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Mrs. Gray

THE CHARLOTTE POST

"The Voice Of The Black Community"

THE CHARLOTTE POST - Thursday, December 13, 1984

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Duke Initiates Program For Heart Transplants

By Cathy Macek
Duke Medical Center
Durham -- Duke University
Medical Center is initiating a heart
transplant program, it was
announced by medical center
officials recently. The program is
the first in North Carolina.
"We are pleased to expand the
range of treatment at Duke in this
important area," said Dr. William
G. Anlyan, chancellor for health
affairs. "The medical center staff is
to be congratulated for the hard
work required to put a heart trans-
plant program into place."
According to Dr. Andrew Wallace,
the program represents a
milestone in health care for North
Carolinians. Wallace is vice
chancellor for health affairs and
chief executive officer of Duke
University Hospital.

fection are our two greatest
concerns following transplanta-
tion."
Wechsler predicted that
eventually as many as 25 heart
transplants could be performed at
Duke each year. "As is the case with
all other transplant programs, our
biggest limitation will be the
shortage of donor hearts."
Duke is part of the Southeastern
Organ Procurement Foundation
(SEOPF) which coordinates organ
donation for the 42 transplant
centers on the east coast. Because
donor hearts can remain outside the
body only for a maximum of four
hours, the search for donor hearts is
limited to a range of 600-800 miles.

Governor Hunt Proclaims DUI Awareness Week

Raleigh -- Governor James B. Hunt
Jr., coordinating with a national
proclamation passed by Congress,
has declared the week of December
9-15 as Drunk and Drugged Driving
Awareness Week in North Carolina.
Citing the Christmas-New Year's
holiday period as a particularly
dangerous time on the nation's
highways, he reminded North
Carolinians that between 45 and 55
percent of fatally injured drivers
have alcohol concentrations in their
blood above the legal limit. "In-
creased public knowledge about the
gravity of the problem of drunk and
drugged driving may convince
alcohol and drug users to refrain
from driving while impaired," he
stated in his proclamation.
Governor Hunt also reminded citi-
zens that safety belts and child
safety seats "are our best defense
against all the hazards of the road."

Jobs Program

An on-the-job training project,
sponsored by the Association of
Retarded Citizens, will provide
partial reimbursement to em-
ployers who hire able mentally
handicapped workers. Occupational
areas where retarded persons are
ready to work include: food ser-
vice, maintenance-housekeeping,
assembly, packaging, janitorial
service, warehousing stock clerk,
laundry worker and printing press
operator. For more information, call
Sabrena Johnson, project coordi-
nator, at 372-3434.

Big Brothers, Big Sisters Seek Volunteers

By Teresa Simmons
Post Managing Editor
If you promised yourself a while
back that you would help someone
and you never did -- remember, it is
never too late to make your word
good.
Even if you've never thought of
submitting your time, and more
importantly yourself, to an unselfish
cause, this may be the opportunity
for you.
The organization is Big Brothers-
Big Sisters, a division of United
Family Services with executive
director Edward Nadelman and
Division Director Robert Woodall.
The service organized a Task Force
several months ago asking members
to aid in enhancing community
knowledge about the Big Brothers-
Big Sisters' objectives.

Last week The Post featured three
young gentlemen ranging in ages
from eight to 12. This week we
feature two others who have also
been waiting approximately one
year for Big Brothers.
Perhaps your church will be one of
several that received literature
concerning the need, especially for
black Big Brothers or Sisters. Sixty-



Loretta Leary
.....CMS consultant

Leary Has Strong Character And Steadfast Determination

By Jalyne Strong
Post Staff Writer
Loretta Leary's delicate and
pretty features enhance this woman
who is of strong character and
steadfast determination.
Leary is an accomplished young
woman, possessing a B.S. in nursing
from Winston-Salem State Univer-
sity and a master's in community
education from Appalachian State
University. She's been honored as an
"Outstanding Young Woman of
America" in 1982-83. She is certified
in CPR and First Aid and is cur-
rently employed as a public health
nurse in the school program of the
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Health De-
partment.
Her job, Leary explains, is a
highly responsible position. She is
accountable for the health and wel-
fare of the many children who attend
the eight schools assigned to her
within the school system.
"I am a coordinator and con-
sultant for school health programs
in grades K-12," relates Leary. But
this simple statement does not come
close to describing the magnitude of
her job. As Leary talks on she lists in
more detail the extent of the posi-
tion which involves re-screening of
all school children in her jurisdic-
tion for dental, blood pressure,
vision and curvature of the spine

plus making referrals for audiolo-
gists and speech therapists. She also
maintains accurate, up-to-date files
of all the children's immuniza-
tion records; she counsels and
teaches children and teachers on
health matters and she must stay on
top of any special health problems
any individual child may have,
determining that the teacher and
principal involved are aware of the
child's needs and are informed of
what procedure to follow in case of a
health emergency.
Judging from Leary's enthusiasm
when she speaks of one aspect of her
job, one can tell this is an area she
is particularly concerned about. It is
the responsibility of obtaining for
disadvantaged children needed
health care.
"I'll make sure they get the help
they need," assures Leary speaking
of children whose parent(s) may not
be able to afford health services
such as vision care and dental, but
who are eligible for assistance
through school and community
programs. Working within the
school system, along with the child
and their parent, Leary identifies
the resources open to them.
It is a taxing job with strict and
high standards, involving volumes
of paper work. Yet Leary declares,
See LEARY On Page 10A

Black On Black Homicide Is Mounting Problem

By Jalyne Strong
Post Staff Writer
The city of Charlotte at one time
led the South in the number of
murders committed per 100,000 peo-
ple. The year was 1970, with 105
homicides perpetrated in the city,
Charlotte earned the title of "Mur-
der Capital of the South." The area
newspapers analyzed the murders
that happened that year and came
up with these facts: "Statistics show
that most murders occurred in the
city's poorer, mostly black neigh-
borhoods. And it's usually black
people being murdered by other
black people."



