

Ms. Shirley Carter

Durham Woman 'Earns' Home From Habitat For Humanity

By Milton Jordan

This week, Ms. Shirley Carter gets something she says she has always wanted: a new house, complete with yard and a sense of security for her two children.

"I'm planning to move in this week," Ms. Carter said during a recent interview. "I'm really looking forward to it because I was raised in a house, and I always wanted by children to have the same advantage."

Ms. Carter's new \$27,000, two-bedroom home at 1001 Angier Ave., is the first of about 15 houses slated to be built over the next three years by the Durham Habitat For Humanity affiliate.

The local groups dedicate this house Saturday.

A second house, next to Ms. Carter's new home, is under construction, and the organization, part of an international housing effort, plans to build and sell five more houses next year.

"Our program is not a giveaway program," explained Perry Bumgardner, a local Habitat For Humanity volunteer. "It is really a joint effort between the organization and the potential homeowner."

Here is how it works. Habitat For Humanity, which began in Durham about two years ago, buys building lots, building materials, and using the services of volunteer laborers, builds houses for people Bumgardner referred to as "the working poor."

The organization then sells the houses to persons who qualify, such as Ms. Carter. Buyers pay no interest.

Ms. Carter, 33, works as an administrative assistant at the Edgemont Community Center and earns less than \$15,000 annually. Before moving this week, Ms. Carter lived in an apartment in Few Gardens for about a year where she pays almost \$300 monthly rent. Few Gardens is a subsidized housing complex in East Durham.

According to Ms. Carter, her monthly payments on her new home will be less than \$160 monthly.

"I couldn't believe it," she said. "Even after I applied for the house, I had no idea that I would get it. But I'm sure glad I did."

People who buy homes from Habitat For Humanity not only pay for the home with the monthly payments for a fixed term, but they also must volunteer sometimes as much as 100 hours in work, either on their home, or another house built by the organization.

"I've just about put in my 100 hours," Ms. Carter said. "It was really interesting. I had never done that kind of work before, but I'm glad I did because I really learned a lot."

Volunteers are the heart of the Habitat program.

According to Ms. Nancy Grady who coordinates

volunteers for the Durham Habitat For Humanity organization, more than 375 people have volunteered more than 400,000 hours this year on Habitat projects.

In addition to the two houses under construction, Habitat also conducted a housing rehabilitation project earlier this year, according to Ms. Grady.

"Our volunteers cover the spectrum," Ms. Grady said. "Many of them come from local churches that have sent work groups to our projects. We also have individuals who have volunteered, as well as civic organizations, and people who have been sent by the courts to complete a sentence of community service."

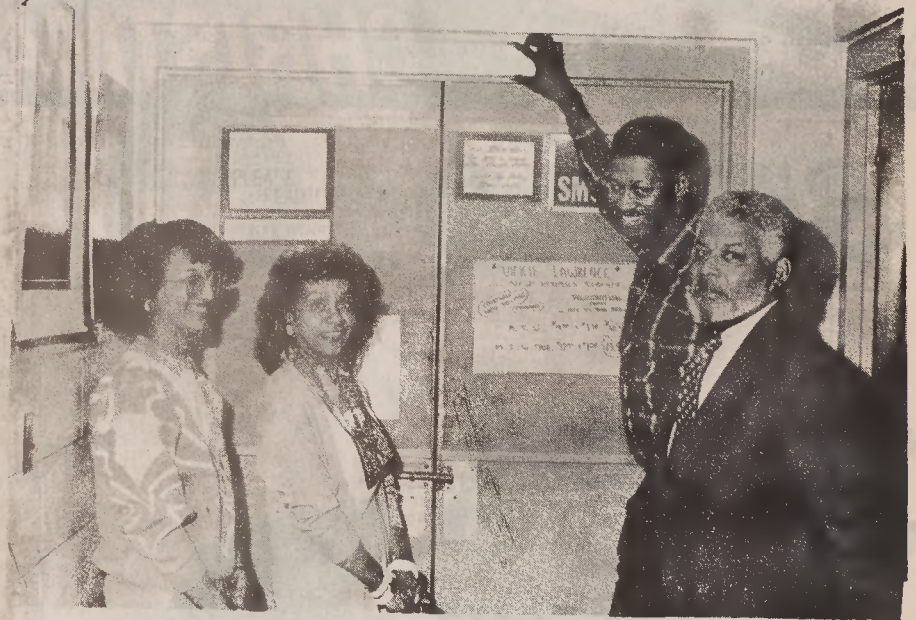
Community service is the principle objective of Habitat For Humanity on an international level.

