

Charlotte Post's 10 Top Seniors

Story Can Be Found On Page 8

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LOVELY VALGENE BROWN
...Will brighten your day

Valgene Brown

Is Beauty Of Week

By Teresa Burns
Post Staff Writer

Sometimes you can look around and not see a smiling face anywhere. If you happen to run into our beauty, Valgene Brown, she'll brighten your day with her radiant smile and positive attitude.

In describing herself she uses the adjective enjoyable. "I like to smile and laugh. I like things to be happy, and I like people," she commented.

She is not one to mope about life; instead, she notes, "I always look on the better side of life. I realize that there are bad things in life, but the better things override the bad things."

Ms. Brown's hobbies: tennis, swimming, backgammon, and jazz music. Occupation: student. Zodiac sign: Leo. Ambition: to continue her education.

"I'd like to continue my education in graduate school and major in business. If that doesn't work out I'll get a job," she said.

Her ultimate goal, however, is to return home. "I'd like to own my own fashion boutique in my hometown of Reidsville, N.C. That way they will be able to get the New York fashion and the magazine-type clothes and not at high

prices. They will have something right there instead of going to another town," she mentioned concerned.

Presently Ms. Brown is a junior at Johnson C. Smith University where she is majoring in general business and marketing. She has been on the honor roll each semester of her college career. She is a member of two national honor societies; Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society and Alpha Chi National Honor Society.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Brown, of Reidsville, N.C., are the parents of our impressive beauty. And her mother just happens to be our beauty's favorite person. "She is just a good person. She is not perfect because she's human. But she's as close to perfect as you can get. I'd like to be like that, too," Ms. Brown explained.

Among her activities, our beauty worships at Camp Spring United Methodist Church in her hometown, the Johnson C. Smith University Church and Charlotte's Mount Carmel Baptist Church.

Bob Walton

Opens Campaign

Headquarters

County Commission candidate Bob Walton will officially open his campaign headquarters at 405 E. Trade Street on Friday, April 18 at 10 a.m.

During the opening, Walton will address several campaign issues and offer a challenge to other candidates to do the same.

The public is invited to participate. For further information contact 332-1191 or 392-9352.

JCSU To Host Urban Conference

The first annual Southeast Regional Urban Studies Conference will be held at Johnson C. Smith University April 16-19.

The conference is to provide a vehicle through which students, faculty and community leaders in urban areas may combine resources to become urban problem solvers, said Harold Lerner, director of the JCSU Urban Studies Department.

"We hope to identify our common problems, provide a forum for discussion and seek solutions and alternatives jointly for solving those problems."

A wide variety of topics will be discussed by civic and community leaders during the conference. Among the persons serving on the panel starting on Thursday will be David A. Burkhalter, city manager; Phil Berry, chairman of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School Board; Ed Chapin, director of the county Department of Social Services; Tom Ray, county commissioner; Robert Person, director of the city Employment and Training Department and Martin Cramton, city-county planning director. Robert Walton, former county commissioner, will act as moderator.

The topic to be addressed during Thursday's session is: "The Government and Urban Services."

Panelists for Friday's general session will address JCSU on Page 2

For NCNB

Gerald Johnson Named Systems Planning Officer

By Susan Ellsworth
Post Staff Writer

How do banks efficiently keep up with the changing needs of consumers?

They employ systems planning officers like Gerald O. Johnson of Charlotte to do research.

Johnson, a systems planning officer for North Carolina National Bank, first joined NCNB in 1978 as a systems analyst. He previously directed computer science at Johnson C. Smith University.

He described his job to "project the future and predict the best source of action." Unlike a routine job, Johnson talks with many people and works on three or four projects at a time - all related to increasing the bank's efficiency.

"Systems planning is for people who use a centralized computer," he explained. Almost every department within a bank



Smiling Albert Franklin, second from left, poses with his family; daughter, Mrs. Augustine Mingo, wife, Ms. Ance- dell Franklin and daughter, Ms. Juanita Guillard. (Post photo by Teresa Burns)

Franklin:

"I'll Find Something That'll Keep Me Occupied

By Teresa Burns
Post Staff Writer

People are the backbone of the Red Cross, constantly working as a unit to achieve special goals. There are those who have dedicated their time and lives, striving to become an essential vertebra in the makeup of worthy causes.

One such person is Albert Franklin. After working for the Red Cross for 30 years and donating seven and a half gallons of his blood, Franklin feels he is ready for retirement.

"Yes, I'm ready for retirement after 30 years of service," Franklin began. "I don't know what I'll do. I'll find something to do to keep me occupied. Presently I have a part-time job." As an employee in the

General Services Department, Franklin was always the first one to arrive in the morning, according to Edward Gully, manager of the Greater Carolina Chapter and Greater Carolina Division of American Red Cross.

"Everyone's use to him greeting them every morning. He has an even disposition," Gully said. "Every employee who ever left the Red Cross, Franklin always had a personal gift for them."

