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BLACK CONSUMERS

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COMMUNITY RELATIONS AWARDS

Six finalists were honored in the second annual Police and Community Relations Awards. Chosen over 56 nominees for outstanding service to the Charlotte community were the following officers: Pictured from left to right are R. W. Garnett, I. Harrison, G. E. Avery, N. Garnes, and G. M. Mowrey. Howard Lee, former secretary of the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and

Community Development was the guest speaker. The awards are sponsored by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee and Jefferson-Pilot Broadcasting Company, which donated the fund for the cash awards. Finalists were selected by the Criminal Justice Subcommittee of the Community Relations Committee. (Photo by Jim Black Photographers)

## Key To Fighting Unemployment

### Community-Base Training Of Disadvantaged Backed

**Special To The Post**  
RALEIGH - During the current session of the N.C. General Assembly, a revision of the Employment Security Commission (ESC) law was passed.

In addition to numerous technical changes, the revision affects eligibility for unemployment benefits, the amount of benefits payable and the duration of benefits.

One major legislative shift eliminated the deduction of certain types of pension incomes from unemployment benefits payable to eligible claimants. Prior to this change, all pensions or other periodic payments based on previous employment were deducted from the weekly benefit amount. Effective July 1, 1981, only those payments received under the Social Security Act, the Railroad Retirement Act or payments contributed to by "base period" employers will be deducted. (The "base period" is the first four of the last five calendar quarters prior to the quarter in which a claim for unemployment insurance benefits is filed. Until the end of June, the "base period" is calendar year 1980.)

"Under the new legislation, people who have retired and have been forced to return to the labor force because of inability to live off fixed incomes are not penalized during new periods of unemployment for earnings from previous careers," said Preston Johnson, ESC finance director and legislative liaison.

The basic earnings requirements for eligibility to receive unemployment insurance benefits has also changed. Effective August 1, an individual must have earned at least six times the North Carolina average

#### Looking For Help

Confused about where to turn for help? Call Information and Referral Service 24 hours a day, seven days a week for information about services. The number is 373-0982.

weekly insured wage during the "base period" to establish a valid claim. This figure replaces an absolute earning minimum of \$565.50 and will be recalculated annually.

Persons filing claims for unemployment insurance benefits who are found by the appeals referee must meet a new appeal requirements. All persons wishing to appeal the referee's decision must provide a written statement of the grounds for the appeal within the stated appeal period. If this statement is not submitted, the appeal may be dismissed.

Individuals who had been drawing extended benefit payments in other states who file for these payments in North Carolina are also affected by the revisions. The new legislation limits the period for which these people can receive extended benefit payments if North Carolina is not paying extended benefits to its residents.

"The new law provides that a person who moves to North Carolina will only be able to draw two weeks of extended benefits if we have not 'triggered on' to extended benefits in the state," Johnson said. "Extended benefits are designed to meet the special needs of the jobless during

periods of high unemployment. If North Carolina is not experiencing high unemployment, these benefits should not be necessary."

The two-week period of extended benefit payments does allow persons moving into the state a reasonable period in which to find suitable employment, he said. "However, the definition of 'suitable employment' for recipients of extended benefits has also changed," Johnson said.

According to the new law, someone claiming extended benefits will become disqualified under the following conditions: (1) if the commission refers the person to work it deems the individual is capable of performing; (2) if the pay will be more than the individual's weekly benefit amount; (3) if the pay meets the minimum wage standards; (4) if the job is offered in writing and is listed with the commission; and (5) if the individual refuses the job and cannot convince the commission that he can get work in his own field in a reasonable short period of time.

For more information on the impact of these legislative changes, contact your local Job Service office.

#### Exciting Race Developing

### Mrs. Anna Hood Grabs First Place In "Churchwoman Of The Year" Race

By Loretta Manago  
Post Staff Writer

In its second suspenseful week, the churchwoman campaign signals a continuous see-sawing, exciting race for first place. This week, the leading churchwomen have given their competitors a taste of what the race for the finish line is going to be down to the final day. To put it simply, these ladies are serious, they mean business and have every intention of walking away with the crown, the honor and the \$3,000 first prize of being proclaimed "Churchwoman of the Year."

Leading by only five points this week is Mrs. Anna Hood, member of Memorial United Presbyterian Church. Currently, she has 415 points. Following closely behind her, though, is Mrs. Rena Blake of East Stonewall with 410 points. Last week she was leading the churchwoman campaign. With the help of her committee persons, Willie Bratcher, Ola Jackson and



Mattie Caldwell

...Ebenezer contestant Alice Tinsley, Mrs. Black says she intends to recapture first place.

Knocking Sandra Anderson out of second place is Mrs. Hazeline Sarter of University Park Baptist Church, with 360 points. Ms. Anderson of Green Oaks Baptist Church presently holds fifth place, with 165 points. Showing a startling plunge for the prestigious first place position is Mrs. Occie David. Last week St. Luke Baptist Church contestant had no

## County Programs Win Awards

Four Mecklenburg County government programs have won national recognition in an annual competition sponsored by the National Association of Counties (NACo).

