AGENDA

Meeting Type:	W
Date	05/15/1991
SUBJECT	

City of Charlotte, City Clerk's Office

CITY OF CHARLOTTE
BUDGET WORKSHOP
ROOM CH 14

Wednesday, May 15, 1991
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

1.	Presentation on FOCUS '91	Wendell White
	- Crime and Drugs Initiatives	Don Steger
	- City Within A City Initiatives	Del Borgsdorf
2.	Budget Announcements	Vi Alexander
3.	Discussion of FY92-93 Operating Budget	Mayor & Council

CITIZENS WANT ZONING TELEVISED, TOO. THEY CAN SEE WITHOUT COMING DOWN HERE

Common Themes
City Within A City/Crime & Drugs

- Help people join the economic mainstream

and

- Keep people out of the criminal justice system

- Use existing resources effectively

- Leverage new resources through foundations & grants

- Build partnerships in the community

City Within A City...

City Within A City
Key Partners

Business/Jobs Team

Business Retention & Expansion

- City
- Chamber of Commerce
- Business Incubators
  - West Charlotte
  - Ben Craig Center
- Community Development Corps.
  - Northwest Corridor
  - Belmont
  - Reid Park
- Business Associations
  - Midtown
  - Plaza-Central
  - South

Self-Sufficiency Team

Neighborhoods/Housing/Services

- City
- County
- Char-Meck Schools
- United Way
  - Agencies
  - 'Success by Six'
- Housing Initiatives
  - Housing Authority
  - Housing Partnership
  - Habitat for Humanity
  - Fairmarket
- CPCC Programs
- Non-Profits/Religious

City Within A City
City Partnership Teams

Business/Jobs Team

- Economic Development
  Business Retention/Expansion

- Community Development
  Business Loans

- Plannning Commission
  Commercial Corridor Revital.

- Real Estate
  City Owned Land/Buildings

- Transportation
  People to Jobs
  Customers to Business

- Employment & Training
  On the Job Training
  Private Industry Council

Self-Sufficiency Team

- Employment & Training
  Work Force Preparation
  Adult Literacy

- Community Development
  Housing Programs

- Planning Commission
  Small Area Plans

- Neighborhood Center
  Commmunity Services

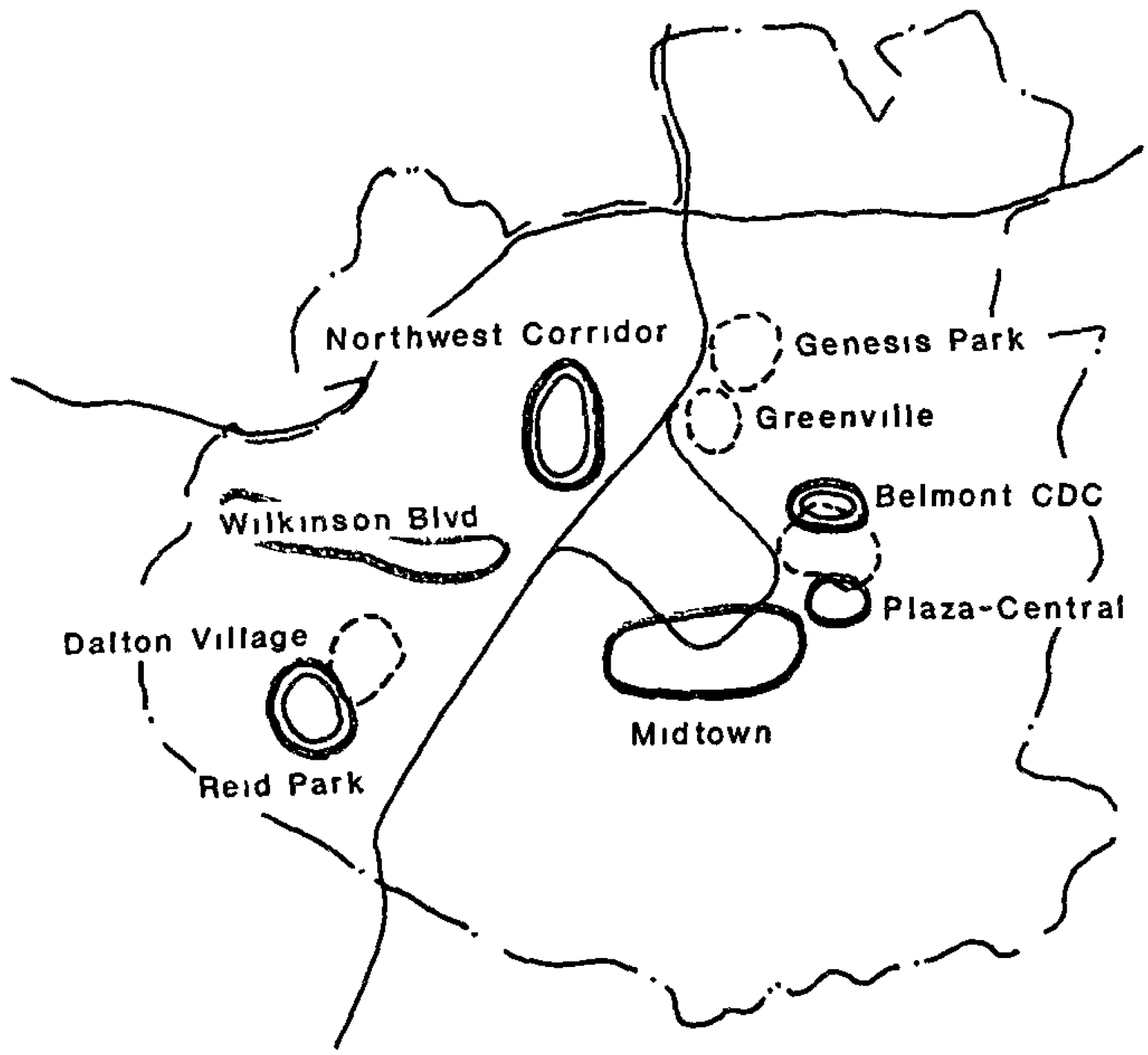
- Parks and Recreation

- Solid Waste Services
  Neighborhood Clean-up

- Police
  Crime Watch & Prevention

City Within A City
Focusing on Neighborhoods...

City Within A City
Emerging Areas



Neighborhood Initiatives

Business Associations

Funded Community Development Corps.(CDCs)

City Within A City
Belmont Self-Sufficiency

City

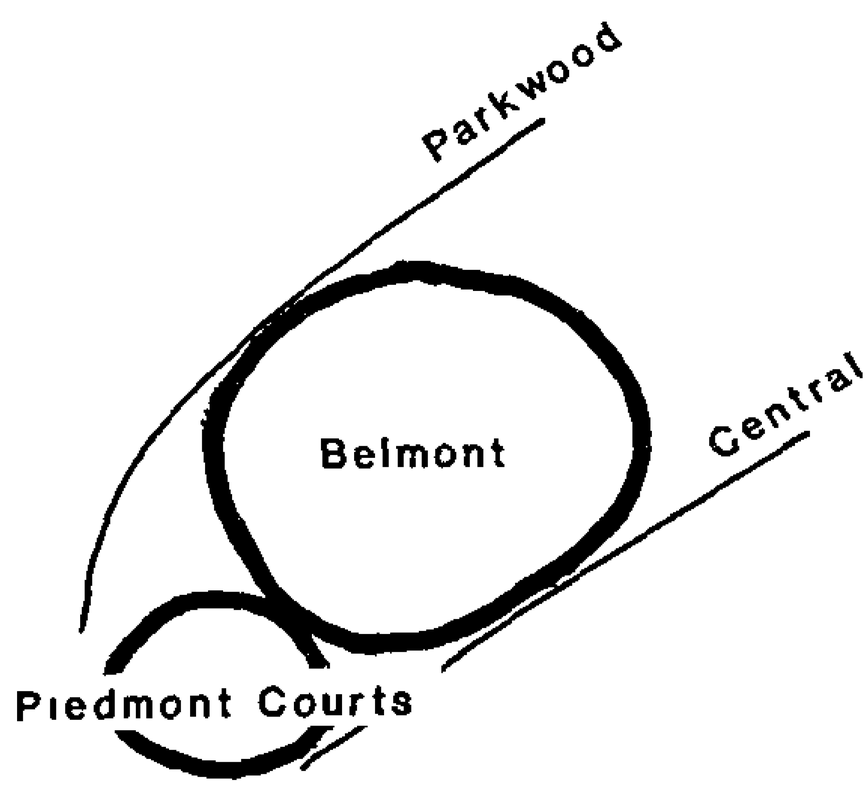
- Community Development
- Planning Commission
- Police
- Engineering
- Solid Waste
- Employment & Training
- Parks & Recreation
- Neighborhood Centers

County

- Building Standards

Other

- Habitat for Humanity
- Belmont Nbrhd. Strategy Force
- Belmont CDC
- St. Paul's Church
- Salvation Army



City Within A City
Belmont Business/Jobs

City

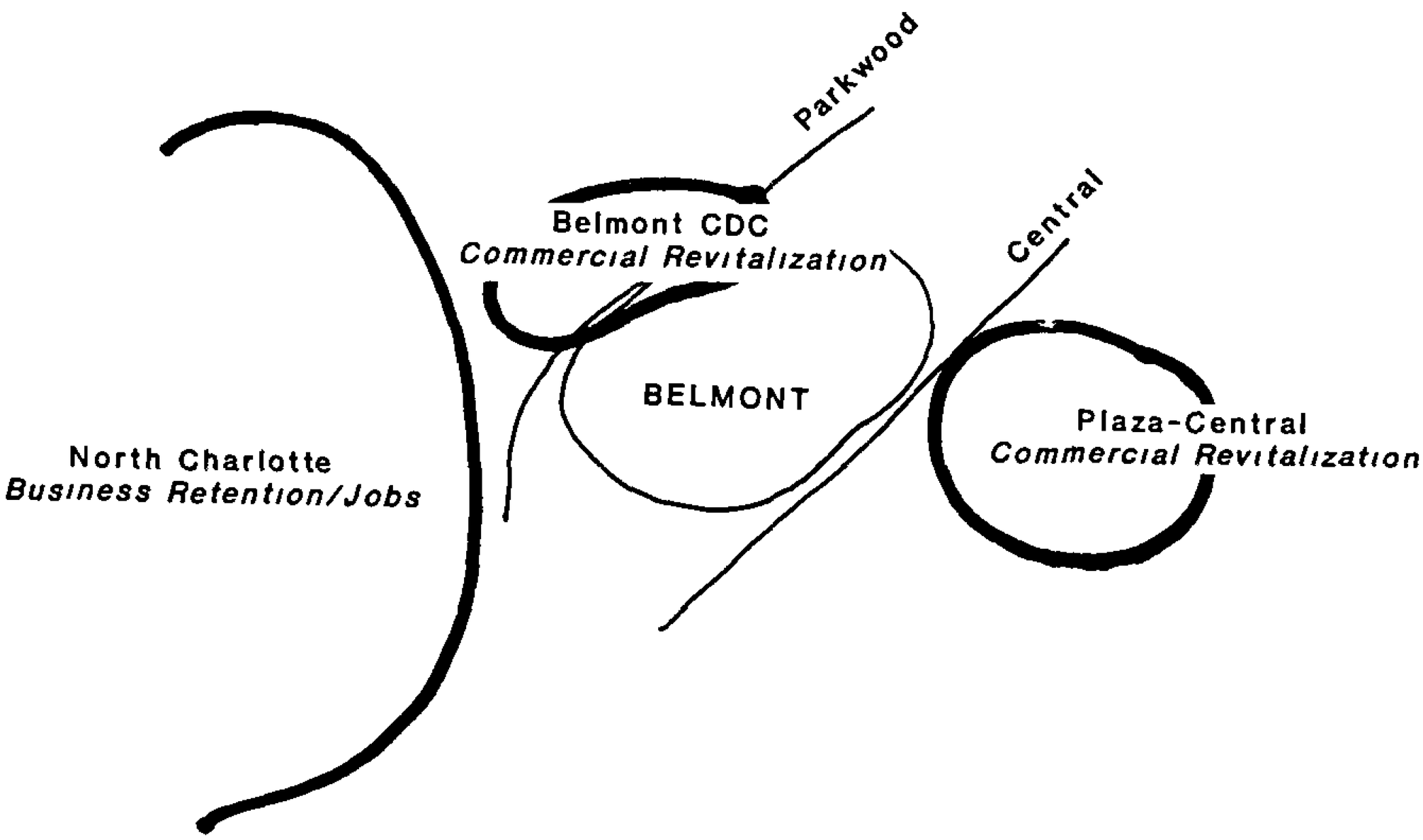
- Economic Development
- Community Development
- Planning Commission
- Real Estate
- Transportation
- Employment & Training

County

- Building Standards

Other

- Chamber of Commerce
- Belmont CDC
- Plaza-Central Devel. Group
- Salvation Army
- First Union Bank



Crime and Drugs...

