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NAACP Sets Spiritual Program

By Eileen Hanson
Special To The Post

The NAACP Women's Auxiliary will hold its second Spiritual Emphasis Program Sunday, Dec. 30, at East Stonewall AME Zion Church, 1729 Griers Grove Rd., at 5:30 p.m.

Kelly M. Alexander, Sr., president of the North Carolina NAACP, will deliver the keynote speech on "Projections for 1980: NAACP Programs."

Rosa B. Davis, NAACP Mother of the Year for N.C., will preside. Other participants will include Mary Clark, Vice President of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Branch; Rev. Thomas W. Samuels, coordinator of the Religious Affairs Committee; Winnie Floyd, President of the Women's Auxiliary; and Rev. James McCoy, pastor of East Stonewall Church. The Youth Choir of Mt. Moriah Primitive Baptist Church will sing.

According to Ms. Clark, the purpose of the Women's Auxiliary is to bring a spiritual enrichment into the NAACP and the NAACP into the churches.

"At our last state conference we decided to go back into the black churches," said Clark. "The NAACP started in the black churches, dedicated to the struggle for equality."

The NAACP is the oldest civil rights organization in the country, started 70 years ago by blacks and whites who were appalled by the great injustices accorded to some because of their race. Author W. E. B. Dubois was its first president.

"We're proud of our organization and what it stands for," said Ms. Clark. "We urge people to get involved in the oldest civil rights organization. The door is open."

Officers for the Women's Auxiliary are Ms. Floyd, President; Ms. Clark, Vice President; Cora Jenkins, Treasurer; and Rita Robinson, Secretary. For information contact 334-0207.

American Diabetes

Local Chapter To

Meet January 24

The Mecklenburg County Chapter of the American Diabetes Association will hold its first general meeting at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, January 24, 1980 in the Eastland Mall Community Room. The meeting is open to everyone interested in diabetes.



ENGAGING PRISCILLA STOWE
...Unique and gifted person

Priscilla Stowe Is Beauty Of Week

By Teresa Burns
Post Staff Writer

Priscilla Stowe is a unique and gifted person. So, for a Christmas present from her sister, she is Charlotte Post's beauty of the week.

As a 16 year-old junior at West Mecklenburg Senior High, Stowe is involved in many activities. The involvement is mainly to keep in contact with people.

"I like to get involved with people. I enjoy being around people," Stowe admitted. To get to know people, according to Stowe, you first have to meet them. And what better way than contributing time to organizations?

By becoming a member of West Mecklenburg's Cheerleading squad and band; reigning as their Homecoming queen; as a member of the Civinettes - an organization of which members must maintain an A or B average; the Project Aries, Red Cross, Pep Club, and the YMCA's Drill Team, Stowe has observed that people are important.

"I feel that I have the ability to help others," Stowe said. And because of her attitude, she is planning to become a lawyer.

She believes she is the person "...to help people who are called guilty without proof. I can show them he's innocent from proven fact, and not just by hearsay."

Stowe feels as a lawyer she can convince others to become involved - no matter what others are saying about the defendant.

Or piques beauty studies, watches television, and enjoys dancing, cheering and running.

She is also involved in various church activities at Tabernacle Baptist Church. Serving as secretary of the Youth Club, which seeks out lonely individuals, is another facet of Stowe's involvement with people.

In addition, she is a member of the Gospel Choir, Vice President of the Usher Board, and Assistant Secretary to the Youth Missionary.

Stowe, who stands 5'4" 115 pounds, says she's a lot like her mother, who incidentally is her favorite person.

New City Council Faces Great Challenge In 80's

Veterans To Receive Extra Checks

About 2.6 million veterans and survivors who receive compensation payments for service connected disabilities from the Veterans Administration will get an extra check this year in time for some late Christmas shopping.

The special payment will go out because a 9.9 percent compensation increase passed by Congress and signed by President Carter last month was retroactive to October 1. October and November pay was made at the old rates and the extra checks will be to make up the added amount due.

VA said the checks will be mailed in time for delivery the week before Christmas. The regular December payment will come at the end of the month.

The legislation raised compensation for a 10 percent disabled veteran from \$44 monthly to \$48. The rate for a 50 percent disability went from \$232 monthly to \$255 and a veteran with 100 percent disability now receives \$889 monthly, an increase of \$80 over the old rate.

Surviving spouses and certain children of persons who died in service or of service connected causes also got increases under the new pay schedule and will receive the makeup checks.

Higher Interest Rate

The Northwestern Bank today announced that it will increase the interest rate paid on 90 day passbook savings from 5 1/2 percent to 5 3/4 percent.

The new rate will become effective January 1.



UNION SUPPORTERS CELEBRATE

...Election victory at RSM Company

Union Victory

Workers Claim It's "A Beginning Of A Better Life"

By Eileen Hanson
SPECIAL TO THE POST

A union victory at a small Charlotte textile plant last week went almost unnoticed, but the majority of workers claim it is "a beginning towards a better life."

The workers at RSM textile company, 811 Presley Rd., voted to join the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union (ACTWU) by a vote of 51 to 32 in an election supervised by the National Labor Relations Board.

ACTWU is the union organizing J.P. Stevens plants in the Carolinas, a campaign which has focused national attention on the low-wage textile industry in the South. Almost half of North Carolina's work force is engaged in some phase of textile production. The union claims N.C.'s low wages (50th in the nation) are because the textile industry is not unionized.

