

**...Not Cut It!**

# Government Is Supposed To Generate Red Tape!

Government is supposed to generate red tape, not cut it. Right? In this case, it is the reverse that's true. Mecklenburg County's Agricultural Extension Service has helped 452 families get weatherization materials from Duke Power, and has simplified the process. "Duke Power had a fantastic idea," says Phil Haas, extension chairman. "But it just wasn't working the way it should. Duke allocated about \$7 million for the purchase of wea-

therization material and let customers know about it. But customers had to fill out a form, submit it to Duke to see if it met the qualifications, and then they had to go back and pick up the materials if approved." David Waymer, Sr., extension agent in charge of the project - says now families can get the material quickly. "We saw an opportunity to work throughout 45 community organizations to help families who needed the material, but didn't

necessarily fit into the low income requirements, get the weatherization package," says Waymer. "We trained a task force to go out into the community - if it met the requirements - audit the homes there, and decide how much material would be needed to weatherize the community." The project has been successful, by Waymer's standards - 452 families are now enjoying lower fuel bills thanks to the weatherization efforts begun by the Agricultural Extension Service in late October.

"This is the most practical, cost-effective way of energy conservation," says Haas. "When you're talking about \$70 per home in materials on the average - you can recoup that in energy savings in a couple of months." An impact study has been done, according to Waymer, that shows just how much you can save by covering your windows in plastic, installing door sweeps, caulking and putting gaskets over your electrical outlets. "The study shows that if

you heat with oil or electricity, you can save \$300-\$310 per heating season by weatherizing," says Waymer. He says 4,644 window kits, 993 door weatherization kits, 2,414 tubes of caulk, 983 door sweeps, and 874 outlet gaskets have been distributed through the community group weatherization project. Haas says the beauty of the plan is that the community groups work together to weatherize their homes after extension agents train them.

Volunteers have already been at work county-wide dodging drafts and plugging holes. Waymer says the most recent one was in the Sterling community. Groups in Cornelius, Huntersville, Mallard Creek, J.H. Gunn, Biddleville, Five Points, Matthews, and Crestdale have successfully completed their neighborhoods. If your community organization is interested in the weatherization project, call David Waymer Sr. at 374-2561 for details.

Dr. Robert Albright  
.....Keynote speaker

## Dr. Robert Albright Is MCAP Guest Speaker

By Karen Parker  
Post Staff Writer  
Dr. Robert L. Albright will be the keynote speaker at the annual luncheon and meeting of the Mecklenburg Council on Adolescent Pregnancy (MCAP).

Albright is president at Johnson C. Smith University and an MCAP board member.

The noon affair will be held February 2 in the United Way Auditorium, 301 S. Brevard Street.

Open to the public, the luncheon will focus on several matters, according to executive director Barbara Zeigler. "We will be thanking people in the community who have been supportive of MCAP and its many programs," Zeigler pointed out. She also mentioned the retiring board members of MCAP will be recognized as well as the new board members.

MCAP is a non-profit volunteer organization which was established in Charlotte in 1980. Zeigler explained the purpose of the organization is to serve as an informant and educational assistance system to clergy, school officials and community organizations such as the Scouts. "We create prevention activities for unwanted

adolescent pregnancies," Zeigler continued. Two programs which MCAP organized recently include "It's O.K. To Say No," and "Let's Talk." Both of the cooperative programs were discussion topics in schools and also received media exposure to inform the entire community.

MCAP works with large groups who have direct communication with adolescents. Another project initiated by MCAP is "I'm Askable." The "I'm Askable" campaign was enforced by physicians who through posters, pamphlets and pins revealed to their patients they were available for questions about human sexuality.

Adolescent pregnancy is a problem nationwide, but especially among black teens. One researcher stated, "The single most important problem confronting the black community today is adolescent parenting."

If you would like to know more about how you can contribute to MCAP, telephone Zeigler at 373-6880; or write P. O. Box 35009, Charlotte, N.C. 28235. Checks for \$6.50 to attend the MCAP luncheon should be in the MCAP office by January 27.

### What Is Suspicious Activity?

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in the incident. By giving the operator a lengthy account by phone, you'll be delaying the officer's arrival. So be brief!

4. Stay on the line until the 911-Operator terminates the call.

5. Once the officer arrives, then tell him or her as much as you know about the incident.

6. As the victim or witness to a crime, you can also help by giving police an accurate and complete description of the suspect and his/her vehicle. Be prepared to give such a description to the 911-Operator, if asked, and/or to the investigating officer:

1. Sex, race and approximate age.

2. Height (compared to some other person or object near the suspect).

3. Weight (also compared to some other person).

4. Color of hair and eyes.

5. Any visible scars.

6. Description of the person's clothing.

7. Any peculiarities of speech, walk, manner of dress and hairstyle.

8. Vehicle description: license tag number; make, model and color; distinguishing characteristics (vents, missing parts, etc.) and direction of travel.

Other Information  
When Calling Police  
Calls for police service are ranked in priority order depending upon the

urgency.

1. Certain suspicious activities you may report to them will require immediate or emergency responses. In those cases, they dispatch patrol cars as quickly as possible.

2. Sometimes, however, they may designate your call as "routine" which means that a police car may not arrive until about an hour later. They do that in some non-emergency situations to enable them to provide quicker responses in the more serious incidents.

3. Finally, some complaints may be taken by telephone, and don't require that a patrol car be dispatched. For instance, if your bicycle is stolen, you can give your report to a police officer by phone. In those cases, call the non-emergency number, 374-2351.

However, any time you need a police officer to respond to a scene, call 911 even in "routine" situations!

REMEMBER: Anything unusual should be reported to police. DON'T attempt to investigate strange actions or suspects by yourself!

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