Crime and Drugs
Program Assumptions

Overall Goals

- Keep people out of the Criminal Justice System
- Reduce the demand for drugs in the community
- Reduce youth violence

Meet Goals by Focus On:

- Empower neighborhoods and individuals
- Build self-esteem and self-sufficiency
- Creatively use existing resources and expand City-Community Partnerships
- Emphasize the needs of young people
- Maintain a strong law enforcement presence
- Provide information to target audiences

Crime and Drugs
Programs

Neighborhood Based Delivery of Services

- City-Community dialogues
- Neighborhood leadership development
- Neighborhood Centers

Public Information

- Focus on City services
- Community resources
- Reach new target audiences

Partnerships

- County government and the schools
- Business and civic community
- Neighborhoods

Enforcement

- Community based policing
- Expanded interdiction efforts
- Code team - FIRE INSPECTOR, FIREMAN, POLICE OFFICER & HOUSING CODE ENFORCEMENT INSPECTOR FROM C D TO GET RID OF DRUG HOUSES
- Uptown
- Ride alongs
- Black on black crime

Youth and Schools

- Police-youth dialogues
- School Resource Officers
- Youth recognition programs
- Volunteer bank
- School for excluded students
- Summer job programs
- Teen Center

Crime And Drugs
Partnerships

City

- Mayor/Council
- City Manager

- Police
- Neighborhood Centers
- Employment & Training
- Community Relations
- Parks & Recreation
- Community Development
- Fire
- Public Service & Information

Community

- County Government
  Social Services
  Building Standards

- Char-Meck Schools
- CPCC
- UNC-C
- JCSU
- District Attorney & Courts
- Drug Education Centers
- Treatment Providers
- Drug & Alcohol Commission
- Fighting Back Coalition
- United Way
- Housing Authority
- Business Community
- CUDC
- Youth Groups
- Civic Groups
- Religious Community
- Neighborhood Associations
- Media

Common Strategies
City Within A City/Crime and Drugs

- Support Neighborhood Initiatives
- Organize to Focus Our Resources
- Form Partnerships in the Community

City Council Budget Workshop 5/15/91

Mayor ✓ arrived at
Campbell ✓
Clodfelter ✓
Hammond ✓
McCrory ✓
Mangum ✓
Martin ✓
Matthews ✓
Patterson
Scarborough ✓
Vinroot ✓
Wheeler ✓

5:17 p.m.

Vinroot Presiding
White
Borgdorf - City Within a City
Mayor arrived at 5:20
Don Steger
Larry Rosenstrauch - Refer to FOCUS 91 BOOKLET
Del Borgdorf = WORKING WITH COUNTY
Scarborough

Clonfelter
Borgsdorf
Scarborough
Borgsdorf
Martin
Stiger - P. 11, 1st CRIME & DRUGS
Martin
Stiger P. 12
Patterson arrived at 5:50 p.m.
Stiger
Borgsdorf - P. 14
Mynick
Matthews
Scarborough - How do we get word out
Shook - How tie in & refocus neighborhood services on-site centers.
Scarborough
Shook - Marie - Asst. County Mgr.
Borgsdorf - more service & less deferral.
Shook
Martin
Shook
Scarborough
Stiger
White

Scarborough
White
Vinroot - much more than $1.3 mil shown
Borgsdorf
Vinroot
Borgsdorf
Steger
Borgsdorf
Shook
Steger
Shook
Borgsdorf
Mangum
Steger
Mangum
Martin
Borgsdorf
Martin
Borgsdorf
Martin
White
Matthews
White
McCrory

White
Shook - Officer Threatt
McCrory
Steger
McCrory
Hammond
Clodfelter
Myrick
Clodfelter
Martin
White
Winroot
Patterson
Myrick
Patterson
Hammond
Myrick

Recess 6:40 p.m.
Reconvene 6:50 p.m.

Alexander (Vi)
Patterson
Myrick
Alexander
Myrick

Clodfelter - Page 90 - Operating
Myrick TRYON ST./CBD GARBAGE
Patterson COLLECTION
Clodfelter
Myrick
Clodfelter
Patterson
C. Clodfelter
Alexander
Clodfelter
Alexander
Patterson
Clodfelter
Matthews
Alexander
Clodfelter
Alexander
Patterson
Clodfelter
Mangum - Parking space tax
Myrick
Mangum
Patterson
Matthews

Mangum
Patterson
Mangum
Clodfelter
Boyd Caudle
Alexander
Mangum
Caudle - PKG TAX or Rental Car Tax?
Mangum Both
Myrick
Caudle
Myrick -
Vinroot - Curbside garbage - P. 83
Campbell
Sufert
Matthews
Patterson
Clodfelter RIDESHARE, WHY 3 PROPERTY TAX + P. 121 + P. 230
Myrick 3 TRANSIT FUND
C. Clodfelter
McCrory - Breakdown on fees for Consultants
Clodfelter.
Myrick

Campbell - REVENUE NEUTRAL?
Vincent - 1/2¢ OR 1¢
Myrick - 1¢ NEXT YEAR
Clodfelter Powell Fund
Alexander
Clodfelter
Alexander
C. Clodfelter
Alexander
Clodfelter
Alexander
Clodfelter
Alexander
Matthews
Alexander
Matthews
Alexander
Matthews
Vincent
Matthews
Alexander
White
Campbell
White - go with a penny

Campbell
Vinson
White
Scarborough
Alexander
Scarborough
Alexander
White
Patterson
Hammond
Martin 196 Partnership
Clodfelter
Martin
Clodfelter
Martin
Alexander
Hammond
Clodfelter
Myrick
Hammond
Vinson
Martin
Matthews
Clodfelter

Hammond
Matthews
Hammond
Clodfelter
Myrick
Clodfelter
Hammond
Alexander
Matthews
Alexander
Patterson
Matthews
Alexander
Clodfelter - Background on fire reduction
Winsoot
Clodfelter
Patterson
Alexander
Patterson
Alexander
Patterson
Alexander
Patterson
Alexander

Patterson
Alexander
McCrary
Patterson
Martin
Alexander - $70,000 Programming P. 189 - AFCC
Martin
Alexander
Patterson
Alexander
Martin
Patterson
Alexander
Martin - P. 61
Patterson
Matthews
Alexander
Matthews
Alexander
Patterson P. 112
Alexander - School Plan -
White
Vinson
McCrary

Patterson
McCrory — P. 92 - LONGEVITY
Alexander
McCrory
Martin

McCrory - P. 75 -
Patterson
McCrory
Mynlek
McCrory
White
McCrory — P. 111 - Consultants; Studies;
Alexander
McCrory
Alexander
McCrory
Patterson
McCrory
Patterson
McCrory — P. 155
Alexander
McCrory
Alexander
McCrory

Alexander
Patterson
Alexander
White
McCrory
Alexander
McCrory P. 246 - Jobs
Alexander
McCrory
Alexander
McCrory
Matthews
Myrick
Matthews
Alexander
McCrory P. 155 - Public Service
White
McCrory
Mangum
Patterson
Myrick
Campbell
Patterson
McCrory

Campbell

White

McCrory

Myrick

McCrory - Travel Expenses

Alexander - $300,000

McCrory - Company Cars

Wheeler - Cost of Video

Patterson

Alexander

Wheeler - 5% REDUCTION FOR EVERYONE INCLUDING COUNCIL - FOR A YEAR - FIGURE?

White

Wheeler

Winsor

Wheeler

Martin

Wheeler

Patterson

Martin

Winsor P. 125 - Concessions
P. 142 - + 157

Alexander

Winsor - P. 189 Cultural Arts PRO RATA - WHAT IS % OF THEIR BUDGET.

Matthews
Vincent 194 + 195
Alexander
Vincent
Mangum
Martin - City Fair $526,000
Alexander - P. 277 - Bond Payment
Martin
Alexander
Martin
Alexander
Bill Wilder
Martin P. 61 -
Alexander
Clodfelter
Campbell - last 4 years - how many
have not raised taxes
Patterson
White
Patterson
White
Campbell
Wheeler - Employees
Alexander
Martin

Campbell
Alexander
Matthews
Clodfelter P. 5
Alexander - $72,000 - Animal Control
Myrick
Alexander
Clodfelter - NOISE CONTROL
Matthews
Patterson - Veterans Service P. 195
McCrory
Patterson
McCrory
Patterson
Hammond
Alexander
Hammond
Alexander
Hammond
Alexander
Hammond
Alexander
Hammond
SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS
STREET LIGHTS
White
Vincent
Hammond

Alexander
Vinsoot
Hammond
Vinsoot
Alexander
Vinsoot
Alexander
White
Vinsoot
Campbell
White
Campbell
Vinsoot
Campbell
Vinsoot
McCrory
Alexander
McCrory
White
McCrory
Hammond
White
Hammond
Alexander

Hammond

White

Hammond

White

Clodfelter

Hammond

McCrory - HOW WOULD THAT IMPACT

Scarborough - WHAT WOULD A PENNY INCREASE DO FOR US.

Alexander - $2.3 MIL

Scarborough

Alexander

Scarborough Police Helicopter

Alexander

Scarborough Ask County to fund resource officers.

Myrick - 10% OF ROAD SAVINGS INTO OPERATING

Vincent -

Campbell

Vincent

Alexander - $2.3 MIL = 1/4 CENT ON TAX RATE

White

McCrory

Vincent

Hammond

Alexander
Hammond
Alexander
Hammond
Richard Martin
Hammond
Alexander
Hammond
Myrick

Adjourn 8:35

CONTENTS

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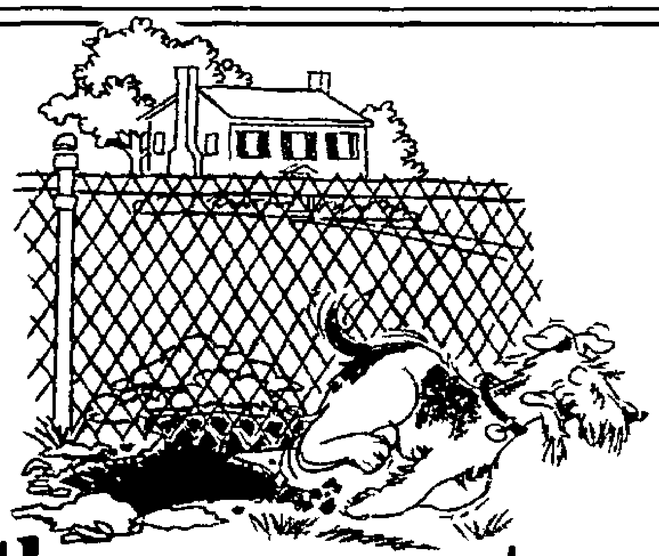

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INSIGHT

A proposal to make students volunteer service in the community a mandatory requirement for graduation is being considered by Headmaster Ned Fox at Charlotte Latin School **Page 4.**

The traffic mess on Providence Road should be cleared up early next week, if not by now, thanks to the relocation of a telephone conduit that had through traffic at Providence and Sardis roads limited to one lane **Page 7.**

GETAWAY

Wilmington, N.C., offers beachgoers a wealth of entertainment options once the thrill of reading another book on the shoreline has worn off **Page 15.**

CREATIVE CHEF

Vidalias and other pedigree onions are making their mark in the finest kitchens thanks to their sweet flavor **Page 16.**

CHARLOTTE PEOPLE

From the 600 Children's Charity Ball to a party at the home of UNCC Chancellor James Woodward, the May social calendar promises to be an interesting one **Page 18.**

DECORATING

Sideboards, or "hunt boards as they were once known, are considered staples of the well dressed dining room **Page 24.**

AT HOME

"Big is beautiful" used to be the battle-cry of anyone shopping for a television set, but today s models, even those that provide a big picture, are being designed with space conservation in mind **Page 26.**

GARDENER

Rhododendrons, the aristocrats of the garden, can t be beat, even during the 11 months of the year when they aren t in bloom **Page 28.**

WANDERING GOURMET

Spaghetti Warehouses have successfully brought thought-to-be-dead industrial areas back to life with their eclectic atmospheres and Italian cuisine **Page 30**

ARTISANS

Charlotte's Boris Tomic mixes his European past with his Western present **Page 33.**

SPORTS

Cedric "Cornbread" Maxwell, once known for his phantom foul shots, is trying to create a new identity for himself as he oversees the production of a touring play He s also having to teach his daughter why people keep calling him that funny name **Page 37.**

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Cover photo by M.J Masotti Jr

THE LEADER May 3 1991

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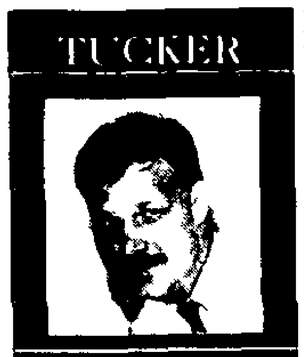
Dreams, aspirations are different in the other Charlotte

TUCKER



MITCHELL

Betty Stroud is like a lot of Charlotteans Her life is something of a struggle, but she still has her dreams.

