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BLACK CONSUMERS

Vol. 6, No. 1

THE CHARLOTTE POST - Thursday, August 14, 1980

Price 30 Cents

213,981

Tax Bills

Being Mailed

The City-County Tax Collector's Office this week began mailing 1980 ad valorem tax bills to property owners in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. More than 213,981 bills will be sent before the end of the week.

Tax Collector J. A. Stone said that no receipts will be mailed this year and he estimates that by not sending the receipts the County will save approximately \$22,500 in postage costs.

"Your cancelled check will serve as a receipt," said Stone, "and if you pay your property taxes through your mortgage company, you should receive a statement from that company." Any taxpayer who wishes to request a receipt may do so in writing when he sends his tax payment. He will also need to send a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Property tax payments must be received in the City-County Tax Collector's Office by January 5, 1981. Persons whose payments are late will be charged an interest of 2 percent the first month (January, 1981) and 3/4 percent every month thereafter until the bill is paid. Property taxes are levied on real and personal property. Real property includes land and buildings. Personal property includes automobiles, boats and household furnishings. The amount of property tax is based on assessment by the Tax Supervisor's office. Residents of Mecklenburg County pay county taxes only; Charlotte residents pay both city and county.

The County tax rate for this year is .84 cents per \$100 assessed valuation and the City of Charlotte rate is 90 1/2 cents. Total is \$1.74 1/2. The City and County Public Service and Information Departments have published a brochure summarizing how City and County Revenues are used and copies are available on request.

If you have questions about your tax bill, call the Tax Supervisor's Office, 374-2813. This is also the office to call for information about elderly or disabled partial exemptions.

Call 374-2972 if you have questions about how to pay your bill.

Animal Owners

Grace Period

Ends August 15

August 15 will mark the end of a 30-day grace period for Charlotte dog and cat owners to obtain licenses and inoculations for their pets. On that day the City Animal Control Division will start a door-to-door canvass to determine if pet owners are in compliance with the revised ordinance passed by the City Council a month ago.

The revised ordinance states that all dogs and cats over four months of age have a current rabies inoculation and a City animal license. Any local veterinarian can provide rabies vaccinations. Prices of shots vary.



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



Miss Audrey Martin
...Enjoys soap operas

Audrey Martin Is Beauty Of Week

By Teresa Burns
Post Staff Writer
It's that time of year - vacation, flowers - a time for putting aside worry. Our beauty, Audrey Martin, seems to have also dismissed worry - except her dismissal is hopefully permanent.

At 18, 5'4" and 105 pounds there's nothing to worry about, she professed. Plans for the future have not been settled yet, but for now Ms. Martin works full-time at McDonald's. She has worked there three years and has mastered many aspects of the business.

She recently graduated from West Mecklenburg High School and attends Mount Carmel Baptist Church.

Softball, swimming and Kincaid

To Examine

Housing Efforts

Randall Kincaid, Ninth District Democratic candidate for Congress, will discuss creative approaches for providing adequate, affordable housing for all Americans during "Housing Week" August 10-16. During the week, Kincaid will look at neighborhood rehabilitation efforts in Charlotte and Davidson and will talk with representatives of the Charlotte Homebuilders Association about their views on the nation's housing problems.

On Sunday, August 10, Kincaid attended Camp Meeting at Rock Springs Campground near Denver, N.C. Monday found Kincaid making campaign visits in Troutman, N.C. from 12:30 p.m. until 6 p.m. Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. he visited houses in Davidson rehabilitated through Community Development program; 9:30 a.m. Kincaid visited Lakeside Apartments, public housing in Davison. At 6 p.m. he attended a Public Relations Society meeting at Manger Motor Inn, 631 N. Tryon St., Charlotte; 7:30 p.m. a campaign party at the home of Charlotte City Council member Don Carroll, 711 Clement Ave. Charlotte.

Wednesday - 9:30 a.m. a visit to Cherry Community to meet with members of the Cherry Community Organization, 600 Baldwin Ave., Charlotte; 12:30 p.m. lunch with "Friends of Randy Kincaid" at Morrison's Cafeteria, SouthPark in Charlotte; 2:30 p.m. meeting with homebuilders; 5 p.m. attended WGIV Block Party at Revolution Park, Charlotte.

the long desire to become a proficient gymnast are priorities on her interest list. "I've wanted for a long time to try gymnastics," Ms. Martin explained, "and start taking gymnastics in August at the Village Dance World."

Our Capricorn beauty also enjoys soap operas, but views them strictly for entertainment purposes. "I don't learn anything from soap operas - they are just a form of entertainment for me - and actually I don't take them seriously," she remarked.

Ms. Martin is also inspired by the music of Earth, Wind and Fire. She has only been to one concert, and that was one given by this group. In her opinion their music, songs and charisma justified her presence at the Coliseum.

