

Chronicle Profile

'I'm a country girl in the city'

By AUDREY L. WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

Remember the warning "Your mouth is going to get you in trouble one day"?

In Twana Wellman's family of talkers, free expression is encouraged. Her husband, Lonnie, had his doubts about her outspokenness until she landed her new job, which prompted him to tell her, "Your mouth finally got you somewhere."

Wellman, 26, is the assistant campaign director for Winston-Salem's United Way office. She chanced upon the position back in February when a United Way employee happened to hear her speak during a function at the Bethel Center, which is a United Way-funded agency. She worked as the center's youth coordinator.

"Because I can speak well publicly," she says, "they (United Way officials) felt my abilities could be used at United Way."

Growing up in the small town of Roxboro, where everybody knew everybody and where a helping hand was only a rock's throw away, Wellman says she watched her mother voice her opinions openly in the church and play an active role in the community. She says she also learned much of her public speaking skills through 4-H and speech classes at her alma mater, Winston-Salem State University.

"I'm a country girl in the city," Wellman says. "I had to adjust to not speaking to people on the street the way you do in Roxboro. You can't do that here because someone may just get the wrong impression."

"But I have brought that hometown girl to Winston-Salem," she says, "and I'm using some of

those same things I learned in Roxboro here. You have to be friendly, aggressive and outgoing. You get that 'I-have-got-to-make-it' thinking in a small town because there's nothing really there."

Going about the business of helping to raise money for United Way means Wellman has to make herself and the organization look polished and precise in front of corporate executives. Her presentations in the board rooms result in whether or not an afterschool center will receive adequate funding or if a senior citizen's life can be enhanced through enrichment programs. It's not easy to carry that burden on her shoulders, she says, yet that small town

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— Twana Wellman

background that's embedded in her mind won't let her fail.

"The world will knock you down sometimes," Wellman says, "but you have to be able to get back up, and meeting with those corporate presidents takes positive thinking and determination, or they'll tear you to shreds."

To add to her confidence, Wellman, a former elementary school teacher, who says she left the classroom behind because of a need to use her resources elsewhere, is an avid reader of self-help and awareness books. The one she says that has helped



Keeping the hometown qualities in the big city has helped Twana Wellman maintain her sense of community (photo by James Parker).

her most is Norman Vincent Peale's "The Power of Positive Thinking."

"Those are high-powered people that I speak to (corporate presidents)," Wellman says. "Before I make presentations, I'll sit in my car, talk to myself, motivate myself and inspire myself."

Much of her inspiration comes from a supportive husband and from her church activities at Carver Road Church of Christ, she says.

Although Wellman has been at United Way only a

brief time, she says she's learning fast and learning more about herself every day as a person, as a mother of a 19-month-old son, Lonnie III, as a wife and as a career-bound black woman who manages to keep all of her life in balance.

"I wear so many different hats," says Wellman. "For one role, I'm the woman executive. At home, it's mother and wife. At church, I'm teacher and inspirationalist, and I love it all."

Ministers' Wives Alliance celebrates 75th anniversary

The Interdenominational Ministers' Wives Alliance recently celebrated its 75th anniversary at First Baptist Church on Highland Avenue.

The theme for the occasion was "Fruits of the Spirit."

Special guest for the celebration was the Mandala Role Players, which included Ms. Lee Hamill, Mrs. Barbara Bennett, Miss Felecia Bennett and Brad Middleton. Using the theme "Family," the players, who were later joined on stage by Mrs. Daisy Montgomery, Mrs. Ivey Nellie McDaniel and the Rev. Konnie Robinson, presented elements needed in dealing with family problems.

Mrs. Mildred Leak opened the program with an Easter medley. Mrs. Marion Butler, president, delivered the greetings and presided over the program. Mrs. Daisy Montgomery read the scripture and delivered the invocation. Mrs. Emmalene H. Goodwin gave the history of the organization and Mrs. Bronnie H. Daniels presented the performers. Mrs. Goodwin also accompanied the wives on the

state Ministers' Wives hymn.

Dr. David Hedgley, interim pastor at First Baptist, gave remarks and closed with the benediction.

Members of the various committees are Mrs. Ivey McDaniel, chairperson of the anniversary committee, along with, Mrs. Evelyn Tyndall, Mrs. Anita Gilliam, Mrs. Emmalene Goodwin, Mrs. Bronnie Daniels, Mrs. Magdaline Samuels, Mrs. Maybelle Hedgley, Mrs. Eloise Smith and Mrs. Mildred Leak.

Members of the hospitality committee are Mrs. Lonnie H. Robinson, chairperson, Mrs. Mary Coleman, Mrs. Mora Williams, Mrs. Eva Cook, Mrs. Mattie Walker, Mrs. Mary Adams, Mrs. Bernice Gwyn, Mrs. Mary Compton, Mrs. Althea Jones, Mrs. Sarah Mendez and Mrs. Esther Collins.

