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Members of Ebony Group and Company, perform from "God's Trombone" at the Sammy Stevenson, Linda Foxx, Orlando McCrory YMCA Kwanzaa program. Shane, Jane Bellamy and Jimmy Riddick. (Photo by: Eileen Hanson)

Charlotte's First All-City

Kwanzaa Attracts Large Crowds

by Eileen Hanson
Special to The Post
Charlotte's first all-city Kwanzaa brought together several hundred people, young and old, in a celebration of black culture and reaffirmation of commitments to family and the community.
Drawing 100 to 200 people each evening from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1, special programs held in area churches and community centers focused on the 7 principles of Kwanzaa, an Americanized version of an African thanksgiving festival.
Activities of the Afro-American Culture Center gave cultural presentations, awakening concern for black arts. Children sang and danced and heard tales of olden days from Africa and slave times.
Falling between Christmas and New Years, Kwanzaa was conceived not as an alternative

to Christmas, but as a time for community thanksgiving, reflection and rededication to the 7 basic principles.
Highlight of the week was the New Year's Day recognition of seven members of the black community chosen for their contributions to the Kwanzaa principles: City Councilman Ron Leeper (unity), community leader L. C. Coleman (self-determination), librarian Allegra Westbrook (collective work and responsibility), businesswoman Myrtle Heath and her family (cooperative economics), community worker T. J. Harshaw (purpose), poet-artist T. J. Reddy (creativity), and youth worker Anita Stroud (faith).
Ms. Stroud, who has worked with children for 55 years, challenged the youth to "be somebody, go get your education."

There were many challenges made during the week-long program, and several were taken up with commitments for on-going work.
According to Kwanzaa coordinator, Joice Burwell, one of the most challenging projects is to bring the Schamberg collection of black culture from New York City to a permanent home in North Carolina.
"These writings and paintings of black Americans date back to the 17th Century. They are priceless," said Burwell. She hopes to generate national support for the project.
Rev. James Palmer of University Park Baptist Church offered space to establish an evening program to improve children's reading skills.
To develop economic strength, Kwanzaa participants were encouraged to consider group investments in business ventures and to become involved in the Charlotte Business League.
However, it was black culture that predominated the Kwanzaa celebrations.
"Black people are able to create in the midst of the most dehumanizing circumstances and still have spirit about living and producing," said T. J. Reddy on accepting his plaque for creativity. Reddy is currently in prison as a member of the Charlotte 3 case and internationally recognized as a prisoner of conscience.
In summing up the Kwanzaa experience, coordinator Burwell said, "The community response far exceeded our expectations."

Study Shows Food Stamp

Recipients Have Few Assets

WASHINGTON—A recent study shows most families getting food stamps have little or no savings and do not own a home or a car, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Carol Tucker Foreman said today.
The study, by the department's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), compared food stamp users with other low-income households and with households at higher income levels.
"According to our analysis," Foreman said, "food stamp households have fewer assets than other households of equally low incomes who do not receive food stamps, and far fewer assets than the average American family."
According to the study:
—Six out of ten food stamp families have no savings—and nearly all food stamp families had savings of less than \$1,500. By contrast, 9 percent of non-food stamp families have no savings—and two-thirds of these families have savings exceeding \$1,500.
—One-third of food stamp families own a car, while 60 percent of low-income households who do not get food stamps own cars.
—Twenty-nine percent of

families getting food stamps own their own homes, compared to two-thirds of the families not on food stamps.
—The homes owned by food stamp families have an average value half that of the homes owned by families not receiving food stamps.
The study found that the assets limits have limited the number of persons eligible for food stamps. Between 3 and 6 million households with incomes low enough to meet the food stamp income test were made ineligible by the resource tests prescribed under the Food Stamp Act of 1964. This is likely to change appreciably under the Food Stamp Act of 1977.
"This would indicate that the resource test is already a highly significant factor in limiting the eligibility of low-income households," Foreman said.
Under the 1964 Act, a household could not have more than \$1,500 in liquid assets, or more than \$3,000 if the household contained elderly persons.
The 1977 law updated the assets limit to \$1,750, but counts the fair market value over \$4,500 of any car not used to produce income as assets. Households with elderly persons may continue to have up to \$3,000 in assets.
Data for the study were drawn from several sources. The principal sources were the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Income and Education, the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Expenditure Survey and the Food Stamp Program Household Characteristics Survey conducted by FNS.
Copies of the study, "Assets of Low-Income Households: An Analysis of Existing Data," are available from the Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation, FNS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., 20250.

