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THE CHARLOTTE POST

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CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28202

Volume 10, Number 33

THE CHARLOTTE POST - Thursday, January 24, 1985

Price: 40 Cents

Gantt Is BSC Founders Day Speaker

Barber-Scotia College will celebrate its 118th birthday with a Founders Day Program on Sunday, January 27, at 1 p.m., in the College Chapel. Keynote speaker for the occasion will be Charlotte Mayor Harvey B. Gantt.

In pursuit of his dreams, Mr. Gantt entered Iowa State University for the five-year architecture curriculum. After completing his second year at Iowa State University, Mr. Gantt transferred to Clemson University and became the first black student admitted to Clemson. In 1965, Mr. Gantt graduated with honors and received his bachelor of architecture. He also received, in 1970, his master's in city planning from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is currently a partner in Gantt-Huberman Associates, an architectural and planning firm in Charlotte.

Since 1974, Mr. Gantt has served as a member of Charlotte's City Council. He was later elected as Charlotte's Mayor Pro-Tem. After campaigning successfully in 1983, Mr. Gantt was elected Mayor of Charlotte.

In addition to City Council, Mr. Gantt serves on the Board of Friendship Baptist Church, Sacred Heart College, Community School of the Arts, and the Afro-American Cultural Center.

For fun and relaxation, Mr. Gantt enjoys spending time with his wife and four children, singing in the choir at Friendship Baptist Church, playing tennis, and jogging. The community is invited to join the students, faculty, and friends of Barber-Scotia as they celebrate 118 years of rich heritage and tradition.

Barber-Scotia College was founded in 1867 by Rev. Luke Dorland, who had been commissioned by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to establish an institution in the South to prepare for the training of young black women as teachers and social workers.

A long way from its humble beginnings, Barber-Scotia College today is an accredited four-year, liberal arts college which admits students without regard to sex, race, creed, or national origin. The rapidly growing, yet intimate campus, is located on a 40-acre tract with 25 equipped buildings.

Barber-Scotia still justifies its existence through the worth and resourcefulness of its graduates as sound citizens, as intellectuals, professionals, and leaders of tomorrow.

Over 3,000 highly qualified and successful members of the business, political, scientific, and educational communities are testimony to the effectiveness of the Barber-Scotia College education.

African-American

"A National Directory of African-American Independent Schools" is now being prepared by The AAIS Service for distribution. Any African-American community or parochial school that is interested in being listed should send for further information. The AAIS Service is also offering a quarterly newsletter for and about the African-American independent school.

Please contact: The AAIS Service, Anne Ames, Director, P. O. Box 3978, Rockefeller Center Station, New York, N.Y. 10185.



Tiffany Lunn
...Wonderful little lady

At 8-Years-Old Tiffany Lunn Ranks At The Top Of Her Class

By Jalyne Strong
Post Staff Writer

School has to be one of Tiffany Lunn's favorite activities. As a second grader at Our Lady of Consolation, she has ranked academically in the top group of her class for two years straight. In school, Tiffany claims, "We do math, English, writing and phonetics. My favorite subject is science because I enjoy reading about how the earth was formed."

Eight year old Tiffany also reads books when she is at home. The story she enjoys best is "Little Red Riding Hood." Plus, she enjoys educational television with her favorite shows being "Electric Company," and many of the programs aired on the Disney Channel.

"I'd like to be a teacher," explains Tiffany. And all these activities will surely help in that field. She's already decided that she wants to teach second grade. "Because I like working with children," she adds.

Tiffany has many other interests also. She studies piano under Mr. Charles McCrae twice weekly. "I played at a recital last year," recalls Tiffany. "It was at the United Methodist Church and there

were a lot of people there."

Performing before many people is no problem for this young lady. She's used to it from three years of taking dance at Miss Donna's. Though she takes ballet, tap and jazz, Tiffany enjoys ballet the most. "I like my ballet shoes and I can stand on my toes. This year I'll get a trophy because it's my third year in dance school."

Tiffany also enjoys roller skating and she owns her own skates. She likes roller skating so much that her last birthday was celebrated at the Skate Palace. Her teacher, Mrs. Grisby, came, her classmates and her cousins were there. "We had a good time," says Tiffany.

