

# Will University Park PO Move To Smaller Facilities?

by Eileen Hanson  
**Special to the Post**  
 "Why is it the small people who always pay?" asked L. C. Coleman. As head of the Northwest Community Action Organization, Coleman thinks it's always the voiceless poor that suffer from government bureaucracy. The current controversy centers around the future of University Park Post Office at 3239 Beatties Ford Road. The lease on the 6,000 square foot facility expired last August 31 and postal officials are considering moving the

customer service operation to a smaller, less expensive building. Two years ago, letter carriers at the station and the Freedom Road station were moved to the new General Mail Facility on I-85 in another "economic move." Postal officials say they don't need the larger buildings anymore. Coleman fears that a smaller facility will not accommodate all the people needing food stamps, money orders and other services the post office provides. He is also concerned about economics.

"Who pays for the move, for renovating an old building, for the gasoline needed for carriers to drive jeeps and cars rather than walking or taking the bus?" asked Coleman. Willie Stratford Sr., Public Information Director for the U. S. Postal Service, told the Charlotte Post Tuesday, "If there is a move of the University Park Station, there will be no reduction in services. However, no decision has been made." Stratford said the rent on the current location was

raised from \$16,000 a year to \$24,000. He could give no explanation for the increase. However, Coleman thinks the post office has already decided to move the facility to a small vacant service station about 100 yards from the present location. He is angry that the community was not notified. "Last week there was a lot of digging going on around that old gas station," Coleman said. "The workers said they would move the post office there. Why would they be doing this if it wasn't to move

the post office? We're supposed to be the government. We pay the taxes, but we never have any say in how it's spent." No so, according to Stratford. He met with members of the Northwest Community Action Organization and the Westside Improvement Association on September 18. "We assured the group that no decision had been made," explained Stratford. "We are mandated to notify the community, the Congressional delegation, the Chamber of Commerce and the media of

any changes in services or facilities." A final decision on moving the University Park station will be made by postmaster Oscar Sloan, on recommendation of the field, Real Estate and Building Office in Atlanta, which handles all real estate for the postal service. "Somehow these cuts always seem to happen in poor and black communities," said Coleman. "They moved carriers from Freedom and University Park, but not from Derita station. I wonder how

many customers they have?" Finding out such information is not easy. The results of a survey taken by the Postal Service a month ago of 50 Charlotte-area stations are still not available "due to computer breakdown," according to Jim Beard, Sectional Center Director for Customer Service. Nor could Beard tell the Charlotte Post who owned the University Park building now leased by the Postal Service, how long it has been there, or how many carriers it used to have. see WILL on page 11



L. C. Coleman  
 Community leader

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### Pedestrian Highway Deaths Up

According to Highway Patrol Commander, John T. Jenkins, highway deaths involving pedestrians for the first seven months of this year were up by almost twenty-five percent. He said one-hundred-thirty-seven pedestrians died in traffic accidents during January thru July of this year compared to one-hundred-ten for the same period in 1978.

Jenkins said with pedestrian accidents already on the increase, the Patrol is concerned with the approach of the fall season. According to Jenkins, the likelihood of pedestrian accidents increases during this season of the year. He said fewer hours of daylight and the increasing number of pedestrians on the highways due to schools being in session were two of the primary reasons.

Jenkins offered some safety tips for pedestrians and motorists. He said where sidewalks are not available, pedestrians should walk on the left shoulder facing traffic. He said pedestrians should wear light colored clothing at night and, as a added safety measure, wear some type of reflectorized material or carry a light. He also suggested that parents teach their children safe walking practices. According to Jenkins, motorists should never anticipate the movements of a pedestrian. "Motorists should always expect the unexpected," Jenkins said.

#### Metrolina Chapter

The Metrolina Chapter of the National Executive Housekeepers Association, Inc., will hold its regular monthly meeting on October 10, at the Methodist Home. Business meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. followed by a program on "Interior Design." Executive Housekeepers are invited to attend. For information call Mrs. Betty Moore, President of the Metrolina Chapter, at Charlotte Memorial Hospital, Charlotte, North Carolina. Phone number: 704-373-2121.

#### TURTLE-TALK



Many a man is proud of his father and mother merely because they are the parents of a fine fellow like himself.



LOVELY ELAINE COLEMAN  
 ....CPCC Student

### Elaine Coleman

### Is Beauty Of Week

By Sherleen McKay  
 Post Staff Writer

Our beauty for this week is 18-year-old Elaine Coleman, an architectural engineering student at Central Piedmont Community College.

Now in her first year, Elaine said that her major is a five-year study, two of which she plans to spend at CPCC and the remainder at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Eventually, she hopes to "draw blueprints for houses and buildings and hopefully have my own private office." She has already designed the blueprint for her dream house.

Elaine became interested in architectural engineering while in high school (she is a 1979 graduate of Harding High) and as a member of a carer club called EXPLORING.

At Harding, she was a member of the JROTC Drill Team, track team, FHA Club and a banner girl on the band.

Elaine describes herself as a person who is nice to get along with and one who befriends others easily. "I was popular in high school," she said.

Her hobbies are swimming, roller skating, reading and shopping.

Michael Wall, a close friend of Elaine's has really made a difference in her life. "He's nice to me and does things for me," she said. A freshman at UNC-C he is also an architectural engineering student.

One of the most memorable times in Elaine's life occurred earlier this month. She and some friends traveled to Myrtle Beach for a weekend of fun and relaxation. They swam, went to the Amusement Park and toured the Believe It or Not Wax Museum.

"It was a really nice experience," Elaine commented, "to be off by myself without my parents."

