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Post's 1983

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Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Gregory, left, watch David Waymer of the Agricultural Extension Service, and Kenny Garrett of 4H weatherize their home. (Photo By Teresa Simmons)

Saga Of Poverty

Wheels Of Justice Turn Slowly For Charlie Gregorlys

By Teresa Simmons
Post Managing Editor
There is no water in the house. There hasn't been for three years. The heat is defunct except for one, small electric heater in the living room. At least one of the seven insurance policies purchased by 70-year-old Sadie and 82-year-old Charlie Gregory is absolutely unnecessary.

This is the beginning of a three-part series of the saga of poverty - the sad existence of Sadie and Charlie Gregory. All is not lost for the couple however. People like David Waymer of the Agricultural Extension Service and Paul Jenkins of the Information and Referral Service have already looked into obtaining an oil heater for the Gregory home on Plank Rd. A Financial Planner from the Family Housing Service has already advised the Gregorlys on their insurance policy situation. These issues will be discussed in further detail in the next articles.

The pressing matter of no water within the home seems to be the most disheartening. It's a possibility that the funds for a new well won't be available until the end of 1984.

The story behind the Gregorlys' caved-in well is long and rather complicated. It all started about three years ago when Hickory Sand company blasted around the property of the Gregorlys. Elizabeth Gregory, the Wilks and several others. The well for the Mecklenburg Roofing Company was also either damaged or completely demolished. The roofing company dug another well but still filed suit against Hickory Sand

First in series

Company who, according to Attorney Rex Morgan, claim they did no damage to the wells.

"The wheels of justice turn slowly," Attorney Morgan suggested. Morgan, who represented the roofing company, continued, "We have attached the Gregorlys on in sympathy. They are struggling and they have to haul their water. The evidence is that all the wells in that area went dry at the same time."

"I'm pretty optimistic, but I'm worried about getting enough in the settlement for a new well for the Gregorlys. Their well was pretty old and under the law the defendant is only liable for what the old well is worth. We have asked for \$3,500. That's about how much it will cost to dig a new well."

"There's nothing I can do. The Gregorlys didn't have home owners insurance. They would have to spend the money now and be reimbursed. This case was filed late in 1982. We were number 12,000th on the case file. The court date has been set for the latter part of next year. This says something about the need for court bonds," Morgan continued.

"I wish that I could just snap my fingers and they'd have a well, but you have to put in a law suit and wait your turn," Morgan stated.

"The wheels of justice turn slowly..." So during the past three years Mr. and Mrs. Gregory contracted Mr. McGee to dig a well. "He came out two times to dig and I paid him. But he said he couldn't find any water," Mrs. Gregory commented.

Jeryl Anderson of the Family Housing Service has aided the couple in a number of ways. But in the situation of the water: "I can't really say that we will or will not be able to help until I know more facts. We really don't have the money to help the Gregorlys build a new well. It would probably be up to the Agricultural Extension Service."

Paul Jenkins of the Information and Referral Service contacted Legal Services for the Gregorlys.

There wasn't too much they could do since the Gregorlys were already represented by Rex Morgan and since the case is already on file, Jenkins explained. "But they did refer me to councilman Ron Leeper. They said that he cares in situations like this one," Jenkins stated.

David Waymer of the Agricultural Extension Service has weatherized the home of the Gregorlys but this week he was out of town, thus unavailable for comment concerning the Gregorlys' deleted water situation.

It seems that the only ray of sunshine or more appropriately the only sprinkle of water for the Gregorlys may lie on the shoulders of David Waymer, and the Agricultural Extension Service - at least until the court case is settled.

Perhaps the Gregorlys' church family of St. Paul Community Missionary Baptist Church, pastored by Rev. Robert Young, will find a way to help the Gregorlys with their plight.

Women Dominate New Council

By Karen Parker
Post Staff Writer
In the past Charlotte's government has been composed of a white mayor, a city council with few or no women, and a Democratic majority.

But the tides have turned and as of December 6, 1983 Charlotte will operate under the "new government." The mayor will be black and the city council will have female and Republican majorities. Tuesday's election put Mayor Pro tem Harvey Gantt in the mayor's seat; while two women at-large and four women of district representation filled the city council positions. Five men will serve on the Council.

Though black candidates Bob Davis and Willie Stratford didn't win in the at-large council election, both ranked number one in some precincts. Davis dominated in Districts 2 and 3, while Stratford was the most forceful in District 1.

Incumbent Minette Trosch received the high-

Dr. Albright Appointed To CBA Panel

Johnson C. Smith University President Dr. Robert L. Albright has been appointed as a member of the Advisory Panel of Minority Concerns for the year term was extended by College Board President George H. Hanford, effective October 25, 1983.