Because she is a lifelong resident of the forgotten, unpublicized Charlotte, the area government officials now call the City within a City, those dreams are a little different, however Ms Stroud, age 27 and the mother of four children, would like to improve her reading and writing skills, get her high school equivalency degree, and if things really work out, land a job with the city She would really like to do janitorial work.

"I've done that before," says Ms Stroud. "It's good work '

Angela McDuffie, Ms Stroud's counselor in the county-run Jobs, Opportunities and Basic Skills (J O B S) program, sighs at this revelation A full-time janitorial job would be an improvement for Betty Stroud, but only a small one

"Can you raise four kids on janitorial pay?" she asks 'Not in this lifetime I'm going to have to get her off that idea."

Ms McDuffie's task is to make Betty Stroud and all her clients self-sufficient, to take them off public assistance But it is no easy task While most of the people enrolled in such programs do want help, most are also surrounded by problems the way an onion is surrounded by skins Peel away one, and there's another

The last and toughest layer, as the case of Betty Stroud points out, may consist of lowered expectations People who have never known anything but poverty have no frame of reference As Ms. McDuffie says, "They don't know what they can do "

Ms Stroud is like that She grew up, and until recently, lived all her life in North Charlotte When her mom wasn t having one of her 12 babies, she worked in the mill Ms Stroud's father was with the city's sanitation department.

Employment by the city was seen as a worthy goal Ms Stroud's father worked there 42 years Three of her brothers fol lowed in his footsteps, including one who died when a garbage truck crushed his skull He had moved close to the exhaust to warm his hands on a cold morning and driver didn't know he was there

Ms Stroud tells this in a matter-of-fact way It was and is a tragedy, but really it's just another hazard of life

Without a job since her last child was born a year ago, she depends on public assistance to get by while preparing herself for a return to work She receives $321 a month from Aid to Families with Dependent Children, a newly renovated government apartment that, with utilities included, costs $43 a month, free daycare for her three youngest while she goes to school and food stamps

Ms. Stroud is angered at the comments she hears when she uses her food stamps at the store "People behind me will say, 'Food stamps! I wish I could get some of those,'" says Ms Stroud. "But they don't. It's no fun And it's not enough All those children eat, you know "

Ms Stroud says she uses about $40 a month of her AFDC stipend to buy food beyond what the stamps bring in After figuring in that and the rent, she has about $240 to live on Luxuries are few She has a phone in her apartment — she has to pay for that. The father of her last three children helps a little with clothes and the upkeep on her aging car It was a gift from her mom Her furniture, including three TVs and two refrigerators, was found or given to her, all except for a nice hutch with pretty glass doors that she keeps in the living room Ms Stroud saved up and bought that a few years back when she was employed.

Ms. Stroud has been in J O B S for about a year Most of that time has been spent on making her literate When she met Ms McDuffie last year, Ms. Stroud couldn't read her mail. Now, with some help from her 12-year-old daughter, she can read most of it, and recently she contributed two articles to a newspaper put out by her ReadUp Charlotte class.

Ms Stroud likes that class, taught by Clara Williams, better than any of the other literacy classes she has been in because it teaches practical skills instead of how to spell cat and dog "I already knew that," says Ms Stroud "What I needed to know was how to read all these letters with the big words Miss Clara's taught me how to figure them out from the words I already know "

Ms Stroud needed the literacy training despite the fact that she passed 10 grades in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system. It is suggested to her that most rising 11th graders can read.

That s what I thought, too, says Ms Stroud "But it doesn t work like that. My teachers wouldn t give me time to learn. I think they kept passing me so I wouldn t come back to their class

Now, 13 years after dropping out of school, Ms Stroud is trying to make up the lost ground. She is not dumb by any means She moved herself up the public housing list by calling the Mental Health Association and complaining that living with her parents and other family members was driving her crazy She exists in a world that is mean and tough, and Ms McDuffie and others marvel at her survival skills

But they lament the fact that she is armed with little else She has no real vision of what might be She wants to be a janitor It isn't a bad job You can get by

In the city where Betty Stroud lives that often seems like a dream.

Tucker Mitchell is a Leader staff writer

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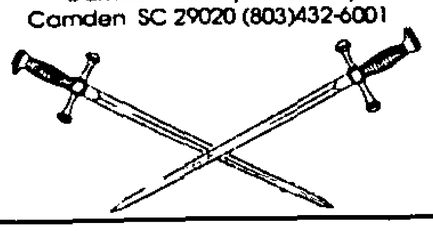

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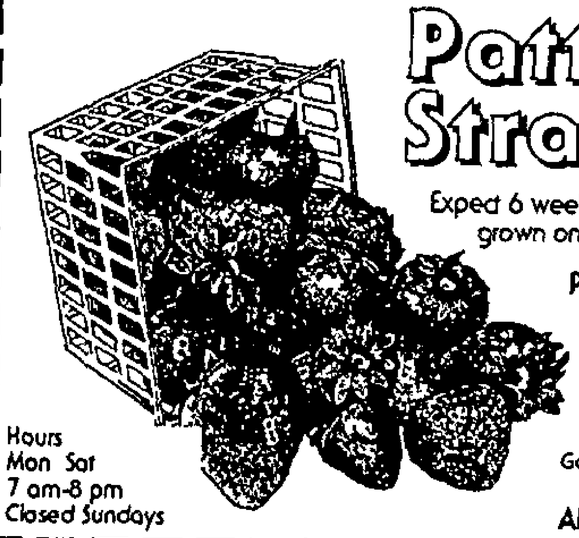

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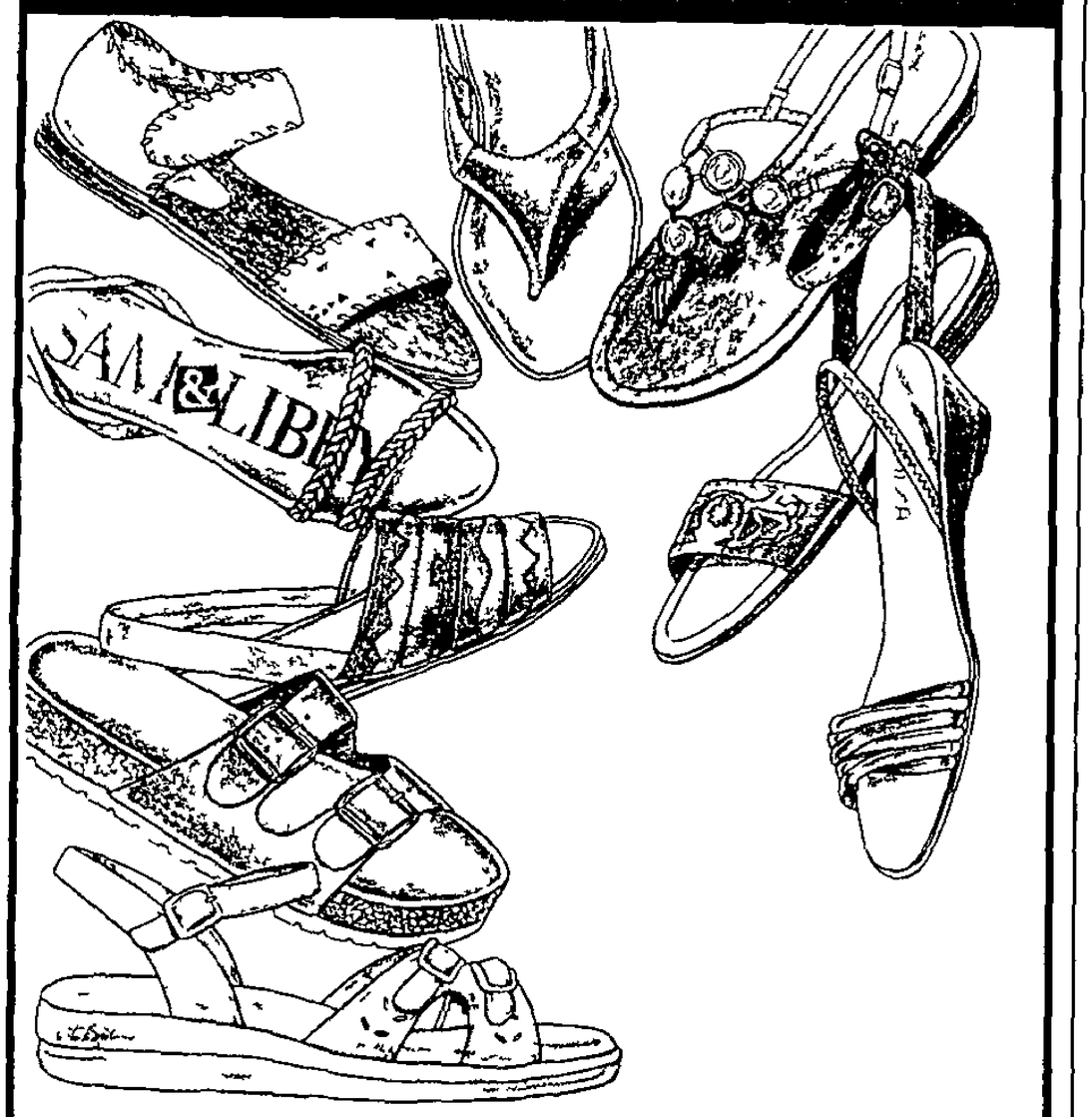

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Outer Charlotte residents rarely see Inner Charlotte

local government recently decided to institutionalize the idea. The concept is called a City within a City It has boundaries an official population even a city manager' Del Borgsdorf is technically an assistant city manager for the City of Charlotte, but since he was named to head the City within a City task force late last year he has been ex-officio head of the fictional municipality

Were it his job in fact to manage the place, Mr Borgsdorf would face a daunting task The city within Charlotte the second area described above covers nearly 60 square miles and contains roughly 123 000 people It would be the fifth-largest city in North Carolina if it were out there all alone It's no easy task as it is All Mr Borgsdorf and the numerous government and volunteer agencies working on the problem have to do is find a solution that has, so far, stumped every other city in America Dr Jesse L White, a Chapel Hill consultant on urban affairs, says there's not a single city in the country that tackled the decay of the inner city "in a really comprehensive way '

> *"The problem is that most places, there's nothing they can do. Here at least we still have a chance and a good one," says Del Borgsdorf, "city manager" of the City within a City.*

Could Charlotte be the first? Mr Borgsdorf and others think there is reason to hope The problem is not so severe here yet. There is still time

"The problem of haves and have-nots of the split in America, it won't get better unless cities do something ' he says. "The problem is that most places, there's nothing they can do Here at least we still have a chance and a good one "

Charlotte's biggest problem is not being overwhelmed by the problems of an impoverished urban core, although to those in the trenches that seems likely, too at times Rather, it is seeing and admitting the problem