Members of the social committee are Mrs. Magdaline Samuels, chairperson, Mrs. Eloise Smith, Mrs. Mable Moore, Mrs. Clara Anderson, Mrs. Jessie Marie Hodges, Mrs. Daisy Montgomery and Mrs. Fannie Bonham.

Guests and husbands shared refreshments during the fellowship hour.



Armenta Hummings

Hummings to perform Reynolda House concert

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 13, at 8 p.m., Reynolda House Museum of American Art will host a concert with Armenta Hummings on the piano and her son, Amadi, on the viola.

Mrs. Hummings will play works by Bach, Mozart, Brahms and Hank Johnson. Amadi, 14, will play the viola concerto in D. Major, Opus 1, by Stamitz accompanied by Mrs. Hummings.

Armenta Hummings, a native of Cleveland, now of Winston-Salem, is one of the 14 semi-finalists for the Young Keyboard Artists Association 4th Annual In-

ternational Piano Competition and Festival May 21-26. She will play in the artists division at the piano competition at Clavin College Campus, Grand Rapids, Mich., in two weeks.

Mrs. Humming's musical training began at the New England Conservatory in Boston. From there she spent six years at the Juilliard School of Music in New York City on full scholarship. At Juilliard, she studied with pianist Sascha Gorodnitzki and won many honors, including grants from the John Hay Whitney and Martha Baird Rockefeller Foundation.

On Ku Klux Klan

WSSU professor co-authors book

Dr. Lenwood G. Davis, associate history professor at Winston-Salem State University, along with Janet L. Sims-Wood, recently published a book on the Ku Klux Klan titled "The Ku Klux Klan: A Bibliography." The book was published by Greenwood Press of Westport, Conn. According to the authors, this nearly 700-page book is the most comprehensive work ever done on the organization.

Since the Klan was founded in Pulaski, Tenn., in 1866, the Ku Klux Klan has been an ominous presence in American society. Although its popularity has fluctuated, the Klan has never completely disappeared from the American scene. Organized by disgruntled Southern whites who longed to return to the prewar status quo, the early Klan sought through intimidation to prevent black

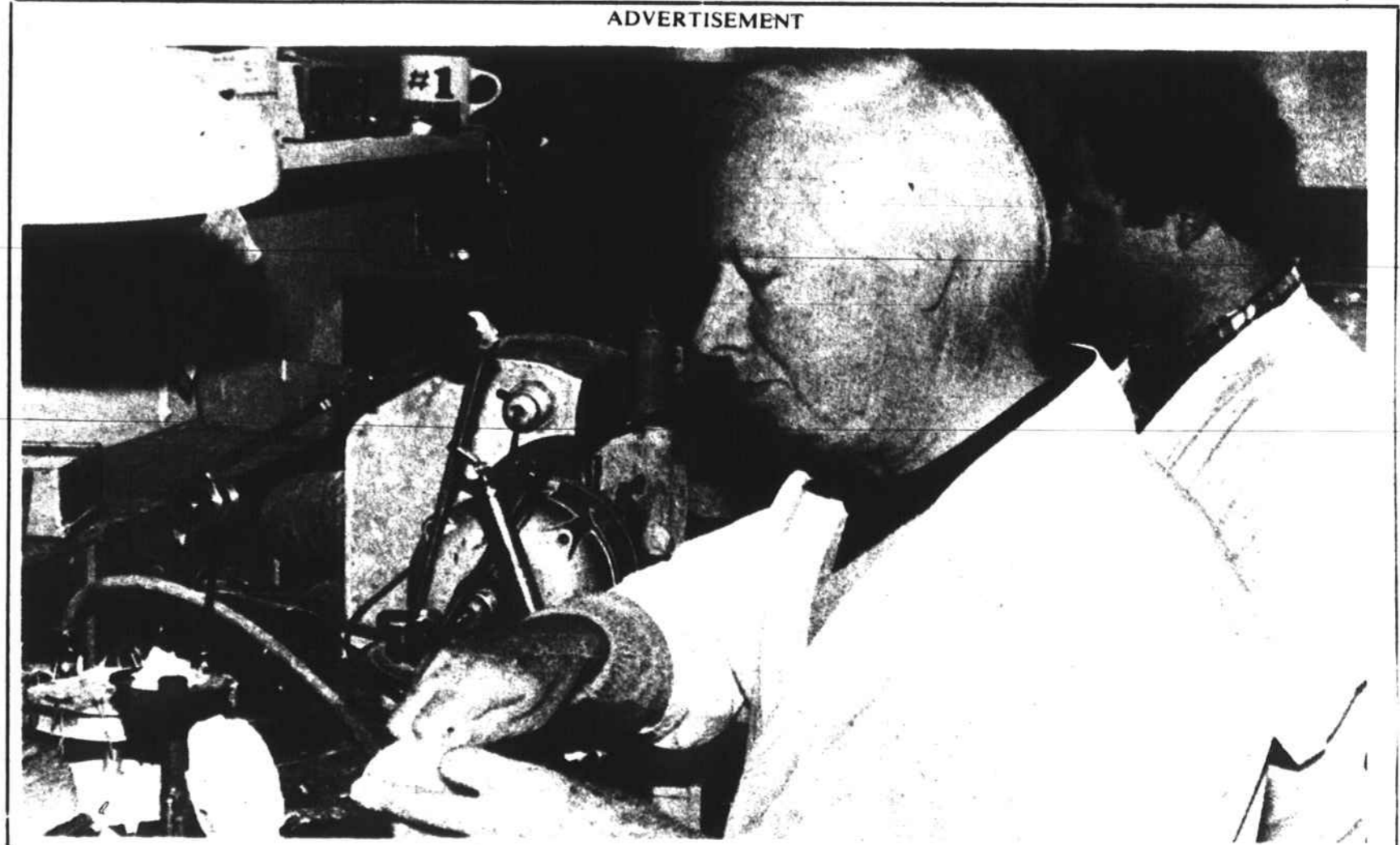
participation in politics. Within two years it had grown and spread throughout Tennessee; a few years later there were Klan chapters in most of the Southern states, and its "methods of control" had escalated from harassment to violence.

