

# LIFESTYLES

## Africans Get a Taste Of The Charlotte Life

By GWENDOLYN DANIELS  
Lifestyles Editor

Charlotte recently rolled out the welcome mat and gave visitors from the Motherland, Africa, a little taste of how people and businesses operate in the United States.

A group of four distinguished African businessmen and their two interpreters visited the Charlotte area from Sept. 10 through Sept. 17. Koffi Victor Afagnibo, Nebil Ben Yedder, Gregoire Owana and Jean Tsirey Tila got a chance to visit several small businesses and companies during their brief tour in addition to taking in some cultural activities. Miriam Lutz and Latif Ndiaye accompanied the group as interpreters for the French speaking visitors.

The visit is part of a six-week project entitled "Entrepreneurship and the U.S. Economy." The tour was sponsored by the International Visitors of the U.S. Information Agency in Washington along with The Council for International House in Charlotte. The program will allow the visitors to visit a range of small and mid-sized businesses, such as franchises, cooperative businesses, and family and minority-owned businesses.

Some of the businesses visited were Frito-Lay, Ecos International, Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. and Sam Johnson Lincoln Mercury.

One of the main observations that the group made was that the United States encourages small businesses to develop and grow. Owana said he was struck by the fact that the



African businessmen tour Frito Lay to observe the production of the company's products during their visit to local businesses. The visitors

American system is very liberal and capitalistic.

"It is such an open system," Owana said.

were in Charlotte for a week as part of an international tour program.

Owana also said the African Country on a whole works to-

gether, unlike Americans who place importance on the individual.

"The African Country thinks in a collective mind set," Owana said. "Americans concentrate more on the individual and the 'me' generation above all else."

Afagnibo said he was surprised by the diversity of American people and he also believed that Africans work together in one direction more so than American.

However, he added that the individualistic attitudes and diversity of Americans does not always stand in the way of unity. "There's not just one type American," Afagnibo said. "Yet, some of the population live and work together to succeed."

When asked what he thinks about American people, Owana said there hasn't been enough time to spend with the people of the country and get to know them very well.

"We haven't seen them in their natural state yet," he said.

Owana also said that he would have liked to have had more social and business contact with the black community during his visit also.

Owana is from Douala, Cameroon and he is one of Douala's representatives to Cameroon's National Parliament. He is the director of Beriac, a computer consulting firm. He speaks Ewondo, French and English.

Yedder is from Montfleury, Tunisia and is the director of La

Generale Alimentaire, General Foods. He speaks Arabic and French.

Afagnibo is from Niamey, Niger and he is the director of Nigercar, a car rental and travel agency. He is a member of the Nigerian Industries and Employers' Association and of the Professional and National Association of Tourism. Afagnibo speaks Zarma, Hausa and French.

Tila is from Mahajanga, Madagascar and is the head of the regional office for the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mines in the Mahajanga Province.

Lutz said she lived in Africa for about five years and said the country feels like home to her. She said she loves the excitement of being exposed to many different cultures through the program. Lutz spends seven months out of the year traveling with international groups.

"It's a big challenge," Lutz said. "It allows me to live in the U.S. and with Africans."

The program started out in Washington, where the visitors stayed for two weeks. They then traveled to Colorado before coming to the Queen City. After leaving here the group traveled to Pittsburgh, Milwaukee and New York. The project will close with a farewell dinner in New York City and the group will leave on Saturday, Oct. 7.

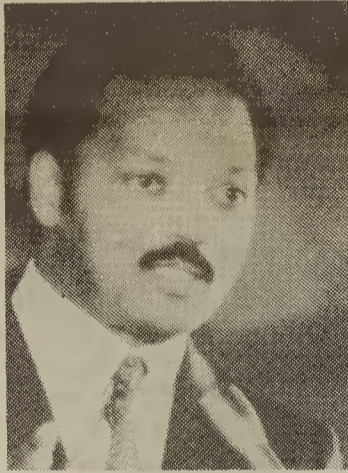
The Council for International Visitors is a program of International House. CIV hopes to bring in 250 visitors this year. Raleigh is the only other city in North Carolina that has a CIV and serves more than 400 visitors in the Research Triangle area each year.

## Jackson To Speak In Rock Hill

Former presidential candidate Reverend Jesse Louis Jackson will deliver the keynote address at the 50th anniversary convention of the South Carolina Conference of Branches, NAACP. The convention will be held October 12-15, 1989 at the Ramada Hotel, Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Jackson's remarks will be made during the Freedom Awards Banquet which is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., October 13, 1989 at McBryde Hall on the campus of Winthrop College. The banquet is the highlight of the convention celebrating 50 years of civil rights activities by the South Carolina Conference of Branches, NAACP.

Dr. W.F. Gibson, Chairman, National Board of Directors, NAACP and President of the South Carolina Conference of Branches, NAACP will deliver the State of the Conference address on Thursday night, Octo-



Jackson

ber 12, 1989, 8:00 p.m. at Cross Roads Baptist Church.

More than 400 delegates from across the state are expected to attend the four day convention in order to establish goals and set agendas for 1990.

Panelist include: Earl Shinhoster, Regional Director, whose Atlanta office was recently bombed, Rev. H.H. Singleton, President of the Conway Branch, NAACP, whose dismissal has sparked cries of racism in Conway, Fred Rasheed, NAACP National Director for Economic Development, Kelley Alexander, Jr., National Chairman of "Operation Fair Share" Committee, L.R. Byrd, founder of the Black Economic Education Plan, and Jondelle Johnson, NAACP National Director of Special Projects.

Jesse Jackson, who was awarded the NAACP highest award, the Spingarn Medal, this year in Detroit is the founder of People United to Save Humanity (PUSH). He has met with major dignitaries and Heads of State throughout the world.

