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"The Voice In The Black Community"

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## Blacks Are Living Longer!

★★★ ★★★★★★★

### USDA: Opportunity's There For Blacks

#### Education Is The Key To Success

WASHINGTON—"I think the opportunity for blacks is there...you just got to go out and get it, you can't wait for someone to drop it in your lap."

Clarence Musgrove, a GS-11 telephone rate analyst for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, was giving advice on how to get ahead in life. And he should know—he attended night school for 11 years to earn a bachelor's degree. Musgrove picked up his degree at the University of the District of Columbia last December, but he will march in the traditional commencement ceremonies in May and he may well be the proudest graduate in the line.

"It's been a scuffle," he said in a recent interview. "Most of the time I had my back against the wall."

Born in Sandy Level, Va., Musgrove is one of 14 children of Jesse and Mary Musgrove, sharecroppers. He dropped out of the high school he was attending and left the back-breaking labor of the fields at age 17 to seek a better life in Washington, D.C. He was drafted into the old Army Air Corps where he earned a high school equivalency certificate. Later Musgrove became a messenger for the Corps of Engineers in Washington, a job held for seven years.

"I knew there was some higher grade messengers somewhere," he recalled, explaining how he found a mail clerk's job at the U.S. Department of Agriculture and eventually rose to a GS-6 supervisor in the mail room.

"I was somewhat dissatisfied with the mail room, even though I loved the work, he said. I was in charge of eight people. I was saying to myself, 'What am I going to do?' From the back of my mind, I've always felt I wanted an education. I knew the only way to get ahead was to get an education."

#### Controversy Abounds

### Kate's Skating Rink

### Refuses To Admit Blacks?

There is a controversy concerning who can be admitted at Kate's Skating Rink on Central Ave. during rush hours.

It was Saturday night and tickets were not being sold. So some of the West Charlotte High School girls and boys varsity basketball players were told they couldn't get in.

According to Sonya Lee, a West Charlotte student present at the incident, "The Blacks couldn't get in. They said they didn't have anymore tickets and they weren't selling anymore tickets. But then two white students, (also West Charlotte basketball players) were allowed to enter."

Bill Grice, owner of



PROGRAM DIRECTOR ESTHER HARGRAVE

.....Encourages Sayes, Dale Bolton

Director Hargrave Says:

### "Their Biggest Problem Is Lack Of Self Confidence"

By Teresa Burns  
Post Staff Writer

A typical scene: little Martha is struggling with her homework. "I just can't do this," and she throws down her pencil in utter frustration. Isn't it obvious? As long as Martha believes she can't do it - she never will.

This is one of the problems students attending the First United Presbyterian Church Tutorial Program have, according to the director, Esther Hargrave. "The biggest problem," she began, "is lack of self-confidence."

The Tutorial Program, which meets every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 4:45-5:30 p.m. at the First United Presbyterian Church is geared to improve the student's school work and attitude about himself.

"We try to encourage them. We tell them that they can succeed. We try to make the children feel good about themselves," Mrs. Hargrave continued.

One example of the program's success is reflected in Channele Michael, a noticeably bright student and

her amazing improvements. "I improved in every subject last quarter. I was confused and the teachers at school went too fast. But when I came here I could understand it with no trouble - I understand the teacher now," Channele commented.

Channele's tutor, Klara Vinson attributed the success to one on one contact. "When the situation is one on one, I think we achieve more," Mrs. Vinson began, "Maybe one minor thing here is that we work with five or six students at a time and answer all questions. They are relaxed - with no pressure."

Yet, the same basic problem - lack of self-confidence keeps reappearing.

A few of the educational approaches used by Mrs. Hargrave and the tutorial staff to increase self-esteem consist of supplementary work in folders for the students. "Personal work is important to us," Mrs. Hargrave commented. The students are given hints on how to take tests correctly also.

Another dimension of the program includes refresh-

ments served by different organizations in the church. It shows that someones cares enough to take the time to prepare a snack. One of the highlights of the day is when a student stands at the podium and thanks the person preparing the refreshments.

This is the second year of the program. Students are helped mostly in mathematics and language arts according to Mrs. Hargrave. They are not required to attend the program three days a week. Some come once or twice a week from 16 various schools.

