

YOUR BEST
ADVERTISING
IN THE LUCRATIVE
BLACK MARKET
CALL 376-0496

THE CHARLOTTE POST

"The Voice Of The Black Community"

BLACK NEWSPAPER
EFFECTIVELY REACH
BY FAR, MORE
BLACK CONSUMERS

Volume 8, Number 6
CHARLOTTE AND MECKLENBURG COUNTY
CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28204

THE CHARLOTTE POST - Thursday, July 15, 1982

Price: 35 Cents

"Single-Shot" Voting Creates False Impression

"Bloc" Voting Practiced By "Almost All Groups"

By Mac Thrower
Post Staff Writer
Whenever there is an election in Charlotte that involves black candidates, local political commentators will invariably trot out that time-honored phrase—"single-shot voting"—to describe the results in black precincts.

"But I wish that when candidate slates are selected and sheets distributed to voters in the black communities, they wouldn't just choose black candidates. I'm afraid that progressive white candi-
continued on Page 14

"Single-shot voting" is a term applied to the practice of groups of voters, such as blacks or women, voting for only one (or any number less than the total number you can vote for) candidate out of a slate of candidates in order to increase the strength of the vote for that candidate. This method of voting has enabled blacks in Charlotte in the past to elect black candidates, even though the white voting majority in Charlotte rarely supports black candidates in significant numbers.



Clifton Johnson
Superior Court judge

Johnson Named To N.C. Court Of Appeals

Governor Jim Hunt recently announced the appointment of Mecklenburg County Resident Superior Court Judge Judge Clifton E. Johnson to the N.C. Court of Appeals, filling the seat soon to be vacated by Judge Harry Martin, who has been appointed to the Supreme Court.

Judge Johnson, 40, is a native of Williamson, where his father was a police officer. He received his law degrees from North Carolina Central University in 1967. He was in the private practice of law in Durham for 18 months before becoming an assistant district attorney in Charlotte.

August 1969 Judge Johnson was appointed to a vacant seat on the North Carolina Court of Appeals. In 1974, then Supreme Court Chief Justice William Bobbitt, appointed Judge Johnson as Chief District Court Judge for Mecklenburg County.

In November 1977 Governor Hunt appointed Johnson as resident Superior Court Judge in Mecklenburg County. With that appointment he became the first black resident Superior Court Judge in the state in the 20th century.

"Judge Johnson has been an outstanding Trial Court Judge and will be a tremendous addition to the Court of Appeals," the Governor said. "With his broad base of experience in private practice as a prosecutor and as a trial court judge he understands the role our courts play in fighting crime and serving the needs of the people. He is destined to become one of North Carolina's most outstanding jurists."

Judge Johnson is a member of the North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers and in 1975 he was elected to the Mecklenburg County NAACP Hall of Fame.

Judge Johnson's appointment is for a term which expires December 31, 1982. He will be up for election for an eight-year term in the general election this November.

Senior Democrats To Gather

Democratic leaders from the state and national level will be featured at the convention of Senior Democrats of North Carolina in Raleigh Thursday and Friday, July 22-23.

Featured on the first day will be Governor James B. Hunt Jr.; Assistant Secretary Ernest B. Messer, who heads the Department of Human Resources Division

on Aging; Dr. Elizabeth Welch, president of the Senior Democrats; and Dr. Ellen Black Winston, chairman of the N.C. Advisory Council on Aging.

Banquet speaker Thursday night will be E. Bentley Lipscomb, staff director of the U.S. Special Committee on Aging.

A highlight of the Friday program will be brunch at the Governor's Mansion and a talk by a representative of the National Democratic Party.

Headquarters for the convention will be N.C. Democratic Headquarters at 220 Hillsborough Street and the nearby Holiday Inn Downtown, which will be host to the banquet.

New officers will be elected and a platform adopted. The conventioners will be welcomed by Democratic Chairman Russell G. Walker, of Asheboro and Mrs. Janice Faulkner, executive director of the Democratic Party.

John Denning, chairman of the N.C. Democrats Committee on the Aging, will also be featured on the program.