The two Charlottes are not hard to find All one has to do is make the short drive from plush Eastover to nearby Griertown, from the neighborhoods around the Charlotte Country Club over to Belmont or Villa Heights But sometimes it takes a while to sink in

Don Steger, who deals with both Charlottes ever day in his job as assistant city manager but most often with the sad and forlorn Charlotte that people like to forget, lived here for six months before he had a good sense of it all

"I moved here in June of 1979, and while I knew then there were some problem areas, I just didn't have much idea," says Mr Steger 'And then it was January, and I was driving down Randolph Road one day and then over to the right was Grier Heights I d driven by there almost every day, but the trees had always hidden it You can t see it except in the winter

But you know what? There are other trees that hide it too The trees inside my mind, inside a lot of people's mind You feel so good about this city you want to feel good and you don't want to believe there is any bad or much bad But there is It s out there It s all around

And yet many Charlotteans don t see The industrial districts the old mill villages of Charlotte s past they are part of a growing giant of the new South Because of that it is easy to miss or dismiss in a city that is, more than most, an amalgamation of old neighborhoods and towns People still live in those neighborhoods, and just remain in those neighborhoods in many cases Thousands of Charlotteans live and work without ever crossing the boundary from one 'city ' to the other Thousands from both cities

Assistant County Manager Marie Shook was amazed recently when a high school senior from southeastern Charlotte, visiting her office as part of a special studies program gazed at the nearby Uptown building cluster and said, "Wow That's changed. I haven't been up there in years

Similarly social worker Angela McDuffie was surprised to encounter inner city teenagers who had never visited Eastland or SouthPark malls "I mean,' says Ms McDuffie, "I thought every teenager went to malls But for some people in this city, the world is very limited "

Worst of all is that the real light of the inner city is hidden from everyone except the legions of government employees who have to deal with it. Sad-sack housing the most obvious sign of ruin, is just the tip of the poverty iceberg

Mr Borgsdorf was struck, like Mr Steger, by a drive along one of the north-south arteries into town

"You go along Providence Road, and it's just miles and miles of these beautiful residential neighborhoods," says Mr Borgsdorf "One right after another People tend to think what that reflects "

When people think of Charlotte " says Larry Rosenstrauch the city's director of economic development, "they think 'clean and green "

Continued On Facing Page

City within a City officials hope to stem tide of neglect

Continued From Facing Page

It is not an incorrect image Even in the blighted areas, there are nice neighborhoods with tree as nice as any in Myers Park, and, here and there, a pleasant park Maybe that is more surprising than the existence of the slums themselves

But there is also great hardship, people struggling not to get ahead but just to stay alive What most in the city outside the city take for granted — comfortable shelter, ample food, easy transportation —many in the city within do not

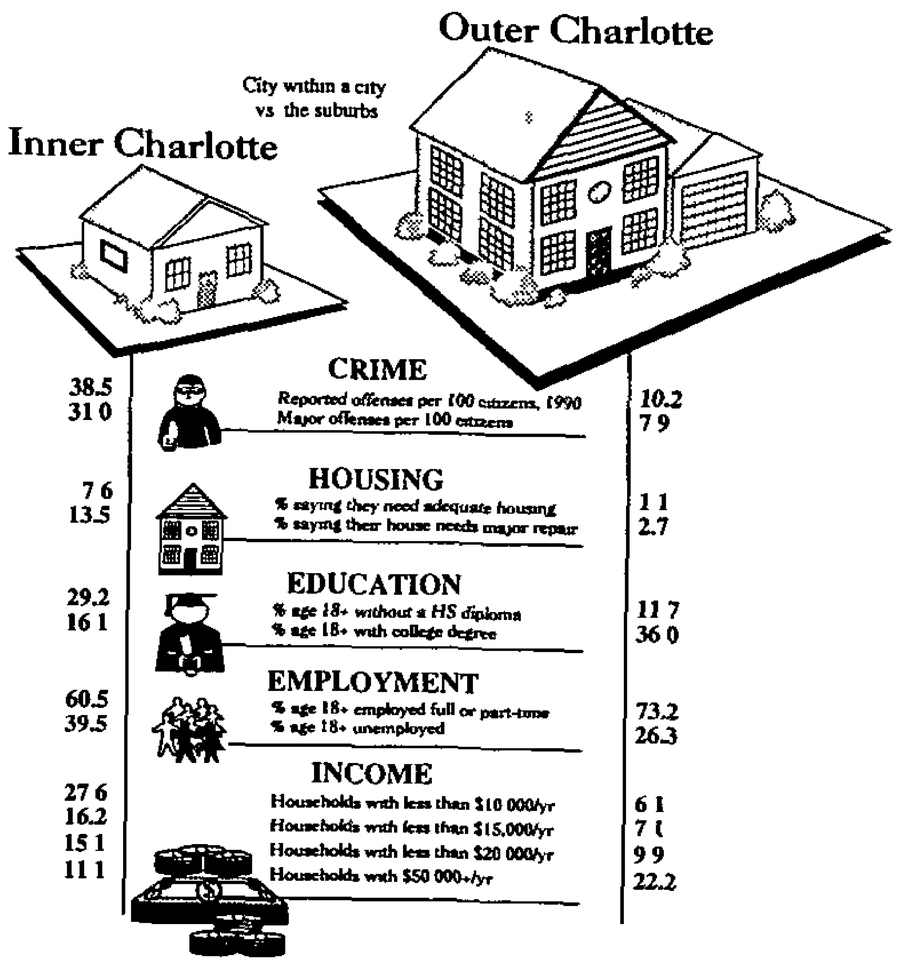
Statistics hint at the tale A survey of community needs, performed in 1989 by the Department of Human Service and the United Way, revealed a depressing way of life in Charlotte's urban ring Despite the fact that the area includes upper crust bastions in Myers Park and Eastover and Dilworth's middle class, the survey showed poverty to be a way of life There are nearly 15,000 households there living on less than $10,000 a year; another 16,000 or so in the slightly more passable $10,000 to $20,000 range

Other survey results show low levels of employment and education in the area and problems with transportation Twelve percent have problems getting to and from the doctor's office Thirteen percent say the houses need major repairs. More than 7 percent needed money for food.

The problems and the symptoms measured in that report go on and on In parts of the City within a City, as much as 13 percent of the housing stock needs to be torn down On a per capita basis, the crime rate is three and four times as high

Basic health problems are neglected because of the cost. Fifteen percent need help in paying for health care Eleven percent need help paying for health insurance And, as a result of that, one might imagine, 8 7 percent report they haven't taken care of a problem with their sight.

All this continues in spite of the mountain of money spent on social services Margaret Setzer, the director of income maintenance for the Mecklenburg Social Services Department, says the county will spend nearly $250 million on social programs this year, including a whopping



Statistics from United Way/Dept. of Quality Assurance 1989 Community Needs Survey Charlotte Police Department, and Community Development Department. Crime statistics are for city within a city vs city of Charlotte outside that boundary Other statistics are city within a city vs. rest of Mecklenburg County

$111 7 million for Medicaid That's almost a three-fold increase since 1985

Mrs Setzer, who was a social worker on the frontline 20 years ago, says that in her mind conditions are better "We have so many more programs than we used to to help people take one more step up the ladder," she says

Indeed, the county and United Way have more than 300 combined social programs, everything from ABLE (Adult Basic Literacy Education) to YSB (Youth Services Bureau)

Mrs Shook and others say that such specialization is crucial because the people problems of a large city are like snowflakes No two are alike.

For social workers employed to try to alleviate the suffering, however, frustration builds because the problems are so complex and the answers so confusing Poor education leads to poor jobs, which leads to health problems, all of which is passed from generation to generation

Ms McDuffie, whose job is supposed to be helping welfare recipients find gainful employment, says she spends a lot of time doing something else Among other activities, she spends hours guiding clients through the bureaucratic maze, to the appropriate service

"No problem is alike, and most of the people I'm involved with, a job is really the least of their problems," she says "We're talking, right here in Charlotte, about people just trying to stay alive I know lots of people won't believe that, but it s true I may spend six months with someone before the subject of a job ever comes up It just takes that long to get them to that point And you know that people who don't have the skills for a decent job are going to find all the forms we have to deal with a little much"

Ms McDuffie helps some clients get a restraining order against an abusive spouse Another she helps to find adequate — and affordable — medical care or child care For another, who cannot read, she helps out by reading her mail Some she just points in a better direction. They already had a Medicaid card, but they were going to a pediatrician who didn't accept it.

"They just don't know," says Ms McDuffie

Ms McDuffie was shocked by all this once upon a time, when she started two years ago Now she is not. When someone comes to a house where she's visiting, looking to sell some recently stolen goods, she just says no thanks and looks the other way She doesn't worry about the danger in some of the areas she goes into because she has friends there

"They watch out for me," says Ms McDuffie "They call me up and say, 'Oh Angela, you'd better not come out today' I've heard gunfire That used to bother me Not anymore"

So it's different in the City within this City And that is why it has become an (almost) official place But it is not just a matter of curiosity Government managers, the directors of the United Way, church and civic leaders, all noted the difference and realized that, one, saving the center city was a major problem, and two, it would require different strategies.

Decay in the center city is hardly unique to Charlotte It has happened across the country When buildings and neighborhoods aged, many people found it easier to move into the suburbs rather than rebuild. The inner city property became less valuable, could be bought or rented for less and therefore attracted a poorer clientele The cycle accelerated after that. The poor had less money to spend on

Continued On Page 14

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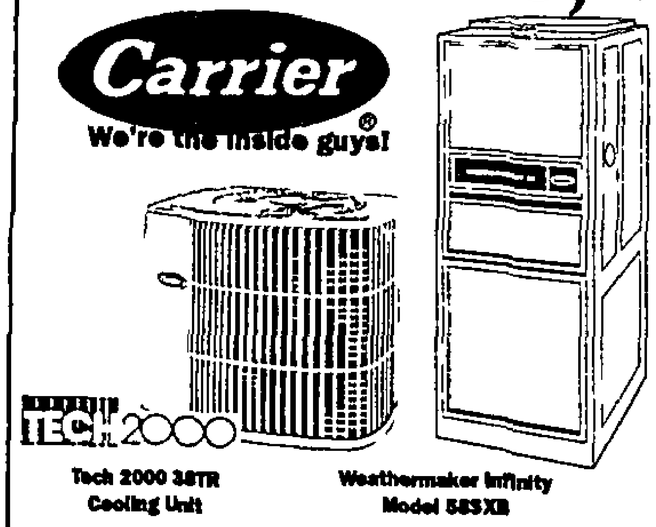

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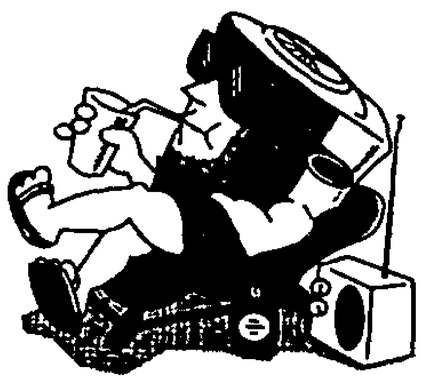

City hopes to reverse the downward spiral of poverty

Continued From Page 13

upkeep and on consumer goods So business stayed away The values went down even more, and even poorer people found it possible to move in

This happened in the large urban cities of the East and Northeast first, but it spread south after World War II.

Dr White, who wrote a 1990 report on "Charlotte in the 21st Century," says, "The same migration that filled the big Northern cities 50 years ago has happened here in the last 30 to 20 years Consequently, we're faced with the same problems."

Those problems center on keeping a city from turning into a doughnut — that is, a structure without a middle That's not easy As Dr White notes, nobody else has managed to avoid it. And City Council member Dan Clodfelter, who's district includes much of the "doughnut hole," says, "If we can deal with this problem effectively, it will certainly set us apart."

