

Movies

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## THE CHARLOTTE POST

Charlotte's Fastest Growing Community Weekly

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### The Jacksons

#### Celebrating 10th

#### Anniversary

The Jacksons, formerly the Jackson Five, are celebrating their 10th Anniversary in the music industry.

Ten years and nearly 90 million record sales worldwide have gone by for the Jacksons since the release of their first single "I Want You Back" started a chain of four No. 1's in a row, a chart record for debuting artists which has yet to be matched in the industry.

In the past, The Jacksons, had producers to produce and write their songs. After being in the business for so long, The Jacksons have become self-sufficient-directing, producing and writing their own songs.

Another current priority for the family group and one that is primarily responsible for their longevity is the fact that the Jacksons have their own publishing company, thanks to the good foresight of their father when they were first starting out.

From daily rehearsals to talent shows and local gigs, and finally the Apollo Theatre, The Jacksons (then the Jackson Five) were already an established professional act when they signed with Motown in 1969. Motown was advantageous in making the group an international celebrity and developing individual talents within the group. The Jacksons left Motown three years ago to sign with CBS-Epic, which allowed more freedom in their act.

Starting in January, 1979, The Jacksons will return to the road for the first time in over a year for a worldwide tour.

The Jacksons, known for breaking chart, attendance and sell-out records, will be featuring two television specials a year for the next two years.

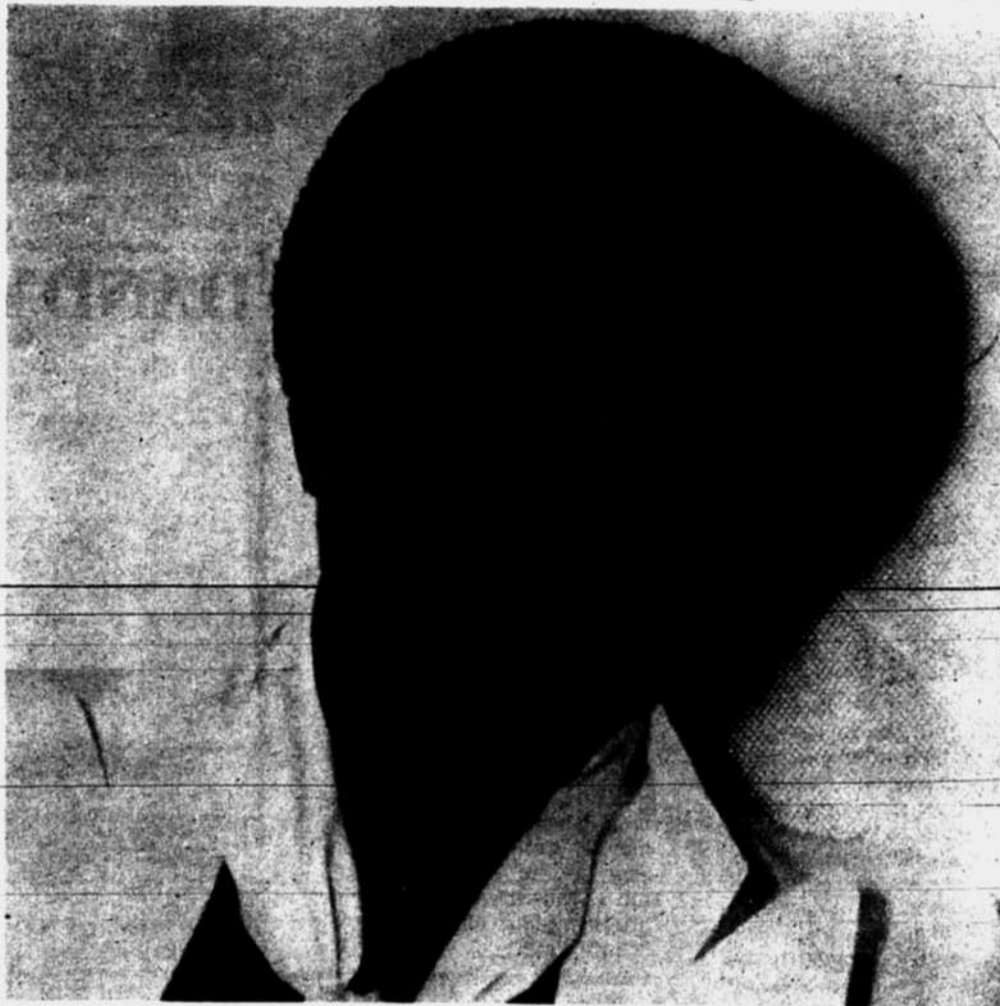
#### CPCC To Present

#### "Romeo And

#### Juliet"

Shakespeare's masterpiece of passion and intrigue, Romeo and Juliet, will be presented at CPCC on January 19, 1979.