Davis and Sims-Wood's massive bibliography is the most comprehensive and up-to-date compilation of research materials about the Invisible Empire. Its more

than 10,000 entries include books, pamphlets, thesis and dissertations, periodical and newspaper articles, government and official Klan documents, and Klan publications.

Particularly noteworthy is the newspaper section, which comprises nearly 75 percent of the book. The book's list includes individual state studies of 48 states, as well as general works of wider scope and nearly 20 countries.

ADVERTISEMENT



The process of making dentures is an intricate one, as shown above by the certified lab technicians Clarence Hurst (left) and Ricky Dunn (right) in Dr. M.P. Nicholson's dental office.

All Dentures Are Not The Same

Many people assume that all dentures are the same, whether you pay five dollars or five hundred dollars. However, Dr. M.P. Nicholson, D.D.S. is of a different opinion. With 32 years of experience in the field of dentistry, he specializes in lower dentures and those that are hard to fit.

The laboratory work for all dentures is done in Dr. Nicholson's office at 620 Monmouth Street. The two lab technicians are fully qualified, one with 45 years experience, the other 8 years. Of course, Dr. Nicholson himself takes all impressions, registers bites and places all dentures. He also makes all adjustments in the patient's mouth.

The process of making dentures is quite interesting. Consider the fact that everyone's mouth, jaw and teeth are unique, like fingerprints.

On a particular day this week, one lab technician worked meticulously placing six interior or biting teeth and eight posterior or chewing teeth in position on a wax model of the gums. The wax fits over a stone reproduction of the mouth, made for the patient after Dr. Nicholson takes an impression of the teeth (if there are any) and mouth.

The stone cast of the mouth is articulated, or put on a hinge device that simulates the jaw movement. Then the wax bite is fitted on the mold.

About four hours later, the teeth have been invested with plaster, the wax boiled out and the gum mixture packed in place over the teeth. Then everything is placed in a bronze flask for the last step - packing and curing.

After the teeth have cured in boiling water, they are taken out and the teeth and gums are separated from the plaster. After a little hammering, the pink gums and properly placed teeth emerge from the plaster and are ready to be polished before the final fitting.

Arranging an upper, lower or full denture plate to fit the contour of an individual's jaw takes patience and precision. "Personalized dentures require three or four appointments, as opposed to the one-day service, or economy dentures," Dr. Nicholson said. "I need more time with the patient to personalize his dentures. But the extra time is worth it to your appearance. There is a difference - usually, a dramatic one."

Dr. M. P. Nicholson, D.D.S.
620 Monmouth Street
Winston-Salem, N.C.

Call For Appointment - 784-7620

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 6:00 pm
(Closed daily 1:30-2:30) Saturday 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Skyland Senior

Citizens hold May Festival

The Skyland Senior Citizens observed their annual May Festival at the Rupert Bell Recreation Center on May 1. The festival began with a short program with Mrs. Mary Britt, the director, presiding.

Appearing on the program were Mayor Wayne Corpening, who welcomed everyone, Nick Jamison, director of the department of recreation, Mrs. Mamie White and Flora Alexander, The Queen of Skyland, Mrs. Rebecca Ellington, was introduced to the community.

After the program, the senior ladies wrapped the May pole and unwrapped it. A cookout was held after the program and pole wrapping.

Mrs. Janie Wilson is the club president

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