Another very special occasion happened for Tiffany last year. She and her family journeyed to Knoxville, Tenn., to see, none other than, superstar Michael Jackson in concert. "It was amazing," reveals Tiffany. "I really got to see Michael Jackson in person." Of course, she adds that Michael is her favorite entertainer. "And I also like Prince," she informs.

One person who was along for the trip with Tiffany was her older sister, Robin, 13. "I like having an

Charlotte's Newest Hotel

Guest Quarters Celebrating Grand Opening

By Audrey C. Ledato
Post Staff Writer

Guest Quarters, Charlotte's newest luxury, all-suite hotel, celebrated its grand opening this week with a lavish reception for community and business leaders.

Mayor Harvey Gantt and County Commission Chairperson Carla DuPuy were presented with solid brass "keys" to the hotel, symbolizing that Guest Quarters is never closed.

Construction of the \$12 million hotel began in December, 1983; it has been unofficially opened and serving guests since December 13. Built on a six and a half acre tract of land at 6300 Morrison Boulevard, Guest Quarters has 137 suites and employs approximately 125 people.

According to General Manager Mike Malone, the new all-suite hotel represents a part of the fastest-growing segment of the hotel industry. He pointed to predictions that all-suite hotels will grow at a rate of 25 to 50 percent annually, compared to the three to four percent growth for traditional hotels.

"Today's business travelers are looking for ways to maximize their budgets and they're finding more value in all-suite hotels," Malone explained. "Our guests prefer more space than the conventional hotel



Harvey Gantt

room provides because it's a more relaxing way to spend nights away from home." Guest Quarters, with eight other all-suite hotels from Washington, D. C., to Houston, Tx. is geared to the upscale business or private traveler and to small- to medium-size groups, remarked Mimi Voorhees, the hotel's Director of Marketing.

"Our philosophy," stated Voorhees, "is to give each guest highly personalized attention and to provide him or her with the 'comforts of

Transportation Biggest Problem Facing Elderly

By Teresa Simmons
Post Managing Editor

During many moments in history being aged was synonymous with wisdom and respect. Today, you would think that retirement would be a welcome event. But many elect to work until they're 70 or older.

The elderly don't have it so good these days. The percentage of low income elderly is astonishing (actual figures revealed below). But what is more alarming is that problems facing the elderly are mounting.

Problems, such as transportation, can take their toll upon those 60 years and over. But there are businesses like Beasley's Funeral Home, located at 2706 Newland Rd. off I-85 and Beatties Ford Rd., that are providing needed public service for the elderly.

Beasley's van and car service for doctor and clinic appointments provide the elderly with the secure feeling that someone cares. "The people are so kind," says one elderly person who uses the free service. "They take pains with old people...and that's what counts."

ELDERLY POPULATION

Before we go any further about the transportation problem, let's take a look at the figures for the elderly population. Thanks to the Executive Director of the Selwyn Avenue Life center - an adult day care center, Stephanie Noonan, The Post can reveal percentages of the elderly population in Mecklenburg County, the number of minorities and low income individuals.

Part of this information was compiled by Jim Dunn, Manager, Policy Development, North Carolina Division of Medical Assistance, in October, 1983.

In Mecklenburg County, 12.1 percent of the population is age 60 or over. It ranks 94 in highest number of aged population. Polk County ranks first with 26.9 percent of its population 60 years or older. Onslow County ranks 100th with only 5.6.

In Mecklenburg County, there are almost 49,000 people over the age of 60 with 2,674 over the age of 85.

According to the "Characteristics of the Age 60 Plus Population by County 1980 Census," minorities comprise 21 percent of Mecklenburg County's residents who are over 60. Thirteen percent of all elderly in Mecklenburg County are considered low income. This 13 percent, by the way, is the second lowest percentage in comparison to all 100 N.C. counties. The highest percentage rate of low income elderly (60 and



Several Mecklenburg County residents utilize the free transportation service provided by Beasley's Funeral Home, a local business. (Photo By Bernard Reeves)

over) can be found in Madison County, where 39 percent of the elderly are considered low income.

