By Rachel Swann Post Staff Writer In 1978 Earl and Mar-

garet Willie retired from work but definitely not from life. In fact, the Kannapolis

couple seem to have found a solution to the age-old complaint that there are just not enough hours in the day. Both of them cram every possible kind of activity-church, civic, political, professional, social and recreational-into each day.

The den in their Centerview home tells the story of their busy lives better than any testimony. The walls are lined with plaques, awards and certificates for numerous accomplishments and contributions. Shelves and cases are chocked with the handmade products of their multitude of hobbies. Scrapbook after scrapbook chronicles each one of if their many vacation trips.

But if you asked the Willies if they do too much, they respond almost in unison, "Oh, no, we're doing the things we like to

That's why, they say, they decided to retire from teaching. Mrs. Willie worked as a reading teacher in almost every school in Kannapolis before turning in her primer. She won't. reveal how many years she worked. "That's not important, is it," she joked. Mr. Willie doesn't mind saying, and proudly, he put in 38 years with the Con-

industrial arts teacher. But they decided together, as they do most things, to retire while they felt they were still able to do all the things they liked

cord City Schools as an

Luckily for all the organizations in which they were members that didn't mean retiring from them, too. On the contrary, it meant having more time to devote to the causes to which they were most committed. Four years after their retirement, that list of organizations is still long and growing.

For Mrs. Willie the list includes several church-affiliated programs. Both the Willies are members of Marable Memorial AME Zion Church and she is currently a candidate for chairman of the Life Members Council of the Woman's Home and Overseas Missionary Society.

In addition, she's on the board of directors of the Kannapolis-Landis-Con-

munity Concert Association and the Piedmont Residential Center for Mentally Retarded Children. She also serves on the executive board of the

interdenominational Christian Women's Club, as secretary of the Senior Citizens Advisory Council, and is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the League of Women Voters and the Retired Teachers Association.

Also at the top of Mr. Willie's list are his church

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EARL AND MARGARET WILLIE ...38 years together

Most importantly, there

Mrs. Willie said easily,

"We don't do much that's

not together. He's my hus-

band, but he's my friend

and we have a real good

Mr. Willie agrees that

may be the secret to find-

ing those additional hours

in the day. Doing things

you like and maintaining a

daily schedule, he added,

"I believe you ought to

also makes the difference.

wear out and not rust out,"

he smiled. "I know I have

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time together."

affiliations. He is chairman The results of all their of the boards of trustees interests are displayed and finance for his church everywhere in their home. as well as president of the There's Mr. Willie's wood-Lay Council of Salisbury working. He's made all kinds of furniture for their District for the AME Zion Church. Civic-wise, he is on home, not to mention the board of directors of the having built the house, too. Cabarrus Arts Council and And Mrs. Willie's needlethe Cabarrus County Ameart. She's adept at forms rican Cancer Society, preranging from the unusual, sident of Concord-Cabarrus tapestry-like Swedish Retired School Personnel, weaving to the more compast vice-president of the Cabarrus County Board of monly-recognized needlepoint and crochet. Health, past president of There's also Mr. Willie's Kan-La-Con Community fishing. Blankets from the last overnight trip lay in Concert Association and a

the kitchen waiting to be life member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. put back in service. And For his community in-Mrs. Willie's baskets. She picked up weaving them in volvement, Mr. Willie won the 1982 Senior Citizens a half-day class. And his volunteer award for Cabarphotography. And her rus County. sculptured dolls, beaded flowers and folk art paint-Worked into their days

along with the mandatory round of meetings, are the Willies' two other "loves," are the times they now have to share together. traveling and hobbies. They spent "almost all of After 41 years of marriage,

October," Mr. Willie estimates, in Hawaii, one of their favorite places to vacation, and earlier in the year they visited Southeast Asia. They've also found time to travel through Europe, the Caribbeananother favorite for themand Africa, perhaps their mest memorable trip.

"We always liked to travel," Mr. Willie said, "but when we worked we always had to do it during the Christmas holidays. There are lots of things happening around the world at other times, though. Now we can go see and do them."

The Willies say they'll definitely make time to go back to Africa. "I loved Africa and its people,' Mrs. Willie reminisced;

"All of the people looked like they belonged to me, like they were kin, and they were all so gracious and

Altough he enjoys having the time to travel now, Mr. Willie is clear about his favorite place. "There's no place like home," he beamed.

That's probably because the Willies have so many hobbies there.

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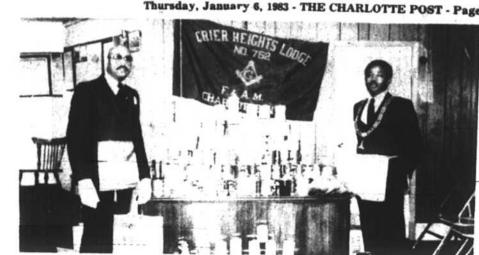
something I want to do every morning when I get up. You won't last long if you don't keep going."

Staying busy has a hidden advantage, he revealed "It keeps your mind off your aches and pains." He glanced at Mrs. Willie and added mischievously and lovingly, "My wife thinks she doesn't have any aches or pains, but that's because she's so busy, she doesn't think about them."

Red Cross Home Nursing Course Planned

The Greater Carolinas Chapter of the American Red Cross will offer a course entitled, "Home Nursing." January 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, and 26 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Home Nursing is designed to help people learn how to promote and maintain good health, prevent illness, and perform simple nursing skills in the home.



During the Christmas holidays, Grier Heights Lodge No. 752, Prince Hall Affiliated, Free and Accepted Masons, made efforts to spread the Christmas spirit and love. The Lodge, under the

leadership of Worshipful Master Eugene Barringer, distributed food baskets to needy families in the Charlotte commun-

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