

Representing Group II of the Omega Pai Phi Fraternity as its representative in the annual Mardi Gras queen contest is Miss Rosia W. Blue. Ron Mullen is chairman of Group II. Employed by Southern Bell, Miss Blue is a customer service representative. Much of her spare time is devoted to the Pop Warner Sports Organization. She was cheerleader coordinator for the Plaza Athletic Association, as well as the business manager for the Charlotte Youth Athletic Club. The mother of one son, Miss Blue has also volunteered to work with the Literacy Program at Central Piedmont Community College, She enjoys reading and traveling. Miss Blue is a graduate of Perry High School in Roseboro, N.C., and the University of New Haven, West Haven, Connecticut. The Mardi Gras Dance will be held Friday, November 8, from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. at the Convention Center.

adopt.'

reach out to black couples wishing to

Joan Silvey, coordinator of The

Friends of Black Children program

noted that the disproportionate

number of black children remain-

ing in the system without perma-

nent families is a matter of grave concern for child welfare profes-

sionals. Forty-five percent of the

state's children legally free for

adoption are black, while blacks make up only 22 percent of the

general population.

She said that in October, 1984, the program became part of DHR's

Division of Social Services. Prior to

that it was part of a two-year pilot

project under the auspices of the

School of Socoal Work at UNC-

Chapel Hill. It has gradually grown

and now includes 13 counties. They are Cabarrus, Chatham, Cumber-land, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gran-

ville, Halifax, Iredell, Lee, New

Hanover, Wake, Warren, and

Silvey added that the goals of the

program are to increase communi-

ty awareness of the great need to

find adoptive homes for black chil-

dren, and to build a support net-work to track the children once they

"It is important to understand that

black people do have a deep sense of

family, and that the black com-

munity has always had a tradition of

taking care of its own through in-

formal adoptions," Silvey empha-

sized. "While many black children

who never enter the foster care

system have found permanent fami-

lies through informal adoptions, this

resource has not been a solution for

those children who have become a

part of the system.

### Friends Of Black Children

Ten-year-old Mary has had to ndure three painful separations in er young life. She was originally laced in foster care for her own ofection because she was mis-eated by her biological parents. ater, Mary lived temporarily with ster parents and then an adoptive amily. Her adoptive parents were not able to provide the love and affection the child needed, and Mary suffered from more emotional neglect. As a result the child has felt mloved, unwanted, and has suffered from guilt feelings.

In May, 1985, Mary's life changed.

In May, 1985, Mary's life changed In May, 1985, Mary's life changed dramatically for the better. The child was legally adopted by Peggy Jones, a 59-year-old widow who is a fetired school teacher. Mrs. Jones first met Mary through the Friends of Black Children program in her community, where she is an active and enthusiastic volunteer. Mary is the second older child adopted by Mrs. Jones. Her love and trust as a parent is already proving successmarent is already proving success-ul. In just three months, Mary is ecoming a happy, self-confident ourth grader who feels much bet-er about herself by being part of a

ving family.
Until recently, Mary was one of
the 235 black children in North arolina hoping to be adopted into rmanent, loving homes. These black youngsters are among the special needs" children who are in the custody of the state's 100 county epartments of social services. Spetial needs children are often con-

sidered hard to place.

John Syria, director of the N.C.
Department of Human Resources'
Division of Social Services, said that ecial needs children are older. some have physical handicaps or emotional problems. Others have been abused, neglected, or aban-doned by their natural parents. ome are brothers and sisters who hould be placed together. Many are lack children.

He pointed out that Friends of lack Children is a new special needs adoption program that serves as a bridge between black com-munities and public agencies that elp find homes for black children gally cleared for adoption. The Friends of Black Children

arogram will go a long way toward building a brighter future for many of our black foster children like Mary," Syria emphasized, "This project is an important step in North Carolina's effort to strengthen ser-vices to black foster children and

### Women In Business

The National Association of Negro usiness and Professional Women's lub and area women business

and area women business wers will be recognizing Women Business Week.