According to an information fact sheet:

"Habitat For Humanity is an ecumenical Christian housing ministry whose objective is to eliminate poverty housing from the world and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience. By having affluent and poor work together in equal partnership, Habitat hopes to build new relationships and a sense of community as well as new houses."

Internationally, the organization has more than 200 affiliated projects in the United States and

(Continued On Page 2)



W.D. Hill Recreation Center now has a dance studio named after Mrs. M. Kaye Sullivan. Standing in front of the studio is: Ms. DeWanda Dalrymple, Mrs. M. Kaye Sullivan, Bobby Moore, center director, and DeWitt Sullivan. (Photo by Mayfield)

Appreciation And Farewell Ceremony Held For Mrs. M. Kaye Sullivan

An appreciation and farewell ceremony was presented by the City of Durham and the M. Kaye Sullivan Appreciation Day Committee Sat., Dec. 12, in the Alfonso Elder Student Union on the NCCU campus. Mrs. Sullivan and her husband, DeWitt Sullivan, will be leaving Durham at year-end.

Colleagues, family and friends filled the auditorium to pay special tribute to the honoree who was described as a very dedicated, unselfish, creative and productive citizen of the Durham community.

Representing the City of Durham were F.G. Burnett, chairman of the Recreation Advisory Committee, and Mrs. Joan Miller, supervisor of the Durham Parks and Recreation Department, who commended Mrs. Sullivan for her many contributions to the citizens of Durham in the areas of dance, choreography, aerobics and exercise. They formally announced the renaming of the W.D. Hill Recreation Center's Dance Studio to the "M. Kaye Sullivan Dance Studio", effective December 9, 1987, in Mrs. Sullivan's honor.

Mrs. Sullivan was presented by her son, Dwight Sullivan.

The Appreciation Day Committee was co-chaired by Oren Marsh and Mrs. JoAnne Ford-Jones. C. Warren Massenburg was master of ceremonies. Mrs. Jones was given special recognition.

Other members of the supportive committee were Mrs. Virginia Alston, Freddie McNeil, Ms. Wanda Little and Ms. Jean Lassiter.

(Continued On Page 3)

DeWitt Sullivan Retires Moving To Hattiesburg Mississippi

By Milton Jordan

DeWitt Sullivan left his home state of Mississippi more than 30 years ago, and for all that time he has wanted to go back but never could.

Now he's going home. Sullivan, 56, president of Garrett, Sullivan, Davenport, Bowie and Grant, a Durham accounting firm, is retiring from the firm, effective Dec. 31.

"We are leaving the next day for Hattiesburg, Mississippi," Sullivan said during a recent interview. "I want to go home and see what contributions I can make."

Making contributions has become almost second nature for Sullivan who has worked, both professionally and on a voluntary basis with community action,

political and housing organizations.

He is currently a board member or officer with the Low Income Housing Development Corporation of North Carolina, the N.C. Voter Education Project, the Hayti Development Corporation and the N.C. Rural Economic Development Center.

"I really haven't decided what I'm going to do yet," Sullivan said. "I'm going to get my CPA license in Mississippi, but beyond that I don't know. I just feel now is a good time to go home."

For more than 20 years, Sullivan has called Durham home.

He came here from Detroit in 1965 to become controller of the North Carolina Fund.

(Continued On Page 3)



Rev. W. W. Easley, pastor of St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church receives a special recognition award from Mrs. Florine Roberson, president of the local NAACP chapter. St. Joseph's was cited for submitting the largest number of memberships during the November 1987 NAACP Membership Drive.

Christmas Decorations At Governor's Mansion Ready For Viewing

BY JIM WICKER

RALEIGH - A small boy visiting the North Carolina Governor's Mansion, which was opened to the public over the weekend to display Christmas finery, was overheard saying a guide, "Whose house is it?"

"It belongs to everybody in North Carolina. If you live in the state, then it is your house, too," the guide explained.

Built in the late 1880s and early 1900s with prison labor, the imposing, buff-pale brick mansion reflects the Victorian architectural style of its period. Some people call it a "gingerbread" type house.

