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THE CHARLOTTE POST

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Spirit Square Sets Ground-Breaking

Friday, December 29th at 12:00 noon, representatives of the City and County will join Spirit Square officials in the ground-breaking ceremonies for restoration of Phase II of Charlotte's Uptown Center

"For the People, For the Arts." The noontime celebration will officially begin renovation of the arts which was originally constructed in 1908 as The First Baptist Church.

The Property, vacated by the Baptists in 1972, was purchased by Mecklenburg County in 1975 and designated a historical site. In April of 1977, the citizens of Charlotte approved a 2.5 million bond issue to renovate the complex to a 650 seat performance auditorium, rehearsal building, and an adjoining mall. The complex is scheduled for completion December 15, 1979.

Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates, of New York, in cooperation with Charlotte architects Ogburn, Steever & Associates are designing the renovation. R.H. Whalley Co. has been chosen as local contractor with subcontractors P.C. Godfrey, Inc., Ind-Com Electric Company, and Mecklenburg Plumbing Company.

The groundbreaking ceremony will take place on the steps of the 1908 building on Tryon Street. An invocation will be given by Dr. Carl Bates, Pastor of First Baptist Church, and speakers will include Mayor Kenneth R. Harris, County Commission Chairman Edward Peacock, W.H. Williamson, III, President of Spirit Square and John Goyette, Executive Director. Refreshments, entertainment and tours of Phase I operations will follow.

The Board of Spirit Square invites the entire Charlotte community to come and join us in the renovation of this historical site as a center for the people and the arts of Charlotte.

Carolina Action To Meet With Politicians

Carolina Action will be holding a meeting with representatives from the Mecklenburg delegation to the State Legislature.

The meeting will take place Monday January 8th at 7:30 in the evening at the Downtown Public Library on North Tryon Street.

TURTLE-TALK



Be KIND to your FRIENDS. If it WEREN'T for THEM you'd be a total STRANGER.



ATTRACTIVE VIVIAN POTTS ...Dialysis Technician

Vivian Potts Is Beauty Of Week

by Sherleen McKoy Post Staff Writer
Our beauty for this week is 28-year-old Vivian Potts, a dialysis technician at the Nalle Clinic.

Vivian finds her recent (one week) job "very interesting." She works with patients who have kidney abnormalities. Her patients range from young to elderly people who otherwise would be unable to function daily without the aid of the dialysis machine.

"Special patients are put on the machine so many days per week," said Vivian. "Sometimes a patient stays on the dialysis machine for as long as four hours a day."

Prior to her new position, Vivian worked at Presbyterian Hospital as a nurse technician, which she said was "pretty nice." She began by

working with premature babies and then with patients who required surgery the next day. "I saw a lot of things while working in the hospital," she said, "and I see a lot here."

Vivian also worked at Ivey's as a security person. Even then she realized her first love was working in the medical field. "I went to CPCC for a year to study to become a medical office assistance," she said. "I've always wanted to stay in the medical field."

Vivian describes herself as a "happy-go-lucky" kind of person. "I like all sorts of people," she mused.

Vivian likes music. Her favorite recording artists are Earth, Wind and Fire, George Benson and Ronald Laws.

She also enjoys basketball and bike-riding when time permits it.

Vivian considers her mother to be the most influential person in her life. "If it weren't for my mother, I wouldn't be where I am today," she said. "She always told me to try to make the best out of life, regardless to what happens."

Vivian is a member of Friendship Baptist Church and the Young Adult Usher Board of her church.

A 1968 graduate of West Charlotte High School, she is the only daughter and oldest of three children. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. James Potts.

The Revolution Golf Course recently began offering senior citizens lower rates of \$1 for nine holes and \$2 for all day (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) each Tuesday and Thursday (except holidays).

"Senior citizens were the first group to express an interest in planned discounts," commented John Davis, manager of the Revolution Golf Course.

Prompted by the senior citizens' enthusiasm to participate in the sport and their steady availability, officials from the Parks and Recreation Department and golf course managers John Davis and Irish Young, agreed to offer senior citizens reduced rates on certain days at the only city-owned golf course.

In further promotion of golf, plans are being considered to offer young people and ladies discounts.

How has the program fared so far?

Since the program was instituted, a dozen or more senior citizens than usual have appeared on the course, according to Davis.

High Rate Of Cancer Deaths

May Be Pollution Related?

Changes In Food Stamp Program

Two major changes in the Food Stamp Program will be made in early 1979, according to Department of Social Services Director Edwin H. Chapin.

The first change will come on January 1st, when Food Stamp participants will no longer have to buy the stamps, as they have in the past. Instead, they will receive the stamps free.

The second change will come March 1, 1979, when income eligibility levels will be lowered. As a result of this change, people with lower incomes will be getting additional benefits, while people with higher incomes will either lose some benefits or will no longer be eligible for the program. This change was made by Congress in an effort to help the people who need food stamps most—elderly people living on fixed incomes and other families and individuals with very low incomes.

The Department of Social Services urges persons not currently participating in the Food Stamp Program to contact the department to find out more about food stamps and eligibility requirements. See CHANGE on page 4



(L to R) Norman Hodges, Chairman of The National Association of Black Manufacturers; Congressman Parren Mitchell (D. MD), Keynote Speaker; Eugene Baker, President of NABM; Robert Douglas, Vice-Chairman of NABM; (seating) Congressman Joseph Addabbo (D. NY), Chairman of The House Subcommittee on Minority Enterprise and General Oversight.

Tribute To Minority Business Attracts Over 1,000 Participants

WASHINGTON — The National Association of Black Manufacturers, Inc. and over 1,000 minority business people paid tribute to the President, Congress and other parties responsible for the passage of the Omnibus Minority Enterprises Bill (H.R. 11318). The Bill recently signed by President Carter, will improve the Small Business Administration's 8(A) program and increase the amount of federal contracts allocated to minority businesses by approximately \$14 billion.

