

## Automobile Accidents

### Result In Many Problems

Automobile accidents can cause physical, emotional and financial problems. Last year in Pennsylvania alone there were over 200,000 automobile accidents many of which resulted in death, serious injury and major damage to the vehicle. The Insurance Federation of Pennsylvania suggests that auto

accidents occur for a variety of reasons.

1. Following other cars too closely.
2. Traveling too fast for weather conditions.
3. Inattentive driving.

1. Following other cars too closely.
2. Traveling too fast for weather conditions.
3. Inattentive driving.
4. Mechanical failure resulting from poor car maintenance.
5. Driving after drinking.
6. Car left in roadway without proper warning.

As these causes suggest, much can be done to reduce the possibility that you'll have an auto accident.

1. Drive defensively at all times. Always be alert to unexpected actions of other drivers.
2. Never drive while drinking. Drunk driving accounted for approximately 50 percent of all fatalities. If you know you'll be drinking, make other arrangements for transportation.
3. Obey speed limits and other traffic regulations.
4. Maintain a mechanically sound car. Be sure your car's tail lights, turn signals, headlights and brake lights work properly.
5. Be attentive. If you're too tired or pre-occupied to give full attention to driving, don't drive.

And if you have any questions about your automobile insurance, be sure to contact the Insurance Consumer Information Service, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

One major award and three to five certificates of recognition will be presented in each of five age categories: 7 to 12, 13 to 18, 19 to 29, 30 to 45, and 55 and over. An outside panel of judges will base the awards on the following criteria: team sports participation, individual sports participation, other sports-related activities, special awards or recognition in athletics, and letters of recommendations.

## YWCA Revives

### Sportswoman

### Of Year Awards

This spring, after a year's absence, the Charlotte YWCA once again will be presenting its Sportswomen of the Year awards.

The purpose of the awards is to honor female, amateur athletes in Mecklenburg and Union Counties who have excelled in athletic endeavors; to encourage participation and excellence in women's sports; to establish role models from which young women may learn and emulate; to create enthusiasm and support in North Carolina for women's sports activities.

Kay Overcash, winner of the women's championship in THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER Marathon, will be the guest speaker at the Awards Banquet to be held May 19 at the Park Road center. In winning the championship with a time of 2:28:27, Overcash beat the women's course record by nearly 12 minutes and became the first woman to break 3 hours on the Charlotte course.

For further information, call Wanda Geer, 525-5770, ext. 52.



APRIL McCHANTRA STRAITE  
... Wins baby contest

## April Straite Crowned

### "Miss Rhomeania 1980"

By Susan Ellsworth  
Post Staff Writer

Crowning Miss April McChantra Straite as Miss Rhomeania 1980 and a dance recital afterward, highlighted festivities at the 1981 Calendar Baby Contest.

The Beta Omicron Sigma Chapter of the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority which sponsored the event, will feature April and 4 runners-up on their 1981 calendars.

Among the nine contestants were: Queen April, the daughter of Carolyn Straite. The first runner-up was Kizzy Rene Burris, daughter of Jean Burris; second runner-up was Marlena Yvonne Pickens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Williams Pickens Sr.; third runner-up, Derris Levar Batiste, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Batiste; and fourth runner-up, Deron Montrice Guilford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Guilford.

Members of the Grier Heights Gethsemane Enrichment Program performed seven interpretive dances from "The Wiz." The Rhomeania is an annual fund-raising project for the sorority. Proceeds will go toward scholarships to deserving girls at Johnson C. Smith University.

Mrs. Mentzie Johnson served as project chairman.

### Radisson

### Employees Have

### Mini Checkups

The 350 employees of the Radisson Plaza Hotel had an opportunity to undergo free mini-check-ups last week.

According to Radisson's director of personnel, "We are very happy to be able to offer our employees this service."

The check-ups were given by a team of registered nurses from the Community Health Association, a local United Way Agency. Each employee participating received a blood pressure check, an anemia test and diabetes test. Results were made available immediately. If test results warranted, arrangements were made for further testing at no charge.

## C M Schools To Compete In 4-H Fire Safety Bowl

Over twenty elementary schools (public and private) in Charlotte-Mecklenburg are registered to compete for the championship of Mecklenburg County in 4-H Fire Safety Bowl. This event is styled after the College Bowl, a quiz contest in which teams of four members each compete against one another for answers to appropriately challenging questions.

In the 4-H Fire Bowl, the competitors are from fourth to sixth grades and the topic is fire prevention and control. The quiz bowl contest not only tests the breadth of their knowledge, but their ability to recall quickly, two important elements in emergency situations.

To assist in the preparation of the teams, a clinic for coaches has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, from 4-5 p.m. in the Board Room of the Education Center, 701 E. 2nd St. Featured at this clinic will be a demonstration match between the staff of the Charlotte Fire Department and the staff of the Mecklenburg County Fire Administrator. Also, featured will be Dr. Charles Lloyd, coach of the 1979 National College Bowl Team from Davidson College, who will give advice on selection and preparation of teams.

The local contest will be held on Saturday, May 10, 1980, with awards including a championship trophy, given by the Independent Insurance Agents of Charlotte-Mecklenburg. The location and specific time will be announced later. All elementary schools within Mecklenburg County are eligible to participate and the winning team will go on to the District (sixteen-county area) competition on May 14 in Lincolnton.

To register or receive further information, contact Roy Alexander or Betty Bogan at the Mecklenburg 4-H Office, 374-2082.

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## PUBLIC HEARING ON THREE URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACTION GRANT PROPOSALS

The Mayor and City Council will hold a public hearing to review three Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) proposals which, upon Council approval, will be submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) prior to April 30, 1980.

date: Thursday, March 27, 1980

time: 7:00 p.m.

place: City Council Chambers  
2nd floor of City Hall  
600 E. Trade Street

The UDAG program allows the City to submit several applications. The program is divided into three major categories: Industrial, Commercial and Neighborhood Projects.

The objectives of the hearing are:

1) To receive views of citizens, particularly low and moderate income neighborhood residents within the UDAG project area, and to consider the subject UDAG applications.

2) To provide information regarding the proposed UDAG applications: amount of grant request, type of projects, anticipated number of jobs, amount of funding to be recaptured by the City, etc.

3) To consider the use of public funds for a parking facility in conjunction with the convention hotel proposal.

If you wish to speak at the hearing, please notify the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, Telephone 374-2247, by noon the day of the hearing. Please put whatever you have to say in writing so it can be carefully considered. If you cannot attend the hearing, send your comments to the Director, Office of Special Projects, 600 E. Trade Street, Charlotte, 28202.

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