One reason for that is that the very factors that lead to the demise of the center city make it hard to revive it. If a city is filled with poor people living in rundown buildings, then its tax base is greatly reduced. As a result, there are fewer funds available for rehabilitation Indeed, just supplying basic services becomes a major test That's a problem that is intensified when the suburbs become cities unto themselves

Mr Borgsdorf watched this first hand while serving as city manager in Southfield, Mich , a suburb of Detroit. As that city decayed, the population moved further north to Southfield and some other suburbs When the decay advanced, the population moved again Suburban Detroit now sprawls more than an hour's drive out of the central cities to places like Pontiac, home of the Detroit Lions, and Auburn Hills, where the National Basketball Association's Pistons call home

Closer to Charlotte, officials in places like Birmingham, Ala , and Memphis, Tenn , have been frustrated by the political fragmentation in their metropolitan areas Upper and middle-class citizens, fleeing a dying downtown, moved into small towns, which incorporated and resisted annexation They built their own schools, operated their own police forces and avoided the burden of urban problems

Charlotte has a hint of those problems with its neighboring townships But the problem is not so severe, and North Carolina's liberal annexation laws assure that it probably won't get much worse A countywide school system, for all its ills, is counted as a plus, too since education is considered to be a basic answer to many urban problems

"We're really not unlike a lot of other places," says Mr Borgsdorf "But I think we are better positioned to do something about it."

Besides annexation and schools, Mr Borgsdorf and others cite the relatively low tax burden (compared to similar locales) in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and the relative health of the housing stock Charlotte has many dilapidated structures but nothing like some cities

"Our chance for rehabilitation, rather than just demolition like so many cities face, is enormous," says Mr Borgsdorf

The hope generated by Charlotte's not-as-bad-as some situation won't mean much if the city doesn't match its unusual situation with some unusual measures Urban renewal, community rehabilitation, whatever it's called, is not new to the city But standard tactics haven't been any more successful here than elsewhere

In particular, government service agencies are notorious for creating fiefdoms and not communicating or cooperating with other agencies Combined with a task mentality — this project will start on this date and end on that one — that leads to ineffective action An area or person is only temporarily rehabilitated.

Says Mrs Shook, "After a while, the people start looking at it like the fruit-of-the-month club 'Oh, here comes another social worker I wonder what this one is going to do '"

Instead, government leaders, the heads of volunteer organizations would like to see Charlotte revert to the "Hugo approach " In the wake of the 1989 hurricane that ravaged the city, petty problems were forgotten as agencies combined their talents just to get the job done Mayor Sue Myrick said in her January State of the City Address, "Think of the victory we could have as a community if we could come together in the same way (in the City within a City) "

Mr Steger, a star of the Hugo coordination efforts, agrees similar methods are needed on a regular basis The old ways just don't work

As evidence, he points out that areas targeted by current plans and task forces are areas that have been targeted before For instance, the Belmont neighborhood, which has been a target of both city and county initiatives recently, was the site of a major urban renewal project in the late 1960s.

"But," says Mr Steger, "there was nothing to follow it up, no jobs programs, nothing really So after a while, it went back to the way it was What we do sometimes is work in one area, and just drive the criminals somewhere else We drove them out of McCrory Heights into Belmont Now we're driving them out of there It goes around.'

That's another reason for approaching the problem through the City within a City concept. The area has different problems that require different solutions, and it is a large area.

Mr Rosenstrauch says, "One reason for this is people ask us what our worst area is, like that's the one we need to fix But there really isn't one worst area. It's a big problem."

And it could get bigger

If they City within a City had been drawn 10 years ago, it would be smaller than it is now Ten years from now, if no progress is made, it will be bigger People in the city outside may not recognize the division now, but in time they will

Says Mr Steger, "Any farmer knows that if the boll weevils are in the cotton next door they'll be in yours sooner or later They don't stop "

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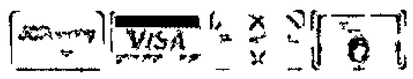

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Independent schools debate service requirements

by Scott H. Greig

Charlotte Latin School Senior Class President Jenny Edwards and her classmates took special pride last week as they listened to Gov Jim Martin dedicate the latest Habitat for Humanity project in Charlotte

The Latin senior class, starting with a $1,000 donation from the school, organized the project, raised all the necessary funding ($32,400) and completed the majority of the construction on the Seigle Avenue home

The Habitat house was the class' senior project, the first time a Latin senior class has gone outside the campus for its final contribution to the school It's also the first time in the history of Habitat that a high school class has overseen the construction of its own project.

"We wanted to do something different, and the willingness to help was incredible," Ms Edwards says "The option not to work on the house was there for people, but nobody said they wouldn't participate Everybody had strong feelings that this was something they wanted to be a part of"

That sort of community service might not be voluntary in the future, however, because the school has been considering a proposal to make community service a graduation requirement.

Students were to learn late this week whether Latin Headmaster Ned Fox, who initiated a study on such a service requirement at the beginning of the school year, approved or rejected the final proposal

School officials say community service will have a greater presence on the campus, but they were leaning against requiring it.

The proposal drawn up by the school's newly appointed Community Service Coordinator, Cynthia Oates, would require upper school students to perform 50 hours of service work on their own time between their ninth- and 12-grade years Forty of the fifty hours would be community work, and the remaining 10 hours would be comprised of work done on Latin's Providence Road campus

Mrs Oates says she formulated the proposal based on similar programs she studied at other independent schools and colleges

The proposal also stipulates that the students' work must be approved by Mrs Oates, performed at non-profit organiza-

Continued On Facing Page

Projects like the Habitat for Humanity house that the Charlotte Latin senior class built may become required for graduation.

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Proposal's problem: Making the voluntary mandatory

Continued From Facing Page

tions and provide the student with a direct interaction with the underprivileged. Students could not receive any payment for their work

While Dr Fox admits he feels very strongly about the benefit to the students that the service requirement would provide, he also says that the proposal may contradict itself in nature

"I have to say that I have a problem making a 'volunteer' activity mandatory," he says "Does the act of volunteering lose anything if it's made mandatory? That's the biggest sticking point right now"

Mrs Oates understands the concern. "It goes against the grain to make volunteerism mandatory," she says

Charlotte Country Day School used to require its upper school students to perform community service in order to fulfill their graduation requirements, but the mandatory-versus-voluntary issue led to the elimination of the requirement

"Our problem was this, if it's forced community service, does it really teach the kids anything about giving something back to the community?" says Country Day Coordinator of Student Programs Frank Justice "We didn't think it did They weren't really giving anything in a sense They were being made to give something"

Each grade level at Country Day is responsible for its own service projects, ranging from working with the Men's Homeless Shelter and the Christmas Bureau to organizing blood and fund drives on campus And the upper school has played host to the Special Olympics for the past seven years

"What we've essentially tried to do is machine-gun the students with volunteer options to get everyone involved," says Mr Justice

All of Charlotte's largest independent schools have student service clubs that require community volunteer work of their members

Mrs Oates says that even if the proposal is rejected by Dr Fox, she feels the students will become more aware of the volunteer options open to them in Charlotte Another of her proposals would create a community service course in which students would work outside the classroom for three days a week and spend the other two in classroom seminar and discussion groups.

"I think it's important that the students learn to give something back," she says "We're coming out of a period in our history when everything was 'me, me, me'

"The pendulum is swinging the other way now," she adds "Independent schools are often perceived as being little more than enclaves for rich kids, and because of that we have a greater need to show that we have contributions to make."

There are certainly contributions to be made, says Ms Edwards, but she doesn't think forcing such requirements on students is the way to initiate them

"It defeats the whole purpose of volunteering," she says "If it's mandatory, it doesn't come from the heart, and if it doesn't come from the heart it doesn't mean as much"

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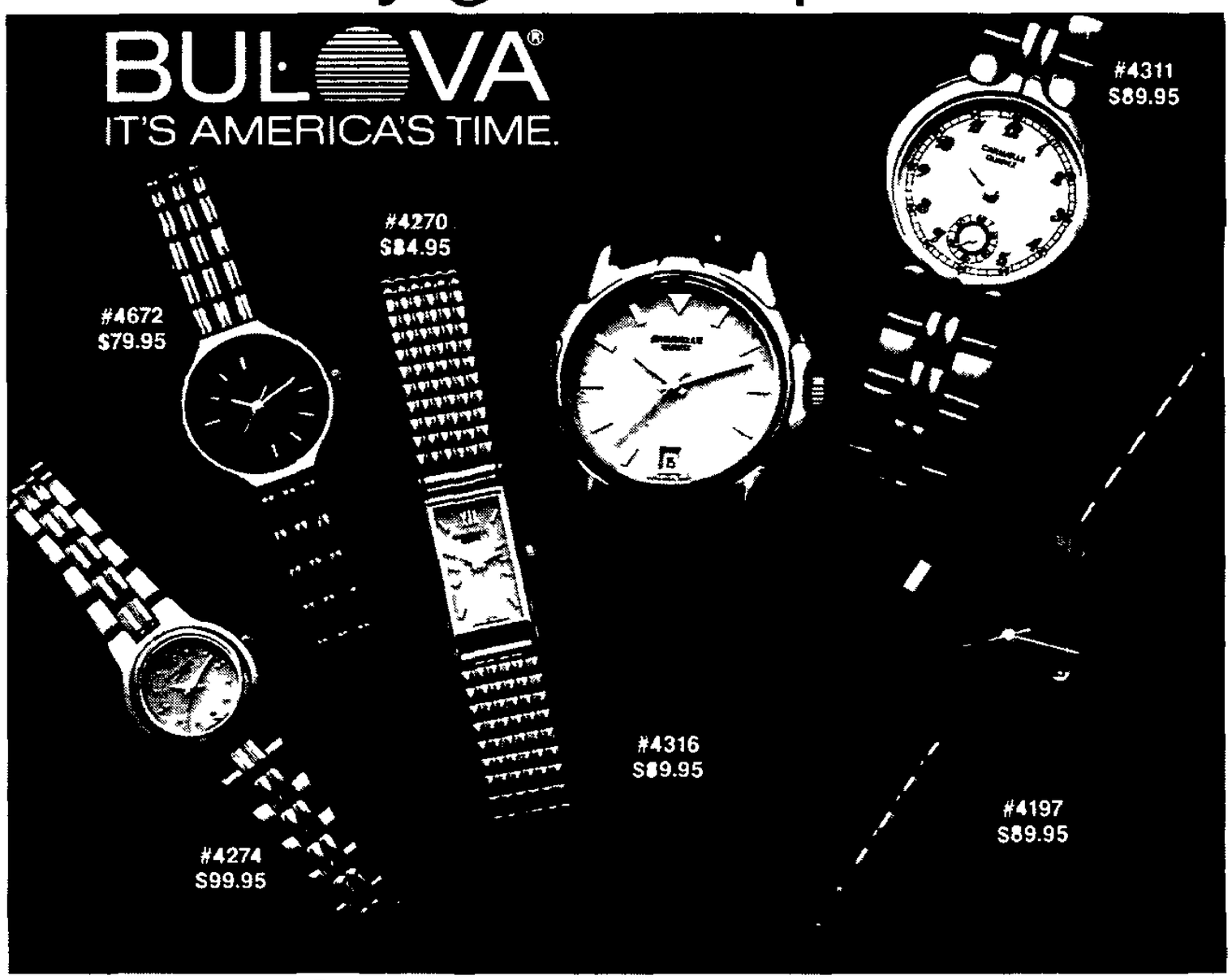

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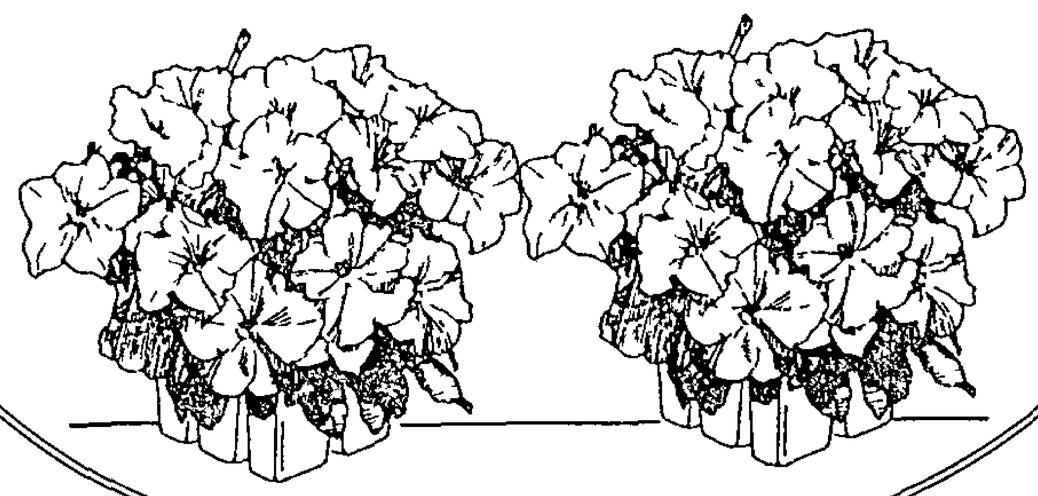

