

# Head Start Center To Celebrate Here

Full-year national Head Start programs served 41,399 handicapped children during the 1978-79 school year, an increase of 3,278 over the previous year's enrollment.

The number of parents receiving special services from Head Start staff relating to their child's handicapped condition also increased - from 25,000 in the 1977-78 school year to 34,028 last year.

During 1978-79 North Carolina had 42 grantees and delegate agencies responding to the survey of handicapped children in Head Start. The total number of children enrolled in this state amounted to 9,245; the number of children professionally diagnosed as handicapped from January through March, '79 was 1,028 equaling out to an 11.12 percent enrollment for the handicapped enrolled in North Carolina's Head Start programs.

This information is contained in the department's seventh annual report to Congress on the status of handicapped children in Head Start programs, compiled for the Administration for Children, Youth and Families, an agency of HEW's Office of Human Development Services, by Informatics, Inc. of Rockville, Md. The report is based on responses to ques-

## Dr. McCoy To

## Head Community Services

Dr. William McCoy, a member of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission and associate professor of political science at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, has been named director of community service for the Institute for Urban Studies at UNCC.

Dr. James Clay, director of the Urban Institute, said Dr. McCoy will continue to teach half-time in the Political Science Department.

It was Dr. McCoy's study of district representation which helped Charlotte select the current plan for a seven-district council.

The professor's teaching has been recognized through the presentation of the NCNB Award for Teaching Excellence.

Holder of the A.B. and M.A. degrees from Western Kentucky University, Dr. McCoy holds the Ph.D. degree from the University of Tennessee.

In Charlotte he has also served as a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment and has been a leader of the Northeast Community Organization.

The Urban Institute helps to channel UNCC faculty expertise into urban research and service that will benefit Charlotte

tionnaires from Head Start's 776 grantees and delegates.

The report noted that handicapped children accounted last year for 11.9 percent (total enrollment, a decline from the previous year's 13 percent, but still well above the 10 percent national enrollment requirement for the handicapped established for Head Start by Congress in 1972.

Head Start programs in 47 states are meeting a second mandate passed by Congress in 1974 setting a 10 percent enrollment quota for each state. In 1979, handicapped children were enrolled in 88 percent of Head Start's 9,000 centers.

Head Start programs hired 4,000 additional staff last year to give special assistance to the handicapped, it report said. In addition, the program conducted in-service training for 35,000 regular staff members in how to work with the handicapped.

There is an estimated 190,000 handicapped three- to five-year-old children from low-income families in the United States. The report noted that while Head Start alone cannot meet the needs of such a large population of handicapped children, it continues to be the largest program to serve handicapped and non-handicapped children in the same classroom.

The distribution of handicapped children in Head Start, categorized by primary handicapping condition, was: 3.2 percent speech impaired; 12.4 percent hearing impaired; 7.3 percent seriously emotionally disturbed; 7 percent physically handicapped; 6.6 percent mentally retarded; 5.6 percent specific learning disability; 4 percent hearing impaired; 3.2 percent visually impaired; 4 percent deaf and blind. The report said the percentage of speech impaired children served is consistent with national estimates of children requiring special assistance in speech and language development.

The report led a two-year evaluation of services to preschool handicapped children which found that children in Head Start and other preschool programs showed strong developmental gains in children not enrolled in any program. Speech-impaired children gained almost six months in communication age. The study also found that Head Start children with other handicapped children made slightly more progress in handicapped children in other types of preschool programs. It attributed these gains to teacher experience in working with the handicapped, smaller class size and the amount of time spent with non-handicapped children.



It's a breeze!... At least it is to fourteen-year-old Marcia Hunter. When she's not riding her unicycle Ms. Hunter runs track for Greenwood Junior High.

## May Is Older Americans' Month

continued from Page 1

billion. "These are indeed astonishing statistics that we need to be aware of in our future planning. But we not only need to be concerned with what the demands are going to be in the distant future, but with the demands and problems we are faced with right now," said North Carolina Secretary of Human Resources Dr. Sarah T. Morrow.

"North Carolina has the 14th largest population of older people in the country - more than 800,000 are already to and 550,000 are 65 and over with more than 120,000 of these living on incomes below the poverty level."

She added, "We all know that increases in numbers and services certainly mean increases in costs. Just to give you an example, let's look back to the fiscal year that ended June 30, 1979. Through the Department of Human Resources, more than \$184 million was spent in federal, state and county funds for a variety of services to the elderly and this did not include food stamps."

Most of the state's services to the elderly are provided through this department.

A large portion of the money was spent to provide long term care in family care homes, rest homes, intermediate care facilities and skilled nursing homes, according to Dr. Morrow.

The State-County Special Assistance program, administered by county social services departments, spent some \$21.5 million for care on a monthly average of 10,178 recipients in family care and rest homes. Approximately 80 percent of the beds in these facilities were occupied by these recipients.

