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BLACK CONSUMERS

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## Black Voter Turnout Declines

Fifty-one percent of blacks of voting age said they took part in the 1980 Presidential election, according to survey results released recently by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Census Bureau. By comparison, 61 percent of whites of voting age and 30 percent of voting age Hispanics reported taking part.

The 1980 survey, conducted two weeks after the November election, noted declines since 1964 in reported voter turnout in the Northeast, North Central states and the West. The voter participation rate declined 19 percentage points for blacks and 12 percentage points for whites in these regions as a whole between 1964 and 1980. However, in the South there was evidence of a slight increase in black voter participation, from 44 percent in 1964 to 48 percent in 1980.

The reported voter turnout in 1980 reflected the pattern of registration, the survey showed. In all, 67 percent of the voting age population reported having registered. For blacks, the rate was 60 percent, for whites, it was 68 percent, and for Hispanics, 36 percent. Among those registered, 84 percent of the blacks, 89 percent of the whites and 82 percent of the Spanish population said they voted in 1980.

As in previous voter participation surveys, the percentage of those who say they voted is somewhat higher than the official county. Data in the report is subject to sampling variability and errors of response, including under-reporting and non-reporting. More detailed tabulation and analysis will appear in a subsequent report.

Single copies of "Voting and Registration in the Election of November 1980 (Advanced Report) P-20, No. 359," may be obtained for \$1.25 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, or from Commerce District Office in major U.S. cities.



LAVERNA PATTERSON  
...To study at NYU

## Laverna Patterson

### Is Beauty Of Week

By Teresa Burns  
Post Staff Writer

What if you had the charm, the looks, and the drive to compete in the world of fashion models - would you do it? Laverna Patterson has all of this and more and it's no surprise when she says she is heading straight to New York.

"I've received a scholarship to New York University and I will be studying Fashion Merchandising. But at the same time I'll be searching for modeling jobs."

Ms. Patterson chose modeling not only because of its promising glamour, but also because she enjoys staying in tune with the styles. Attending Charlotte's Barbizon Modeling School is only one path she decided to journey in order to prepare herself for the demanding fashion world. So far she has taken Fashion Merchandising, gained tips on how to dress and use make-up.

But no matter how much make-up one uses, Ms. Patterson realizes her modeling career could come to an

abrupt end if her entire being is not well preserved. Therefore, she disciplines herself with various exercises and sports. "I'm active to keep in shape," she revealed.

Tennis, softball, dancing and playing any type of sport are among our beauty's top priorities. As an eleventh grader at Independence High School she plays softball, tennis and is a member of the ROTC.

She also attends Galilee Baptist Church where she is a member of the ICT and Sunday School.

This Virgo beauty is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Patterson. She has one sister Annette Patterson who is 14. "My mother, Ruby Patterson, is my favorite person," Ms. Patterson revealed. "She is considerate to others, understanding, and easy to get along with. She always supports me when I need it."

She enjoys the television program "Good Times," "...because it describes life as it is now - it tells the truth and makes extremely good points."

Ms. Patterson is an understanding person. One creative enough to reach into her future optimistically. "I want to be successful in everything I do," she proclaimed, "or at least try."

## Benjamin Hooks Reacts To Economic Message

### ESC To Operate City Program

Claude Lewis Jr., Manager of the Charlotte office has announced that the Employment Security Commission will again operate the Youth Work Experience Program for the City of Charlotte.

The Summer Program target date of operation is June 15.

This program is designed to serve economically disadvantaged youth who are city residents and are between the ages of 14-21.

The participants in the program will be junior high, senior high and college students as well as dropouts. According to Mrs. Gladys A. Massey, Project Director, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System has worked closely with this program in that it has made concerted efforts to identify work sites within the schools. Other sites are to be identified in other public and private non-profit sectors as well as employers in private industry. This program is in the process of being funded in order to assist eight hundred young people. Qualifying employers are asked to call 333-0357, or 333-0578 should they have need of someone to work during the summer.

Applications for program participation will be accepted until April 17, 1981.