Roger Thompson
.....CPD's ballistics expert

Since 1970, homicides in Charlotte
have decreased. In 1974, 54 Char-
lotteans were murdered. By 1979,
the rate had gradually dropped to 49.
In 1983, reports show 48 recorded
homicides occurred in Charlotte and
the number of murders recorded up
until September of 1984 reveal that
38 slayings have taken place in the
city. The tide of murders in Char-
lotte has subsided, the Queen City is
no longer the "crime capital" but
one fact still rings true: Of the fatal
crimes still happening in this city,
it's usually black people being mur-
dered by other black people.

According to the UCR reports of
the Law Enforcement Center of
Charlotte, the 48 homicides com-
mitted in 1983 involved 31 black
victims and 38 known black offend-
ers. The 38 homicides that occurred
up until September of 1984 involved
30 black victims and 23 known black
offenders.
The majority of these murders
were what has been termed as, "the
typical murder in Charlotte." Typi-
cal being: A black male shoots
another black male with a cheap
handgun following an argument.
This "typical" murder, however,
is not peculiar just to Charlotte. It is
in fact happening with unnerving
regularity across the nation. The
real being what some experts are
defining as, "A National Epidemic --
the leading cause of death among
young black males -- Black On Black
Homicide."
Nationally, outraged black citi-
zens are confronting alarming
statistics such as recorded in the
"Encyclopedia of Crime and Jus-
tice" which says, "Homicide has al-
ways been more common among
blacks and males." And they're
reading such facts in EBONY maga-
zine (August '83) which claims, "In
1980, 42 percent of all homicide
victims were black and 48 percent of
the offenders were black." Also

divulged in this issue of EBONY.
"According to the FBI, the overall
homicide rate of black males is 60
per 100,000, a rate higher than white
males, white females and black
females combined." And the Na-
tional Center for Health Statis-
tics reports, "In 1979 there were
9,000 blacks killed by blacks com-
pared to 11,000 whites murdered, an
alarming statistic since black re-
present only 11 percent of the U.S.
population."
Unfortunately, Charlotte's black
citizens are beginning to recognize
that they are in the thick of this
mounting problem. Charlotte's long
history of violent crimes shows that
continuous black-on-black homicide
is accounting for 60 percent or more
of the murders committed in this
city. (Blacks make up on-third of
Charlotte's population.) As early as
1971, Charlotte newspapers report-
ed, "Police say most of the (mur-
der) victims were Negro and knew
their assailant." And as late as 1982,
the newspapers disclosed, "Officers
have long maintained that most
crimes are committed by blacks
against blacks, reflecting national
trends."
Does that mean that black-on-
black homicide in Charlotte is an
epidemic?
An epidemic is defined as some-
thing that is spreading rapidly
among many individuals in an area.
It is further defined as something
affecting or tending to affect many
individuals within a population.
A 19-year-old black college coed
stated she knew the boy who had
been charged with the murder of a
convenience store clerk killed re-
cently in Charlotte. The boy had
been a classmate of her's, she main-
tained. Two middle-aged black
women discussed how a young man,
who had frequented their neigh-
borhood, had just been found to have
brutally killed his mother, a Char-
lotte school teacher. Two young
black men stood on a corner. "He
didn't have to shoot the brother,"
one exclaimed. They were speaking
of a friend who had been gunned
down in a night club parking lot.
These are all true accounts. All of
these individuals, although they are
not victims, and they weren't par-
ticularly close to the victim, were
affected by the homicide. Many
blacks in Charlotte have similarly
been affected by a murder that has
occurred in this city. The point is,
black-on-black murder in this city
has touched each black citizen in
some way. It had definitely reached
epidemic proportions.
"The killing has got to stop,"
declares black citizens on the national
level. Persons such as Dr. James
Ralph, a black psychiatrist and chief
of the National Institute of Mental
Health's Center of Minority Group
See BLACK On Page 5A

TURTLE-TALK

Have a happy tomorrow - do
today's work today.



Larry Daniel
.. 11 years old



Michael Daniel
.. Seven years old

seven percent of these children are
black and 84 are boys.
Michael and Larry Daniel are
brothers. The sons of Dorothy Daniel
are seven and 11, respectively.
Michael loves baseball and plays
the game rather well. "I enjoy
playing football," Michael began. "I
also enjoy movies -- my favorite one
is "Raiders of the Lost Ark." When I

go to the movies I also enjoy eating
popcorn and drinking soda.
"I'd like a Big Brother who will
teach me how to read some of the
words in my books," Michael con-
tinued. "I'd also like to play with my
Big Brother." Michael plans on
becoming a professional baseball
player.
Larry, Michael's older brother, is

11. Both young men attend Wilson
Heights Church of God. Larry partici-
pates in sports and makes B's and
C's on his report card. "I'd like a Big
Brother who is smart and can teach
me about sports, especially soccer
and basketball." Larry is also active
playing sports and enjoys studying
as well.
All it takes is a little of your time --
from three to six hours per week to
share with a young gentleman or
young lady between the ages of
seven and 15. Activities such as
teaching, playing sports, biking,
taking a drive or just talking
doesn't cost a thing but perhaps your
capacity to love. It is also important
that this commitment is made for
at least a year. The children
involved are all from one-parent
homes and need a friend they can
count on.
Also if yours is a one-parent
family with children between the
ages of seven and 15 years of age,
perhaps Big Brothers-Big Sisters
can be of help to you. The staff would
be happy to hear from you.
For more information about Big
Brothers-Big Sisters call 377-3963 or
stop by the office at 301 S. Brevard
St.