing knowledge about local problems and gathering information through testing and other means.

In making the announcement, Secretary Patricia

Roberts-Harris pointed out the pressing need to increase effective enforcement of fair housing laws.

"Our fair housing laws must be enforced, and we must ensure equal opportunity in housing if we are to foster communities that are racially, ethnically and economically inclusive," she said.

The two-year demonstration project, funded by HUD's Office of Policy, Development and Research, calls for the development of a uniform Local Group Activity Plan which will provide the basis for a relationship between HUD field staff and the participating local groups.

NCDH, a non-profit organization concerned with the rights of minorities and the poor to decent housing, will

assist HUD in selecting the nine local groups to participate in the project, provide training, technical assistance and in monitoring the groups' performance. Each of the local groups must obtain an equal sum of funds to match the grant from HUD.

"This demonstration program," said Edward L. Holmgren, Executive Director of NCDH, "will test the assumption that local fair housing groups can have a greater impact on local housing market practices than any other single factor. It will also provide the opportunity for expanding the partnership of HUD and the private sector in Title VIII enforcement."

In April 1978, HUD released the preliminary results of a fair housing evaluation for

which NCDH has collected the data for HUD. A national survey in 40 metropolitan areas across the country, confirmed that black people continue to encounter substantial levels of racial discrimination in the housing market.

Two of the nine local groups selected for the demonstration project will be from among the five cities used for intensive study during the 1977 HUD-NCDH fair housing audits. These cities are: Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Milwaukee and Sacramento. The other seven will be chosen from highly qualified fair housing groups.

For further information on the HUD-NCDH Fair Housing Demonstration Project, contact NCDH, Washington, D.C. 20005.

WITTE-TAKA



Do not expect that EVERYONE WILL THINK YOU ARE PERFECT. Be SATISFIED if you are ABLE TO FOOL ONE OR TWO PEOPLE.