



CANCare Volunteers pictured left to right are Mrs. Margaretta Young, Dr. Anne Turnage, Mrs. Maggie Freeman and Mrs. Grace Blackmon. According to Dr. Turnage, all have had a cancer experience. (Photo By Teresa Simmons)

Three-Year Pilot Program To Benefit Cancer Patients

By Lori Grier
Post Staff Writer
Anne Shaw Turnage was a 1978 founder and original coordinator of CANSURMOUNT, a Richmond, Va., program of over 75 years previous cancer patient volunteers offering friendship and encouragement to newly diagnosed cancer patients and their families. In recognition of her work, she received both a Jefferson Award for outstanding public service and a special citation from the Virginia Division of the American Cancer Society.

In 1980, Turnage helped establish the Charlotte American Cancer Society Program, I CAN COPE, a patient education program now in its third year. She received the ACS Service and Rehabilitation Award in recognition of this work. She has served on the ACS Service and Rehabilitation Committees in both North Carolina and Virginia and has co-authored with husband Mac Turnage a number of books for both youth and adults on a wide range of Christian-related topics. Their book, "More Than You Dare To Ask: The First Year of Living With Cancer," published by John Knox Press in 1975, tells of the initial stages of the cancer experience.

In January, 1984, CANCARE (formerly CANCER-CARE) was established in Charlotte with the assistance of Dr. Turnage and 34 volunteers. It is a ministry made possible by five local churches - Christ Church Episcopal, Covenant Presbyterian, Myers Park Baptist, Myers Park Presbyterian and Myers Park United Methodist. It is a network of volunteers established to improve the quality of life for cancer patients and their families.

"It's a three-year pilot program, and we want to see if it will benefit cancer patients in this community. After three years, we'll see if we can keep it part of the churches, move it to a community base and be free standing like Hospice or make it all volunteer and give it to the Cancer Society," informed Dr. Turnage, coordinator who will be compensated as a half-time staff employee with the balance of her time contributed as a volunteer.

She has such a keen interest in cancer, because she is also a cancer patient who went through cancer surgery (of the colon with metastasis to the liver) 11 years ago. "First, I didn't believe I had cancer, because I felt it

only happened to someone else. It's a very devastating feeling to go through, but my husband supports me, and I have made a good situation out of a bad one," told Turnage. When she first became a cancer volunteer in Richmond, she discovered that she was "reaching out to so many people with cancer. A lot of people who have cancer want to make life better for other cancer patients and improve the quality of life for cancer patients and their families."

According to Turnage, there are 150 different types of cancer, nine known causes but where cancer originated still remains a mystery. "When I started out with cancer one out of three people lived out a normal life time. Today, one-half of the people will live out a normal life time." She also added that more blacks than whites, in Mecklenburg County have cancer, but she doesn't know the reasons.

"We found a lot of people with cancer," she continued, afraid to tell how they feel inside. Less than five percent of all who have cancer ask for help. We're convinced that if they get help, they can have a better life."

CANCare differs from other cancer organizations in that their services are free; they are ordinary people who work one to one with all cancer patients; their own volunteers are trained and stay with cancer patients over the long haul, and the volunteers are happy people who make the best of the time they have.

"From the very beginning, we have gotten old, young, men, women, blacks and whites to be volunteers. All volunteers have had cancer, and many still receive treatment," stated Turnage, who receives chemotherapy twice a week. She mentioned that she experiences no side effects from chemotherapy.

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50,000 Clergy To Attend New Orleans Assembly

Special To The Post
New Orleans - Over 50,000 ministers from religious denominations throughout the nation have been invited to attend the First National Assembly of Black Churches in New Orleans April 4-6, organizers announced last weekend following a final planning session here.

The Right Rev. Frank Cummings, secretary of the African Methodist Church Bishop's Council, and The Right Rev. Chester A. Kirkendoll, Senior Bishop of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, joined Rev. T. J. Jemison, president of the National Baptist Convention, USA, in issuing the official call for the three day conference.

Rev. Jemison said he expected at least 25,000 clergy representatives from churches in the area surrounding Louisiana to attend and another 25,000 delegates will come throughout the United States. Airline packages and other travel arrangements are being coordinated by Who's Who Among Black American Churches, Inc.

Although sessions are scheduled at the New Orleans Superdome, leaders emphasized that the assembly is not designed to organize a "Superstructure of Black Churches." "We are only asking members of all denominations to meet to consider spiritual, economic, educational and political programs to benefit their individual churches and communities," said James E. Hurt, Jr., president of Black Churches of America Publications, Inc., co-sponsors of the event.

"This is a coalition of religious leaders attempting to cooperate with already established clerical structures such as the National Congress of Black Churches," Hurt emphasized. Officials of the seven major black denominations and the predominantly black affiliates of 18 other national denominations are invited.

The sponsors also are calling for a meeting of leaders of the Black Church and the Black Press to discuss revitalization of the communities they serve. Hurt announced. The Assembly will feature reports from our four commissions of experts on theology, economics, politics and education. The experts will

ing billions of dollars in community development funds through the churches, according to Hurt. The eight-point program will produce 1.5 million jobs for blacks by

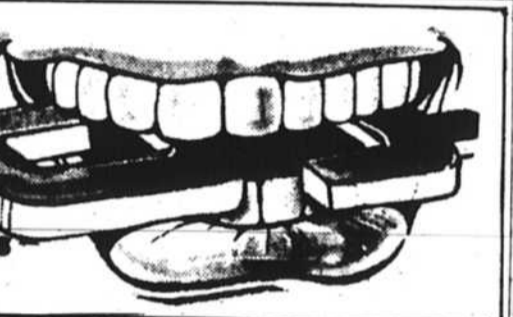
blacks in a five year plan. Details to be presented at the April assembly "will explain the greatest networking in the history of the race and will turn over \$200 billion annually," said Hurt, a businessman, educator and publisher.



During the 35th anniversary celebration of Temple Baptist Church, 2916 Tuckaseegee Rd., Rev. Wilch Caldwell, standing, preached in a fashion of blessedness.

Pictured at the right, seated, is pastor of Temple, Rev. Lennie Williams, Sr. (Photo By Divine Reflections)

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R Monthly News

MARCH, 1984

PREVENT BABY ACCIDENTS.
The saddest tragedy in any home is to have a child suffer a preventable accident. Here are a few authentic suggestions to protect our precious ones.

FROM BIRTH TO FOUR MONTHS.
Never leave baby alone where it is possible to wiggle and fall. Toys should be too large to swallow, no sharp edges and too tough to break. Keep pins out of reach. Watch out for smothering pillows, bed coverings, harnesses and filmy plastics.

FROM FOUR TO SEVEN MONTHS.
Baby moves more and reaches for things. Keep all small objects out of reach. Rounded sturdy plastic or wood toys are safest. Never leave baby alone in bath.

SEVEN TO TWELVE MONTHS.
Baby can now sit, stand, crawl, perhaps walk and can pull anything down. Medicines, toilet articles, hot foods, liquids, electric cords; all must be out of reach. Place guards around heaters. Watch out for low hanging tablecloths. Fence stairways. Keep screens nailed or locked. Never leave baby alone in tub, wading pool or water.

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