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SONTELLA STRICKLAND

...A bright angel

Little Sontella Strickland

Is "Beauty of The Week"

By Teresa Simmons
Post Managing Editor
With Halloween creeping up this weekend it's nice to know that we have a bright angel to shoo away all those ghosts and goblins once the night has come to a close.

Sontella Strickland, six year old daughter of Carolyn and Bobby Strickland, is just what the treaters ordered for the event.

Ms. Strickland is a first grader at Chantilly Elementary School. "So far I like school. It's fine," reported our beauty. During kindergarten she received all "very goods" on her report card, the highest grade possible.

According to her mother, "She's a very good student, she loves to read and ask a lot of questions. She's curious about everything."

Miss Strickland has one big sister, LeTonia, 11 years old, whom she enjoys playing and conversing with.

She also enjoys reading stories about other little girls and little boys and dancing. "I take dancing lessons at Miss Donna's School of Dancing," she shared proudly. Jazz, tap and ballet are among her specialties. She especially enjoys dancing to the tunes of the creative group Cameo.

As far as television is concerned Miss Strickland views "Diff'rent Strokes" because of the star of the program, Arnold. "I think he's very funny," she smiled.

She also looks forward to performing herself, this time in the Junior Choir at

her church, Second Calvary Baptist Church, where Rev. Dr. Lemar Foster is pastor.

But most of all Miss Strickland is awaiting patiently for the day when she can be of assistance to other people, especially children. "My ambition is to become a teacher. I like helping children and I like

to learn too."

Miss Strickland has learned much from her mother who happens to be the person she admires. "She does everything for me," she explained. She also has much love for her family including her grandparents, Arthur and Clarence Strickland and Burben and Eva Burris.

How To Apply For Heating Bill Assistance?

The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program is headquartered in Charlotte at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council, 501 E. Morehead Street.

You may apply at the council from 8 a.m. until 8:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday; Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.; and on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Other sites to apply for the Low-Income Energy Assistance are as follows:

Amay James Neighborhood Center—8 a.m. until 4 p.m.; Belmont Regional Center—8 a.m. until 4 p.m.; and Gethsemane AME Zion Church—8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The following sites will only take applications from October 25 until November 5: Davidson Community Center—8 a.m. until 5 p.m.; Pineville Town Hall—8 a.m. until 5 p.m.; Matthews Help Center—8 a.m. until 5 p.m.; Cornelius Town Hall—8 a.m. until 5 p.m.; Huntersville Town Hall—8 a.m. until 5 p.m.; Metro-olina Native American Association—8 a.m. until 4 p.m.; and the Mint Hill Town Hall—8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

To help with heating bills, the Division of Social Services will make a one-time payment in February to all households who apply and are found eligible for the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program. If you want to apply for a payment, contact the Charlotte

Mecklenburg Youth Council between October 18 and December 10th.

This is not a first-come, first-serve program. If you apply any time between October 18 and December 10 and meet the eligibility requirements, you will receive a payment. If you are shut-in, elderly or handicapped, you may send someone else to apply for you or you can call the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council and request that an application be taken in your home.

For more information call 334-3035 or 333-5241.

Jim Polk Says:

"Close Race Is Getting Closer"

By Karen Parker
Post Staff Writer
James (Jim) Polk, candidate for N.C. State Senate, described the upcoming Mecklenburg County election as a "close race that's getting closer."

Being a newcomer to the craft of state politics makes one anxious when the election is just five days away. However incumbents have expressed similar feelings.

Polk, a native Charlottean has been a community go-getter for several years which provides him with expertise in a wide variety of political concerns. One of those affairs that has made Polk's campaign strong and effective is his business background.

Listing a few of his credentials, Polk is the immediate past president of Charlotte Business League, board member of Greater

One Of Five Blacks Are Without Jobs

Recently released figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics reveal that one of every five Blacks are without jobs and seeking employment as figures for all Americans rose above the 10 percent mark for the first time in decades.

The Department of Labor reported that the unemployment rate for Blacks was 20.2 percent in September, while 48.5 percent of Black teenagers were jobless. National figures also disclosed that 10.1 percent of the United States labor force was unemployed (seasonally adjusted statistics), the first time unemployment has scaled the 10 percent mark since the Great Depression years.

The bad news came amid a furor on Wall Street that resulted in the busiest trading day in history as the Dow Jones average took a second consecutive giant surge of over 21 points. Wall Street analysts attributed the activity to the possibility of falling interest rates. The prime rate now stands at 13 percent at most commercial banks, but further drops were anticipated due to mounting pressure on the Federal Reserve Bank.

Now the question remains: Will consumers follow the enthusiasm of Wall Street, or rather, are they able to?

For Blacks, the situation has sunk deeper into a depressed crisis. Unemployment for Blacks was already a disastrous 18.5 percent in August. Now at 20.2 percent, 19.8 percent of Black males over 20 are out of work and looking for jobs while 15.7 percent of Black women are unemployed.



