

# Seasons Greetings

# THE CHARLOTTE POST

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## Charlotte Suffers Great Loss

By Gayle Hinson  
Special To The Post  
"I call him the 'new breed' of ministers," said City Councilman Harvey Gantt, a trustee at Friendship Baptist Church. Gantt was referring to his minister, Rev. Coleman W. Kerry Jr. who died last week after a lengthy illness.

"We all miss him tremendously. He was an outstanding spiritual leader. He was also a civic leader. He was a leader in the Baptist Church, statewide and nationwide. He believed in economic development, he taught us to apply the Christian ethic to daily living," commented Gantt. "It is a great loss for us but we are a people of vision," commented Robert Person, another trustee and chairman of the special committee for church administration after Rev. Kerry became sick. "He has trained us well. He taught us to care about each other. We rejoice that we have been a part of his life," added Person.

Rev. Kerry was born in Jacksonville, Florida, and was reared in Dallas and Marshall, Texas. He attended Bishop College in Dallas, Texas, Morehouse College in Atlanta, American Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville, Tennessee and Shaw University in Raleigh.

He came to Friendship, which was located on S. Brevard St., in 1948. He spent the major part of his adult life pastoring at the church. In 1970 he led the congregation into a fully equipped new church situated on 3.8 acres of land at 3301 Beatties Ford Rd., valued at \$1,200,000.

To say that there is now a great loss and sadness in the community is an understatement. Rev. Kerry was both a church leader and a community leader. He was the first black chairman of the board of directors of Charlotte Area Fund, an agency for poverty programs in Mecklenburg County. He was the first black board member of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education. He was the founder and director of Careers Unlimited, an organization of volunteers who recruit, council, aid and tutor students who have a desire for a college education. To date, 492 young men and women have been placed in community or senior colleges on full scholarships. He was appointed by the President of the United States to the North Carolina Task Force for School Integration. He was head of the committee to establish the statue of Martin Luther King Jr. in Marshall Park. Monday, January 5, 1981. See CITY Page 6



STUDIOUS ROSLYN BLAIR  
...UNCC freshman

## Roslyn Blair Is Beauty Of Week

By Teresa Burns  
Post Staff Writer  
Years ago Roslyn Blair decided that there must be something valuable to her life. The value came not from materialistic properties or in fame...it had to come from loving and helping children.

Now a freshman at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Ms. Blair studies topics dealing with human development and learning. "This deals with children," she began, "my ambition is to teach intermediates - from grades four through nine in English. By being a teacher I can reach a lot of people and help out in a lot of ways...especially with children."

Ms. Blair attended Carolina Christian High School where she was president of the Honor Society, president of the Senior Class, in addition to graduating first in her class.

Ms. Blair projects a style unique to those gifted with gentleness. Even as she speaks one can tell that she truly cares about people. "I get along with people well and I make friends easily," she revealed about herself. "If I could do something for the world, I would eliminate world hunger. It is pitiful to see thousands of children and people hungry."

Her interests are broad and range from music to cooking. "I enjoy the music of Peabo Bryson. Actually I like a little bit of everything and I like to be

### Sanitation

### Holiday

### Schedules

During the New Year's holiday week, citizens receiving regular backyard service on Monday-Thursday will receive service on a Monday-Wednesday schedule, while those receiving service on a regular Tuesday-Friday schedule will receive garbage pickup service on Tuesday-Thursday. Curbside trash and bagged leaves will be picked up on the second day of the special backyard collection schedule, either Wednesday or Thursday.

Christmas trees on the curb before 7 a.m. Monday, January 4, will be collected during the week of January 4-8.