Deloris Smalls, Director of Personnel at Red Cross, said that everyone knows Franklin, and that's not all. "Everyone loves him," she continued. "I've been here four years and he is a kind person - words can't describe him."

April 11 was declared

Albert Franklin day at the Red Cross on Park Rd. At least 300 friends, employees, former employees, and guests attended the celebration. Franklin received a scrap book and two awards, one including a resolution which in part stated: "Whereas it is when one gives of one's self that it is true giving and this fine man has generously given of himself, receiving his reward and satisfaction by helping others."

A few of the guests included Franklin's wife, Ance-dell Franklin, his two daughters, Juanita Guillard and Augustine Mingo, Dr. Foster and his wife, and Rev. Paul Drummond.

Franklin is an active member of St. Paul Baptist Church where Rev. Drummond is the pastor. Now an honorary member of the usher board, Franklin has served as its president. He is past chairman of the Men's Day Committee and helped organize the Boy Scout Troop No. 25 in 1938 at the church. He is presently director and member of the Vocal Choir and sang with the Musical choir in past years.

"He's a Christian, that should sum it up," Rev. Drummond said as he described Franklin. "He has an unusual deep personality in terms of meeting people."

Franklin is also busy with his participation in the Rameses Temple 51 Order of the Mystic Shrine of North and South American Jurisdiction. He is also a member of the Unique Lodge No. 85 Free and Accepted Masons and a member of Charlotte Consistory No. 35 Scottish Rite.

Starting life 65 years ago in Lexington, S.C., Franklin has now completed another phase. This, however, is not the end; instead it is the beginning of a new chapter in the life of the esteemed Albert Franklin.

Good Reading
On The Inside

Mini-Forums To Highlight Day-Long Activities

By Susan Ellsworth
Post Staff Writer

What future lies ahead for Charlotte-Mecklenburg in housing, transportation, central city development and recreation?

Five study groups began examining these and other issues related to city and county growth in January. Results of their research will be presented at the Urban Symposium on April 24 to be held at the Charlotte Civic Center from 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Study group members and the advisory committee will, in presenting their Symposium issue paper at 10:30 a.m., define the issues, explain them, and suggest actions. These recommendations will later go to City Council and the County Commission.

Two mini-forums will highlight the day-long activities.

At the first session from 1:30 to 3 p.m. participants may select two workshops to attend. Six will be offered.

Among them, management techniques for growth at the Urban Edge will focus upon coordination between government and the tax policies, incentives and disincentives.

Development and Re-development of Uptown Charlotte: The RTKL Plan will concentrate on over-street walkways, uptown housing, the commercial and office core and transit malls.

Neighborhood Councils, citizen participation or citizen meddling and neighborhood advocacy will comprise a third group.

Joint Public and Private Development: A critical review of the Metro Service Center Concepts will examine coordination between the public and private sector problems and opportunities in mixed use development, zoning incentives, financing problems and prospects.

Another forum will examine Charlotte's livability. How large can the city grow and still be pleasant to live in? Issues such as what constitutes a livable environment and whether standards should be developed will be discussed.

Is planning a tool for resource management or a bureaucratic function? Topics include how to involve citizens and the private sector, and planning the structure of urban government.

The second forum session, running from 3:10 to 4:45 will feature six more groups.

Determining transportation choices is on the agenda. Participants will look at the transit-auto balance and financing.

Affordable Housing will be discussed in terms of the public's desires and what the market can provide in

designs and financing costs.

Education trends in the 1980s will address such issues as should the public participate in forming education policy, what kinds of education will be necessary for the future job market, and can the city afford both public and private educational systems?

The impact of city growth on low income people will be another topic. Employment, human services and who will get the new jobs will be the focus.

Health and Safety Services for the Urban Edge will be emphasized in Emergency Medical Service, Satellite Health Education Facilities and police and fire protection.

Another choice is the session on implementing actions identified by the symposium. Topics to be discussed include the role of federal policies and programs, local government's ability to respond to the issues, and state coordination.

A town meeting will be held from 8:15 to 10 p.m. to question the experts.

For further information contact Dave Howard or Lyn Knox at 374-2205.



Robert W. Scott
...Gubernatorial candidate

Dallas Herring

Endorses Scott

For Governor

By Susan Ellsworth
Post Staff Writer

Dallas Herring, who served as chairman of the state Board of Education for over 20 years, has endorsed Bob Scott for Governor.

Former Governor Scott will oppose incumbent Jim Hunt in the May 6 Democratic primary.

Herring said the Hunt administration has discriminated against the state's poor by closing the door to more technical programs while increasing taxpayer support of private colleges.

"The only real opportunity most working people have is the community colleges and technical institutions," Herring emphasized.

He praised Scott for his efforts in reorganizing the University of North Carolina system during his first term.

TURTLE-TALK

One girl to another:
"Of course I had to tell her she looked like a MILLION - and I meant EVERY YEAR OF IT!"