The College Board is a nonprofit educational association of over 2,500 member colleges, universities, high schools and educational associations and agencies. The College Board sponsors a number of nationwide guidance programs that aid over four million potential students of higher education per year. The Board administers the SAT college entrance test as well as Test on Standard English, tests to determine accelerated abilities and multiple assessment programs and services. Other projects include Adult Learning Services and credit programs for life experience (independent studies, military or job performance credits toward degree work). The College Board is also involved in research projects concerning contemporary education and related issues such as the Educational Equality Project (an analysis study of the current state of secondary education and recommendations for corrections).

"I view the appointment as a great opportunity to express minority education concerns on a national level," remarked Dr. Albright.



Ron Leeper, winner of District 3 in the Tuesday, November 8 election, chats with Cornell Geiger (left) and Kenneth Sifford (right) about the upcoming election. (Photo By Bernard Reeves)

James Soukup collected 2,030. Velva Woolen outscored Evan Webster, 8,567 to 6,659. In the final District election Paul Juneau won District 7, 8,814 over Nell Fisher 4,419. Laura Frech in District 4 and Ann Hammond in District 5 are automatically Council members since they had no opponents.

Commenting about his win in District 2, Dannelly stated how grateful he was



LOVELY VERNESTLE COLLINS

...Popular cosmetologist

Vernestle Ann Collins Is "Beauty Of The Week"

By Teresa Simmons
Post Managing Editor

Very few people can admit that their hobby is their profession. Usually the two are as far apart as east and west.

For our beauty Vernestle Ann Collins her profession as a cosmetologist is a goal achieved. She graduated from the Southeastern Beauty College in 1982 and is now working at La-Tanya's Beauty Center on

Beatties Ford Rd.

"My ambition is to someday own my own salon and further my studies in the field of beauty," Ms. Collins stated.

To add to her knowledge Ms. Collins has attended several workshops and hair shows. The gift of making others beautiful is something that comes naturally for our beauty. Her ambition for perfection only enhances her creative

talents.

"I love anything that deals with beauty," Collins injected. "I love cosmetology and the concept of making one more beautiful. The advantage of this profession is that you can set your own hours to work."

Born under the Scorpio sign Ms. Collins considers herself conservative but "not too old-fashioned." She most admires her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Collins. "They have helped me through many trials in my life," stated our beauty.

Ms. Collins' life is filled with love. She has three brothers, one sister and a daughter, Jantelle.

Work and family ties fill much of her time but there is one activity she can't ignore. Ms. Collins attends St. Paul Baptist Church and is a member of the Broadcast Committee and attends Sunday School.

Entertainment in our beauty's life stems from the music of David Bowie and the episodes of soap operas. "I like All My Children. Soap operas can tell you how life is; they are suspenseful."

If Ms. Collins could make a serious change in our nation it would be a political one. "I'd make a change with our government. During the presidential elections there would have to be another president elected, one who is sure of himself, instead of acting and performing, one who can help the United States."

Ms. Collins is still optimistic with intentions to "...always look ahead. If you have faith there will always be a better future."

Gantt Pulls 41 Percent White Vote

By Karen Parker
Post Staff Writer

"I'm excited, I'm happy; I'm proud of Charlotte; I'm proud of my supporters, and I'm especially proud of the black community!"

Those were the words of Harvey Gantt who was elected mayor of Charlotte Tuesday. Pulling 92 percent of the votes in the 17 predominantly black precincts and 41 percent in the predominantly white precincts, Gantt will probably go down in local and national history.

Locally, he is the first black to fulfill the mayor's seat. Nationally, political analysts indicate Gantt is the first black in any mayoral race to receive more than 20 percent of the white population's vote. "It's happened nowhere in the country," stated political analyst Dr. Ted Arrington.

Presenting a few reasons for the results of the election, analysts pointed out Republican candidate Ed Peacock didn't have the right combination of issues. Every technique he used to get at Gantt, failed," stated the analyst. "Peacock's campaign just wasn't effective." On the other hand, Gantt was described as a good organized campaigner.

The record 32 percent turnout was immense," Arrington mentioned. He believes the issues had little to do with the more than 83,000 people who flocked to the polls right until the last minute to vote Tuesday. "The issues didn't make the election exciting; it was that there was a black candidate," he added.

However, when Gantt was mayoral candidate against opposing present Mayor Eddie Knox, the black-white situation was the same. Nevertheless, 52 percent of the city didn't come to the polls.

Gantt received 43,569 votes. Peacock received 39,536. "I expected the race to be close, but not as close as it was," Harvey stated with enthusiasm.

Free Seminar

A free seminar will be offered at WomanReach called The Critical Ingredient in the Formula. For Starting Your Own Business, facilitated by Carole B. Ricks, held at the WomanReach office, 1009 E. Blvd., Thursday, November 17.

For more information and to register, call a WomanReach peer counselor, 334-3614, weekdays from 10-4 p.m.

Everything is free at WomanReach, a United Way Agency.

TURTLE-TALK



Driving one thought home is a good deal better than letting three die on the road.