



Youth Fellowship Banquet - Hon. Judge Clifton E. Johnson addressed the youth and members attending the North Charlotte District Third Annual Youth banquet.

Johnson Challenges Youth To Stand Up And Be Counted

The third Annual Youth Fellowship Banquet of the N.C. district was held recently at McDonald's Cafeteria. Rev. Smith Turner III was the presiding elder.

Approximately 300 people were in attendance. Mrs. Brenda T. Sullivan, assistant to the director of children served as the mistress of ceremonies. Participating in the program were Rollins Graham, pastor of Elm Street A.M.E. Zion Church and Aaron Moore. The welcome was given by Sonya Moore. Doris Chison, member of Myers Tabernacle A.M.E. Zion Church, was recognized as the Charlotte Post's beauty of the week.

Music was furnished by the Watkins Chapel Youth Choir. Solo by Mrs. Brenda Sullivan.

The speaker was Judge Clifton E. Johnson. This young, industrious, black man represents his race and is a model for the young people of today. A native of Williamston, N.C. he received his B.A. degree from North Carolina Central University, and later his law degree. He was elected to the NAACP Hall of Fame; appointed chief judge of the 26th district, Mecklenburg County. He and wife, Brenda, have two children.

In his message, Judge Johnson challenged the

youth to recognize and take an active part in black history. "Early pioneers put a foot in the door to help bring us this far. Black people have come a long way and yet we still have a long way to go. We owe so much to the combined efforts of our ancestors. We need to stand up and be heard and be counted," said Judge Johnson.

He further stated that, "if all men were truly brothers then we would realize that we are all created by one universal father and He has endowed us with the same faculties. We must unite, work together and implement a program to successfully meet the present crisis. Our forefathers struggled hard and we should not let their work go in vain. We should be proud to pick up the torch and march onward. We are heirs to a tremendous legacy."

In his closing remarks, presiding elder Smith Turner gave salute to the youth and encouraged them to keep their hands in God's hands.

Chisholm Cautions Against Changes In Head Start

Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm (D-N.Y.) last week urged the members of the House Subcommittee on Human Resources to "carefully evaluate" changes in the Head Start Program proposed by the Reagan Administration. She warned that "Many of these changes would be detrimental to the children and families served by early childhood programs." She cautioned "against treating these administrative changes lightly."

In her prepared testimony, she reminded the Subcommittee that "I was an early childhood development specialist before entering politics, so these programs are of special interest to me." She continued, "While the Head Start program has received substantial budgetary support, in comparison to other social programs, we see some disturbing trends in the proposed administrative changes..."

"The conversion of parent and child centers (PCC's) to regular Head Start programs," she explained, "would virtually eliminate comprehensive developmental services for pregnant women and families with children three years of age and under. Research indicates that important developmental patterns are identifiable in children as early as age two. By age three, these patterns, which are too frequently negative with low-income children, are

quite deeply ingrained. It would be totally disruptive for the communities and the children served by such programs to limit infant and toddler participation based upon the availability of outside financial resources..."

The Congresswoman also questioned the need for alterations in the program at this time. "Head Start has had an impressive history. In some areas of the country, Head Start was the catalyst for social change at a time when oppression of the poor, the black, and the minority family was a rule. Head Start provided poor parents and children with a forum for learning together for the first time. Head Start helped poor parents understand new ways of having an effect on their children's education. Underprivileged children who had participated in the pre-school Head Start program have been shown to do better in school than those who had not had the advantage of Head Start. With such an impressive record, one must legitimately ask why tinker with Head Start I would hope that the proposed changes are not planting the seeds for a gradual phase-out of the program over the next three years."

"The President's commitment not to cut Project Head Start," Mrs. Chisholm concluded, "must also include a commitment to maintaining the program in a fashion which insures a quality program. Bad administration can be just as harmful to a program as reductions in funding. I believe that this commitment can best be honored by maximum appropriation for Head Start, not through 'administrative adventures'."

International Women's Day Celebration

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peace, justice and equality. "This year we have chosen 'peace' as the most important issue facing women around the world," said Sarah Wilson, chair of this year's celebration. "Women are the bearers and nurturers of children. If we don't have peace, everything that we strive for will be erased at the clip of a bullet."

Tickets are available at the Client Council Office, 1534 West Boulevard (at Remount Road), Spirit Square box office, or from the International Women's Day Committee, P.O. Box 31021, Charlotte, N.C. 28231.

General Admission tickets are \$5 students with valid I.D. \$2.50. The play will be interpreted for the hearing impaired. Child care is available is reserved by March 3. For information call 372-0780 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; or 333-1925 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., leave message on recorder.

At West Area Learning Center Ed Martin Is CPCC Counselor

By Gayle Hinson Post Staff Writer
Ed Martin is a counselor at the West Area Learning Center of Central Piedmont Community College at Freedom Mall. His job is to work with students who have academic problems, scheduling changes and he also does some career development.

CPCC has learning centers in Cornelius, Matthews and at Freedom Mall. According to Martin the purpose of the learning centers is two-fold. First, to take educational facilities to the community thereby making it more convenient for the student and secondly, to increase the college's space by a method other than increasing the number of buildings on campus.

"Our long-range plan does not include adding more buildings or to start a second campus," he explained. "It's much cheaper to do it this way."

Area centers have reached students that probably would not have been able to attend classes on campus. "About 5 percent of the people who take classes here would not or could not get to the main campus," said Martin.

Most of the classes that are offered at the West Area Learning Center are self-paced, with students working at their own speed. Facilitators, who are similar to teachers' aides, are available to give help to students should it be needed.

Martin said that the reason more curriculum

classes are not offered is because equipment would be needed and that involves extra cost.

Courses such as English, math, chemistry, interior decorating, furniture refinishing, horticulture and many others are offered at the center.

Martin has been with CPCC for 11 years. This past January he began working with the area center. He said his time is split between the center at Matthews and the one on Freedom drive. Previously, Martin was a counselor on campus for the Department of Industry.

He is a native Charlottean. He graduated from Johnson C. Smith University and did graduate work at the University of Minnesota and Virginia Commonwealth University.

"Martin reported that he sees a bright future for CPCC. "Given the present economic circumstances a lot of people who normally would have gone to a four year college will take their first two years at CPCC then move to a four year school," he said.

Forum To Report On Federal Budget Cuts

How the federal budget cuts are specifically affecting people and human service agencies in this community will be reported to the public at a forum conducted by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg League of Women Voters Saturday, March 6, at 1 p.m. at St. Andrews Episcopal Church 3601 Central Ave.

The forum will feature not only the League survey results of human services agencies and clients but also a "public hearing" open to anyone who wants to speak about the ways in which federal budget cuts will personally affect him or her.

County Commission Chairman Tom Ray and N.C. Rep. Parks Helms also will speak, reviewing the situation from the local government perspective. Other county and state officials also will be present to hear the reports.

Carol Collyar, Charlotte

Observer writer, will moderate.

For more information about the forum, call Jean Wood, 364-1518.

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