



Mrs. Kenon LeMar Woods  
...The former Miss Shena Tajuan Burroughs

## Miss Shena T. Burroughs Weds Kenon LeMar Woods

Shena Tajuan Burroughs and Kenon LeMar Woods recently exchanged marriage vows during a candlelight ceremony at H. O. Graham Metropolitan Presbyterian Church. The pastor of the church, Dr. A. Rudolph Hendricks, performed the double-ring ceremony.

Escorted down the aisle by her father, the bride wore a gown of organza and lace with a high neckline and long, fitted sleeves. Her veil of illusion extended from a lace tiara into a chapel train.

The maid of honor, Lisa Burroughs, wore a deep pink gown with spaghetti straps and white border. The bridesmaids each wore gowns of deep pink with ruffled, off-the-shoulder necklines and puffed sleeves. The waist of the gowns were accented with large, white bows. The bridesmaids were: Bridget Phifer, Lori Williams, and Melissa Hendricks.

The groom chose Patrick Moragne as his best man. Grooms-

men were Paul Hendricks, Philip Hendricks, and Terry Wells.

Shanta Parson was the flower girl and Carlos Agurs served as ring bearer.

Nuptial music was provided by Stanley McCullough, organist, and soloists, Bridget Phifer and Mike McCollie. A special musical tribute to the bride and groom was sung by Samuel McKelton, a Morehouse College student, accompanied by Paul Hendricks, also a Morehouse student, on piano.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. Moses Burroughs and the late Mrs. Burroughs. The groom is the son of Mr. Willie Woods and Mrs. Queen Woods.

Following the wedding ceremony, a reception for the couple was held at the home of the groom's mother. The couple will reside in Charlotte.

## Dr. Mable McLean

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Dr. McLean has worked for the college 29 years, Walton said, beginning as an education and psychology instructor in 1943. She rose through the college ranks, becoming chairman of the Elementary Education Department, dean of the college, acting president and president - with some years out to get a master's and to teach in public schools.

As acting president in 1974, she inherited a \$1.5 million deficit and rumors the college might close. But a \$1.5 million gift from the Presbyterian Church (USA) kept the college afloat. And McLean's fund raising efforts have helped it since then, Walton said.

One goal she achieved was to leave the school accredited, Walton said. McLean's other goals are to build a new chapel, restore three buildings recently entered in the National Register of Historic Places, increase student enrollment and improve the academic program.

In March, 1986, McLean is to become head of the United Negro College Fund, the first black woman to head the 43-member group, Walton added.

She ranked first in her class at Barber-Scotia College in the early 1940s. She was the first woman and the first alumna to be president of the college, founded in 1867.

Walton said college trustees will appoint a search committee to find a new president, the college's 10th.

"After having been here for 29 years," Walton concluded, "I would imagine it would be a void that would be difficult to replace."

## The Relatives Suggests: How To Communicate With Teenagers

By Audrey C. Lodato  
Post Staff Writer

According to The Relatives, Mecklenburg County's only around-the-clock service program for runaways and homeless youth, "Most teenagers leave home not because of an unbearable situation, but due to a power struggle between the teen and his parents or some other figure of authority."

Program Services Director Christopher Shaney notes that a primary contributing problem to the runaway phenomenon is "lack of quality communication." This lack of quality in communicating leads to neither parent nor teen feeling heard and understood, and contributes to a low level of self-esteem in the child, says Shaney.

How can parents improve communication with their teens? "With a lot of listening and a lot of understanding," the director replies. "Listening to your child doesn't necessarily mean you agree, but it fulfills the need for the teenager to be heard."

Noting that perceptions will inevitably differ between parent and teen, Shaney points out that criticism serves no useful purpose. Rather, it causes strained communications and lowers the youngster's self-esteem even more.

Instead, he counsels, "Let your teenager know you understand. Teens are entitled to their own beliefs. You can give them guidance and love, but you can't give them your thoughts. We can always learn from our children," he continues. "We can share our thoughts, but we can't expect them to think the same. It's a wonderful opportunity for parents to learn a new perspective."

Parents need to understand the unavoidable element of peer pressure their children face, Shaney says. While peer pressure has always existed, today's children must deal with the availability of drugs and alcohol to a greater extent than their parents probably did. "Kids are becoming alcoholic very much earlier than in the past," he notes.

Youth have more choices than ever before, Shaney remarks. At times, however, they lack the responsibility and maturity needed to make these choices.

Even though times have changed and it may not be valid to compare "then" and "now," still, parents can share their experiences with an understanding attitude, says

Shaney. "Don't be afraid to give advice. Whether or not the teenager seems to be listening, the seeds can be planted."

He further advises parents to be supportive and to guide their youngsters when their choices seem inappropriate or dangerous. And above all, be open and listen. Children often use their parents as a sounding board to sort out what they think and feel. Putting down the teenager's opinions in effect short-circuits his or her problem-solving attempts.

The Relatives, located at 1000 East Blvd., temporarily houses about 400 children each year, and has to turn away an additional 200, who are referred to other agencies.

Shaney is quick to point out that "we are not an alternative to home. We're an emergency crisis center." The program can house up to nine children at a time and runs "very close to a full house" most of the time. The maximum stay allowed is 14 days; the average is five.

Some children come to The Relatives on their own. When this is the case, they must contact their parents within 72 hours of their arrival and arrange a parent conference.

In other instances, parents bring their children, or other agencies may refer youngsters.

Parental permission is required for a child to stay at The Relatives beyond the initial three days, and most parents are willing to work on solving whatever the problem at

### "Terrific" Kids

Statesville Road Elementary School has some "terrific kids," and it's teaming up with the local Kiwanis Club to recognize them. Each week, a student from each class is a winner in the Terrific Kids Program. Terrific kids receive special pencils, certificates and free meals at fast food restaurants. In addition, their pictures are placed on a bulletin board.

Larry Griffin, who teaches a third and fourth grade combination class, organized the program. He says any student has the potential to be a terrific kid. Students are recognized for a variety of achievements, including academic progress and improved behavior.

"The program has two major purposes," Griffin says. "It reinforces good behavior by students, and it also gets the community involved at Statesville Road." For more information, contact Griffin at 586-1701.

home is, says Shaney. In the rare case when a parent will not give permission, the child is picked up by the parent. There is no attempt to hide a child from his or her parents. In fact, parental participation is considered essential to the successful outcome of the situation.

The Relatives operates under the principals of reality therapy. The key word, explains Shaney, is responsibility. While in residence, the child is responsible for fulfilling the expectations of the program.

Besides the residential program, The Relatives has two additional components: 24-hour walk-in and phone-in crisis counseling for parents and teens; and a follow-up program lasting a minimum of 90 days after a teen has left the residential program.

The Relatives is a non-profit organization funded by a variety of church, civic, private, and governmental sources. No fees are charged for services. Donations are welcome.

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