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THE CHARLOTTE POST

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Volume 9, Number 6

THE CHARLOTTE POST - Thursday, July 21, 1983

Price: 40 Cents

**Democrats
Plan For
Convention**

North Carolina will send a record number of delegates to the Democratic National Convention in 1984, Senator Russell Walker, State Democratic Chairman, told members of the Party's Executive Committee today. Committee members subsequently approved a plan to govern selection of the state's delegates to the National Convention, which will be held in San Francisco in July, 1984.

"North Carolina will select 88 delegates and 29 alternates," Walker noted. "The number of delegates assigned to the state is larger than it has ever been, mainly because of North Carolina's relatively large vote for Democratic candidates in 1980."

The figure also reflects the work of the Democratic National Committee's Commission on Presidential Nomination, chaired by Governor J. B. Hunt. The Hunt Commission, Walker pointed out, created additional slots to insure that the Party's top elected officials would become involved in the national convention.

Fifty-one of the delegates will be elected at conventions in the state's eleven congressional districts on June 2, 1984.

Republicans

Schedule

Hearings

Raleigh - Republican legislators and party officials will conduct a series of public hearings throughout the state to develop an educational program for the next decade.

Representative Betsy Cochrane, Davie County, revealed plans for the party's Education Commission of the 80s at a Raleigh news conference. She is vice chairman of the legislature's joint Republican caucus.

"Republicans are totally committed to education at all levels," Representative Cochrane said. "We want an education system to meet the demands of the present and the future, and to assure that our teachers will be both well paid and well qualified."

The GOP Commission will be made up of school board members, teachers, university and community college representatives, professional education groups, business leaders, and the leadership of the Republican legislative delegation.

Between now and September the commission will be meeting to establish guidelines to identify specific North Carolina issues that must be addressed. By Labor Day, the commission will announce dates and places of public hearings across the state to seek input from parents, educators and concerned citizens.

TURTLE-TALK



Tact is the ability to describe others as they see themselves.



Linda Ferguson
.....Proud humanitarian

**Linda Ferguson Is
Beauty Of Week**

By Teresa Simmons
Post Managing Editor
Linda Ferguson is a lady of class and dignity, yet she is not too proud to be a humanitarian.

Remember the television series "Father Knows Best"? All the kids in the neighborhood would spend time there because it felt cozy. Mrs. Ferguson's home is the same. It seems that love bellows from its roof to the basement and whenever she has spare time she doesn't mind donating it to teens in the neighborhood.

"I like people and like to read people and find out what makes them tick and their interests," Mrs. Ferguson began. "I like to impress upon others to never say you can't do something. If there is a will there is a way. If you have trust in the Lord, He will make a way."

Because of her love for people and the desire to share her golden knowledge about God she has taken on the position of mentor for a group of musically inclined young adults. Right now the Hampshire Hills gang is in the stages of producing a musical program for their parents.

"It gives me a lot of pleasure working with them. They will be trying to perform at parks and dances. I think having the group keeps them out of trouble and gives them something to strive for."

Mrs. Ferguson takes her love for people a step further and has incorporated her personality into a marketable profession. She is presently the Administrative Assistant of Motion, Inc., a housing renovation and developing company. She attended Spingarn High School and the Strayer Business College graduating with a degree in Business Management with a minor in Secretarial Science. She has also completed various courses and seminars to advance her knowledge of the business domain. "My job is a high pressure one but I love the secretarial field. You have to be very patient and diplomatic when you are dealing with different personalities, you can't treat everyone the same."

One of her favorite people is her employer, Ernest

Physical Day

The North Mecklenburg Booster Club will sponsor "physical day" for all North High athletes for the 1983-84 season on Friday, July 29, at 4 p.m. at the North Meck Family Practice office in Huntersville on Hwy. 115.

Alford. "He is my teacher, friend and guidance counselor, all rolled into one."

The top position, next to God, however belongs to her family. Her husband, Calvin Ferguson, is the owner of the Cal-Do Photographs. "He's my biggest fan and supporter, and also my best friend," Mrs. Ferguson stated. The couple has three children - Lawanda, Leslie and David.

Mrs. Ferguson's hobbies include spending time with her family, reading and hooking rugs. She recently joined Ebenezer Baptist Church. She and her family have lived in Charlotte for only two years.