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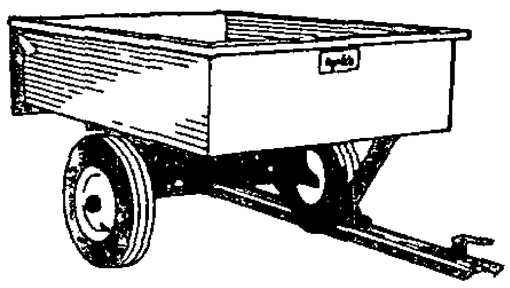

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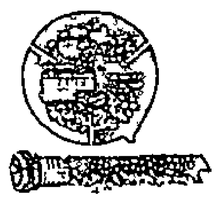

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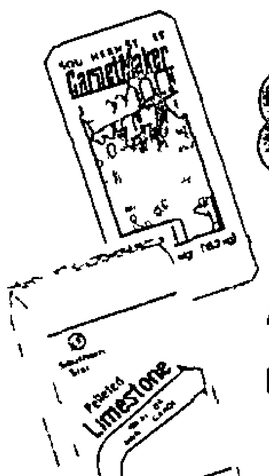

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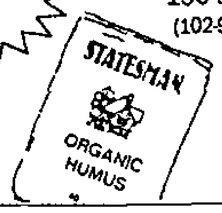

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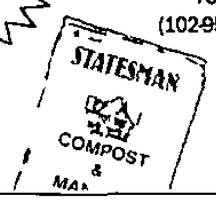

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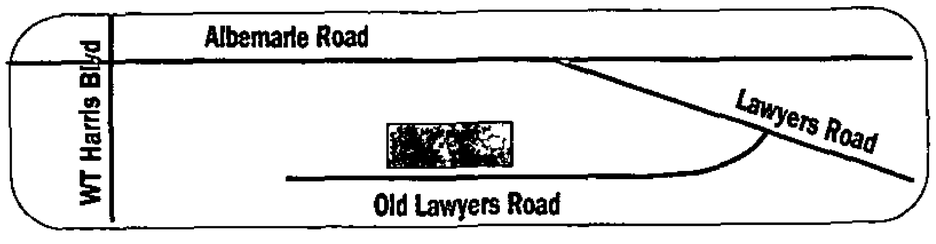

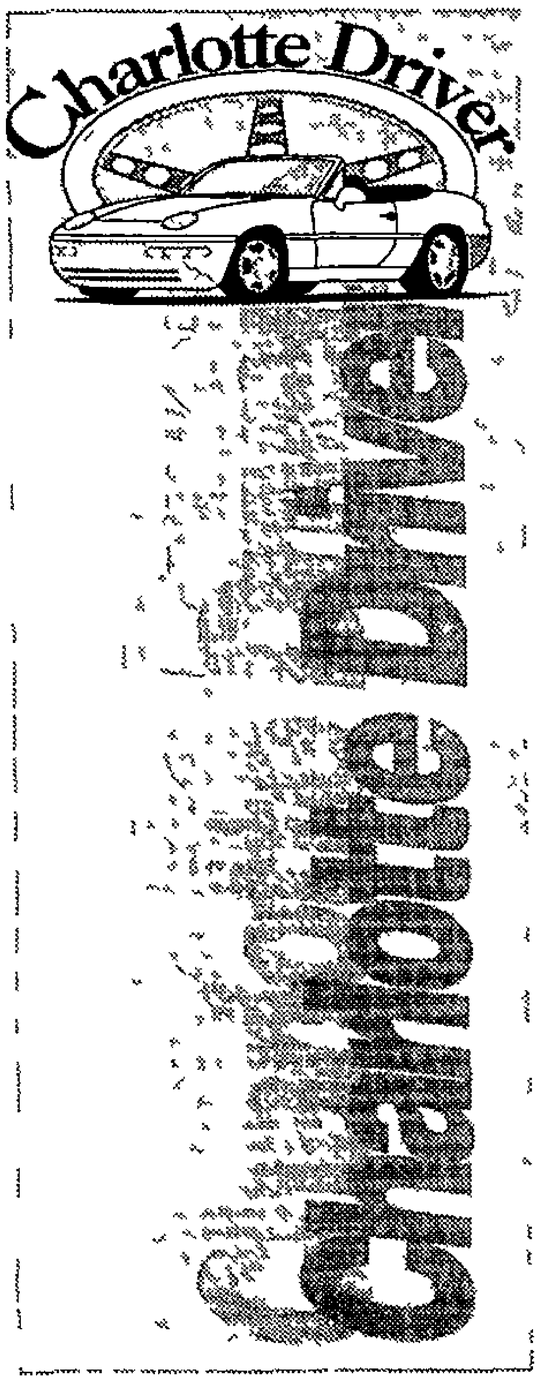

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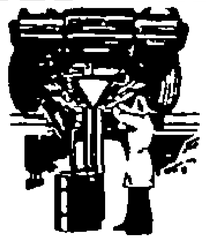

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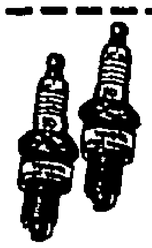

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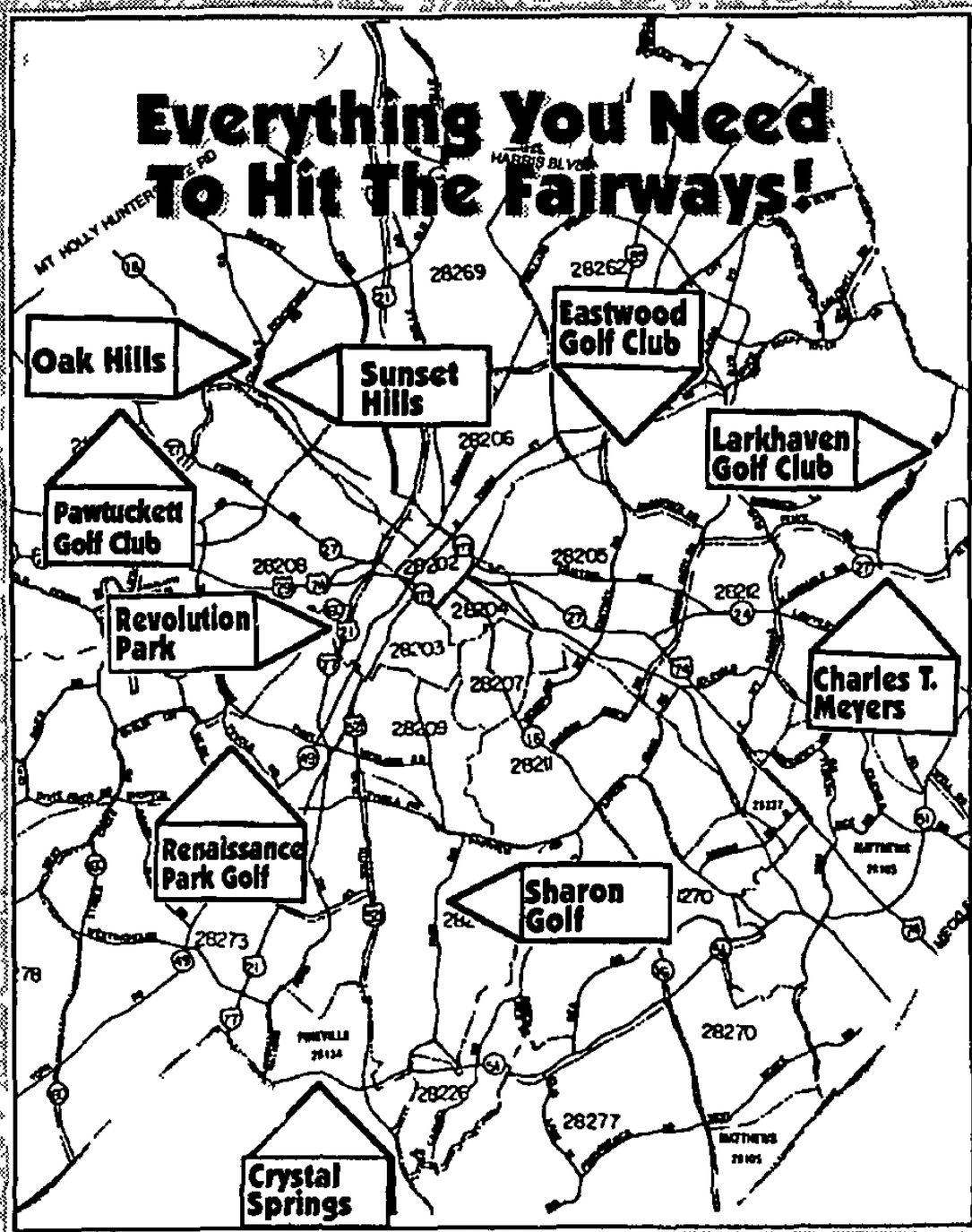

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It's a very different game, but the name's still the same

by Tucker Mitchell

She hears it with some regularity, but Morgan Maxwell, age 5 remains mystified as to why some grownups insist upon calling her daddy Cornbread of all things It just doesn't make any sense His name is Daddy, or maybe Cedric But not Cornbread That's dumb

"She's really confused" says Cedric 'She says 'Why are they calling you Cornbread, Daddy? What does that mean?' I just tell her, 'I'll tell you all about it some day, baby Just wait til then'"

Cornbread Maxwell, the basketball sidedish who turned the University of North Carolina Charlotte's basketball team into a main course when he led it to the Final Four in 1977, isn't gone but he's fading fast Thirty-five years old and three winters removed from his last season in the National Basketball Association, he is busy shedding an old life and image for something new That is an onerous task that awaits all exceptional athletes, and Mr Maxwell is no different. But so far he is muddling through pretty well

After years of acting out great drama on the basketball court, he is now producing it on the stage He is the backer, producer cook, extra, promoter and travel agent — "I wear a lot of hats in this job," says Mr Maxwell — for a touring gospel musical called "Struggle to be Free" It is not the rage the of current season, but it has done well enough in a run across North Carolina, including several sellouts at Ovens Auditorium in January, and it is now headed for a late-May stint in Atlanta.