Norman Hodges, Chairman of NABM, addressed the crowd by applauding their great turn out in the interest of minority business enterprise. Hodges continued, "You (referring to the audience) are minority business and minority business is good for America. We have a great challenge ahead of us and what we do now, will be more important than at any other time for the development of minority business."

SBA is receiving the heat about its activities because the programs are there to assist blacks and there appears to be a premise that black Americans are to be "sacrificed on the altar of political economics." Mitchell shouted, "We are no longer a priority in the nation."

City Auto Decal Goes On Sale

City residents owning a motor vehicle must purchase and display a 1979 auto decal by February 15, 1979. The decals are \$3 each. Beginning Tuesday, January 2, they may be purchased at these locations:

N.C. Department of Motor Vehicles—License Plate Bureaus, Freedom Village Shopping Center, 2949 Freedom Drive or 6050 East Independence Boulevard

Window Number 1, City Hall, 600 East Trade Street

Decals are also sold on the Mobile City Hall. However, the Unit is currently out of service due to the illness of the operator. Decals will be available when service is resumed.

In addition, decals may be purchased by mail. Send \$3 for each decal plus \$1.15 for postage to: City of Charlotte, Treasury Collections—Auto Decals, 600 East Trade Street, Charlotte, 28202. Checks should be made payable to the City of Charlotte. The name of the registered owner AND license tag number (metal tag only) must be included in mail requests.

And for presenting and interpreting the pollution message, Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, president-emeritus of Morehouse College, praised the Black Press fully in his dinner address. Jesse Hill, Jr., president of the Atlanta Life, sounded a similar note.

First United Presbyterian Church's Archives Open Sunday Afternoon

by Susan Ellsworth Post Staff Writer
The First United Presbyterian Church will be opening its archives on Sun., Dec. 31, at 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

A devotional service and taped interviews with early church members will be held prior to the opening at 3 pm.

Proceeding the opening of the archives will be a program that will open with a poem written by Abigail Flanders called "Heritage."

Following the reading of the poem, a monologue written by Pamela White and Ezra Maceo Moore will be recited by Moore.

A woodcut called "No Vacancy" will be unveiled by its creator, Dr. Eugene Grigby, Jr., an international, renowned artist. The woodcut is a work featured in his book "Art and Ethics." Dr. Grigby is

an art professor at the University of Arizona.

Senator Fred Alexander will unveil a portrait of his mother, Mrs. Lou McCullough Alexander, who is among those documented in the archives.

The First United Presbyterian Church, under the direction of Paul Reid, will perform two songs written by William Lindsay, Sr. called "Our Heritage" and "Presbyterian Hymn."

First United was formed in 1968 from the merger of the Seventh Street United Presbyterian Church and Brooklyn Presbyterian Church. Some of the founders of these three churches are: Kathleen Hayes, Frank Byers, Sylvia Byers, Adaline Johnson, Charles White, Tisher Elizabeth Maxwell Leake, J.M. McCann and William Maxwell.

The two churches merged because the Brooklyn Church was to be included in a site for reconstruction work, and members of the Brooklyn church were forced to find a new church. Members of the See FIRST on page 3

Paul Cobb, director, Oakland, Calif. Citizens Committee for Urban Renewal and one of the nation's leading black environmentalists, also lauded the Black Press as well as stressed the employment aspects of pollution control.

Emphasis throughout the two-day conference on the Environmental Impact of Pollution on Minorities was on the greater exposure of blacks to the various forms of pollution because of their central city and industrial area residency.

Dr. Norman Dyer, a Prairie View graduate who is chief of Pesticides and Hazardous Materials Branch of EPA's Dallas Region, pointed to the hazards of lead poisoning and various kinds of air pollution, as did Bill Hathaway of the Dallas office and Solid Waste Branch Director Asa Foster of this city

Cancer Death Rate Is 724.9 Per 100,000

ATLANTA (NNPA) — The high rate of cancer deaths among blacks in a hook-shaped region curving from St. Louis through the South and on to Boston, may be pollution related, said Ralph Jennings, a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency chemist, in a recent address here before a South-wide conference of minority editors.

Jennings, a graduate of Alcorn A. & M. State University and Michigan State, is chief of Toxic Substances, Air and Materials Division of EPA's Region IV which embraces this city. He pointed to the large number of man-made chemicals whose effects on humans and the total environment are not fully known. But whatever their effects, blacks and other minorities who are concentrated near industrial plants are more likely to experience them than any other group.

Then the chemist focused on cancer deaths among blacks, saying that in the hook-shaped region from St. Louis to Dallas to New Orleans to Atlanta and on through the Carolinas to New York and Boston, where a large number of blacks reside, the cancer death-rate among those 60-64 is 724.9 per 100,000 compared with 559.5 for whites. Jennings challenged the newspaper people to carry the message to their readers.

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Mrs. Lydia C. Pride ...Archives chairperson missionary named Samuel Hayes and members of a Presbyterian congregation who left their church because of dissatisfaction over blacks being restricted to worship in the church balcony. Led by Kathleen Hayes, this group sought to worship on the main floor.

The church was originally called the Colored Presbyterian Church of Charlotte. In 1895, the name was changed to Seventh Street United Presbyterian Church.

The Brooklyn Church was founded in 1911. Early members were Margaret Maxwell, Joseph Maxwell, Pearl Maxwell Johnson, Charles Maxwell Sr., Minnie Maxwell Richardson, Sallie Harris, Samuel Harris, William Russell, Monroe White, Ann McClown, John White, Tisher Elizabeth Maxwell Leake, J.M. McCann and William Maxwell.

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