The award winners were selected as "programs which enhance or expand County services to citizens" and they will be used as models by other Counties across the country.

Achievement Awards, NACo President Roy Orr praised the Counties for their "special sensitivity to citizen needs and their efforts to strengthen County government. Bernard F. Hillenbrand, Executive Director of NACo, said the award program has been developed to give national recognition to progressive County developments which demonstrate an improvement in County government's services to citizens.

Mecklenburg's four Achievement Award winners are:

--Books Alive in Charlotte-Mecklenburg - a cooperative venture by the Public Library and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg

Schools encouraging adults reading to children, and sponsoring visits by famous children's authors and storytellers. The month-long event, held last November, highlighted the on-going work of librarians and media specialists.

Mary Hopper, Public Relations Director for the Public Library, described the program for the NACo

competition. Ariel Stephens is Director of the Public Library of Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

Her favorite subject is spelling. "Words are easy to me," she explained. She enjoys reading and would like to become a nurse. "I like helping people," she

confessed. And that's only part of the goodness Ms. King possesses.

She condensed her philosophy of life into three words, yet the meaning is so intense. "To respect others," is one way she believes of living a God-fearing life.

Ms. King is tall with black eyes and hair and loves to meet people. She enjoys being the oldest of three children. She has one sister Jyatta and one brother Hermie Jr. Her parents are Rachel and Hermie King.

Her mother is her favorite person. "She likes to help people when they are down and she works very hard. She aids me with my homework and attends

events I am involved in," Ms. King explained.

Donna Summer is at the top of Ms. King's entertainment list. Her favorite tune, "On The Radio," seems to exemplify the diverse talents of Summer.

Ms. King also enjoys skating, basketball, baseball, tennis, shopping, cooking and helping her mother around the house.

She attends Greater Gethsemane AME Zion Church where Rev. George Battle is pastor. There, she sings on the choir and plans to join the usher board.

Good grades have always been a part of our beauty's agenda. She also received a band certificate.

If Ms. King could make one change in the world it would be the condition in Atlanta, Ga., today. "I would send messages to the parents and tell them not to leave children alone. I would also have the police in special areas where the children like to play," she explained.

Surely it is evident that our beauty is one filled with concern and consideration for others. With her goodness revealed, only good things will she be confronted with.

Brown explained that many people who receive food stamps will not be affected by this change. "Many food stamp recipients are not required to register with Job Service because they are under 18 years of age or over 60," she said. "Others are not referred to us because they have permanent disabilities or permanent employment barriers."

Among those registering with Job Service, some automatically will be exempt from the job search requirement because they live too far from potential employers or because they are migrant seasonal farmworkers away from their home base. Of the remaining registrants, only those judged ready and able for work will be required to begin job search. Job Service will refer those people not immediately ready for employment to training

# Food Stamp Recipients Told To Look For Work

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TRENA MARIE KING

...To Attend Spough Junior High

## In Essence Of Beauty Trena Marie King Rates As First-Rate Contender

By Teresa Burns  
Post Staff Writer

Goodness is the essence of beauty. And with that qualification Trena Marie King rates as a top contender.

An 11-year-old Westerly Hills Elementary graduate Ms. King will be attending Spough Junior High School in the fall. As a participant in the band, the chorus, and an occasional talent show, our Leo beauty is looking forward to both the academics of high school and the extracurricular activities.

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Legislation which became effective June 1, 1981 could require up to one-fourth of the approximately 602,000 food stamp recipients in North Carolina to conduct active job search or lose their benefits. Approximately 25 percent of all food stamp recipients have traditionally been required by the Division of Social Services to register with Job Service as a condition of receiving food stamps. In an effort to limit food stamps to the truly needy, a portion of those who register with Job Service must now independently look for work or have their benefits cut. "The real advantage of this program is that those who are eager to work will receive additional assistance, while those who are disinclined to work will be more readily identified and penalized," said Janice E. Brown, ESC's food stamp coordinator.

All food stamp recipients referred to Job Service for work registration will be evaluated for job readiness," she said. "Those judged ready for work will be required to develop and follow a job search program for up to eight weeks each year. If they do not register with us, or if they do not meet the goals of their job search plan, food stamps to their entire household may be jeopardized."

Greene Named To Research Council

Dr. Ruth Greene, associate professor of psychology at Johnson C. Smith University, was selected by the National Research Council to participate in a year-long Postdoctoral Fellowship for Minorities Program.

Ms. Greene, one of 35 minority scholars to be selected to participate in the program, will conduct research in the area of psychological aging at Duke University in Durham.

Scholars, coming from 20 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, were selected in a national See Greene page 16.

## Efforts To Limit Stamps To Needy

Special To The Post  
RALEIGH - Many food stamp recipients previously required only to register

with Job Service now will face loss of food stamps if they do not actively look for work, according to the Employment Security Commission (ESC).

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#### TURTLE-TALK



Man without woman would be as stupid a game as playing checkers alone.