When she first arrived in Charlotte she used Temporary Job Agencies to find employment. This led to an interview with freelance writer Vanessa Gallman. Mrs. Ferguson was featured in the June issue of ESSENCE magazine explaining her experiences with the agencies. "I recommend temporary job agencies mainly to college students for working experience or for people who are looking around before they actually settle down; for teenagers who want their working skills put into action; for others who desire a flexible working schedule and training in various areas."

People like Mrs. Ferguson are a rare essence. To find someone with both intelligence and genuine interest in human kind is a tremendous treat.

Eugene Marsh Believes

**Meeting The Challenges Of 80's
Will Be Difficult Task In Charlotte**

By Karen Parker
Post Staff Writer
In his announcement to run for city council last month, Eugene Marsh assured listeners "Meeting the challenges of the 80s will be a difficult task in Charlotte."

The candidate for District Three promised win or lose he will be "genuinely responsive to the district and genuinely responsive to the citizens of Charlotte." When asked what he views the challenges of the 80s to be in the city, Marsh was particularly concerned with public housing, crime and unemployment.

In District Three, Marsh believes some of the housing of the poor and the

**Tax Notices
Being Mailed
This Week!**

The City-County Tax Collector's Office will begin mailing approximately 200,000 property tax bills Thursday, July 21, according to J. A. Stone, Tax Collector and Tax Supervisor.

Stone said his staff will continue the mailing operation through Friday, July 22, and Monday, July 25. All bills should be received by Tuesday, July 26, he added.

Property owners whose assessment is under appeal will not receive their bills at this time, Stone said.

Also, you will not receive a property tax bill if your property taxes are being escrowed by the company that holds your mortgage; the bill will be sent, instead, to the mortgage company.

Stone said that bills are being mailed early this year in an effort to provide property owners with information about the amount they will be paying as the result of the 1983 property revaluation in Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

Both City and County property tax rates were reduced - the City rate from 90.5 cents to 63 cents and the County rate from 91.7 cents to 62 cents per \$100 assessed valuation - as a result of revaluation. The combined City-County tax rate this year is \$1.25 per \$100 assessed valuation.

Property tax payments are due September 1 and must be received in the Tax Collector's Office by January 5, 1984. Persons whose payments are late will be charged an interest of 2 percent the first month (January, 1984) and 3/4 percent every month thereafter until the bill is paid.

Call the Tax Collector's Office, 374-2813, if you have a question about how to pay your bill. You are encouraged to pay by mail. The payment card and check or money order must be sent to the City-County Tax Collector, P. O. Box 31457, Charlotte, N.C. 28231.



Eugene Marsh
.....City Council candidate

elderly needs to be improved through renovation. An increase in housing is another problem which Marsh addressed. He stated he would like to see an improvement in public transportation as well as

**2,000 Delegates To
Attend Convention Here**



EUGENE "PETE" COPELAND
.....Leaves Bennettsville Department

**Controversial Police Chief
Eugene Copeland Retires**

Many Charlotteans are familiar with Eugene "Pete" Copeland Jr., a native of Bennettsville, S.C. Copeland was Chief of Police of the Bennettsville Police Department since 1973. He joined the staff July 4, 1953 and received promotions to sergeant, lieutenant, and captain.

He retired officially July 4 of this year after 30 years of service. Chief Copeland was cited by the South Carolina House of Representatives as being the first Black Chief of Police in South Carolina.

The son of Eugene and Donella Copeland, Copeland is a graduate of Marlboro Training High School (1945), A&T State University, Greensboro, with a B.S. Degree in Business Administration and the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy, Columbia, S.C.

He is member of the Macedonia Baptist Church where he sings on the Senior Choir and is president of the Male Chorus. He was also recently appointed a Trustee of the church.

His other affiliations include: Landmark Masonic Lodge No. 16; he is a 32nd Degree Mason; a Shriner and Worthy Patron for Queen of Sheba Chapter No. 5 Order of Eastern Star; member of the American Legion Post 213; Board member of the United Fund; Mental Health Association; the American Red Cross; and Cheraw Alumni Chapter

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

He holds professional memberships in the South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers' Association, Palmetto State Law Enforcement Officers' Association and the International Association of Police Chiefs.