The In-School aspect of the Work Experience Program presently has approximately three hundred fifty students employed at various work sites and is currently located at the Alexander Street Neighborhood Center, 910 North Alexander St. Both programs receive funding through CETA.

Applications will be distributed to various locations throughout the city. See ESC on Page 8



John McDonald, owner of McDonald's Cafeteria at 2316 LaSalle St., broke the ground for a brand new cafeteria and steak and waffle house recently. The former will be open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and the steak and waffle house will be open 24 hours. Both will be located at the I-85-Beatties Ford exit. A banquet

### John McDonald

## "God Planned For Me To Serve In The Restaurant"

By Loretta Manago  
Post Staff Writer

God has His own way of showing us our purpose in life. Some He calls to be preachers; some He calls to be doctors; but for John McDonald there's no doubt that God planned for him to serve in the restaurant business.

John McDonald, head chef at McDonald's restaurant located on LaSalle St., was born in a small mill town in Mecklenburg County. As a young lad about eight or nine years old, McDonald knew that he would own his own business, but had no idea what that business would be.

As the years passed, the time arrived for McDonald to decide what he was going to do with his life. Outside forces, like the church, were reinforcing

room that seats up to 300 people is now underway. Many pastors and friends of McDonald's attended the ground-breaking and according to McDonald, "the land and building has been dedicated to God and the community and he hopes to serve both of them well."

"go to college. However, for those like McDonald who weren't able to attend college, there seemed to be no alternative. At that time McDonald proclaims, "You didn't hear go into business."

There was one black man in the town where McDonald lived, who, through his example, made a deep impact on him. Sam Powell would buy young heifers from farmers, slaughter them and later sell the beef.

Evidently, seeing this one man in business was a clear revelation to McDonald that he, too, could prosper in the business world.

Before he could "test his wings" in the world of business, McDonald first served a stint in the service. Once that was over,

### Budget Cut To Hurt

## "The Needy"

While the NAACP has not had an opportunity to examine Mr. Reagan's economic message in detail, NAACP Executive Director Benjamin L. Hooks, said, "We have heard enough to arouse serious concern over the direction and intent of the new Administration's program as stated in his recent economic message broadcast to the nation.

"That program appears to come down heavily on so-called 'social programs' that profoundly affect the needy, the poor and the working poor, where blacks are disproportionately positioned in our society. It centers on threats to eliminate food stamps, or makes their acquisition more difficult for those who are already experiencing unnecessary difficulties in securing them. Its stated aim is to severely curtail financial support to students.

"We do not accept the notion that President Reagan's election was a clear and certain mandate from the American people to eliminate the bedrock social programs which were so carefully put in place over the past four decades. "We want to make it clear also that we do not oppose a balanced budget so long as it is effected in such a way as not to hamstring legitimate responsibilities and obligations that a government has to its people.

"We do not accept the notion that defense spending is a sacred cow which shall be immune from budget cuts and close scrutiny. Cost overruns in defense are scandalous. The awarding of no big contracts is unconscionable and the fraud of waste in military spending is a national disgrace.

"Cutting the budget by 10 or 50 billion dollars will not necessarily slow the pace of inflation or provide jobs for the over-increasing jobless. It is hope that as the budget cutters engage in their business of fiscal surgery they will also apply surgical knives to the waste and bloat in defense where so much of the nation's precious resources are squandered.

"These are some of our tentative views. Within the next few weeks after we have had the opportunity to examine Mr. Reagan's economic message in detail, we will issue a more definitive report setting forth our objections and recommendations," he promised.

"It is important to note that there is no proven connection from an economic viewpoint between cutting or balancing the budget and reducing inflation. An unbalanced budget has not been the sole or even the major cause of inflation in our country. It is thus important that we not get caught up in the theory that simply cutting the budget will, in and of itself, reduce inflation or produce jobs," he said.

## Hearing Will Be Held On Revenue Sharing

The Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners will hold a public hearing at 9:30 a.m. Monday, March 2, in the fourth floor Board Room of the Education Center for discussion of the proposed use of the County's Federal Revenue Sharing funds in the balance of 1980-81.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and express opinions and concerns related to the proposed use of Revenue Sharing funds.