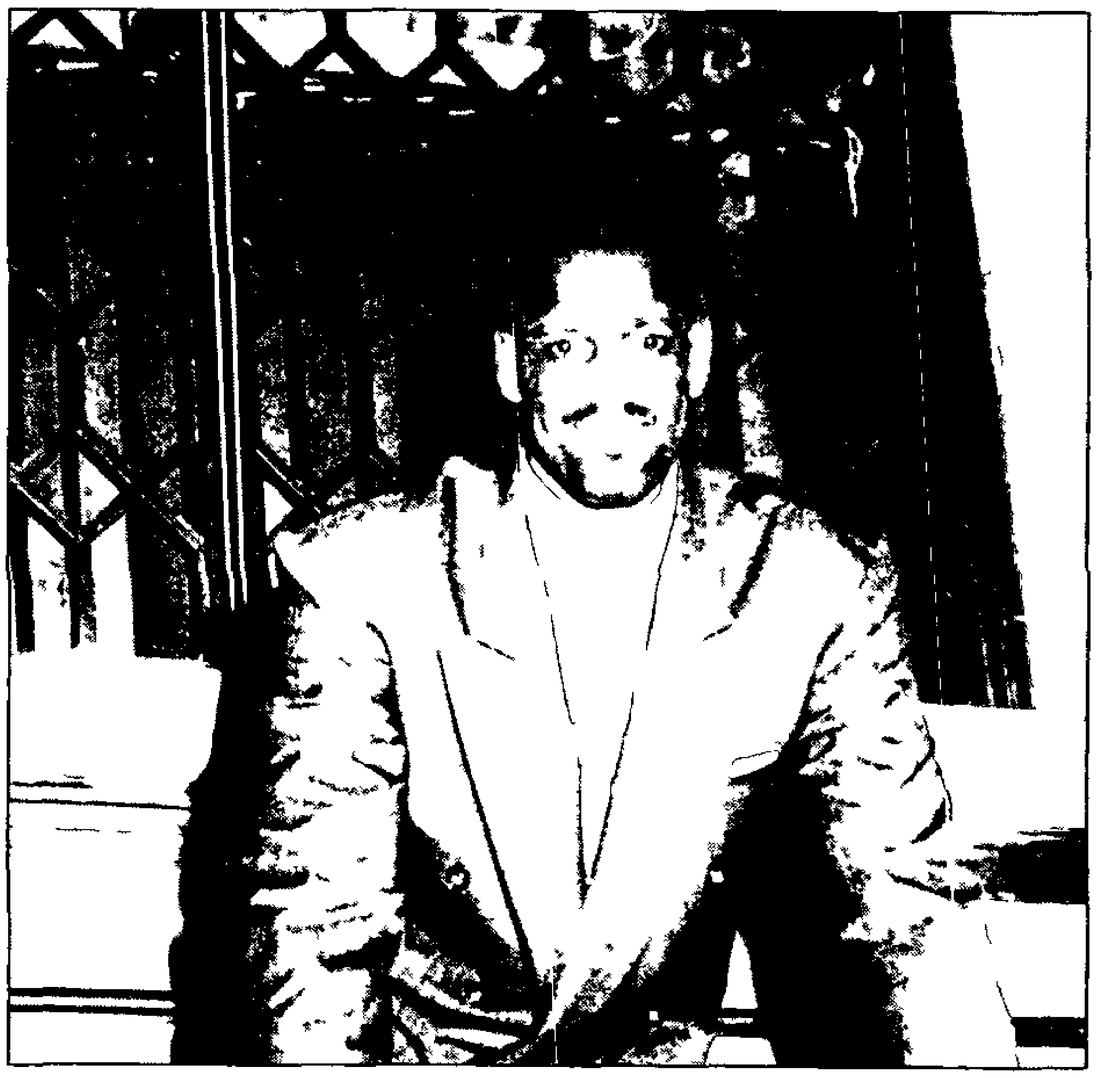
Mr Maxwell, a Kinston native who has lived in Charlotte since his playing days, gets some of the credit for that. No one is confusing him with David Merrick just yet, but he has shown a certain aptitude for the theatrical, which no great surprise to anyone who knew him at UNCC

"He does have a certain feel for the arts," says Sandra McMullen, who is working with Mr Maxwell on promoting the production "He has a nice feel for creative writing, too, which I don't think too many people know about And then he just has good business sense which of course fits in very well"

Mr Maxwell, who's official title with "Struggle to be Free" is executive producer, says, "It s important to me that I be successful again, that I make another niche for myself People tend to stereotype athletes They don t think they are capable of doing anything else I'd like to prove them wrong But more than anything else, I just want to be successful, a winner"

Despite his current occupation Mr Maxwell's post-basketball life has no certain focus There is the general idea of just

Continued On Page 38



Thirty-five years old and three years removed from his NBA playing days, Cedric "Cornbread" Maxwell is busy shedding an old life and image for something new.

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64 July 23 — Aug. 22 baby
65 Ice masses
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70 Consumer advocate
71 Actor Don from Cedar Rapids
72 Secure
73 Gem weight
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78 Yuccalike plant
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83 Fetid
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90 Auditioned at the Met
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92 "The Gift of the —
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2 Rustic
3 French king
4 Greek underground
5 Cod s cousins
6 Roanoke for one
7 Similar
8 Compassion
9 First mother
10 Destructive insects
11 Burnett and Channing
12 Portent
13 Chess pieces
14 Loosen
15 Apply paint in dots
16 Kitchen gadget
19 One shooting from a hidden position
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61 Man s name
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65 Dart
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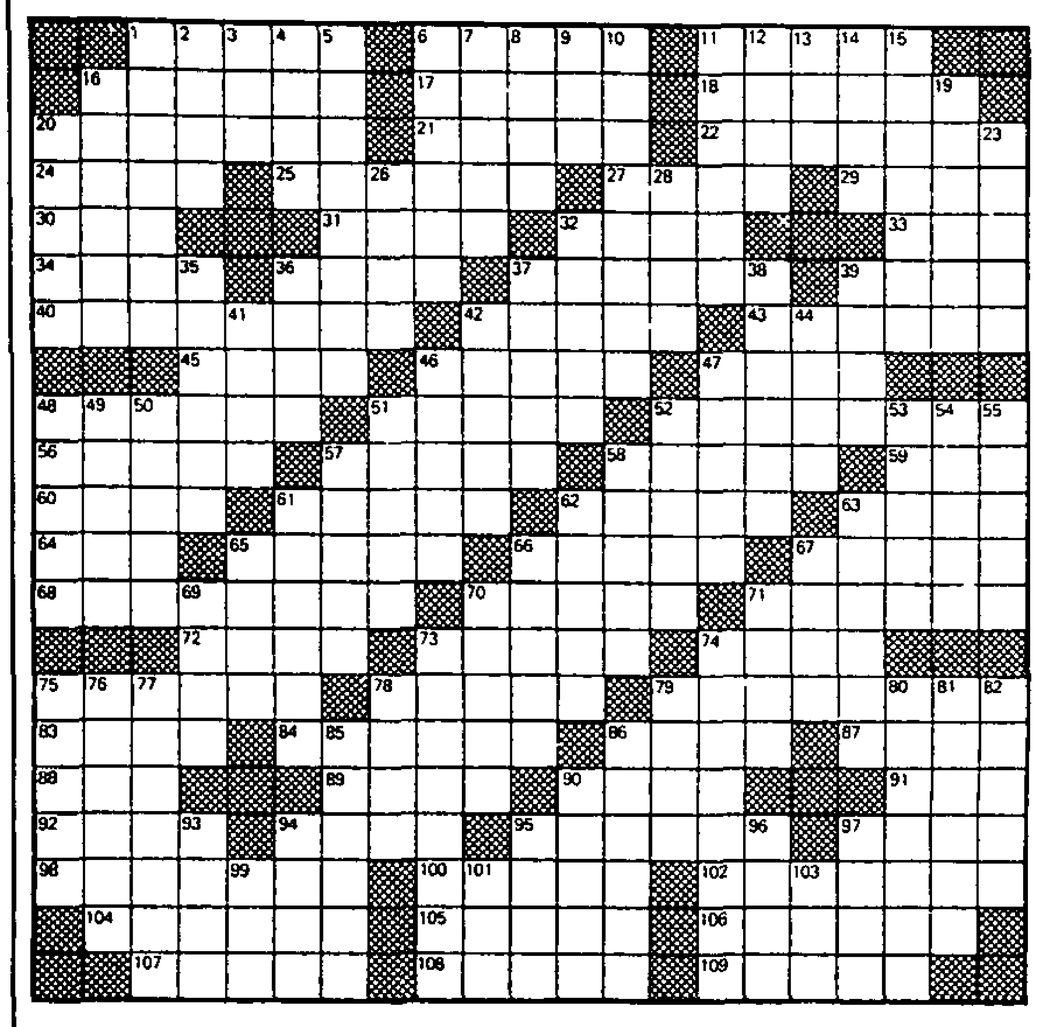

Maxwell finds satisfaction in getting play's spiritual message out to community

Continued From Page 37

being successful in the mold of Dave Bing an NBA hall-of-famer who was a teammate with the Boston Celtics during Mr Maxwell's rookie year Mr Bing has since gone on to some fame as the owner of one of the 10 largest, black owned businesses in the country a Michigan steel factory But there is not much more Mr Maxwell has no interest in steel, but he is not wed to the theater either He just wants to do well

Mr Maxwell, who is also promoting a salute to soul singer James Brown in Charlotte Saturday, May 4, says of his first non-basketball enterprise, "It has been fun I've really enjoyed this Financially I don't know if I can afford to keep doing it The show has done well, but no one is going to get rich The best part, I suppose is socially It's a very good thing that someone should be doing

'The message of the show is the church against sin, and that's important I feel good about that.'

When his NBA career sputtered to a halt in 1988, after 11 seasons with three teams (Boston, the LA Clippers and Houston Rockets) Mr Maxwell's plans could be described as uncertain at best. He chose not to extend his career overseas after a brief Italian fling left him feeling queasy "I heard the guy on TV say 'Senor Spock — I was watching Star Trek' reruns — and I knew that wasn't the place for me Too weird. '

He came home, hoping perhaps that the phone would ring with some NBA general manager on the other end but knowing that in all probability he was through as a player Mr Maxwell had known that day was coming, but like many athletes, he had no post playing days irons in the fire

So his first plan was to take a year off with his family experience some of the things he'd missed while on the road in the NBA for 11 winters things like Christmas and Thanksgiving

' I had not actually prepared for anything (after basketball) " says Mr Maxwell "It was a little better situation for me than for some I did get my degree But I had no plans I flirted with the idea of teaching school or going back into the game as a coach But basically the first thing was to take a year off

' I did that and it was nice and then one year turned into two and all I was doing was going to the health club to work out and just hanging out. And then this play just fell into my lap '

A friend approached Mr Maxwell about potential sponsorship of the production Mr Maxwell was skeptical He was out of the league before the money really began falling from the sky, but he made enough to become familiar with the pitch for various investment schemes

He had an interest in music, though and the more his friend talked, the better it sounded Finally, he went to see the play

I fell in love with it says Mr Maxwell "It was moving to me, and it has been the same since We've had some great shows with people in the audience crying and all '

Mr Maxwell likens the effort that goes into a play to a basketball team s preparations Rehearsals are like practices The performances are like games It's very similar " he says

His role has changed however Although he does have a minor part in "Struggle to be Free," (he s in the congregation shouting Amen during one of the church scenes), Mr Maxwell is basically on the other side now

' I'm more like management ' he says a player's perpetual disgust with the term coming through in his voice I used to be the guy who went to the hotel, picked up the key and never thought any more about it Now I'm the guy who makes sure the keys are there and worries about how to pay for the room It's a different deal

Though not that far removed from his good old days Mr Maxwell already finds his memories of those times clouding up The 1981 championship series with the Celtics when he was the most valuable player, courtside repartee with Jack Nicholson in the Forum the time he was on vacation in Las Vegas and Bryant Gumbel, the "Today Show" host called out to him across a crowded hotel lobby "Hey, Cornbread! , it all seems like a dream at times

"I'll always have that," says Mr Maxwell, 'but sometimes I wonder if it was really me "

Morgan Maxwell, age 5, knows just what he means

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Latest 8-millimeter models represent next step in camcorder's evolution

by Andy Warfield

Much as the VCR was the electronics product of the 1980s, electronics industry spokesperson Jack Wayman projects the 8-millimeter camcorder will be one of the hottest items of the 1990s.