# Are Black Contractors Getting Their Fair Share?

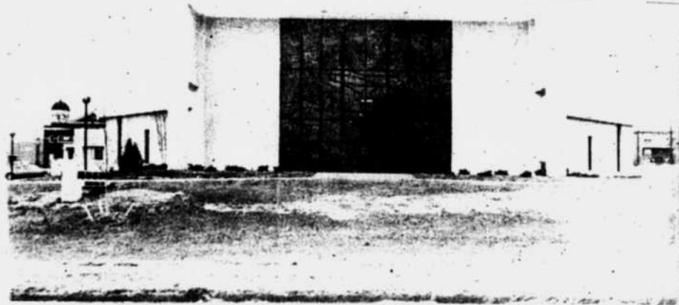
## Youth Jobs Crusade Launched

Special To The Post  
"The end is not yet" declared Rev. Leon Sullivan, the fiery outspoken Pastor of Zion Baptist Church, Philadelphia, as he prepared for a nationwide swing from coast to coast appealing to 5,000 business leaders to make youth job pledges.

Referring to the Biblical expression that tells believers "to endure to the end," Rev. Sullivan, founder and chairman of the Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America (OIC-A) job training network, announced to his National Industrial Advisors his Youth Jobs Crusades plan. He asked his business advisors to meet and mobilize small and medium-sized businesses to join in a private sector initiative that will bring some hope to the unemployed youth of America.

"We must invest in America's future, even while we endure the pain of the present economic recession," Rev. Sullivan said. Outlining a six-month plan that will involve the Industrial Advisory Councils of the local OIC affiliates as well as OIC volunteer leaders in more than 100 communities, Rev. Sullivan spoke with deep feeling about the crisis in federal funding and the need to have private sector initiatives move as quickly as possible to bridge the gap.

Rev. Sullivan said: "The business leaders who put President Reagan in office have been saying, 'let's have less government; the private sector can do it better.' Well, here's their chance."



LITTLE ROCK A.M.E. ZION CHURCH  
...Cost an estimated \$1.5 million

### Poll Says

## Blacks Distrust U.S. Press?

A sweeping majority of high ranking blacks feel the American news media is biased, and they support the contention in the Third World that the Western press is unfair, according to a national survey by the Black Opinion Poll (BOP).

Some 340 questionnaires resulted in responses from 77 percent of those contacted. "Which best describes the general press coverage of stories important to the black community?" was one probe. The answers: 86.4 percent said biased and narrow coverage; 6.8 percent said unbiased but narrow coverage; 3.4 percent said unbiased but wide coverage; and 3.4 percent has no opinion.

Relatedly, 89.2 percent said they support the UNESCO drive for a "New World Information Order" due to Third-World Information Order" due to Third World dissatisfaction with new coverage by the Western press. In addition,

85.9 percent agreed with some black journalists who contend the general white controlled press is "too crisis-oriented in its Third World news coverage, and positive accomplishments in the Third World go unnoticed."

The ranking blacks were also asked: "what about news-worthy information you generate? Are you successful in getting the General Press to print it?"

Some 37 percent said "no I was unsuccessful in getting them to print it;" 29 percent said "Yes they printed it but only after much resistance;" 12 percent said "Yes quite successful. They printed it with ease;" while 22 percent had no response. The BOP survey was conducted for the Black Press Institute, a national news gathering and media monitoring organization. Those polled were readers of the Black Press Review, a bi-monthly news and com-

mentary report highlighting key events and trends in the black community and published by the Institute. Those readers include black congressmen, presidents of black colleges and a host of educators, administrators, publishers, lawyers and other black influentials.

Thomas Mitchell, executive director of BOP noted: "It's clear, these leading blacks feel blacks and third world peoples are being ignored by the general press."

The poll also revealed that most blacks (52 percent) feel mostly "neglect" is killing key black institutions. Another 25 percent feel "inflation" is the villain. Some 56 percent contend a black think tank is needed for black survival and the money is available for such a project.

On another economic note 55.7 percent said Japan should aid in the development of the U.S. black community because of the fact that blacks are large consumers of Japanese-made products. When asked a follow-up question "Should blacks boycott the Japanese if they are unwilling to aid black development?" some 67 percent said the boycott was a good idea. Some 67 percent also agreed that a conference of black journalists, academicians and black studies administrators is needed to forge a black survival strategy.

### Help Is Available For Small

### Business Owners

If you're an owner of a small business or are planning to start your own small business, help is available through the Small Business Center located on the second floor of the Citizen's Center on the CPCC campus.