Even if the state's governors don't call it home, the huge house on Blount Street - within easy walking distance of the Capitol and the Legislative Building - would be a treat. There's an unmistakable sense of history connected with it.

Most of the most powerful men produced by the state in the past

century have dwelled in the big house; it has the special air, or feel, of a place where historically important things have happened, where plans have been made by a man pacing in front of one of the many fireplaces.

But, at the same time, the mansion also has the feel of a home - where governors' wives have been mothers first and First Ladies second on a day-to-day basis. It seems to be a place where youngsters might have struggled with homework, where daughters might have planned weddings, or where sons might have gotten their first cars and headed off to college.

Each year shortly before Christmas, the mansion is opened to the public, to allow a sharing of its Yule decorations. And although it is opened each Spring and Summer for scheduled tours, there's no better or more colorful opportunity to see it than around the Christmas season.

The old mansion does, indeed,

leave its visitors feeling that they've been among a part of the state's heritage and treasure.

This year, the mansion's first floor is decorated with four huge North Carolina grown Christmas trees, including a mammoth 16-foot fir that extends from the polished hardwood floor to the house's ornate ceiling. Its decorations are light golden.

"It took a staff of 21 volunteers seven full days to decorate the mansion this year," explains Betty Deans, personal secretary to First Lady Dottie Martin. And, she adds, the decorating was under the supervision of a man very experienced in decking the halls of a governor's mansion.

Grady Wheeler, who has been decorating Tryon Palace (the restored residence of Royal Gov. William Tryon in New Bern) for several years offered to decorate the Governor's Mansion here this year; he had 20 volunteers helping him and they worked long hours

each day until they finished," Deans said.

Another large and colorful tree, decorated with hand-made trinkets, is located in the rear room of the first floor. It got a lot of attention, and was found to have an assortment of antique toys spread beneath it. Could it, one wondered, have been the kind of Christmas presents the children of some long-gone governor with names such as Hoey or Cherry have found?

At either side of the huge stairway that leads to the governor's private living quarters on the second floor, are small Christmas tree decorations made of colorful crab apples.

In fact, members of the governor's staff explain, the decorations throughout the mansion, and on the big gate leading to the mansion, are made of real fruit - apples, pineapples, pears.

Among the mansion staff members who aided visitors at the mansion over the weekend was Gregory Washington of Robeson County. He is one several blacks who work at the big house.

Since being first occupied by a governor in 1891, the mansion has been redecorated many times over the years and was extensively renovated during the administration of Gov. Jim Holshouser in the early 1970s.

The mansion is not the first state-

(Continued On Page 2)

Hillside Students To Walk Through North Carolina For Kidney Foundation

Twelve Hillside High School student council members will step off at 8 o'clock Monday morning, Dec. 21, on a 290-mile, 12-day walk across North Carolina - from just across the state line in Mecklenburg County, Virginia to the South Carolina border south of Charlotte.

Why? Because they care!

It's all for the benefit of the Kidney Foundation of North Carolina - to raise the public awareness of kidney illnesses, to elicit support for people who need kidney transplants, organ donation, and to raise money for the Kidney Foundation.

Hillside's walkers are: seniors Tonya Robinson, Nathan Burton, Anissa Fields and Patrick Hatch; juniors Charee Wilkins, Cleo Sims, Tony Rosser, Charlita Wilkins and Chris Respass; sophomores Jerel Jenkins and David Edgerton; and freshman Lecci Taylor. These students will be giving up the comforts and pleasures of the holiday vacation to make a contribution to others.

At 8 o'clock on Monday morning, elected officials from both sides of the border, will countdown and ring bells and the students will take their first steps toward their destination.

The North Carolina Association of Educators has adopted this project as one of its major human relations programs for the year. In support of the 12-day walk, teachers in many parts of the state are engaging in a two-mile walk on Saturday, Dec. 19. In addition, service clubs in many high schools and middle schools are conducting fund-raising projects in order to support the walk. Some of these students will join the team as they walk through their home areas.

Months of planning have gone into this project, including long Sunday morning walks to get in shape for the 12-day journey.

The itinerary:

• Day 1, Dec. 21 - Virginia line to Henderson

—Starting Ceremony

—Pass through Wise, Norlina, Ridgeway, Soul City, Manson, Middleburg, and enter Henderson

(Continued On Page 3)