MISS ETHEL GUEST

...Instructing Miss Stroud's youth

In Assisting Miss Stroud

Ms. Ethel Guest Is Heaven-Sent

More than 20 years ago, Anita Stroud, who has loved and taught generations of children in the Fairview Homes area, was given a trailer in which to hold her activities. But she knew more space would mean more children. She prayed for help.

At about that same time, Ethel Guest, a Charlotte art teacher, decided she wanted to work with the women she had only met through media accounts. On the day of the trailer's dedication, Miss Guest asked Miss Stroud if she could help.

"Did the good Lord send you?" Miss Stroud asked.

It seems Miss Guest was indeed Heaven-sent. For she has been there to assume more and more responsibility as Miss Stroud's health failed.

Now that Miss Stroud is a resident of Wesley Nursing Center, Miss Guest continues to open the trailer for Tuesday and Thursday sessions on reading, arts and crafts, Bible study and other activities.

Not only do these sessions provide practical learning, it develops the children emotionally as well, she stated.

"Working with them helps them to develop a better self-image, which they sorely need," she said. "It also motivates them to do well and to have a sense of belonging."

Miss Guest, who recently retired after 31 years of teaching art, is a professional artist having held numerous one-person shows and exhibited nationally and internationally.

She has also been honored for her community service. Most recently, she received the 1982 Governor James B. Hunt Volunteer Award for Individual Human Service in Mecklenburg County. She also received the 1982 human service award in the "Nine Who Care" awards presentation, sponsored by the Voluntary Care Center and WSOC-TV.

But her greatest reward is the continuation of the

camp and storyhour programs she worked closely with Miss Stroud to develop. And, like Miss Stroud, she knows that she can't do it alone.

To help raise money for the children's activities, Miss Guest has compiled a book of poetry and drawings by summer camp participants. "Golden Fruit From Little Black Seed" is on sale in most local bookstores. All money from the sale of the book will go to The Anita Stroud Foundation.

In addition to raising money, Miss Guest is hoping the book "would make the public more aware of our existence, what we're trying to do and what our goals are."

She is also hoping to attract more volunteers—people willing to commit time to do one aspect of the program such as to teach reading.

This mission, which has survived four decades, will not die now, she stresses. "The need is just too great."

Democrats To

Celebrate Election

Night

An Election Night celebration will be held at the State Democratic Party headquarters, Goodwin House, 220 Hillsborough St. Returns will be posted at headquarters. Democratic candidates for both Wake County and Congressional offices will be awaiting returns at the headquarters.

Don't Forget To

Turn Your Clock

Back Saturday Night

Halloween is Sunday, so you'll be tricked enough without playing one on yourself. Eastern Standard Time officially rolls around before the crack of dawn on Sunday. Be sure to turn your clocks back one hour by 2 a.m. October 31 and enjoy the extra hour of sleep.

Culp Says Only 40% Will Vote

By Karen Parker
Post Staff Writer
"I Should've Voted."

This is what a political commercial predicts registered voters will say after failing to vote Tuesday if a candidate other than their choice wins. Only 40 percent of registered voters are expected to come out to polls next week, according to Bill Culp, Supervisor of Elections. This represents four percent less voters than in 1978. The number is also considerably lighter than in 1980.

Culp explained the absence of national races is one reason this year's voters seem lackadaisical. Mecklenburg County elections are also devoid of issues like ERA which stir interest and bring voters practically running to the polls.

The hottest issues on this year's ballot are the Mint Museum Bond and the County District question. A "yes" vote for the Mint Museum favors the City of Charlotte to spend not more than \$3.5 million on the Mint Museum of Art. An affirmative vote on the County-District question will allow county voters to elect three members and each qualified voter to also elect four members from his or her respective district. This will increase the number of commissioners from five to seven.

While the overall turnout of voters is expected to be dismal, the casting of votes in black communities will probably be outstanding. There are some strong black candidates in the black precincts this year," Culp guaranteed.

He is speaking of James K. Polk, State Senator; Phillip Berry, State House of Representatives; James Richardson also for the State House, and Robert Walton for County Commissioner.

First, the newcomers: Polk is believed to have a stupendous business background, Berry reportedly is striking in education and Richardson is strong in the area of social services. Each of these political newcomers has strong records of service not only in the black communities but throughout Charlotte.

Other democratic candidates include Cecil Jenkins, Craig Lawing and Benjamin Tison. A Concord lawyer, Jenkins is seeking his third senate term. Lawing, the president pro-tem of the Senate claims he is seeking his fourth and last term; while Tison has decided to run for the senate after 10 years in the House.

Republican candidates for the Senate include Thomas Ghent and Kenneth Harris. Joining Richardson and See BILL Page 15

TURTLE-TALK



Examine what is said, not him who speaks.

ELECTION '82

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