The convention program begins at 1 p.m. Thursday and concludes with brunch at the Governor's Mansion at midday Friday.



Sophia Howze
Rising 10th grader

Sophia Howze Is Beauty Of Week

Just think about all those days you didn't feel like getting up for school or work. Often it took more than discipline to get up, make the bed, and dress for the day.

But for Sophia Howze, a rising 10th grader who will be attending Myers Park Senior High School this fall, getting up in the morning is an action to which she looks forward.

Ms. Howze has never missed a day from school in the nine years she has attended. "And my goal is to go 12 years with perfect attendance," she stated.

At Sedgfield Junior High she enjoyed studying Language Arts and Social Studies. She

hasn't thought out what her occupation will be, but it may be related to one of these fields.

Swimming, skating, dancing and reading good books are parts of our beauty's life she enjoys extremely. She also enjoys the television programs "Gimme A Break," "The Jeffersons," and "What's Happening" for entertainment.

One of her favorite actors however is a person we don't often see on situation comedies... Billy Dee Williams. "But I did see him on TV in the movie 'Mahogany' and I think he is talented," Ms. Howze stated.

In music, her taste turns to Kool and The Gang. Being a Leo Ms. Howze is friendly and enjoys meeting people. One way to meet others is through music and dance. Kool and The Gang helps to give that special atmosphere at discos and the school parties our beauty enjoys.

Rev. Sharps pastors the church our beauty attends—Mt. Vernon AME Zion. She has become involved in activities in the community also, including the Junior Leaders, a division of the Salvation Army.

"In this club for teenagers," Ms. Howze began, "we raise money for field trips and different activities during the year."

Among the awards Ms. Howze has received include the Salvation Army Award and the Perfect Attendance Award for nine years. She was also selected to the Varsity Cheerleading squad at Sedgfield during the last school year and sang with the chorus from the seventh through ninth grades.

Growing up with two sisters, Brenda and Elgin, our beauty received much advice from them, as well as her mother, Virginia Howze. One such piece of advice is "treat people as you want to be treated." With this meek beginning, coupled with her discipline, our beauty is bound to become perfect in more ways than one.

By Governor James Hunt

Bettye Harris Receives Highest Honor Conferred On Civilians

By Mac Thrower
Post Staff Writer
Ms. Bettye Harris, director of community services for the Charlotte Housing Authority, has received the highest honor conferred on civilians in North Carolina: membership in the "Order of the Long Leaf Pine."

Jane Smith Patterson, secretary to Governor Hunt, recently announced the award to Ms. Harris. Mrs. Patterson praised Ms. Harris for her "work with the Charlotte Housing Authority as a Community Services Advisor," and for her "active participation in local women's civil and political activities." "The City of Charlotte is fortunate to have been 'adopted' by such an active woman as 'Ms. Harris,'" Mrs. Patterson added.

Bettye Harris is indeed an active woman—a social, political and religious "activist," who has made her presence felt in many ways since moving to Charlotte from Alabama 17 years ago. Says too numerous to list entirely.

In addition to her work with the Charlotte Housing Authority, Ms. Harris presently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Urban League, Charlotte chapter, and is chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metrolina Comprehensive Health Center. In the past, she has served on the boards of many civic and professional associations including the Drug Education Center, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the YWCA and the Hornets' Nest Girl Scout Council.

Prior to joining the Housing Authority, Ms. Harris worked as a legal secretary, a criminal justice planner in the federal Model Cities program in Charlotte, and earned "Teacher of the Year" honors in the Rock Hill, S.C. school district during the time she taught English to junior high school students. She left teaching reluctantly, she says, after the birth of her daughter, but teaching remains her "first love."



Learning makes a good man better and an ill man worse.

All of her work has centered on one interest: people. "I will always be about the business of helping people," she declares. "I just simply want to help."

Ms. Harris credits the training she received in her undergraduate years at Tuskegee Institute with "awakening a consciousness" in her of "human rights." She remembers well her 1965 commencement speaker, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; she remembers also the training in "social activism" at Tuskegee that inspired and prepared her to work towards the goal she still pursues—"a productive, whole, and totally integrated society."