The amount of unappropriated funds in the County's Revenue Sharing Trust Fund as of December 31, 1980, was \$588,952. The amount of Revenue Sharing funds the County ex-

pects to receive for the remainder of the fiscal year 1981 is estimated to be \$1,824,393.

The approximately \$30 million Federal Revenue Sharing funds received by Mecklenburg County since 1972 has been used to build several facilities that serve people from all walks of life in Mecklenburg, to supplement local property tax dollars in the operation of a number of human service programs, and to help fund the operation of the public schools in Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

In addition, the County purchased the Spirit Square buildings with \$344,235 in Federal Revenue Sharing funds, and \$1,504,000 has been spent in the acquisition of land for parks and open space. It was also Revenue Sharing, \$850,000, money that funded the renovation of the Courthouse Annex, formerly the County Courthouse.

In recent years, the County has used its Revenue Sharing funds to provide human services for the people of Charlotte-Mecklenburg. Approximately \$8.7 million has gone into programs at the Department of Social Services HEARING on Page 2

### People Are Upset!

## Service Station Owners Are Hurting

By Teresa Burns  
Post Staff Writer

Gas prices are escalating, people are driving less, and service station owners are hurting.

"People are upset and are buying a lot less gas than they used to," one Charlotte Exxon dealer explained. "As for me, the doctor's put me on pressure pills and I'm about ready to go back to Africa."

Jesse Younge, owner of Jesse Younge Service, 1930 Beatties Ford Rd., is the oldest operating service station on Beatties Ford Rd. (21 years). And he has seen better days.

"There has been a decline in people buying gas," Younge admitted. "It's not convenient to take trips. It's much cheaper to fly or catch a bus."

Younge believes that by mid-summer gas will be \$1.75 a gallon. The Carolina Motor Club recently studied 175 service stations. Based on the average increases over the past 26 months they predict full-



Jake Davis, co-owner of Davis and Elder Texaco.

service unleaded and regular will be \$1.697 per gallon by the end of 1981.

Presently gas prices have blasted to \$1.548 for full-service unleaded in a Durham station.

Charlotte prices can be seen as high as \$1.416. But why are some gas stations higher than others?

### T-BONE

According to the owner of Sam's Exxon, 2120 Beatties Ford Rd., independent companies do sell gas for less, but the quality is not

as good. "Some gas can be compared to a T-bone steak and other types of gas can be considered the neck bone. And just like you get bad parts of meat you get bad gas," he maintained.

Younge explained the gas price difference the following way: "Teneco and Kayo refine their own gas in their own places and regulate their own gas. They are a large corporation," he began.

"But when you have independent stations, there is a middle man - and then there must be a commission also," he added.

Independent dealers are somehow getting by with the cost hikes - but barely. John Campbell at Beatties Ford 66 says gas has jumped 14 cents since last month at his station. In the Carolinas, the Carolina Motor Club reported the states' average has been around 10 cents.

"The hike comes strictly from the oil companies," Campbell revealed. "But when they go up we don't get a cut."

### THE BLAME

Most customers gripe and complain and the dealers lend a sympathetic ear. But most drivers know it's the oil companies who are raising the prices.

"They have to take it to someone," the owner of Sam's Exxon explained, "and we meet them right in front of the door."

Even though people know the dealers aren't to blame stations like Shell, Texaco, Phillips 66 are often bypassed for cheaper types. "Most say 'your gas is too high,'" Younge said, and they are gone.

People just aren't buying as much, no matter where they shop for gas. "Seems like it's not near as much traffic on Beatties Ford Rd. as there was two weeks ago. And there's very little coming through my service station," Campbell reported.

### FUTURE HOPE

High Point seems to have the lowest gas prices with \$1.336 per gallon for self-service unleaded and \$1.276 for regular. One could always relocate.

TURTLE-TALK



Give to every other human being every right that you claim for yourself.