In Saturday, October 26, at 10 in, the NANBPW and women business owners will be sponsoring a om at Spirit Square. For Harvey Gantt will issue a

nation in honor of Women in s Week and Deborah Saun-rector of the Business Opy Network at the Chamber eak on the importance of ing. All women business are invited to attend this

cCrorey Party
he Johnston Memorial YMCA,
5 N. Davidson St., will have a
lloween Costume Party and
unted House on Saturday, Ocer 25. The Haunted House will be
s from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. and
party begins at 8 p.m., lasting

costs \$1. For more

# Nurses' Scrority Honors Five For "Serving Mankind"

By Loretta Manago Post Managing Edite Post Managing Editor
For 53 years, the local chapter of
Chi Eta Phi Sorority has been
dedicated to serving mankind. At
its recent founders' day celebration the professional nursing organization paid homage to four
individuals who also have dedicated
their lives to serving mankind.

Mayor Harvey Gantt received the

Mayor Harvey Gantt received the organization's highest award the "Service for Humanity Award." which was accepted on his behalf by the wife of his campaign manager, Diane Baker. B. J. Harrison of WSOC-TV, Marcia Burton of WGIV radio, State Alexander of WPEG radio, and Al Cloud of the United House of Prayer For All People each received framed certificates of ap-preciation for their individual contribution to the community.

The presentations of these awards followed a challenging speech given by Phyllis Lynch. Tackling the topic, The Role of Black Organizations in the Year 2000," Ms. Lynch told her audience that blacks must focus on servicing humanity. Throughout her speech, Ms. Lynch noted that Chi Eta Phi, Iota Chapter has indeed lived up to its motto of "service for humanity"



State Alexander .....WPEG news director

through its networking with other community organizations and various workshops on teenage

pregnancy and health topics. Concluding a most thoughtprovoking speech, Ms. Lynch enumerated that black organizations must become involved with the church and in turn see that the church becomes involved with the

Delta Zeta Chapter sponsored an Over-night Cool-out for their contestants of the Miss Blue Revue Pageant, at the home of Soror Joyce Ballard. The contestants had an opportunity to become better acquainted in an informal setting of fun and games, beginning with a Wiener Roast Friday evening, October 18, at 6.

An orientation concerning a fashion and talent show presenting the girls, was included in the evening's activities. Soror Philistine Dunlap, coordinator of this upcoming event, was well received by the partici-

The highlight of the Cool-out was a Charm Clinic directed by Sara Hill,

a representative of Mary Kay Cosmetics, Rock Hill, S.C. Mrs. Hill began her presentation with a session that stressed the importance of having a positive attitude, providing activities for the young ladies to interact with one another. She then proceeded to instruct the contestants in the necessity of having a good skin care regime and its advantages. The session ended with the candidates being directed in the proper selection and application of makeup to achieve the more sophisticated look of today's teen-

The gathering culminated Saturday morning with a continental breakfast.

### THE CHARLOTTE POST

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Mayor Harvey Gantt .....Receives highest honor

community; become politically involved; work for a just and peaceful society; build strong family units and render acts of service to mankind on both an individual as well as a concerted level

In answer to Ms. Lynch's Challenge the Iota Chapter of Chi Eta Phi Sorority will be hosting its first "Salute to Black Elected Officials' Wives" on Friday, October 25, at McDonald's Cafeteria. They have planned for the upcoming year comprehensive workshops with allied professionals, workshops on cancer, kidney, and teenage pregnancy. Once again they will be



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.....United House of Prayer

sponsoring the twin contest and participating in their annual nursing

The founders' day program, which was held at the YWCA-Uptown, was emceed by Pearl Maxwell, chaplain. President Vivian Smith gave the welcome address and awarded the "Service for Humanity Award." Reading the history was Betty Dial, historian, and introducing the speaker was program chairperson, Ruthie Giles. Award chairperson, Mary Matthew, presented the awards and Bernice Fulson gave the closing remarks.

A reception followed the program.

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