The performance will be held in Pease Auditorium at 8:15 p.m. and promises to be a "lavishly designed and richly costumed program."



MUSICIAN NORMAN CONNORS

...Vibrant And Exciting Artist

## Connors Takes Listeners On

### Romantic, Melodic Journeys

by Sherleen McKoy  
Post Staff Writer

An album that compiles the finest work of a musician whose creativity, sensitivity and uncanny ear for the untapped potential of talented individuals which place him snugly in the top ranks of complete music-makers is "Best of Norman Connors and Friends." Norman Connors has been taking many listeners on romantic, melodic journeys for most of this decade as the composer-arranger-percussionist-producer of a series of classic recordings, and in the traveling of those voyages some of his fellow passengers have become the most prominent lights in contemporary music. "Best of Norman Connors and Friends" is vibrant and exciting; this is consummate Connors, embracing the mind, spirit and heart.

Connors' accomplishments are the fruit of an entire lifetime of music-making. Born in Philadelphia, he has been playing and writing music since the age of five, going on to receive a prestigious education in the field. Among the teachers and insti-

tutions that provided him with learning experiences were Gilbert Stanton at the Henry Glass School of Music, Ellis Tollin and Paul Patterson at Music City, The Settlement House School of Music in Philadelphia, Temple University and the Julliard School of Music in New York City, majoring in percussion and composition.

After his matriculation, Connors became involved in an intense career of musical activity. He worked and recorded with the Marion Brown Quartet, Leon Thomas, Billy Paul, Archie Shepp, Sun Ra, Carlos Garnett, Jackie McLean and Charles Earland. In July 1971, he joined the band of saxophonist Pharoah Sanders, commencing a professional relationship that is still in force even today. Connors toured with Sanders throughout the world, recorded five albums with him—"Black Unity," "Live in the East," "Wisdom Through Music," "Village of the Pharoahs" and "Love in Us All." He recently appeared on Sanders' first album for Arista Records, "Love Will

Find A Way."

One of the earliest catalysts of what has come to be termed as "fusion music," Connors likes to describe his sound as "contemporary classic." His own recording career as a leader began in 1972 with the release of his debut album, "Dance of Love," just before jazz's remarkable resurgence. Among the players attracted were such pioneers as Herbie Hancock, Stanley Clarke, Airto, Ron Carter, Hubert Laws, Gary Bartz and Alphonse Mouzon.

Phillip Mitchell and Eleanor Mills joined Connors for his "Romantic Journey," an LP that represented a change in concept for Norman, "a bigger all-around sound," he stated. "In all, we used fifty musicians." Prince Phillip Mitchell, who came to Connors as a composer, solos on "Once I've Been There," and along with Ms. Mills does a thrilling rendition of "For You Everything." Eleanor also was featured vocalist on "This Is Your Life," the album Norman feels is his crowning achievement as well as his first album on Arista Records.

### WGIV Launches

#### Annual Mountain

#### Of Food Drive

WGIV radio station launched its third annual mountain of food drive which began November 23 and will continue through December 18, according to Dranie Maxwell, WGIV Community Affairs Director.

"This year we are asking for total community participation to carry out the theme of community sharing," she said. "WGIV is asking for contributions of non-perishable, preferably canned foods to help feed needy families at Christmastime."

Four satellite stations have been designated for dropping off food items: Alexander Center, Greenville Center and Belmont Center; schools, churches, clubs and other donors are asked to use either the satellite sites or take the food to the Community Wide Resource Warehouse located at the Salvation Command Office, 320 North Poplar Street.

All area churches have been asked to designate Sunday, December 10, a day of community sharing by donating canned food items to help needy families.

"Last year, over 700 families were fed," Ms. Maxwell said. "This year's goal is to top that of last year's."

WGIV Mountain of Food Drive is a part of Information and Referrals Christmas Fund. Serving the community for 31 years, WGIV is proud of its record on community involvement and the community's response.

### WBTV Looks At

#### The Churches

#### Sunday Afternoon

"Will We Come Together?", a look at churches and the role they play, will be presented Sunday, December 3, at 6:30 p.m. on WBTV, Channel 3.

Some of the questions the program asks are: "Why are churches that foster belief in brotherhood of man segregated?", "Have churches become more a cultural structure than a religious one?", and "What are the prospects for more complete integration for churches?"

Host for "Will We Come Together" is WBTV Public Affairs Director, Lester Strong.