Holman: Next Move For Blacks Will Be Congress

Nutrition Programs For Elderly Will Be Cutback

by Susan Ellsworth
Post Staff Writer
Federally funded nutrition programs for the elderly in Charlotte will be cut back in 1979, despite a slight increase in the money allocated for meals.
While the funding has increased the number of meals has decreased due to inflation and the rising cost of food.
The program will receive a minimum of 38.5 cents a meal in donated foods or cash assistance during the current fiscal year, according to Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Carol Tucker Foreman.
This increase—up from 29.25 cents in 1978—will be retroactive to October 1, 1978. In Charlotte, the number of federally funded meals served will be curtailed by 10 percent in the coming year, according to Mrs. Melba Von Sprecken, head of the City Nutrition Division.
The program in Charlotte fed 750 people at the beginning of 1978. That number has dwindled to providing 625 senior citizens with meals. This year the cuts will be more drastic, according to Mr. Von Sprecken.
"Three hundred people are on the waiting list now," she continued.
Nutrition programs for the elderly are operated by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The Agriculture Department donates food or provides cash instead of food to states participating in this program.
Most meals are served at community centers, schools, churches, or other sites convenient for the elderly.
In Charlotte, these areas are as follows: The Charlotte Town Terrace, Edwin Towers Park Town Terrace, South Side Homes, Strong Apartments, the Plaza Presbyterian Church and the Plaza Methodist Church.
Hot meals are delivered to the homes of elderly people

who are unable to receive meals at the Centers.
Funding for the program comes from state grants (10 percent) and federal funds (90 percent).
Hearing Set For Preliminary Housing Plans
The Charlotte City Council will hold a public hearing to receive comments on the Preliminary Community Development and Housing Plans for the years 1980, 1981 and 1982. The hearing will be held on Monday, January 22 at 3 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall, 600 East Trade Street. Following the meeting, an application will be prepared to obtain funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the fiscal year 1980.
The Preliminary Plan includes the proposed budget for fiscal year 1980 as well as the Housing Assistance Plan for fiscal years 1980-82. Funds are being requested for physical, human services, relocation and economic development programs.
Persons wishing to speak at the hearing should notify the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, telephone 374-2247 by noon the day of the meeting. Speakers are asked to place their suggestions in writing for the record. Those not able to attend may send their comments to the Director, Community Development Department, Cameron-Brown Building, 301 South McDowell Street, Charlotte, 28204.
The nine Community Development target areas are Grier Heights, North Charlotte, Cherry, Third Ward, West Morehead, First Ward Extension, Southside, Southside Park-Brookhill, Five Points, and West Boulevard.



STUNNING SARAH FRANCES ELLIS
...Likes fashion designing

Sarah Frances Ellis Is Beauty Of Week

Sarah Francis Ellis is our beauty for this week. She is a pleater at Mid-South Industries, a manufacturer of ladies' skirts, specializing in all kinds of pleats. She enjoys her work.
"I've been there about nine months and it's been an experience for me," Sarah commented.
But someday, hopefully in a few years, Sarah wants to venture out to bigger and better things when she gets her finances to add up.
I'm planning on going to modeling school," Sarah said, "in New York City. I choose New York because I've heard that most top paid models are from New York.
It won't be as though Sarah was jumping out on a limb by going to such a populous city as New York City.
"I lived in New York for five

years when I was a teenager," she said. Sarah will be observing her 25th birthday this month. Originally from Charlotte, Sarah and her family moved to New York when her father, a long distance truck driver, was transferred there. Later, they moved back to Charlotte.
Sarah said that people whom she has met has been primarily responsible for helping her to make the decision to become a model.
"Many people tell me I have the qualifications to become a model," she said.
If somehow her plans change, Sarah still intends to be a part of the fashion world.
"I like fashion designing," she said. "I can always dream of something beautiful to put on."
Sarah describes herself as a quiet person who likes to be around people and who likes to party. "I'm also ambitious," she said, "and I'm a little outstanding as a person in that I try to do what is best for me."
Her hobbies include swimming (when the weather permits), sewing, listening to music, being around children, and playing tennis.
The most influential person in Sarah's life has been her boyfriend. "When I first met him, I was very depressed," she said. "He encouraged me to do things to help myself. I can depend on him. My parents have been helpful too."
Sarah is the proud mother of Kalomo, her five-year-old son who goes to Kindergarten at Albemarle Elementary School. "Whenever I'm dressing to go somewhere, he always tell me what looks good and what doesn't," she said. "So I take his opinion."
A 1972 graduate of West Charlotte High School and the youngest of three children, Sarah is the daughter of Samuel and Maggie Ellis.

