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Holds Significant
"Piece" Of History**
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Contributing To
Black History**
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**"Dogged Determination"
Spurs State Senate Hopeful
Atty Lawrence Davidson**
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Cheryl Warner
....."Very outspoken person"

Cheryl Warner Is Freshman Psychology Major At JCSU

By Jalyne Strong
Post Staff Writer

Cheryl Warner is a native of Atlanta, Ga. who's come to Johnson C. Smith University on a music scholarship. This 18-year-old young lady has been playing the clarinet since she was in the fourth grade. She played with the Smith Marching Band for awhile.

Cheryl is a freshman psychology major with an ambition to go into an aspect of social work. "I like talking to people, listening to their problems and helping, or at least trying to help them with their problems," she explains.

She admits that day in day out problem solving could get depressing. "But I wouldn't let my clients know," Cheryl smiles.

More than likely she'll keep everyone's spirits buoyed since this week's beauty describes herself as a "very outspoken person. Sort of crazy at times," she confesses. Yet on the other hand she also claims she's a homebody. "I hardly ever go out. I hate to be in crowds," Cheryl relates.

Things she likes to do include talking on the telephone, meeting people, shopping and spending money. Her dollars go towards things like shoes and jeans. "I love stuffed animals but I don't buy them. I like people to give them to me," Cheryl reveals.

About her home town Atlanta, Cheryl expresses, "I love it! It's my place." She adds that the city offers a lot of things to do. Charlotte, points out Cheryl, "reminds me of home, in some areas." And she concedes that the Queen City is a nice place too.

But not nice enough to keep her

here. Next semester Cheryl has plans to transfer to Albany State University in Albany, Ga. leaving the far heel to return to the peach state.

But her year at Smith was not without its rewards. This young lady was honored during her first year at the college by being selected Kappa Sweetheart and Queen of Myers Hall. "These are about the best things that have happened to me since I've been here," Cheryl enthuses.

She admits that returning to Georgia to go to school will also get her a little closer to home, which seems pretty good to her. Cheryl came to Smith in the first place because, she laughs, "I thought I See CHERYL On Page 5A.

Meeting Set For February 27

Local Black Elected Officials Organize To To Tackle Problems In Black Community?

By Audrey C. Lodato
Post Staff Writer

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Black Elected Officials organization is getting set to tackle the problems of education, housing, and economic development and employment in the local black community.

Meeting for a two-day workshop earlier this month, the group, chaired by Charlotte City Council member Ron Leeper, selected those three areas as issues of significance in which the organization, working in conjunction with other area groups, could have some impact.

There will be a follow-up meeting of the Black Elected Officials on February 27 to determine how to proceed, said Leeper. "We will be calling on other interested people in the community to come in and help as we set up other committees," he added.

Among the organizations included in the workshop were the NAACP, represented by Kelly Alexander Jr.; SCLC, represented by the Rev. James Palmer, who is also representing Night Baptist Ministers No. 2 Organization; Day Baptist Ministers No. 1 Organizations, represented by the Rev. John Thomas; Christian Ministers Fellowship, chaired by Rev. Harold



Kelly Alexander Jr.
.....NAACP representative
Diggs, and the Residents Advisory Council of Public Housing, chaired by Daisy Alexander.

Of the three issues chosen, none has been singled out as having any more importance than the others. Leeper believes the resources are available to look at all of them simultaneously. Calling it a "self-help project," Leeper stated they would be "finding ways for the black community to help itself." When asked about a timetable, he



Ron Leeper
.....City Council member

responded, "We anticipate setting short and long range goals. It's important to see immediate results. We can do some things right now to see some immediate results, as well as over the long term, say the next five years." The Black Elected Officials will be setting up a formal process whereby the issues can be addressed and worked on. At that point, he said, people could identify themselves as interested in working on a particular



Rev. James Palmer
.....SCLC representative

project or area. Any members of the organizations listed can make their interest known to their leadership. "We want to be as inclusive as we can," Leeper commented. "This is a community-wide problem. The more people and resources we have working on it, the better the results." As part of the process, town meetings have been scheduled in various parts of the county to discuss the three issues selected at See LOCAL On Page 7A

Neighborhoods Pressing For An Early Start In Circulation Campaign

By Joe Brown
Post Staff Writer

Brookhill Community, Fairview Homes Residents Organization, and Trinity Park community are just three of the 54 organized, predominantly black neighborhoods pressing an early start on their subscriptions campaign to raise money and gain community news coverage for their neighborhoods.

"We will begin Thursday morning by going through the neighborhood and knocking on doors to sell subscriptions," says Linda Geiger, president of the Brookhill Community. Ms. Geiger made this statement two days ago, so the Brookhill campaign is well under way.