Besides her professional career, Ms. Harris feels that her work for the Drug Education Center and her involvement in local politics have been her most important and personally satisfying activities.

She laughs fondly now when recalling her early political efforts as a precinct chairman, "shoe leather" efforts that helped open the path to political power for local blacks: "Ron Leeper and I used to knock on doors to get people to vote. We went up each side of one street, and down each side of the next."

Gale Miller Is In Second Place

Jessie McCombs Widens Lead As Churchwoman Race Enters Final Week

By Loretta Manago
Post Staff Writer
With The Charlotte Post's second annual "Churchwoman of the Year" contest entering its final days, many of the candidates are reviewing their strategies, crossing out unsuccessful game plans and preserving tried and true methods to pass on to next year's candidates.

In this contest, unlike most others, every contestant is a winner. They are winners because they saw a challenge, accepted it and refused to give up until the end.

Although the churchwoman candidates will have another week to report their point values, their values will not be disclosed until the evening of the banquet, therefore, keeping the identity of the winner hidden.

Having retained the leading spot for the past four weeks, Mrs. Jessie McCombs is still in first place with 2,275 points. She

That's about the most "grassroots" level of politics there is."

As director of community services for the Charlotte Housing Authority, Ms. Harris is striving, with hope and determination, to be "an influence," she says, "in getting all our young people prepared—through education and job training—to get out of public housing."

On Wednesday, July 14, at the NCNB Penthouse, a special ceremony will be held in Bettye Harris' honor, featuring the formal presentation of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine to her. Many local civic leaders will attend the ceremony, including Mayor Eddie Knox, N.C. Representative Louise Brennan, Dr. Bertha Maxwell, chairman of the Afro-American Studies Program at UNCC, and Bob Davis, Mecklenburg Democratic Party Chairman.

Ben Tison, chairman of the Mecklenburg legislation delegation, will present the award to Ms. Harris.

Post Banquet

Tickets are now available for the annual Charlotte Post Churchwoman of the Year banquet - to be held Friday, July 23. Call 376-0496 for more information.



Jessie McCombs

...Outdistances field is being pursued by Gale Miller of Gethsemane Baptist who has 960 points. Letha Short of Grier Heights, has left fifth place with 650 points and is presently holding third place. Mayfield Memorial candidate Gladys Massey, is in fourth place and has 570 points.

The remaining candidates, the churches they represent and their point values are: Lula Watson, East Stonewall, 555 points; Anne Herron, Metropoli-



Gale Miller

...Regains second place tan, 500 points; Lois Pendergrass, Antioch Baptist, 240 points; Della Kibler, Catawba Presbyterian, 215 points; Bonita Peay, Greater Galilee, 170 points; Viola Buyers, Pleasant Hill, 160 points; Josephine Morris, Walls Memorial, 140 points; Hattie Harris, Chappell Memorial, 125 points; Florence Gilchrist, University Park, 100 points; Ella Miller, Greater Providence, 100 points; Elmira Polk, First United Church of Christ, 110

points; Patricia Leak, Grace Memorial, 80 points; Cola Gilchrist, Pentecostal, 20 points; Carol Tate, Beulah Baptist (Concord), 20 points; and Shirley Harding, Shiloah Baptist (Concord), 10 points.

COLA GILCHRIST
Being a mother and striving for the advancement of God's kingdom are the enormous tasks Mrs. Cola Gilchrist has set before herself.

A member of Pentecostal Temple where Bishop J. H. Sherman is pastor, Mrs. Gilchrist participates on the Mother's Board.

Mrs. Gilchrist is the mother of four children and in her spare time she enjoys sewing.

VIOLA BUYERS
A devoted servant of the Lord, Mrs. Viola Buyers is a member of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church where Rev. Cuthbertson is pastor. There, she is a member of the Usher Board. During her 20 years of marriage Mrs. Buyers is the mother of three sons.