Chief Copeland is the recipient of numerous awards from various professional and community organizations. He has been cited twice as "Lawman of the Year" by WBCS and has received other awards for outstanding citizenship and service to the City of

**Believability Rate High
Blacks Turning More**

To "Their" Newspapers

As Blacks feel more activist than they have in 20 years, they are turning to Black weekly newspapers for news and views of the Black community.

So said Tony Brown, a prominent Black newspaper journalist and host of the public TV program "Tony Brown's Journal" at a reception at the recent convention in Gary, Ind. of the National Newspaper Publishers Association.

"Black newspapers offer a unique and timely voice for Black aspirations and concerns and they complement the White-owned dailies, not compete with them," Brown said at the reception where he helped

Bennettsville and the State of South Carolina. He was listed in the 1975 edition of Outstanding Americans in the South. He was recently honored by McDonald's as "Sound Citizen" of the week and appointed to the Governor's Committee on Criminal Justice, Crime and Delinquency. He has also been a member of the Bennettsville Kiwanis Club since 1977.

Chief Copeland has many friends and relatives in Charlotte. They wish him a happy retirement and congratulate him on a superb and effective career.

greet newspaper owners and executives, many of whom carry his syndicated column.

With Blacks becoming activists again as they feel their gains are being threatened, they are turning to the weekly newspapers owned by members of their own race. Brown said. "For Blacks, the situation is crucial - it's a matter of survival," he stressed.

He said Blacks perceive their gains being lost in what has become a reactionary conservative period.

"It isn't just President Reagan - it's a mood that has set in over the country and Blacks see it as a threat to these best interests," said Brown. "So we are looking more toward our Black institutions, and that includes Black-owned newspapers, for answers and guidance."

The evidence of Black activism, said Brown, is seen in the threat of Black leaders to bolt the Democratic Party and a new emphasis on using Blacks' purchasing power to achieve social gains.

Brown, whose syndicated column appears in more than 100 Black newspapers, said Black newspapers carry atop rating for one thing in the Black community, and that is "believability."

Black papers, he continued, carry the "nuts and grits of Black opinion," something he says Blacks cannot necessarily get in White-owned papers.

"The Black community is a cohesive unit and it trusts and believes in Black newspapers as their source of opinion," said Brown, who added that the Black press doesn't feel the same See MEETING Page 11 See BLACKS on Page 13

**Ebenezer
Church To
Host Meet**

Ebenezer Baptist Church will host the 99th Annual Session of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina Auxiliary to the General Baptist State Convention July 25-28. Three to four thousand delegates are expected to attend this educational and spiritually filled convention.

Prior to the convention on July 24 a pre-convention Mass Choir concert will be held at Ebenezer Baptist Church at 7 p.m. The church is located at 733 East Trade Street. The choir will be composed of voices from various Baptist churches in the association. The public is cordially invited to attend.

All other activities of the convention will be held at the Civic Center and the Radisson Plaza Hotel.

The Senior, Young Adult and the Youth Departments of the convention will be featured in sessions involving various speakers, lectures, sermons, worship services and classes surrounding the theme "Shaping the World Through Christian Influence."

On Monday evening during the banquet at 6, Dr. Ethel Gordon will deliver the keynote address. Dr. Gordon is the historian of Woman's Convention Auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention USA of Columbia, S.C.

Tuesday at 7 p.m. a welcome program sponsored by Ebenezer Baptist Church, host church, and the pastor, Rev. Dr. A.B. Sutton, will be held. Dignitaries, politicians and representatives of the city will be present to bring greetings.

Another highlight of the session includes the President's Address by the president of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Conventional Auxiliary to the General Baptist State Convention, Thelma Horton. She is the wife of Rev. I. B. Horton, pastor of First Baptist Church of Goldsboro.

Also present at the session will be the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Dr. Priscilla Brodie.

Dr. Brodie is well known around the city as a fluent speaker and Christian lady. She is a former professor at Shaw University, the daughter of a Baptist minister and a renowned, eloquent speaker. Under Dr. Brodie's leadership the Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of N.C. has shown tremendous growth.

No doubt this convention would not have been held in Charlotte if it were not for the open hearts of the members and pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church. "I was asked by the convention officers to host the convention. I felt it was a challenge for myself and the church and I accepted the challenge. It is also exposure for our city," Sutton stated proudly.