Over 20 neighborhood leaders met with Charlotte Post organizers last Thursday at the McDonald's Cafeteria on Beatties Ford Road to discuss a joint pact between neighborhoods and media. Charlotte Post publisher Bill Johnson introduced the proposed plan for the Charlotte Post to be a reliable source of reporting community news for the exchange that organization members agree to sell Charlotte Post subscriptions. In addition to gaining community news coverage, the organization also will receive a portion of the sales to use for their community needs.

"We are pleased about the responsive reception from the neighborhood leaders. The meeting was an informative success. We feel that the partnership we are developing with the communities will create a substantial increase in the numbers of our subscribers," states Mr. Johnson.

Linda Geiger informed the members of the Brookhill organization about the campaign at their Monday meeting. The organization discussed strategies and exchanged ideas to sell subscriptions. The most important issue of the meeting concerned the use of the money that will be raised from the campaign.

"We have a financial treasury. We want to use some of the money to help kids in the neighborhood to find employment. Since we are low in



Ms. Annie Fay Jones
.....FIRO president

funds, it will buy candy for the children at Halloween and purchase gifts for the elderly during Christmas time," lists Ms. Geiger.

"People really need oil badly for heat. We would set up a deferralment for those people, and also we can help people who are sick and can't pay their rent."

The plan includes the "Neighborhood of the Year Circulation Campaign." The contest begins March 17 and continues through April 14. To be eligible for five top prizes the contest offers, the organization must sell over 100 subscriptions or more. The organization with the highest amount of paid subscriptions will receive a \$1,000 bonus. Second place winners will receive \$500; third place \$250; fourth place, \$100; and fifth place \$50. The winning cash will not include the monthly commission.

Charlotte Organizing Project (CHOP) director Melvin Whitley and Program Coordinator Joe Brown will be working closely with neighborhood organizations to assist them during the campaign.

Annie Fay Jones, president of Fairview Homes Residents Organization, strengthens her neighborhood's motivation by proposing ideas to organize their campaign to



Johnny Johnson
.....Trinity Park leader

raise money and gain media coverage.

"With the money we want to plan a trip for the youth this summer. It will alleviate some of the burden on some of the parents, especially when they have more than one child," says Ms. Jones.

David Williamson Jr., Trinity Park Community, reports enthusiasm from the organization members at Monday's meeting.

"We are planning a big rally to kick off our campaign. We held a big meeting Saturday so the rally will cover the neighborhood," announces Mr. Williamson.

"We want to put entrance signs off Beatties Ford Road and get an I.D. engraver. We are still in the process of fighting this water problem,



Ms. Linda Geiger
.....Brookhill neighborhood leader

so the money can be used for a lawyer. Otherwise we'll sell over 100 subscriptions!"

The campaign gives the neighborhoods the opportunity to serve the needs of their neighborhoods and build a working relationship with the Charlotte Post and among themselves.

"It will give us money that we need for projects we badly need for our neighborhood," Ms. Geiger expresses.

"The commissions and bonuses from the sales will present a helping aid to the communities. I am happy to see leaders such as Ms. Geiger planning to use the funds for these worthwhile, needed purposes," says Mr. Johnson.

North Carolina's Per Pupil Expenditure Increases

North Carolina's per pupil expenditure for 1985-86 ranks 27th in the nation, an increase of 14 places from the 1984-85 ranking of 41st, according to Dr. K. Z. Chavis, interim executive secretary of the North

Carolina Association of Educators. The state's average salary, however, has not done as well, gaining only two places this year over last year's ranking.

The average Tar Heel teacher earns \$22,476 this year which is 31st in the nation. In 1984-85 the average salary was \$20,691 which ranked 33rd in the nation.

"North Carolina can be proud of the progress that has been made in per pupil expenditures," Dr. Chavis said. "Last year we were \$771 below the national average per pupil expenditure. Today we are only \$312 below the national average. The General Assembly should be commended for appropriating the funds to bring our state's expenditure per pupil from \$2,438 in 1984-85 to \$3,179 this year."

"I wish the news were as good about the average teacher's salary," Dr. Chavis continued. "Today we are \$2,781 below the national average teacher's salary. Last year we were \$2,891 below the national average. While our per pupil expenditures have gained almost 60 percent against the national average, our average salary has gained less than four percent."

"If we are going to attract a high caliber of young people to teaching careers, we absolutely must make faster progress on salaries," he said. "When business offers starting salaries above \$20,000 and we pay beginning teachers \$15,680, it's not hard to see why there is a shortage of teachers." NCAE pointed out recently that black youngsters are joining their white counterparts in opting for careers out of teaching.

Dr. Chavis pointed out that the pay raises given to teachers in the last two years have brought North Carolina's ranking among the states back to about where it was in 1979-80. That year the state's average salary ranked 32nd.

TURTLE-TALK



Money may not go as far as it used to, but we have just as much trouble getting it back.