At RSM, the majority of the workers are black women, traditionally the lowest paid sector of the work force.

"We see the union as a way to get better benefits and regain our seniority," said one employee, who asked not to be identified. "It doesn't matter if you've been here 10 years, you're paid and treated like you just walked in off the street."

She said that blacks will have a better chance for promotions under a union contract. "Now there is only one black supervisor, and some of us (blacks) have been here for 10 years."

Wages at RSM start at

around \$4.00 an hour, slightly below the N.C. textile industry average of \$4.23, but well below the national manufacturing wage of \$6.75 an hour.

Union supporters admit their election victory is just a first step. They will begin benefits, wages and a seniority system. Now the company offers paid insurance and two weeks vacation, but no pension plan or sick leave.

ACTWU recently won elections at J.P. Stevens plants in High Point (N.C.) and Allendale (S.C.). The union is still trying to secure a contract at the Stevens plants in Roanoke Rapids where the union won an election in 1974.

Elderly To Get Help In

Applying For Food Stamps

WASHINGTON--Elderly and disabled people could apply for food stamps at

the same time they apply for supplemental security income benefits under rules proposed recently by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Under the USDA proposal, the Social Security Administration, which administers supplemental security benefits, would also accept food stamp applications. People could apply for food stamps simultaneously if everyone in the household is applying for or receiving supplemental security benefits, and no one is already receiving food stamps.

The proposal, which implements a provision of the 1977 Food Stamp Act, could take effect as soon as next summer.

Currently, those who receive supplemental security income must go to a different location to apply for stamps.

"This has placed a real burden on people who are elderly or disabled," said Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Carol Tucker Foreman.

Vote Task Force Honors Fifty

By Eileen Hanson
Special To The Post

Volunteers are the key to any political campaign. However, when the Vote Task Force honored over 50 volunteers Dec. 19 at a reception at the Chaparel, it wasn't claiming a victory for any candidates or political party.

The victory celebrated was the registration of 2200 new black voters in Charlotte due to the efforts of the Task Force and volunteers prior to the 1979 City Council elections.

"We wanted to show our appreciation," said Task Force chairman, Sam Reid. Without them (volunteers) we couldn't have carried out the campaign."

The Vote Task Force is a non-partisan organization devoted to registration and education, especially

among Charlotte's black eligible voters. The Task Force worked with local churches and community organizations, WGIV and WAYS, The Charlotte Post and other media to publicize the importance of voting and to get voters to the polls.

"We proved that through organization and commitment we can get the black community registered and voting," said Reid. "We also need attractive candidates," he added.

Awarded certificates of appreciation were: Ella Talley, Ron Leeper, Deane Maxwell, Vivian Hicks, Eleanor Pettis, Jim Black, Bob Walton, Rev. Howard Campbell, Rebecca Taylor, Rev. James Palmer, Mary Clark, Freddie De Walt, Erlene Watson, Bette Harris, Sara Harris, Lucille McNeil, James El-



Ron Leeper

...District 3 councilman

lis and Bob Davis.

Also honored were Elizabeth Crawley, Spencer Thompson, Charlie Dannelly, Phyllis Lynch, Harry Gantt, Earnest Grier, George Free, Scottie Hendricks, Rev. Preston Pendergrass, Rev. Paul Drummond, Rev. J. B. Humphrey, Rev. Clyde Owens, Marnite Shuford, Sarah Coleman, Don Baker and Walter Dillard.

Also receiving certi-

Housing Tops List Of Issues

By Eileen Hanson
Special To The Post

Housing, transportation and city growth top the list of issues facing Charlotte in 1980. According to three City Council members interviewed this week by The Charlotte Post - Ron Leeper (Dist. 3), Charlie Dannelly (Dist. 2) and Don Carroll (Dist. 1) - these will be the greatest challenges before Council in the New Year.

"The decision on the future of scattered site public housing will be one of the biggest decisions," said Leeper. "We are at a crucial point now on the location of public housing in southeast Charlotte. How the Council goes on this issue will indicate the direction for Council in the next two years."

Dannelly feels the Council is committed to scattered site housing throughout the city. "The biggest shortage of housing is among the poor," he said. "We should act now while federal money is available." (The cost of construction of public housing is shared between federal and local governments.)

Dannelly also sees Council assisting the development of private sector housing by extending new water lines and roads in areas that need development, such as the UNCC area.

Increasing the supply of decent, affordable housing is also top priority on Carroll's New Year's list. Two programs are already underway in his district. In the Greenville area 100 new homes are underway through a program where the city sold lots for \$1 each to encourage development.

In the Cherry area, the local community organization is involved in a renovation campaign to keep its neighborhood. "I'm very pleased with Cherry," said Carroll. "It's the most innovative thing that's happened in community organization. Cherry will survive."

All three councilmen agree that public transportation will be a hot item in Council in 1980.

"We have to make buses more convenient and reliable," said Dannelly. "We have to ensure they will get people there on time." He advocates new and better routes, more buses, improving the street system, and possibly lowering fares to encourage ridership.

The theme of "balanced" See CITY on page 2

TURTLE-TALK



A NARROW MIND and a WIDE MOUTH often go together.