

Mural with a message coming to Mission

BY LAYLA FARMER
THE CHRONICLE

After more than four decades as part of the downtown landscape, the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission is getting a new look.

Last week, artists from the Pilot Mountain-based Floyds' Artworks company started work on a massive mural that will span more than 200 feet of wall space on the exterior walls of the Mission's warehouse and thrift store facility on Cherry and 7th streets. The vibrant mural, which is slated to be complete Friday, depicts the work, history and contributions of the Mission, a Christian homeless shelter and ministry that serves over 400 men daily through a variety of programs and services. The project was supported by a grant from the Millennium Fund and in-kind donations from Floyds' Artworks, which is family owned and operated.

Last fall, the Mission consolidated its clothing and furniture thrift stores under one roof at the Oak Street location.

"When we combined our two thrift stores, we knew we needed to update our signage," explained Development Director Mike Foster. "We needed awareness of who we are and what we do."

Foster applied for funding for the new signs from the Millennium Fund and posted an appeal on the organization's Facebook page. He soon connected with Lisa Floyd, an accomplished artist with more than 30 years' experience as a muralist. Together with her husband, Dale Floyd and their children, Julia and Jess, who make up Floyds' Artworks, Lisa Floyd has painted more than 100 murals to date. Initially, Foster simply asked the Floyds to paint a sign that would bring attention to the Mission and direct motorists to its various sites.

"From a business standpoint, we felt like it was a good marketing move," he explained.

The sign alone began to generate a noticeable increase in business at the thrift store, Foster said. When he learned in January that the Mission had been awarded the grant from the Millennium Fund, he wasted no time in again enlisting the Floyds' help. Foster said he is hopeful the mural will help raise awareness in the local community of the accomplishments of residents who come to the Mission to turn their lives around.

"It legitimizes what they're here trying to do," he said. "There's a whole lot more to it than getting a place to stay and three meals a day."



The Floyd family from left: Jess, Dale, Lisa and Julia.

Photos by Layla Farmer

San Francisco-native Lisa Floyd began painting professionally at age 15, at the behest of her father, Robert Fessenden of Sacramento, Calif., who encouraged her to apprentice with a local painter. Since that time, Floyd, now 46, has made her living creating murals and window designs for businesses and non profits all up and down the East Coast.

The Mission's mural will feature storefronts with awnings and architectural elements that mimic the style of the nearby Arts District, and a view of the city's skyline.

"We wanted to extend the Arts District, but also extend the feeling, the atmosphere for the guys (at the Mission) because they walk these streets everyday," Lisa said. "They don't go to the Arts District so I kind of brought it to them, to give them a neighborhood look and feel ... so they can feel like it's their own little area of downtown."

The residents have been very supportive of the project, Lisa said. A few have even helped to paint the mural, something she said the family encourages.

"We wanted them to because it helps them feel like it's theirs," she commented. "They take pride in possession."

Mission resident Mario Trollinger spent much of his day Saturday working along-

side the Floyds.

"I had to do something positive, you know? Get a little blessing here and there," said the 40 year-old Burlington native. "It's something that I really like to do."

Trollinger, the warehouse supervisor at the Mission, said he has always enjoyed painting and he was pleased with the sentiment behind the mural itself.

"I think it shows a positive role for people that are trying to make a change in their life, and the public can get a good view of what the Rescue Mission is all about," he remarked. "I think it's a positive thing that they've established."

Lisa says the company always matches the funds they are given for a project when working with a nonprofit. Being able to help a Christian organization like the Mission makes the project all the more meaningful for her, she added.

"That was my vision from the beginning—we needed to expose what goes on there. It's amazing all they've done and I don't think people have a clue," she stated. "To be able to help God's work at the Mission to go forward and be exposed is awesome. To see lives change—that's what it's all about."

For more information about the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission, visit www.wsrescue.org or call (336) 723-1848. For more information about Floyds' Artworks, find them on Facebook, call (336) 351-2225 or email loydsartworks@gmail.com.

Heart

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to see whether you should take it ASAP or wait to take your next scheduled dose.

- Do not decrease your dose of medication to save money!

- Talk to your doctor before taking any over the counter or herbal remedies, as some of these may interact in harmful ways with your medications.

- Medications that relax constricted blood vessels may cause dizziness. If you experience dizziness when standing or getting out of bed, sit or lie down for a few minutes, then get up slowly.

Procedures

There are many procedures done to treat heart disease, such as angioplasty, bypass surgery, cardioversion, and heart transplant. There are also devices that can be used, such as a pacemaker, a small device that sends electrical impulses to the heart muscle to maintain a correct heart rate and rhythm. There are other procedures and devices that are not described here, so you should always discuss your specific care with your doctor. Below we have defined some of the common procedures, taken from the American Heart Association.

Balloon Angioplasty: A small balloon is threaded through a catheter and inflated to compress fatty tissue around your coronary artery; the balloon can also stretch the artery a bit to increase blood flow to the heart. A stent is a small metal mesh tube that supports the inside of your coronary artery to help keep it open and reduce the risk of further blockage. These are sometimes put in place during the balloon angioplasty. Some stents contain medicine and are designed to reduce the risk of reblockage.