Being a member of a large family - seven children to be exact - is both a rewarding and stimulating adventure for Ms. Martin. Her favorite person is her sister Robin, who is also 18.

"We do everything together," our beauty said in reference to her sister. "Robin and I stick together and we get along." The parents of our beauty are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Torrence.

Even though our beauty isn't quite certain about her career aspirations, she had made one conclusion about her life in general. Life is too short to worry and isn't that just as important?

At WAYS-WROQ Radio Stations

Eleanor Pettis Promoted To Community Relations Coordinator

By Teresa Burns
Post Staff Writer
It was the idea of excitement-never a dull moment that lured Eleanor Pettis to WAYS-WROQ radio station.

And now that she has been promoted to Community Relations Coordinator for the two stations, the avenues of meeting and dealing with people have become even more profound.

"I'll be out in the community visiting places like Mental Health, Planned Parenthood, Bethlehem Center. This is the only way to find out what is going on and I love meeting people," she revealed.

While visiting various organizations, Ms. Pettis' functions involve gathering Public Service Announcements. The announcements

UNCC
Receives
\$1,117,400

For the second straight year, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte has passed the \$1 million mark in grants awarded the university during a single year.

Barry Lesley, director of academic grants and contracts, said a total of \$1,117,400 was awarded UNCC during 1979-80. UNCC received \$1,075,256 during 1978-79, the first time the \$1 million mark was reached.

The money came from sources outside the university. Lesley says the bulk came from the federal government, but other grants were obtained from local, state and private agencies to fund various projects.

The grants support faculty research projects, training programs, continuing education and extension opportunities, seminars, workshops and conferences, all of which reflect directly on the community.

Over the last five years, Lesley says more than \$4 million has been granted to the university for such programs.

"More and more faculty are becoming involved in research," Lesley said. "These grants not only benefit the individual faculty member, but the community, university and students as well. Teaching is related to research, and the results eventually make it into the classroom."

A sampling of some of the grants UNCC received during the last academic year are:

-- \$110,000 from the National Institute of Mental Health's Center for the Study of Metropolitan Problems to Dr. Robert J. Mundi, a UNCC political scientist, for a two-year study of district representation in 12 cities throughout the United States.

-- \$101,439 from ACTION see UNCC Page 7

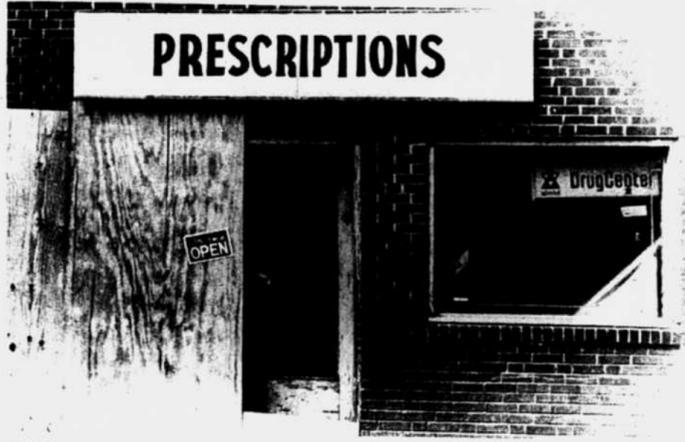


Eleanor Pettis
...Succeeds Jim Black

are free advertisements for any meeting or event.

"We have to have the announcement 10 days prior to the engagement," Ms. Pettis explained, "We usually run it one to two weeks."

Because Ms. Pettis deals with people she feels it is



Biddleville Pharmacy's damaged storefront is shown following an accident which occurred at 2:30 a.m. last Thursday. (Photo by Anthony Hayes)

Going 70 mph

Wayward Motorist Crashes Into Biddleville Pharmacy

By Anthony Hayes
Post Staff Writer

At 2:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 7, Griffin Wakefield, a pharmacist at Biddleville Pharmacy, received an unexpected telephone call. Half awake, he lifted the receiver to his ears and heard the voice of John Green, a fellow pharmacist. Green had just been informed by the police that a car traveling at an estimated 70 mph had just crashed the storefront window of the Pharmacy at 1023 Beatties Ford Road.

When he reached the Pharmacy, Wakefield was startled by the sight of a completely smashed front window and the destruction of over half the cement bricks that constituted its frame. According to Wakefield, a car just came straight across Oaklawn Ave. and hit the store. "The fire hydrant (in front of the store) was also hit, but we were fortunate in that the safety valve remained intact... otherwise we would have been flooded. It looks like the entire store front wall may have to be replaced. The damages are mainly to the building. My

merchandise is okay."