WHY TRANSPORTATION?

Transportation is so crucial to the elderly sector because of doctors' appointments, clinic appointments, transportation to and from hospitals and for emergency transportation for immediate medical attention.

Have you ever driven behind an elderly person going 25 mph in a 45 zone area? Some unfriendly comments simply emerge: "He-she doesn't need a license anyway!" While some elderly people have, in fact, been turned down for renewed licensing, there are others who have restrictions. They may not be able to drive at night, for instance.

Then there are other elderly people who have never learned how to operate a car. These are the people who depend on family, friends, government or private services for their transportation needs.

WHO CARES?

One of the community's most prominent businesses, Beasley's Funeral Home, owned by Odell Beasley, provides free transportation for the elderly, handicapped and, according to Beasley, "...to anyone

who needs it."

The company has been providing transportation for the elderly since 1978, but about four months ago added a van to its inventory and can now provide wheel chair service.

This service is provided 24 hours a day, seven days a week for the Mecklenburg, Huntersville and Mt. Holly areas.

"We only need a day or two notice," commented Beasley. "But we also respond to emergencies." The number is 399-1666.

There is a vital need in the community for transportation to and from the doctors' offices, clinics, and hospitals, Beasley continued. For the elderly, paying \$15, \$20 or \$35 round trip for wheel chair service is expensive.

Even though Beasley's Funeral Home's transportation is free, they also provide transportation for hospital visits and for people being discharged from hospitals as well.

Many of the employees of the Funeral Home contribute to driving the cars or vans designated for transportation. Some of the drivers include Odell Anderson and L. C. Coleman, Rev. J. W. Kirkman and Bishop Clarence Polite. The average runs per-day is five to six, according to Bob Curry, employee of Beasley's.

Of the Beasley's service, "I think it's wonderful," says Mrs. Austin, who, at times, uses the transportation to take her husband to the doctor or hospital. "So many people need the service. There's nothing better."

Mr. McClee is also transported by the Beasley's Funeral Service. "It's a good service and I appreciate it. I've been using the service for about five years. We get along fine. Anytime I need them they tell me to call them."

Another person the Beasley's Funeral Home helps is Ms. Buford. "I would have to get an ambulance or cab," she stated. "I use the service when my feet are inflamed and the service is very nice."

THE FUTURE

Since 1960 the population aged 65 and older has more than doubled from 12.4 to 25.5 million. Agencies like the Social Services are, of course, involved in more aspects of people's lives than providing transportation needs. And the public can't expect for one agency to bear the entire load of the transportation needs of our county's or country's senior citizens.

According to one spokesperson at Social Services, some transportation is provided for the disabled. "Sometimes we refer them to neighborhood centers and social workers are active in providing transportation as well."

Beverage Director, John Stasick, "New American cuisine specializes in dishes from various regions around the United States. It's a culinary style fairly new to many diners and we believe it sets The Harbour apart from other Charlotte restaurants and hotel restaurants."

Dinner menus change weekly so that Guest Quarters can offer the freshest of seasonal foods. For lunch, diners can select from a wide variety of salads, sandwiches, and delicious hot entrees, or a distinctive salad buffet which offers breads, fruits, shrimp and meat salads and cheeses, as well as all the more familiar salad condiments. The hotel's pastry chef prepares fresh breads and pastries. There is an outdoor cafe where guests can enjoy their meals while overlooking the lushly landscaped courtyard.

Guest Quarters also offers a bell staff, a full catering staff, and meeting rooms that can accommodate groups of 200-300 people, yet provide for smaller groups of 25.

"We're excited to be in Charlotte," Malone commented. "We want our guests to feel at home, so we've offered services that no other hotel in town offers. In turn, we want Guest Quarters to be a part of Charlotte and reflect the warmth and character of this city."



Carla DuPuy

home' and more." This "personal touch" is reflected in an array of services and amenities, including 24-hour-a-day maid, valet and suite services, grocery shopping on request, babysitting and secretarial service, and transportation to the airport, restaurants, and shops around town.

Another amenity is the hotel's Harbour Restaurant, which offers guests Continental and New American cuisine for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Explained Food and

TURTLE-TALK



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