Blacks Unable To Contain

Their Despair

WASHINGTON, D.C. "If we get no satisfaction at the White House we're going to take our fight to Capital Hill," said M. Carl Holman, president of the National Urban Coalition, on Wednesday, decrying administration plans to combat unemployment.
Holman, speaking on the "Today" show, was one of the Black leaders who met the day before with President Carter for 2½ hours and emerged afterwards complaining of their distress at the president's fight against inflation and warned that they would be unable to "contain" the urban unrest that they said would follow such a decision.
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING the meeting, Vernon Jordan, president of the National Urban League who acted as spokesman for the group, warned that unless largescale job relief for Blacks and the poor was forthcoming, he would be "unable to contain their despair...and their anger."
Holman's remarks on the NBC network show the next morning, however, while just as critical of the President's plans, were more subdued.
"We already have set up a meeting with the Republican leaders," he said, outlining the next move of the Black leaders. "And we hope to meet with the Democrats."
Holman said that while the President told the Black leaders he and his Cabinet members, "including HUD Secretary Patricia Harris Roberts and HEW Secretary Joseph Califano," were sensitive to the problems of the Black leaders, "he also said 'you're not going to like some of the things we do.'"
Holman also revealed that Blacks had asked the President if he was going to cut the defense budget.
"And he did not respond," he said.
"WE ARE in agreement in the fight against inflation," said Holman, "but not on the back of those who least can afford it."
"Some people are already in a recession."
In his statement outside the White House, Jordan has stopped short of predicting violence in the streets if the 15 percent Black unemployment rate is now lowered. For Black youths the rate is 35-40 percent.
Asked if he was forecasting rioting like the wave of destruction which swept major cities 10 years ago, Jordan would only say that his comment "speaks for itself."
Jordan, Holman, and other Black leaders who attended the meeting included: Benjamin Hooks, NAACP executive director, Mrs. Coretta King, and Joseph Lowery of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.
"We are insisting that the President make unemployment twin priority with anti-inflation," Lowery said.
HE ASKED that the President "not make the poor of this country bear the major or inequitable burden" in fighting inflation.
The group asked for increased funds for the poor, for Blacks and the cities.

Mrs. Elizabeth "Libby" Randolph Named "Woman Of The Year"

Mrs. Elizabeth "Libby" Randolph has been named WBT Radio's 1978 Woman of the Year. The announcement was made today by Cullie M. Tarleton, Vice President and General Manager of WBT/WBCY, at the annual award luncheon held at the Charlotte City Club.
Nominated by the Alpha Lambda Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Mrs. Randolph was selected by the former Women of the Year who serve as sole judges for the award. She becomes WBT's 24th Woman of the Year.
Cited for her contributions as an educator and humanitarian, 1978 saw Mrs. Randolph elevated to Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Program Development in the Charlotte - Mecklenburg School System. Guided by her past experience as a teacher, principal and Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Randolph brought to this post an unwavering commitment to qualify education and a genuine concern for the welfare of the student.
These two goals were also central to her 1978 role as national President of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. Mrs. Randolph provided exemplary leadership for this prestigious organization and, in so doing, focused national attention on the achievements of the Charlotte - Mecklenburg Schools.

During the past year, Mrs. Randolph was also a member of the National Association of Administrative Women in 1 Julian Price Place, Charlotte, North Carolina 28208, Phone: 704/374-3720 Education, the Committee for the State Evaluation of Teachers, the Hospital Authority and the Board of Christian Education of First Baptist Church. Additionally, she served as National Parliamentarian for Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Mrs. Randolph's other 1978 honors include the Founder's Graduate Award and the Educator of the Year Award from the local chapter of Phi Delta Kappa.
A native of Raleigh, Mrs. Randolph is a graduate of Shaw University and holds an M.A. from the University of Michigan. She was married to the late John D. Randolph.
WBT's previous woman of the Year Award recipients are: 1955—Mrs. Martha Evans, 1966—Dr. Bon-

nie Cone, 1957—Mrs. J. Z. Watkins, 1958—Mrs. Ernest B. Hunter (deceased), 1959—Mrs. David Wallas 1960—Dr. Elizabeth Corkey, 1961—Mrs. Charles Tillet, 1962—Mrs. Gayle Rogers, 1963—Mrs. L. E. Barnhardt, 1964—Mrs. Ruth Easterling, 1965—Mrs. Luther Kelly, 1966—Mrs. C. T. Wanser, 1967—Mrs. Ernest Franklin (deceased), 1968—Mrs. Carlton Watkins, 1969—Dr. Jonnie McLeod, 1970—Mrs. Edvth Winningham, 1971—Mrs. Jacqueline Hairston, 1972—Mrs. Sarah Bryant, 1973—Mrs. Julia Maulden, 1974—Mrs. Margaret W. Ray, 1975—Mrs. Elizabeth Hair, 1976—Mrs. Kathleen Crosby, 1977—Mrs. Ann D. Thomas.

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Those fortunate enough to escape drowning during the swimming season will now run the risk of skating on thin ice.