Tutors (all are either teachers or retired teachers) come once or twice a week. They are Ethel Goodwin, Helen Hill, Rosa Foust, Klara Vinson, Ethel Martin, Mamie Brewington, Mattie Grigley, Miriam Bates, Dorothy Stinson, Mildred Baxter, Marlon Phillips, and the director, Esther Hargrave. Mrs. Hargrave tutors all three days.

Mrs. Hargrave is a retired teacher from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System. She worked for 36 years and is still dedicating her time and energies as a talented educator at the program. "I got caught up in the rewarding experience of working here," she confessed.

Support for the program has increased. "The church has really supported us," Mrs. Hargrave said. "It's not one person's job. It's a volunteer program." There are now four support groups involved with the tutorial program.

The materials are handled by Martha Reddick, Eloise Morton, Shirley Wilkins and Jonnie Bullock. "They pick our supplement materials," Mrs. Hargrave explained.

Another support group for the program is concerned with counseling. Rev. Dr. Raymond Worsley, pastor of First United Presbyterian, and founder of the tutorial program, is on this committee. Charlotte Hampton, a contemporary remedial, James White a parent counselor, Calvin Davis, chairman of the steering committee, see THEIR on Page 4

### Black Females Have Longer Life Expectancy

By Susan Ellsworth  
Post Staff Writer

Blacks are living longer despite an increase in cancer and heart disease. Census findings tracing the growth and development of blacks from 1790 to 1978 show a substantial increase in the life expectancy at birth for blacks born in this country.

The report also revealed that black females continue to have a longer life expectancy at birth than black males. In 1900 to 1902, black males could expect to average 33 years, and black females, 35.

By 1974 the life expectancy of both black males and females had shown a dramatic increase to 63 years at birth for the black male and 71 years for the black female. Most of these gains occurred during the first half of the decade.

Death rates from cancer and heart disease have spiraled. In 1910 cancer and heart disease accounted for 12 percent of all black deaths and 16 percent of all white deaths.

Homicides from 1960 to 1974 almost doubled for both races. In 1974 the rate was 39.7 deaths per 100,000 for blacks and 5.8 deaths per 100,000 for whites.

#### Martin L. King

#### Statue Will Be

#### Unveiled April 5

By Susan Ellsworth  
Post Staff Writer

A church service, candlelight recessional to Marshall Park and public unveiling of the first life-size statue of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will commemorate the slain civil rights leader in Charlotte.

The memorial service to be held at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1000 East Morehead Street Friday, April 4 - 8 p.m., marks the date and exact hour King was assassinated.

Ministers and choirs from local churches will participate in services highlighted by Delano Rcard's dramatic reenactment of Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech.

Following the service a candlelight recessional along South McDowell St. will lead participants to the statue site in Marshall Park.

After a three-year effort, the 8-foot statue of King, mounted on a 4-foot base, will be unveiled and dedicated at public ceremonies to be held at noon on Saturday, April 5 at Marshall Park.

Governor James B. Hunt, Charlotte Mayor Eddie Knox, and sculptress Dr. Selma Burke will attend along with local and religious leaders representing Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, Jewish and Catholic congregations.

The monument to King is the first of its kind in the country. Funds for the statue were donated to and raised by the MLK Commission headed by Rev. Coleman Kerry.

More information about the black population will be obtained from the 1980 Census of Population and Housing which begins April 1. Every household will receive a census questionnaire on March 28.

An individual's census answers are confidential by law and can be published only as part of the statistical totals.

Results from the 1980 census will help decide how billions of dollars in State and Federal funds are allocated.

#### Task Force

#### Message "Come

#### Alive And Vote?"

By Eileen Hanson  
Special To The Post

"Come alive and vote!" That is the message the On-Goers Club is spreading in District Two this week in preparation for their voter registration drive, to be held Saturday, March 29 at Gethsemane AME Zion Church, 531 Campus St. from 1-5 p.m.

On-Goers is a new youth group at the church dedicated to making people more politically aware about the issues in the black community. According to member Worth Threadgill, "We decided to go into the black community to areas with low voter registration and try to overcome the political apathy."

Saturday's efforts will concentrate on Precinct No. 12, in the area of the church. Club members will go door-to-door with information about voter registration, and will return to pick up those interested in registering. For ride information contact 375-3900.