Call the center for information on workshops and courses to be offered such as: Export Awareness; Record Keeping for Small Business; Marketing & Advertising; Women Business Owners; and Business Basics all are non-credit courses co-sponsored with the Small Business Administration.

## Construction Dollars

## Elude Blacks

By Gayle Hinson  
Post Staff Writer  
Black America if looked at as a nation would be considered the eighth largest nation in the world. Blacks in the U.S. earn more money than the gross national product of Canada, according to one source.

Nationwide, \$180 to \$190 billion is reportedly spent by blacks annually. Last year \$275 million was spent in Charlotte-Mecklenburg by black citizens.

Where is all this money going? Certainly not back into the hands of black businesses. One reputable source stated the following statistics: On the average, the dollars we earn are turned over only once in our community before going into the white man's hand. In the Jewish community the dollar is turned over nine times before leaving the community and in the Chinese and Japanese communities even more than that!

One of the major stabilizing institutions in the black community is the church. The building of churches constitute a major capital investment for blacks. The question now is who is responsible for the construction of these churches whose cost sometimes exceeds a million dollars? Are black contractors getting a fair share of these construction dollars?

Little Rock A.M.E. Zion Church on North McDowell St., is being constructed for an estimated \$1.5 million. University Park Baptist Church, 2156 Senior Drive, was reportedly built for \$1.3 million. Our sources learned that both of these churches were built by white construction companies. Rev. Milton White, pastor of Little Rock A.M.E. Zion Church, could not be reached for comments, neither could Rev. James Palmer, pastor of University Park Baptist Church.

But what about other churches that have been built recently? Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, 517 Baldwin Avenue, is adding an educational department onto the church for a cost of \$300,000. Rev. Cuthbertson, the pastor, said that a white contractor from Kernersville was used. Why wasn't a black contractor employed for the work? Rev. Cuthbertson said the spiritual inclinations of the businessman had a lot to do with their decision to give the job to the man.

Rev. Cuthbertson replied, "For what was required I'm not certain he (a black builder) would have had the money. We did not particularly look for a black company but whoever had the lowest bid. In this case the lowest bidder happened to be a Christian. Had he not been a Christian it would have been a different story."

However, they did use See ARE on Page 4

## Path Of Righteousness Is Not Always An Easy One For Females

By Teresa Burns  
Post Staff Writer  
The path to righteousness is not always an easy one. Females who have endeavored to preach the Words of the Bible have found this out.

The previous series, part one and two, revealed the perils and rewards of Rev. Linda McIlwain, Gloria McRae and Leatha Pratt. Within this frame the inner thoughts of Rev. Annie Bell Forrester, pastor of The Church of God of Prophecy, and Rev. Grace Ridgeway, an active community missionary will be shared.

Rev. Annie Bell Forrester: "I received a definite call from the Lord 40 years ago. I didn't give my time right away, though. Then when I did I attended a Bible institute, started an orphanage in Durham and pastored at a church.

"I was sent to Charlotte in 1966 and started preaching. Now I've been preaching full-time for six or seven years."



Rev. Grace Ridgeway  
...community missionary.

Whenever someone contributes the statement, "But women aren't supposed to be preachers," to Rev. Forrester she simply refers them to Joel 2:28 of the Old Testament and to Acts in the New Testament. "Both," she continued "refer to sons and daughters as preaching the word, not just men. Also in Acts Phillip had four daughters who prophesied."

Rev. Forrester is appointed each year by the State Overseer of North

### Third in a series

Carolina of the church of God of Prophecy. When she came to Charlotte in 1966 as a licensed minister a small congregation was meeting in a store front. Today the membership of 79 worships in their own church on Ridge Avenue.

The church that appointed Rev. Forrester is a world-wide denomination with over 60,000 members.

"It's hard for some people to believe in the simple Gospel," Rev. Forrester stated concerned, "It's so simple that they don't believe... it may be because of the lack of faith."

If there is a church or congregation that doesn't agree with females preaching, Rev. Forrester stated simply that "I wouldn't go there."

Her church services and duties keep her busy enough. She doesn't have to worry about those who don't believe that she was



A man who brags without shame will find great difficulty in living up to his bragging.