

Community News B

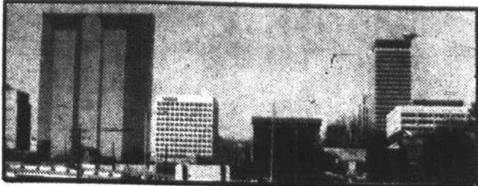


photo by Craig Greenlee

"We want people to realize that you don't have to give money all the time. Sometimes all we need is their time... But what we really need more than anything is just a good shoulder to cry on when times get hard."

Oh! Give Us a Home!

People look out your windows
Tell me what you see
Could it be happiness
Or is it misery

Open your hearts
And let us all come in
Open your door to us
And let your love begin

Oh! Give us a home
Oh! Give us a home
Oh! Give us a helping hand
We're tired and lonely
We're cold and hungry
Why can't you see

We are the homeless
We are people just like you
Please understand
That we are people too

Life is not easy
Being without a home
When you are on the streets
Feeling all alone

Oh! Give us a home
Oh! Give us a home
Oh! Give us a helping hand
We're tired and lonely
We're cold and hungry
Why can't you see
That you could be me
Please give us a helping hand

by Nancy Wilson

Nancy Wilson: "We're not street bums. We had homes, jobs and we have had families. But, we lost them all due to one reason or another. Just because we don't have good paying jobs, doesn't mean we're winos or hobos. We're just less fortunate. I want people to stop treating us like we're disgusting individuals. We're all God's children."

The plight of the homeless: There's a message in the music

By ANGELA WRIGHT
Chronicle Managing Editor

Nancy Wilson has been without a home for the past four months. During that time, she has given her life to Christ, written a song which she plans to record, and become an advocate for the homeless.

At the relatively young age of 24, Wilson knows what it means to have to sell her blood in order to eat. Fortunately for her, though, she also knows what it is like to be the recipient of unselfish acts of love and charity.

She and her boyfriend, Milton David Carr Jr., left Rocky Mount in October planning to hitchhike to California. Her mother had strongly disapproved of their interracial relationship, says Wilson, and refused to have anything to do with her.

"There was nothing for us in Rocky Mount," said Wilson. "Junior said there were a lot of good jobs in California, so that's where we were going."

Wilson and Carr had \$108 between them; most of that was spent on luggage before they ever left Rocky Mount. They hitchhiked for 24 hours, even sleeping one night under an overpass on I-40, before reaching Winston-Salem. When they arrived they had \$2 left and no place to sleep in a town where they knew no one.

Their faith was strong, said Wilson, because "most of the people that picked us up were Christians. When they dropped us off, they would say 'God bless you.' Everybody kept saying that... 'God bless you.'"

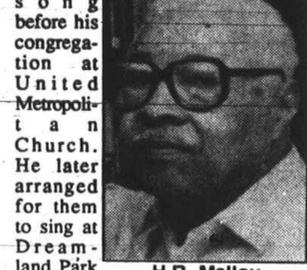
The couple spent their first night in Winston-Salem at the Salvation Army. The next day they went to the Bethesda Center, a shel-

ter program for the homeless. It was there that Wilson heard a sermon that convinced her "to give (her) life to Christ."

She also met a special man, Dr. H. Rembert Malloy, who would give her and Carr immense spiritual support.

Wilson says that it was her experiences at the Bethesda Center that inspired her to sit down on the Sunday before Thanksgiving and write her song about the homeless. Her boyfriend sings the song which was put to music by Susie Ward, a volunteer at the Samaritan Inn who plays guitar.

On the Sunday after Thanksgiving, Dr. Malloy invited the trio to perform the



H.R. Malloy

song before his congregation at United Metropolitan Baptist Church. He later arranged for them to sing at Dreamland Park Baptist Church and at Baptist Hospital.

After their performance at United Metropolitan Church, says Wilson, Dr. Malloy started the collection plates going to raise money to assist the group.

"Dr. Malloy started it off by putting \$5 in the plate," said Wilson. "When it was through, we had about a \$182."

Wilson said she hopes her song will be produced and marketed so that it can benefit the homeless. She plans to donate half of any proceeds

from the sale of the song to programs and shelters for the homeless.

"We've been there and we know the day-in and day-out routine of being on the streets," said Wilson. "We want people to realize that you don't have to give money all the time. Sometimes all we need is their time. They can come and volunteer and listen."

"We can use the money because it takes money to keep the shelter open. But what we really need more than anything is just a good shoulder to cry on when times get hard."

Wilson's song has become a project of sorts among the people at the Bethesda Center. Anita Chaffee, public relations director at the center, has introduced Wilson to Rudy Thomas, a friend of Chaffee's who recently opened a recording studio.

"I called him after I heard Nancy's song and he said that maybe we can do it professionally," said Chaffee.

With the help of Chaffee, Thomas, Ward and Dr. Malloy, Wilson has had one demonstration tape of her song made. Ward assisted Wilson in getting the song copyrighted and, now, they are planning to have another tape made featuring a professional singer in the lead and homeless people singing the backup.

