

## Demand equality, progress

We'll have to do it for ourselves

MELODY MICERE STEWART

In the spirit of Ma'at



"If there is no struggle, there is no progress."

Upwards of 50 or more black churches have been burned since the beginning of 1995. These violent acts are designed to attack the heart of the black community - the black church. The modern day revival of the sport of burning black churches should inspire every African American to commit to a revived struggle for true equality. Frederick Douglass, dedicating his life to struggle, not only declared the above quotation, but he also noted that "Power concedes nothing without a demand."

What should we be "demanding" in reference to church burnings? As Mary Frances Berry, member of the Civil Right Commission, stated to the Congressional Black Caucus, we need to demand that the government and the media address and examine the social context, complete with its economic issues, that continue to allow such acts to occur. Historically, harsh economic conditions have always fueled the fires of racism in America. Ann Van Dyke, assistant director of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, said in a recent speech, "...some people need to say: That black guy has my job."

Additionally, the Southern Poverty Law Center recently released its report titled, "False Patriots: The Threat of Anti-government Extremists," noting that these white Christian men are bitterly disappointed in the multicultural society that America has become.

While authorities insist that the church fires are unrelated, isolated incidences of which no conspiracy can be found, clearly the sociopolitical foundation of this country needs no organized conspiracy. Combined with Time magazine's declaration that the country has gone back to segregation, African Americans must reassess the integration model, as encouraged by Derrick Bell in his book "Faces at the Bottom of the Well: The Permanence of Racism."

It is a lesson-learning time and "knowledge is the prime need of the hour." Mary McLeod Bethune gave voice to the necessity and the urgency of our cause. Ralph Ellison gave voice to the challenge of racial maturity by stating, "It takes a deep commitment to change and an even deeper commitment to grow."

What will you do?

## Money for college



PHOTO/CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG URBAN LEAGUE

William Simms, chairman of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Urban League board of directors (left) and John Gianakas, manager of Food Lion Stores' Human Resources Administration (right) presented Felicia Dozier of Garinger High School and Randy Townsend of West Charlotte High School \$1,500 scholarships for their college education. The scholarships were funded by Food Lion.

## Hidden Valley starts monthly meetings

By Jeri Young  
THE CHARLOTTE POST

The good news for residents of Hidden Valley is that violent crimes are down.

The bad news is that car thefts and break-ins are on the rise.

These statistics and others were offered by officers of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department's Charlie Three District which serves the area of 2400 households.

Officers offered safety tips, shared crime statistics and listened to resident's safety concerns in what they hope will help foster more open lines of communication between residents and police.

"I thought it was very successful," said Gwen Wallace, president of the Hidden Valley Community Association. "There were lots of new faces there."

The meeting, organized by Officer C.S. Ratliff, marked the first of what police hope to be monthly citizens meetings.

"This something that has been ongoing," Ratliff said.

Ratliff, who grew up in the

area, feels strongly about the meetings and the community.

"It is important to me to continue the meetings," Ratliff said. "To continue the contact with the residents and the police."

"I take this personally, I walked the same streets, played at Sugar Creek Park for a good part of my youth," Ratliff said. "It is important for me to see the community prosper."

## Fairview Homes explores options to rebuild play area

Continued from page 1A

Charlotte neighborhood grant, the Anita Stroud Foundation and the National Endowment of the Arts.

The project included the planting of 12-15-foot crepe myrtles, river birches, shrubs, and flowers.

UNCC architecture students designed the area.

"I'm disappointed and somewhat angry because I saw the spirit that was generated there," Fox said. "The spirit of not just the people in Leadership Charlotte, but of the kids and residents involved out there who came out and got dirty in the construction area and participated in bringing something positive to the neighborhood."

"It is frustrating when you have that kind of spirit and it is destroyed by forces not contributing to the positive things in the neighborhood."

Visit The Post's web page at

<http://www.thepost.mindspring.com>

**KINGSPARK APARTMENTS**

Clean, safe, quiet community conveniently located on bus line. Affordable 2 bedroom garden and townhouses. Refrigerator, range, AC and water included in rent. Helpful resident manager and maintenance staff.

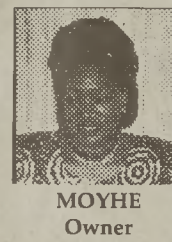
Call  
333-2966  
M-F 9:30-6:00

## MOYHE'S AFRICAN HAIR BRAIDING

Professional African Hair Designer and Stylist from New York Is Now In Your Town



BOX BRAIDS • CORN ROWS  
GODDESS BRAIDS  
SENEGAL TWIST •  
FLAT TWIST • INVISIBLE  
BRAIDS • MICRO BRAIDS  
SPAGHETTI BRAIDS  
CORKSCREW • WEAVE  
INTERLOCK • BOFRUTO,  
SILKY DREAD and more.



MOYHE  
Owner

To Get Your Great Look And Make The Difference Call  
(704)537-3976 Ask For Moyhe • 3109 Central Ave.

Specializing In Any Kind Of Braiding, Weaving, Interlock And Any Kind of Short Hair

Items for Around Charlotte should be mailed, faxed or hand delivered to The Charlotte Post by 5 p.m. on Mondays, C/O of Tammie Tolbert.

APPLIANCE & FURNITURE  
**WORLD**



**3 PIECE LIVING ROOM SET**

3815 WILKINSON BLVD.  
394-5115

(Old Lowes Building)

**HEAVY BERBER**

\$12.99 Sq. Yd.

INSTALLED Carpet, Pad & Labor

**PLUSH**

\$10.99 Sq. Yd.

INSTALLED

20,000 SQ. FT. OF FLOORING

Carpet & Rug

**SUPERSTORE**

4600 N. Tryon St.  
599-6101

Mon.-Fri. 9am-7pm/Sat. 9am-5pm

{ affordable }  
HOME OWNERSHIP

Now find out what a living room was meant to have.  
*Living room.*

If you've been looking for an affordable way to move into a home of your own, we can help. With a HUD Home, your down payment could be as little as a few months rent. And your monthly payments could be close to what you're paying in rent right now. With some HUD Homes, we'll even help pay your closing costs.

HUD Home / 3% Down payment	
\$30,000	\$900
\$60,000	\$1,800
\$90,000	\$2,700

For a free brochure on how to buy a HUD Home, just call 1-800-767-4HUD, or ask any participating real estate agent. And start enjoying more living room in every room of your home.

**HUD HOMES**  
from the FHA

## PSYCHIC READINGS

HERBS, OILS, CANDLES

E.S.P. Supply Center  
4409-A N. Tryon St.

Charlotte, N.C. 28213 • 704-596-5713

Readings By Gary  
Mon. • Wed. • Fri.

Hrs.  
Mon. - Fri.: 11AM - 7PM