Wakefield noted that emergency numbers are posted on the front window in case a pharmacist needs to be contacted, and that's how policemen were able to reach him. He further explained that "a burglar alarm is wired across the fallen bricks just in case someone gets the idea of a break-in. I didn't see the driver; by the time I arrived they had taken him away. Based on what it costs to fix a house - I'd say we suffered approximately \$4,000 in damages, considering labor. It all depends on what the landlord wants to do."

The driver of the car and cause of the accident is unknown, and the landlord, Mrs. A.E. Spears, was out of town on the day of the accident.

Wakefield is one of four associates who operate three different pharmacies in the Charlotte area. The others are John H. Green, James S. Currence, and W.T. Deavers. They manage the Biddleville Pharmacy (1023 Beatties Ford Rd.), Dalebrook Pharmacy (2504 Beatties Ford Rd.), and The Plaza

Pharmacy (951 S. Independence Blvd.). Wakefield noted that the accident was similar to another that took place only two months ago, when a car crashed into the side wall. He, however, said that the store's location has not been a major problem in the past. W. T. Deavers, who manages Dalebrook Pharmacy, said: "The front glass of my pharmacy was broken into just three weeks ago. Strangely enough, a bubble gum machine was removed and left across the street on the side of the barber shop. Through the years, money, drugs, etc. were stolen, but lately, no major merchandise has been removed."

He went on to say: "I suppose I could place steel frames on the storefront - but I don't like the appearance of them. If it becomes necessary, I may use a wood style front. Insurance rates are higher on our pharmacies...it's a high risk area. You stay, try to make a living, and hope they allow you to. Perhaps if I was on the Southside, my insurance rates would be different - I don't know - but the location is definitely a factor in determining what can be covered."

"The stores' side door used to be a problem, so I replaced it with a steel door. In the gum machine incident, if all four machines had been removed and emptied, the people involved would still not have received over \$60. I see no real motivation behind the incidents. I guess everyone's in need of money."

Deavers also explained that when his property is damaged he is responsible for paying for repairs.

Both Wakefield and Deavers received their pharmaceutical training at Xavier University in New Orleans. Biddleville was established in 1961, Dalebrook in 1963, and The Plaza Apothecary in 1973. Most of their customers are area residents, and without their existence their customers would be at a serious disadvantage. Perhaps Deavers puts it best when he says: "The community has been good to us...We perform a service and the people have been faithful. We just hope for the best."

Apart from her career, she loves to dance, read, and listen to music. She is also involved politically - working diligently as second vice chairperson of the Black Political Caucus, and as secretary of the Voter Registration and Education Task Force.

Let them know that our station can help innovate activities," she explained. A native of Charlotte, Ms. Pettis attended Central Piedmont Community and Barber-Scotia Colleges. She has worked at WAYS-

WROQ since April 1979 holding various positions including Lanier Word Processing Operator, Assistant Contest Coordinator, Assistant to Public Affairs Director and Promotion Coordinator.

Eventually, Ms. Pettis would like to involve the entire community not just a portion of it. "I'd like to

Two-Class
Society

Imminent

Rewritten From
AFL-CIO News

NEW YORK - America is in danger of slipping into a two-class society in which large numbers of citizens would be permanently unemployed, AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland told the National Urban League.

"America has traditionally had an open society with no fixed class system," Kirkland said. "Those who speak of the 'working class' or 'the middle class' are using terms borrowed from European models."

But the unemployment rates of the 1980 recession and its particularly harsh impact on black Americans threaten that open society, he stressed. Today, there is a generation of Americans "growing up in families that have never known the discipline and independence that comes with steady employment," he said.

THAT CAN scar America for years to come - and would be made much worse by having government turn its back on full employment goals in favor of tax cut schemes like the one proposed by Republican presidential nominee Ronald Reagan, Kirkland said.

Kirkland spoke at the business-labor lunch in conjunction with the Urban League convention, which was also addressed by President Carter and Reagan.

Kirkland took note of the absence of Vernon Jordan, the National Urban League president, who is still recovering from a New York City hospital from a gunshot wound during an assassination attempt in Fort Wayne, Ind., two months ago.

Jordan, who has spoken at the past three AFL-CIO conventions, and the National Urban League received particular praise from Kirkland for rallying to the Budget Coalition formed in April, 1980 to resist cuts in federal allocations to social programs.

In that effort, Kirkland said, "we have helped lay the foundation for a larger alliance or organizations, some which have never before been aroused to social action on a national scale."

Among them, Kirkland listed all of the civil rights organizations, unions outside the AFL-CIO, women's groups, religious bodies, family farm organizations, youth, senior citizen and consumer groups, environmental organizations and the National Conference of Mayors.

THAT KIND of coalition will have to grow and become more effective if Americans are to resist the siren call of Reagan's tax proposals, Kirkland stressed.

The difference is that "tax incentives should be looked upon as a form of public investment and they should result in some public benefit," not just handed over to corporate America in hopes enough trickled down to workers, Kirkland said.