Wilson has visions of a "We Are The World"-type phenomenon for the homeless.

"We're not street bums," she said. "We had homes, jobs and we have had families. But, we lost them all due to one reason or another. Just because we don't have good paying jobs, doesn't mean we're winos or hobos. We're just less fortunate. I want people to stop treating us like we're disgusting individuals. We're all God's children."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JAN. 19

• Make Today Count, a support/education group for persons facing life-threatening illness, their family members and friends will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Ardmore United Methodist Church on Hawthorne Road. Dr. Alen Chauvenet, pediatric oncologist with Bowman Gray School of Medicine, will be the guest speaker. He will address the topic, "Facing Illness as a Family, Talking with Children." The program is free.

MONDAY, JAN. 23

• A new group for singles will be starting at the YWCA on Glade Street at 7:30 p.m. All singles are invited to attend the organizational meeting. For more information call the YWCA at 722-5138.

• The Twin City Mothers of Twins Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. at Lutheran Church of the Epiphany on Silas Creek Parkway. A pot luck and open discussion will be held and all mothers of multiples are welcome. For more information call 722-6954.

TUESDAY, JAN. 24

• The board of directors of The Legal Aid Society of Northwest North Carolina will meet at 4 p.m. at 216 W. Fourth St.

• The Winston-Salem Alumni Chapter of Johnson C. Smith University will meet at 6 p.m. at Tony's Lounge on New Walkertown Road.

THURSDAY, JAN. 26

• Parent's Lunch at the YW will begin from noon to 1 p.m. Dr. Tom Bosworth will discuss "Discipline: Where Do I Begin and Does It Ever End?" The program is free to YWCA members and \$3 for non-members. Lunch is an additional \$3.50 and may be ordered by calling 722-5138 by Jan. 24.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

• The Friends Unlimited organization will sponsor a trip to Atlantic City April 10 to 13. The bus will leave East Winston Shopping Center. For more information call 784-7830 or 723-2416. Mabel E. Johnson is chairman and Jeanette Johnson is co-chairman.

• Hospice of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County will begin a training program for persons interested in becoming Hospice volunteers Feb. 9. Hospice is dedicated to providing physical, emotional and spiritual support to terminally-ill persons and their families in their own home in Forsyth County. Registration is necessary prior to training. For more information call 768-3972.

• Mondays through Thursdays, the 14th Street Recreation Center will
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SOCIAL NOTES

Afro-American Historical Society offers special calendar

The Society for the Study of Afro-American history in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County has opened a new office in the old nursing building on the campus of Winston-Salem State University.

The society's current fund-raising project is the production and sale of a 1989 historical calendar. The calendar, which includes various local historical dates and pictures, is dedicated to the memory of one of the society's founders, Joseph Bradshaw.

Bradshaw held degrees in sociology and social work from Lincoln University and Atlanta University. He held a teaching certificate from

WSSU an additional graduate credits. During his life, Bradshaw amassed a wealth of local historical documents and artifacts.

The calendar depicts people, places, events and issues of note from the lives, culture and contributions of Forsyth County's Afro-American population.

Aldridge said that more than 400 of the calendars have already been sold.

Included in the calendar is information and pictures about the Safe Bus Co., several of Atkins High School classes and early staff members of Kate B. Reynolds Hospital.



Aldridge

The society has retained Herman Aldridge as its director. With the appointment of Aldridge, the society hopes to increase its viability of the organization, developing more interest and utilization of local history.

The group also plans to increase its membership from 100 to 500 and to develop an annual fundraising project.

More information on purchasing the calendar is available from Dr. William Rice, the organization's president, at 750-2616 or 767-6496; from Louise Hamilton at 724-6370; or Herman Aldridge at 765-8472.

Flonnie Anderson honored at retirement send-off

By TONYA V. SMITH,
Chronicle Staff Writer

A one-time showing culminating a lifetime profession received top billing Jan. 12 at the Sawtooth Center.

Titled "The Long Running Performance of Mrs. Flonnie Anderson" friends and colleagues gathered to celebrate Anderson's retirement from a 32-year teaching career.

Anderson, a teacher in the city-county system for more than 30 years, is a renown English and drama instructor, according to fellow teachers and former students who have known her.

"There will never be another Flonnie Anderson," said Jihmi Kennedy, a former drama student of Anderson's. "This woman took me under her wing."

Kennedy, an established actor, has studied at the North Carolina School of the Arts and Howard University.

"One of the most important things she instilled in me is when she told me I could achieve anything that anybody else in this society could achieve," Kennedy said before rendering a dramatic performance in her honor.

About 50 people attended Anderson's retirement reception,



photo by Charmaine Delaverson

Flonnie Anderson, joined by her husband, Albert R. Sr., is congratulated by a colleague.

some bearing gifts and all having kind words to say about her.

"There are not many Flonnie Andersons in the world," said McLean Mitchell, a fellow

advanced placement level English teacher at the local system's career center. "She challenges people, she provokes people, she probes people, she agitates people and she

demands from people and that is a remarkable talent from a most remarkable person."

Anderson received a plaque of
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