Elaine has always wanted to be a model. Someday she hopes she will succeed at becoming one. But while that is in the making, Elaine looks at the future more practically. She anticipates "getting married, having children and enjoying them, and trying to get along with others throughout my life."

Elaine is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie L. Coleman Jr. She is the second oldest of four girls.

Here October 20

## The Honorable Coleman A. Young Will Bring Wealth Of Experience

by Eileen Hanson  
 Special to the Post

The Honorable Coleman A. Young, the first black mayor of Detroit, the country's fifth largest city, will be in Charlotte Oct. 20 to talk about the rebirth of America's cities.

As featured speaker for the Charlotte Business League's Award Banquet, Young brings a wealth of experience as a union and civil rights activist, a seasoned politician and an astute leader of America's automobile capital.

Five hundred people are expected to attend the formal banquet at the Radisson Plaza Hotel. Tickets are \$20 and may be reserved by calling 333-1215, 375-1111 or any member of the Charlotte Business League.

Born 61 years ago in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Young moved north with his family, like millions of other southern blacks, to escape the South's economic

### Aid To Benefit Minorities

The Agency for International Development (AID) is spreading the word nationwide that it has contracts available — in some cases without competitive bids — for small businesses, minority-owned firms, and disadvantaged persons who own firms.

AID contracts with U.S. firms for goods, services, and agricultural products to help stimulate economic growth in developing countries. In order to benefit more and smaller U.S. businesses, AID is now setting aside certain contracts for small businesses on which large firms are not allowed to bid.

A small business is defined as one that accounts for a minor share of the total amount of its products made in the country; minorities include Blacks, Hispanics, and native Americans (Indian).



Photographer James Peeler caught these members of the House of Prayer in a Festive mood during their annual Convocation celebration here last week.

### Carter Sends Energy Aid

### Program For Needy To Congress

Washington-President Carter announced last week that he had sent his Low Income Energy Assistance Program to Congress. The program calls for \$1.6 billion in aid to

poor families this winter and \$2.4 billion each following winter.

"This program will address a critical need-alleviating the impact of higher energy

prices on those who are suffering most from higher energy prices," the President said in a statement released by the White House Press Office. "Without a substantial program such as this one our most needy households, including many of the elderly on meager, fixed incomes, will face almost impossible pressures on household budgets which already go entirely for the necessities of life," Carter said.

The program has two parts: an Energy Crisis Assistance Program which provides \$400 million this year for states to operate flexible programs for low-income households faced with such health threatening energy emergencies as heating service cutoffs, space heaters for apartment dwellers and minimal heating services for the elderly; and a Special Allowance Program which will provide \$1.2 billion this winter and \$2.0 billion annually thereafter for cash assistance to all poor households. When fully operative, the Special Allowance Program will be available to all households with income below 125 percent of the federal poverty threshold. The threshold is currently \$7,160 for a family of four.

While revenues from the proposed Windfall Profit Tax will be necessary to fund this program, "I am asking the Congress to move immediately to make general revenue available for the \$400 million emergency program this winter." Revenues from the windfall tax, when it is passed, will be used to replace the \$400 million

### CRC To Investigate Complaints

Prohibiting discrimination in housing practices, the Charlotte Fair Housing Ordinance went into effect this week.

This is the first anti-discrimination ordinance enacted by the City of Charlotte which provides enforcement powers. Raleigh and Charlotte are presently the only cities in North Carolina with enforceable fair housing legislation. Raleigh's ordinance was enacted in 1976.

The Charlotte Fair Housing Ordinance "represents a strong commitment by the City to equal opportunity in housing for all residents in Charlotte," says Sis Kaplin, chairman of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee (CRC), which will administer the ordinance.

Ms Kaplan expressed her approval "that the Charlotte Board of Realtors and the Charlotte Apartment Association's Legislative Committee have endorsed this ordinance."

In the ordinance the CRC has the power to investigate and resolve discrimination complaints based on race, color, sex, religion or national origin.

To resolve a complaint, a record of the alleged discriminatory act must be filed with the CRC within 90 days. Then the CRC has 60 days to resolve the complaint, after which the complainant may file suit in Superior Court.

If a complaint cannot be resolved through voluntary conciliation the CRC may hold a public hearing which the involved parties may be required to attend.

Under the ordinance, the CRC has subpoena powers to require testimony and records.

The Committee may also, with City Council's approval, apply to the court for temporary injunctions or restraining orders to prevent the sale or property rental until the complaint is resolved.

Following a hearing, the CRC will issue its findings of facts and conclusions of laws based on the evidence presented. If the complaint still has not been resolved, the CRC may file suit in Superior Court on behalf of the complainant, with the approval of City Council.



Coleman A. Young  
 ...Mayor of Detroit

In 1952 the right-wing House Un-American Activities Committee called on Young to surrender the Council's membership list to the Attorney General, who labeled it a "subversive organization."

Young refused to yield to the red-baiting and disbanded the Council. He later told a reporter, "In those days if you were trying to do anything for blacks, you were a Communist."

After a series of odd jobs as cleaner, taxi driver, butcher and insurance salesman, Young launched a full-time political career in the 1960's.

He served in the Michigan State Senate from 1964 to 1973, where he led their struggle for open housing and for school busing to achieve integration. In 1968 Michigan Democrats elected him the first black to serve on the Democratic National Committee. Today he is a Vice President of the Committee.

When Young decided to run for mayor of Detroit in 1973, he faced a "law and order" white police commissioner, John Nichols. In a city where crime and unemployment rates were soaring, Young won a narrow victory by 8,000 votes on a platform of racial cooperation.

Now in his second term as mayor, Young has five years' experience grappling with

see YOUNG on page 5