## Busy Minds And Busy Hands Don't Present Problems To The Community

By Jalyne Strong Post Staff Writer

"It's an old cliche," admits Robert Person, "an idle mind is the devil's workshop. But," continues the Director of the City's Employment and Training Department, "busy minds and busy hands don't seem to present problems to the communi-ty."

Person is speaking about the need for teen summer employment in Charlotte. And in answer to the approximate rate of 20 percent unemployment among minority youth in the city, Person's office will be operating three different employ-ment programs this summer. The first, the federally funded Job

Training Partnership Act (JTPA),
Person projects will employ 800
youths between the ages of 14 to 21.
"It's quite a large program through
which the youngsters will be paid to
work in public and non-profit arenas
of the city." he describes

Robert Person ....CETD director those who want to work but are not

There is the age requirement and an economic criteria for these jobs.

Those youngsters who live with parents who receive public assist-ance are automatically eligible. Otherwise, to meet federal guide-

able to find jobs."

of the city," he describes. The jobs will be diverse with empublic schools, social agencies, day care agencies, the YMCA and YWCA and other public departments. The official kick-off for the JTPA employment program, ac-cording to Person, will be June 12 and the jobs are scheduled to last until mid-August.

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Teenagers between the ages of 14 and 21 can apply for these jobs through the Employment and Training Department, located at 401 E. Second St., or at the Employment Security Commission within the Alexander Street Neighborhood Center, 910 N. Alexander Sr. "We've been recruiting youngsters for the pass several months," says Person. "We're trying to afford the opportunity to those who want to work and gain experience through the program. Especially to attract

## Women Entrepreneurs

The American Association of Black Women Entrepreneurs (AABWE) will host a "Getting to Know You" supper at the home of Rose Marie Cotton, 6017 Eastbrook Dr., Hampshire Hills, on Saturday, June 8, beginning at 6 p.m.

The social event is open to AABWE members and potential members and it is requested that those who attend bring a covered dish.

## Men's Day

Continued From Page 1A E. Gibbs, Thomas Styles, Walter Taylor Sr., and James M. Vincent

The concerted efforts of all these men of First Baptist Church West promises to make the Men's Day celebration a memorable occasion.

CONGRATULATIONS WE WANT TO RATULATEAL PEOPLE THAT ARE AADUATING FR YOU ARE TOMO OW'S LEADERS AND WE ARE PR of Your THIS IS USUALLY Person's first Major achieve ME BEST YOU MAVE ND THE BEST WILL OME BACK TO od said, "in all THY WAYS AC-KNOWLEDGE HI irect thy paths." Proverbs 3: **Export Alterations** DRY CLEANING & SHIRTS

a family of four that is making less than \$11,000. When applying for this program the person must pos-sess a Social Security card and information on family income, pre-ferably a W-2 form or paycheck

stub.

In another program, the City will place at least 135 youngsters in jobs within the City departments. Titled, "The Summer Youth Program," it is projected to employ teenagers in various jobs such as operations, sanitation, parks and recreation, which all fall under the City of Charlotte. Criteria for eligibility is similar to the JTPA program.

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Finally, Person's department is seeking to employ 300 youngsters in private sector jobs. "This last program involves training an individual whom we can send to an employer," he relates. An orientation class has been set up in conjunction with Central Piedmont Community College where the youngster will receive instruction on job expectations. "The basics will be covered, such as dress, punctuality and filling out an application," notes Person. "It's to help them understand what's involved in a day's work for a what's involved in a day's work for a lines the teenagers must live with . .

Following orientation, the best qualified candidates will be sent to the major companies that have developed jobs for this program," states Person. The jobs will run for a at least eight weeks and teen employees will receive no less than minimum wage. "And in some instances more." Person points out.

In the first two job programs the emphasis is on the economically disadvantaged but in the last category Person maintains that it is open to all interested youngsters.

Also in the latter category, Person contends, "We have several major companies committed to x-number of jobs but we need more private sector jobs. We're expecting quite a number of applicants when high school and colleges close," he predicts. "And our strength will have to come from smaller businesses."

Any small businesses interested in offering summer employment to teenagers can call Robert Person at

"It's important for the welfare of Charlotte and every community to help afford employment opportunity to our citizens when they are young," declares Person. "It's too

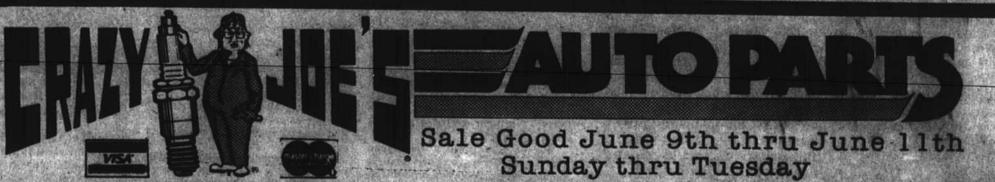
late to get your first job when you're an adult," he points out.

"We believe in the work ethic," Person continues. "The sooner you learn that you don't get something for nothing, the better.

average of 40 percent. Yet, acknowledging the lower average of 20
percent in Charlotte, Person expresses, "We have a good climate
here owed to the attitude of the
companies and elected officials who
are generally concerned. Our community seems to present a very good
effort and I'm glad to be a part of
it."













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