Bypass Surgery creates a new path for blood to flow to the heart when coronary arteries are blocked. During coronary artery bypass graft surgery, a blood vessel is removed or redirected from one area of the body and placed so that it "bypasses" the blockages and restores blood flow to the heart. This vessel is called a graft. These substitute blood vessels can come from your chest, legs, or arms. It's safe to remove grafts from these areas because there are other pathways that take blood to and from those tissues. The surgeon will decide which graft(s) to use depending on the location of your blockage, the amount of blockage, and the size of your coronary arteries.

Cardioversion is a treatment for arrhythmia (heart rhythms that are irregular). During cardioversion, a special machine sends electrical energy to the heart muscle to restore normal rhythm. The procedure restores the normal heart rate and rhythm, allowing the heart to pump more effectively.

Heart Transplant is the replacement of a person's diseased heart with a healthy donor's heart. A heart transplant procedure is considered when heart failure is so severe that it does not respond to all other therapies, but the person's health is otherwise good.

Do you need further information or have questions or comments about this article? Please call toll-free 1-877-530-1824. Or, for more information about the Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity, please visit our website: <http://www.wfubmc.edu/MACHE>.

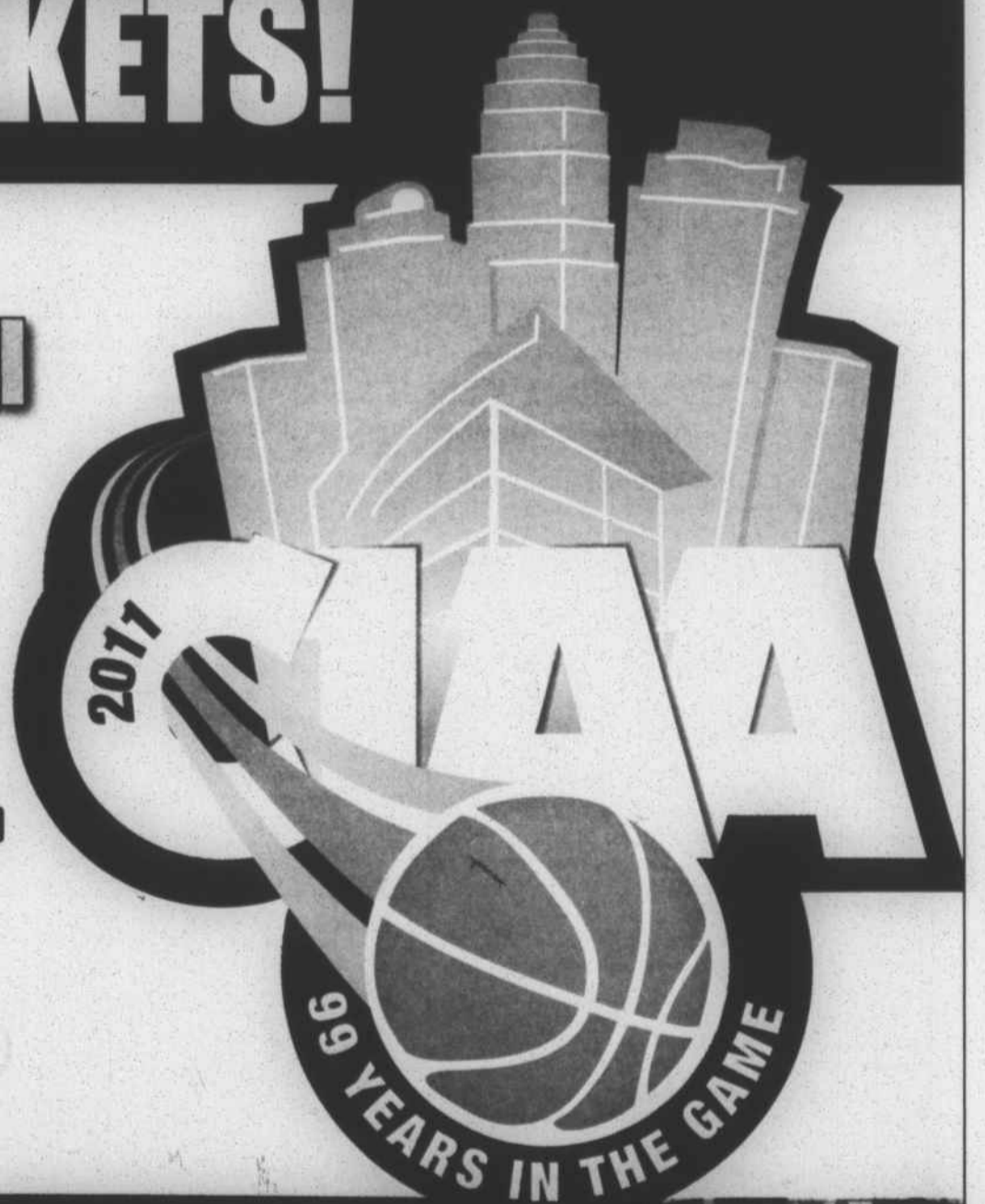
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