All workshops are open to the registered public. For additional information; contact Nelson B. Rivers, III at 803-754-4584.

## Arizona Honors King's Birthday

By BRIAN K. JOHNSON  
Special To The Post

PHOENIX - Arizona Governor Rose Mofford, before a jubilant crowd on the Capitol Mall, has signed a measure designating the third Monday in January as King Day.

Arizona now joins 46 other states with an official day of recognition to honor slain civil rights leader Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Idaho, Montana and New Hampshire have not established the holiday.

"Today, we stand tall in the knowledge that we have done the right thing," Mofford said.

Sen. Carolyn Walker, the south Phoenix Democrat who emerged as the Legislature's most hard-working King bill advocate, said, "Arizona has come to recognize one of the great Americans of this century. This says we know



King

that citizens of all colors make contributions to this country."

King Day will replace Columbus Day as a state-paid holiday.

### King Family Response

Upon hearing the news of Arizona's passage of the King holiday, King's widow, Coretta Scott King, issued the following statement:

"Throughout the nation, the King holiday has become an occasion for bringing people together across racial lines. It is my sincerest hope that it will help unite Arizonans of all races and provide the opportunity to educate young people in particular in the values and strategy of nonviolence as taught and lived by Dr. King."

Martin Luther King III phoned Mofford from Atlanta proclaiming, "Victory has arrived. I look forward to being involved in your future celebrations."

## Community Bulletin Board

- The Wilmore Student Recognition Picnic scheduled for Sept. 28 was cancelled due to the hurricane. There will be an informational meeting today for participants and their parents in the sanctuary of Calvary United Methodist Church on West Boulevard. Cookies and drinks will be served afterwards in the fellowship hall and students will receive their gift packets of school supplies. The picnic will be rescheduled for the spring.

- Former employees of Charlotte Community Hospital will have their 5th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 7 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Woodbridge Apartments Club House at 6619 Yateswood Drive. For more information, call Magaline Gibson at 372-1906 or Hazel Byrd at 376-3735.

- "The Clergy Connection: Reaching Youth", a conference for clergy, religious educators and youth ministers will be held today at the Myers Park Baptist Church in the Shalom Hall on 1900 Queens Road. A \$10 registration fee is required. Call Kate Gordon 332-6721.

- Planned Parenthood of Greater Charlotte and the YMCA will sponsor a brown bag lunch discussion today at noon on "AIDS: What Everyone Needs to Know" at the uptown YMCA in the First Union.

- The Charlotte Chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays will hold their regular second Thursday of month meeting on Oct. 12 at the Christ Episcopal Church, 1412 Providence Road.

- The fall enrollment event for the Charlotte charter chapter of American Business Women's Association will be held on Oct. 11 during the regular monthly meeting at the Holiday Inn, 3815 N. Tryon St.

- Community Health Services, 1401 East Seventh St., will hold its monthly Cholesterol Education classes on Friday, Oct. 6. There will be two cholesterol education classes held and the cost is \$5 per person. The available class times are 11 a.m. to noon or 2:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Call 375-0172 to reserve your place.

- The Afro-American Children's Theatre, Inc. will perform the play, "When I Thing Of Harlem", at 8 p.m. Oct. 5 at NCNB Performance Place, Spirit Square. Tickets are \$12 and \$8 for students with discount group rates available. For more information, please call 364-8883 or 372-7410.



Haze Moore and Dr. Bernard Franklin stand in the background as Veronica Cherry, Addie

Moore and Shirley Franklin join in to congratulate Dr. Franklin, the 9th Livingstone president.

## Livingstone Announces New President

By Fran Farrer-bradley

Atmosphere fit for the captain of the ship flavored through Windows on Trade Sunday as Dr. Bernard W. Franklin, Livingstone College's ninth president, was introduced to Charlotte.

Terri Henry, soloist, captivated the hundreds of guests as they mingled and enjoyed hors d'oeuvres.

Wilson Cherry, Livingstone's

public relations director, formerly introduced Dr. Franklin and the lovely First Lady Shirley Franklin.

Franklin received the Ed.D. degree from the Teachers College - Columbia University in New York (1982); M.Ed. degree from Western Maryland College, Maryland (1978); and the B.A. degree from Simpson College in Iowa (1974).

Franklin assumed his position on July 1 and is a native of Montclair, New Jersey, where he was educated in the public schools.

Prior to assuming the presidency, Franklin was assistant to the president, vice president of student affairs at Virginia Union University and an ACE Fellow of the American Council of Education. He has also served as as-

sistant vice president for student affairs, Johnson C. Smith University; assistant professor, Miami University; student development coordinator, Greater New York Council of Boy Scouts of America; guidance counselor, Montclair Public School System; and residence hall director, Iowa State University.

Dr. Franklin is a published academician, holds membership in various professional organizations and has been featured in several editions of Who's Who. HE has received numerous awards for his service to humanity and contributions to education. His civic duties include serving on the Board of Directors of the Salisbury-Rowan Chamber of Commerce and membership in the Rowan County Kiwanis Club.

Although he has served in many roles, some of which are speaker, lecturer, panelist, presenter, and consultant, he still maintains his humbleness and deep humility for mankind.

He is married to the former Shirley Lee of Cleveland, Ohio, who is a school psychologist and they are the proud parents of one child, Jacori Estelle.

Dr. Franklin shared the pride he and his family felt with this appointment as well as plans of improved academic excellence and community involvement.

The evening ended with special guest musicians, Duncan Gray, ban director, Johnson C. Smith University; and Joseph Jones, tenor, accompanied by Ms. Lonnie Miller.