"It's difficult for good black candidates to get elected because of the low black turnout at elections," said Threadgill, organizer of Saturday's vote drive. "We should become more politically aware about issues that affect our lives and vote for candidates that truly represent our interests."

Potential voters should come to the registration:

- if you have never registered before,
- if you have not voted in the last 4 years,
- if you have changed your name or address since you last voted,
- if you are 17 years old and will be 18 by the Nov. 4 election.

There are no tests or fees involved. The clerk asks your name, place of residence, previous registration, age and place of birth, and party affiliation, if any. The parties in North Carolina are Republican, Democrat and Libertarian.

Many people still think it's difficult for blacks to register, that we have to pay something or take a test," said Lonnie Graves, co-chairman of the Vote Task Force. "In fact, it's just as easy as signing your name, and if you can't do see TASK FORCE, Page 3



GORGEOUS FRANCES HUNTLEY  
...CPCC student

### Frances Huntley Is Beauty Of Week

By Teresa Burns  
Post Staff Writer

The essence of Frances Huntley's time is spent in self and community improvement. As a member of the patient advisory council of the Health Department, a member of the Region F Family Planning Advisory Council, and Secretary of the Omega Social Club, her time is planned wisely.

She feels that others should do the same. "I'd like to see more Black volunteers on more councils. The more voices the Black community has, the more the Black community will be helped," Ms. Huntley commented.

Another slot of our beauty's time is spent attending classes at Central Piedmont Community College. She plans to become a clerk typist in a corporation.

"I'd like to work for a company with affiliates," our beauty began. "Eventually, I'd like to go back to school and study more extensively and stay in the job office market."

She became interested in this line of work in high school, working as an intern for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council and the Steptoe Independent Recreational Promotion Company.

The job as clerk typist according to Ms. Huntley, is more than a typing job. "I would want to deal with people," she explained. In fact, a course in her curriculum deals with personality.

"Personality Development is one of my favorite subjects. I thought it mainly dealt with the mental aspects, but it also deals with other subjects such as what to wear," she explained.

Our Aquarian beauty is a Charlotte native and the youngest child of Betty Sue Huntley. She has a sister, Gail Spicer, a brother, Anthony Huntley, and a daughter, Tamara Huntley.

A few of our beauty's hobbies include swimming, softball, and cooking. She



A woman doesn't mind seeing a man make a fool of himself so long as some other woman isn't helping him.

also attends Silver Mount Baptist Church regularly.

As one of her favorite persons, Ms. Huntley cited Maya Angelou. "I like her style of writing. She wrote 'I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings,' and 'Just Give Me A Cold Drink of Water Before I Die.'" She puts her feelings into writing form.

Ms. Huntley's feelings are usually expressed verbally. "I like to discuss issues and speak my mind," she said.

The actions of our beauty reveal her caring attitude for people. And her philosophy of life shows undaunted determination. "It doesn't matter how many times you fall," she began, "It's how fast you get up that counts."

#### CAF To Offer

#### Fuel Assistance

By Susan Ellsworth  
Post Staff Writer

The Charlotte Area Fund has nearly \$100,000 to allocate for fuel assistance but hardly anyone is applying.

Although applications for the Emergency Crisis Assistance program are still accepted, "people have been trickling in," said CAF director Mary Staton.

Since many people cancelled their scheduled appointments, applications will be accepted until the March 31 deadline on a first-come-first-served basis.

To be eligible for ECAP funds "the only criteria is income," according to Ms. Staton.

Applicants who have received other fuel assistance monies from Social Services are still eligible if the aid has not exceeded the \$200 maximum.

Qualifying incomes for the program are \$4,200 for a one-person household; \$5,625 for two people; \$7,000 for three; and \$9,375 for four.

Charlotte Area Fund officials said applicants must still bring documents to support their eligibility. The State Office will not consider processing applications without copies of the appropriate documents.

Paycheck stubs, and an employer's statement are required for those who hold jobs.

Unemployment pass-books, a statement from the site where the paycheck or government check is cashed or deposited are necessary.

Include the name of the utility company, the account number and a copy of the most recent bill or an see CAF on Page 12