In the late 1970s, the Sony Betamax helped to revolutionize home television viewing It captured the imagination of the world with its hand-held camera and small tape that could be plugged into a Beta video player and viewed on your TV screen

It was home movies made simple

The only problem was, it didn't catch on Sony patented the format, so the rest of the world's electronic companies, following Sony's lead came up with their own format known as Video Home System, or VHS

In the 1990s, home video will shift again, according to Jack Wayman, spokesman for Electronics Industries Association/Consumer Electronics Group Rather than a VHS camcorder on every shoulder, an 8 millimeter camcorder will be in every palm of home movie buffs

"Every manufacturer is now mass producing 8 millimeter cameras,' says Mr Wayman 'One manufacturer can't do it alone Sony could not do it alone with Beta Everyone else came out with VHS and isolated Sony out of the business The marketplace decides things like that '

But you say you have a VHS format VCR in your home with no intentions of buying an 8-millimeter player to go with the new camera? There's no need. A cord and RCA jack are all that is necessary to convert the image from the 8-millimeter camera to the VCR which is present in 75 percent of American homes

Sales of the 8-millimeter camcorder have lagged in the United States Where 8-millimeter accounted for 75 percent of sales in Europe and Japan two years ago, it took until recently for Americans to discover the value of the smaller camera

Today, full-size VHS camcorders account for about 40 percent of the sales in the U S , now surpassed by 8-millimeter

"We lagged behind, perhaps because we like big things here," says Mr Wayman "Almost overnight, the American public found they can use that small camcorder The big camera fit snugly on the shoulder whereas the small camera was sometimes shaky, but they are getting into gyroscopes that give you a steady cam

"Also they were worried about the format. They didn't realize you could easily transfer that to a VHS tape "

Much as the VCR was the electronics product of the 1980s, Mr Wayman projects the 8 millimeter camcorder will be one of the hottest items of the '90s The industry currently sells about 3 million units per year, and he predicts that figure to climb to as high as 7 million units per year once the price reaches the magic number of $500 The price continues to drop as the public accepts the product in record numbers

The prices currently range from $750 for the older models to $1,250 For an extra $400 to $600, 8-millimeter players, such as the Sony Watchman are available It's a hand held, 4-inch Liquid Crystal Display color TV and videocassette recorder weighing less than three pounds The unit can also record television programs onto an 8-millimeter tape

"They have automatic zoom, automatic light balance, automatic focus — you just can't take a bad picture with them," says Mr Wayman "The tape gives you an hour now on slow play, it has good sound, and the public has found they like to use it because it's easy to take with you and easy to use It fits in a briefcase "

The tape rental industry has caught on to 8-millimeter as well More than 2,000 hit movie titles are now available on the smaller format

But for purists who don't wish to go through the extra effort of tape conversion, there is VHS-C (for compact) While they are not new to the market, fans of small cameras may wish to opt for the smaller version of the VHS camera. The smaller tapes snap into a 1/2-inch adapter for playing on standard home VCRs

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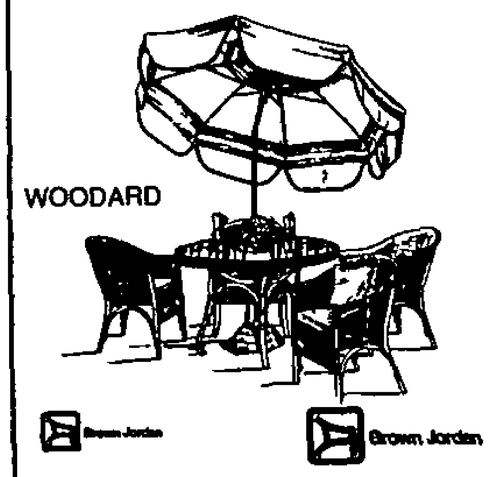

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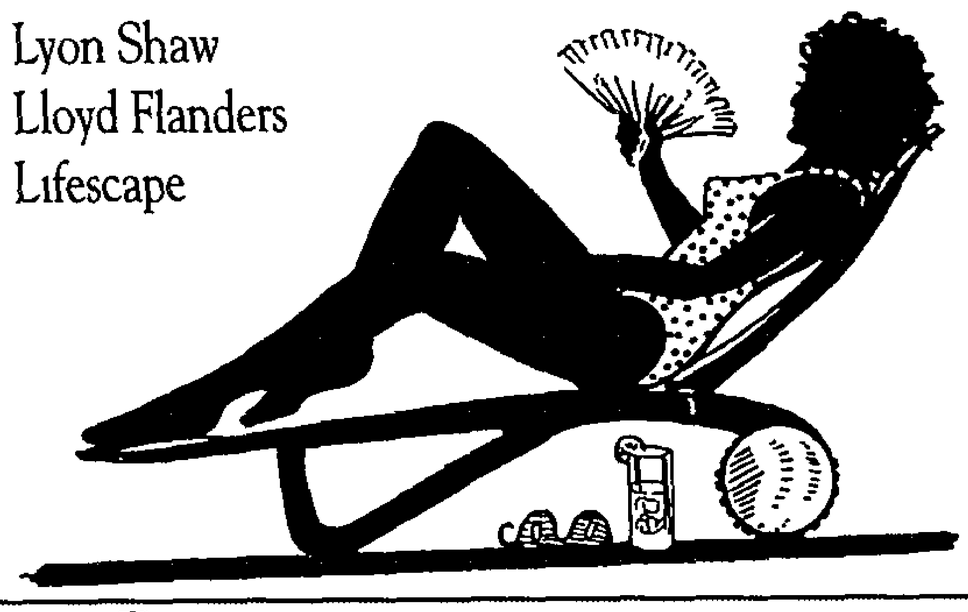

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Rhododendrons are the aristocrats of the May garden

by Merrill Krughoff

The Charlotte Gardener

Rhododendrons are the big thing now The magnificent flowers are borne eight to 12 in a cluster up to eight inches across, which may be conical or rounded.

The earliest, such as Pink Pearl and Jean Marine de Montague (bright red), start in late April, followed by English Roseum (pink), and then such as Scintillation (pink), Nova Zembia (dark red), Cynthia and Anna Rose Whitney (pink), Catawbiense Album and Gomer Waterer (white) An assortment will provide bloom for about a month

These aristocrats of the garden do very well by us the 11 months of the year when they are not in bloom Their form and foliage are hard to beat But don't mix them with sun-loving roses because they must have some shade

The gardener who wants fragrance, however, must turn to something else The something else is the peony This is a long-lived perennial that comes up every year unfailingly, does its dramatic thing in May and then continues as a pleasing shrub-like plant until frost. The Carolinas and adjoining states must bow to the Midwest for vigorous peonies, but we can still have them in variety, provided we give them some lime (or wood ashes) and bonemeal or superphosphate each year, and be sure they get some sun.

Now, if you are looking for something really elegant and out of the ordinary, find a tree peony It is really a shrub Its large flowers look as if made of crepe paper This plant has graced palace gardens in China for centuries

The six-inch peony flower is almost outdone by half-inch pink or red little bells borne in profusion on 18-inch stems, namely coral bells Flower arrangers go daffy about them, and so do gardeners, too, for these little gems keep doing their stuff for three months They are happy in protected, semi-shaded locations and in such places are quite permanent. The rosette of veined leaves is attractive year-round.

Two worthy little plants are coming in Sweet william is a biennial, usually sold "mixed," in all the colors of Joseph's coat. It blooms for several weeks Strawberry begonia is not really a begonia but rather a saxifrage A shady area can be covered easily with beautifully veined leaves of this spreading plant, which sends up 10-inch spikes of delicate white flowers with tiny red spots The leaves alone are interesting enough as a ground cover the rest of the year

To Do

Prune the azaleas Most of them have finished blooming and should be cut back pretty hard as soon as their flowers are spent. As with other shrubs, good pruning is definitely not shearing Brutal as it may seem the thing to do is reach in and cut back some of the larger branches and the long, fast-growing sprouts Further shortening of new or old growth is as desirable The result of this will be a nice bushy plant within your desired size Azaleas have many dormant buds along all stems, so they stand hard pruning very well By late summer, no one can tell that they have been pruned at all

He or she who wants a lush lawn and is willing to mow the resulting fast-growing grass can put on some fertilizer at this time. In the Piedmont, this should not be done in the hottest months of summer No such restrictions apply to feeding vegetables, here regular feeding with a balanced fertilizer such as 5-10-10 assures generous crops

Keep spraying the roses at least every two weeks with a combination fungicide, such as folpet or benomyl, and an insecticide such as malathion Spray cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli with the non-toxic bacillus thuringiensis to control cabbage worm

To Plan

Want a wildflower garden? Well you can have it if you have any flowers at all, since everything you can plant is a wildflower some place on earth or a hybrid or improvement over what was a wildflower somewhere The camellia comes from China, crocus and iris from Asia Minor, our cherished roses developed from the wild roses of Europe, zinnias from Mexico and so on It is true also that some flowers wild in California or Texas or Canada will not grow in the Piedmont. So when you say wild, you are talking about something native to this area.

The question then is do you want a garden of undoctored native wildflowers? There is something to be said for it; anything native to your area is going to do well in your garden Now you may not want a garden so purely local but still you should consider many such subjects as part of your landscape plan. The materials are bountiful but not always easy to find in the nurseries Among the possibilities we can name a few that are easy to come by

There are good shrubs and trees, providing bloom from early spring through late fall Starting with the red maple tree, there are pussy willow, redbud, dogwood, Carolina jessamine, leucothoe, azalea vaseyi and calendulaceum, sweet shrub, fringe tree, bull-day magnolia, mountain laurel, some rhododendrons, stewartia, franklinia, groundsel bush and witchhzel Then there are native viburnums and the American holly to provide red berries through the winter

There is low-growing material in abundance also Coming early are blood root, blue phlox, chrysogonum, trillium, virginia bluebells, field daisies, black-eyed susan, galax, iris cristata, superbum lily, buttercups, batchelor buttons, tradescantia and yarrow

From summer to fall, we can have Queen Anne's lace, lythrum, water lilies and cardinal flower (for moist places), butterfly weed (Asclepias tuberosa), helenium, tickseed sunflower and hardy asters

All of these are natives or naturalized exotics In many cases, the seeds can be found in the wild. Nurseries handle most of the shrubs and trees

The form and foliage of the rhododendron are hard to beat, even during the 11 months of the year that they are not in bloom. Photo by M.J. Masotti Jr.

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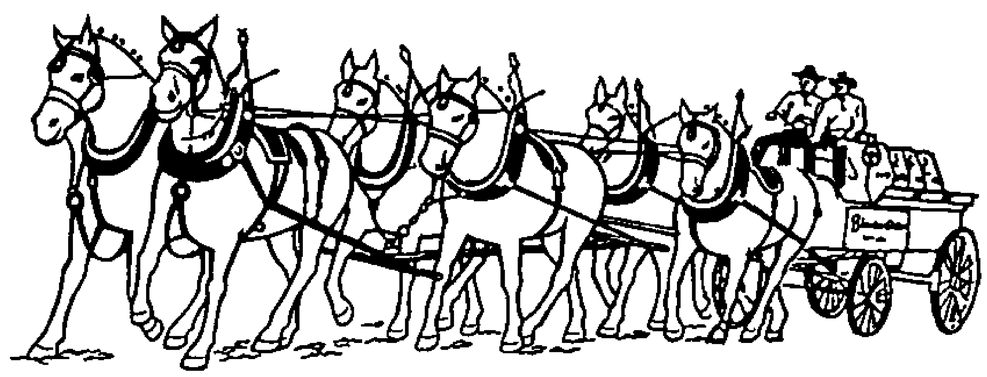

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Spaghetti Warehouse blends pasta and redevelopment

by Andy Warfield

The year was 1982, and the west end of downtown Dallas was little more than a conglomeration of abandoned warehouses and dilapidated industrial buildings That was before Robert Hawk left his executive position with Pier 1 Imports to go into the restaurant business

He went to the area, where real estate was cheap and few were willing to venture, bought an old building and built the first Spaghetti Warehouse Today, the West End is one of the hottest night spots in Dallas with an array of clubs and restaurants attracting visitors from all over Texas

The company went public in 1985, and expansion has reached outside its native Texas The philosophy remains the same Buy an old building at a cheap price, fill it with a collection of antiques and old signs, churn out the pasta like a factory and serve it at a reasonable price

The Spaghetti Warehouse that opened on the fringes of Dilworth last December is no exception to the rule

Other than Marietta, Ga., all of the Spaghetti Warehouse locations were put into old buildings where industry once thrived but has since vanished. While none of the locations has caused as much of a revival as in Dallas' West End, Spaghetti Warehouse has ventured into areas and encouraged others to follow — sort of a mini-urban renewal catalyst

Spaghetti Warehouse can't guarantee the same for the immediate area surrounding its location in the former Nebel Knitting Mill off Worthington Avenue But the company has leased most of the remaining space in its building to companies for office space

Spaghetti Warehouses, like the Worthington Avenue location in Charlotte, have succeeded in bringing life back to areas where industry was thought to be dead with their eclectic atmospheres and Italian cuisine. Photo by M.J. Masotti Jr.

What it can promise is pasta, pure and simple The recipes reflect classic Italian

Continued On Facing Page

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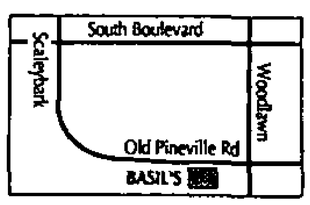

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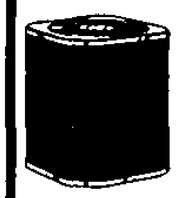
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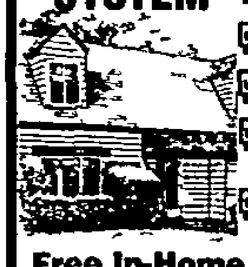
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