Medicaid paid out \$102 million during the same year for skilled nursing and intermediate care. In July, 1979, there were 12,850 Medicaid recipients in these facilities, or 63 percent of the total patients.

"Just to get a little better idea of the growth of long term care, let's go back to 1970, which was only nine

year earlier; there were only 3,148 Medicaid recipients in nursing homes. There were no intermediate care facilities at that time. There were 7,141 recipients in family care and rest homes. A total of 10,289 compared to 23,571 in 1979 - a 129 percent increase," Dr. Morrow said.

She indicated that this is one of the reasons the administration of Governor James B. Hunt Jr. is trying to expand and improve in-home services to the elderly - so they can remain in their own homes and live independently as long as possible. "The major reason, however, is that our older citizens are the greatest reservoir of experience and knowledge we have available. They represent people who have a lot to offer our whole society and we need to keep them actively involved in it."

"During the past session of the General Assembly, our department, with the support of Governor Hunt,

## Public Library

## To Hold Book

## Sale Saturday

The Public Library is holding the line against inflation. At its spring book sale on May 3, the library will once again be selling paperback books for a dime and hardback copies for a quarter.

The garage doors behind the Main Library uptown open at 9 a.m. for the earliest sale shoppers. The sale closes at 2 p.m. with books being added to the sale during all hours of operation.

Sale coordinator Mattie Sink estimates there are almost 8,000 volumes with a heavy sprinkling of "slightly over the hill" best sellers, a wide range of paperback titles, and the usual offering of esoterica.

"As always, we've got something for everyone's taste," Sink says.

Book lovers who prefer their selections in paperback are urged to check both the paperback boutique and the regular sale in the garage.

# YWCA Celebrates Spring With Strawberry Breakfast

The Charlotte YWCA's seventy-eighth Annual Meeting and Strawberry Breakfast will be held at the Park Road center,

## Public Hearing

## To Discuss

## Flood Areas

A public hearing will be held at 10:30 a.m., Monday, May 5, in the County Office Building to discuss the results of a federal study of flood areas in Mecklenburg County. The study was developed as part of the County's involvement in the National Flood Insurance Program.

A representative of the Insurance and Mitigation Division, formerly the Federal Insurance Administration, will discuss the results of the Flood Insurance Study and outline the specific actions needed to be taken by local government in order to continue eligibility in the National Flood Insurance Program. The study was performed for the Insurance and Mitigation Division by U. S. Geological Survey of Charlotte.

Division Director Glenn C. Woodard, Jr., said the purpose of the study was to examine and evaluate flood hazard areas which are developed or which are likely to be developed and to determine flood elevations for those areas.

All interested residents and property owners who might be affected by the study results are encouraged to attend the hearing.

It will be in the County Commissioners' Board Room, fourth floor, County Office Building, 720 E. 4th St.

the Park Road Center, Thursday, May 8, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

This event, billed as "a gala celebration of spring", will combine fellowship, a business session, a presentation of the YWCA Sportswomen of the Year awards, a speech entitled "The Winning Spirit" by Ms. Kay Overcash, women's champion of The Charlotte Observer Marathon, and entertainment.

Members of the business community have been invited to join the YWCA members, staff and their guests for this festive occasion. Reservations may be made through May 5 at the Park Road Center, 525-5770, 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Tickets are \$3.85 per person.

The event will begin with a buffet breakfast consisting of fresh strawberries, orange or tomato juice, scrambled eggs, bacon and ham, cheese grits, stewed apples, biscuits, rum buns, coffee and tea.

Following the breakfast and invocation, Kathleen O. Cross, President of the YWCA Board of Directors, will conduct the business meeting at which time new Board officers and members will be introduced.

Plants decorating the tables will be for sale at cost following the program.

For further information, call the Park Road center at 525-5770, 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

# VOTE



ELLA  
SCARBOROUGH

School Board

May 6th

## RE-ELECT

# RUTH

# EASTERLING

N.C. House Of Representatives



## VOTE

DON AUSTIN

School Board



As a candidate...Don has identified these priorities:

Quality Education for all students  
Strict enforcement of the Discipline Code of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.

Insure challenging curriculum for the Academically Talented Student.

New innovative approach to vocational education that would work in concert with new and existing industries in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area.

Assure that the inflated dollar will be expended in the most efficient manner possible.

Due to the soaring cost of gasoline, we need to look at a more streamlined method of transportation.

As a citizen...Don has:

Served on the 1979 School Bond Issue Committee  
Chaired the School Committee at Metro Center  
Chaired the Building Committee at Metro Center

Chaired the Program, Planning and Policy Committee at the Mecklenburg County Area Mental Health Authority  
Been President of the Association for Retarded Citizens-Mecklenburg County

Served as a member of the Quality Education Committee  
Been a member of the East Mecklenburg PTA and is presently a:  
Vice President of the North Carolina Association Retarded Citizens  
Member of the Mecklenburg County Area Mental Health Authority  
Member of the Western Carolina Citizens Advocacy Committee

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